

FEBRUARY 2016

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# Bulletin

Official newsletter of the Overstrand Municipality

## SEARTEC-OVERSTRAND CLASSIC GOLF CHALLENGE NETS A NEAT 80K TOWARDS EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Borne from a conversation Overstrand's Executive Mayor, Nicolette Botha-Guthrie, and Tourism Ambassador, Bob Skinstad, had a couple of years ago on how best they could "pay it forward" and make a difference in the lives and environment of Overstrand and its people, the Seartec-Overstrand Classic Golf Challenge proved to be a resounding success for the second year running.

Staged during November last year at the picturesque Arabella Country Estate and Golf Club, and supported by Seartec (distributor of Sharp products) as title sponsor and the Spar Retail Group as substantial donor, the event netted a whopping R80 000, all of which will go towards strengthening the mayoral investment vehicle known as the "Nicolette Trust Fund". The fund is purely intended to resource earmarked Early Childhood Development Centres with essential items in order to promote a safe, healthy, stimulating and holistic learning environment for the young children in care of these centres.

Not only does this initiative enjoy the full support of the local community and a number of key stakeholders but also that of the Department of Social Development.

On receiving the proceeds from Bob Skinstad, Botha-Guthrie remarked that "the wonderful display of togetherness by participants, sponsors, donors and the community at large has once again afforded the means to ensure that the educators, practitioners and facilities of this essential foundation phase of education will receive the necessary attention and appropriate resources. My gratitude towards Seartec and all involved, knows no bounds."

In response to the Mayor's praise, Skinstad, a former Springbok Captain, quipped: "Now that I'm retired from rugby, I get to play my other favourite sport in what I consider to be the most beautiful part of the Cape. And best of all, we managed to raise some serious money for an extremely worthy cause. Now that's just perfect!"



*Overstrand Executive Mayor, Nicolette Botha-Guthrie, happily accepts a cheque from former-Springbok Captain and Overstrand Tourism Ambassador, Bob Skinstad, for the proceeds derived from the 2015 Annual Seartec-Overstrand Classic Golf Challenge held at the Arabella Country Estate and Golf Club on 20 November last year.*

## HAWSTON TO PRESERVE OVERSTRAND'S FOLKLORE AND STORIES OF YESTERYEAR

Soaring temperatures could do little to temper the enthusiasm of those who attended the launch of the Oral History Initiative by Western Cape Minister of Cultural Affairs and Sport, Anroux Marais, at the Thusong Centre in Hawston on Friday 4 December 2015.

The idea behind this initiative is to integrate the various components of the department by documenting the stories behind the vast array of communities dotted throughout the Western Cape. This exercise will afford local community members, including sports legends, the opportunity to not only share personal stories amongst themselves but to have these important recollections that capture the essence of the towns involved committed to the annals of history. In turn, it will enable all South Africans and the world at large, to gain insight into the many diverse and varied cultures that make up the Rainbow Nation.

On the day of the event, Minister Marais and Overstrand's Executive Mayor, Nicolette Botha-Guthrie, were welcomed with a lively and heart-warming cultural ensemble presented by the Siyazama Dance Group comprised of a number of traditionally dressed "senior youth" from the district. Thereafter, the crowd was regaled with a variety of poems, fables and stories performed by local poets and stalwarts. William Prince's "In Stukkie Brood" captivated everyone with its poignant message of sharing and inclusivity as, too, did the tale told by Hawston Primary school teacher, Juffrou Gladys, about the passing of an



*Handing over framed "What's Your Story?/Wat's Jou storie?" posters at the 'Oral History Initiative' in Hawston are: Western Cape Minister of Cultural Affairs and Sport, Anroux Marais and Overstrand Executive Mayor, Nicolette Botha-Guthrie (centre), flanked by the recipients (i.e. Municipal Officials, Library Personnel and Hawston Community*

old resident who, at the time of his wake, was found to be sitting as straight as a rod, rather than laying in a state of repose as is to be expected of a corpse.

Before introducing the Minister to the audience, Mayor Botha-Guthrie emphasised how fitting it was to host this event in Hawston, especially given the number of awards bestowed upon the library in recent time. She said that the award as "Best Public Library: Youth Services" received by the Hawston library at the department's 2014/2015 Cultural Awards ceremony stood out as a particularly proud moment, adding that "We are especially mindful of the importance of

improving and developing our libraries as this invaluable service and reference station plays a meaningful role in the holistic development of our children, as well as the intellectual stimulation of our communities in general".

"As you've heard earlier, there is a wealth of artefacts and historical mementos that are currently being stored in Aunty Doris's old house. We sincerely hope that local businesses and the relevant government agencies will come on board to assist us in realising the dream of establishing a Hawston Fishing Community Museum for the safekeeping of these priceless treasures," the Mayor said.

In her keynote address, Minister Marais appealed to all communities within the boundaries of the Western Cape to share their stories at local participating libraries that have been engaged for this purpose. "While promoting social inclusion through sharing our stories, we can also ensure that personal histories and experiences are kept alive in communities and within government, so that future generations can know and celebrate their heritage," Marais said. "Besides, where else will we get such wonderful material for campfire stories like the one we heard before about that ghost sitting up at his wake," quipped the Minister.

The event concluded with the Minister and Mayor handing out specially crafted, framed "What's your Story" posters to key role players and drivers of the Hawston segment of the project in recognition of their contributions and efforts.

# BIGBLUE(S) REVISITED

Kleinmond festival now  
a feature on  
Easter Holiday Menu

Following on a planning session convened by the organisers of the annual BigBlues Festival, a decision was reached to shift this event's focus from a Blues concert to one that would rather celebrate the town's unique attractions, produce and activities. At the same time, it was agreed that this event would, in future, be hosted during the Easter Holidays when the town usually attracts both local and international visitors in large numbers.

As a consequence, the festival will in future be known as the BigBlue - no "s" - and focus on leveraging all major attractions and resources that were identified in the marketing plan.

To quote event organiser Mr Joe Lategan, "We plan on presenting a festival with many small facets - one that represents all cultures, ages and sexes. Not only will visitors get to know our unique biosphere and all the treasures locked up in the Cape Floral Kingdom, they will have the opportunity to savour our culinary delights and get to know our customary friendliness first hand".

For more information on the BigBlue Festival call Madelain Coetzee 028 271 5657.

## VALENTINE'S CONCERT



Zappa-Mainolfi

The accomplished duo Zappa-Mainolfi is set to yet again enthrall their Overstrand audience with an outstanding performance on Sunday 14 February! Performing for the sixth time on our local stage, this close-knit duo is renowned for their thoughtful repertoire and the delightful content of their concert programmes.

This time round, the programme will include the **Sonata for Cello and Piano Op. 119** (C-major) by Sergey Prokofiev; Antonin Dvorak's **Rondo** (concert piece); Franz Schubert's **Arpeggione Sonata in A min** and **Pezzo Capriccioso Op. 62** by Peter Tchaikovsky.

The concert will commence at 15:30 on Sunday 14 February in the Civic Auditorium in Hermanus. Tickets are R120 (R60 for students). Book at BELLINI GALLERY on 028 312 4988. Call secretary René du Plooy on 082 940 4238 for further details.



overstrand arts • kunste

## NOW THAT YOU HAVE LEARNED TO SAY "NO" TO PLASTIC STRAWS, HOW ABOUT RETHINKING YOUR USE OF BOTTLED PLASTIC DRINKS?

Overstrand is actively campaigning to ban single-use plastics in all forms and in the January edition of *Bulletin*, we brought some frightening statistics regarding the use of light-weight plastic straws to your attention. In this edition, we are going to question the necessity to use plastic bottles, and take a closer look at the havoc they and their remnants can cause.



According to Plastics SA, the second most common item found in coastal cleanups is plastic bottle tops and number four on the list are the actual plastic bottles. This is scary, given that municipalities the likes of Overstrand are going to great lengths to institute consumer-friendly recycling protocols that would counter environmental pollution of this nature without causing undue inconvenience for residents:

**All you have to do is stick your plastic bottle, cap and all, in a separate bag. We'll pick it up and make sure it's disposed of in a fitting fashion.**

On that score, keep in mind that it takes up to 500 years for a plastic bottle to degrade if disposed of in a landfill. If incinerated, the same bottle will produce a huge amount of toxic fumes highly detrimental to human health.

Here are some staggering statistics to consider:

- 30 million single-use plastic bottles are thrown away worldwide on a daily basis.
- 27% of single-use plastic bottles recycled in the US end up in landfills.
- Worldwide, millions of barrels of oil go towards meeting the demand for single use-plastic water bottles.

Next, allow us to share some facts on "bottled water":

- 50 billion bottles of water are sold worldwide annually.
- 40% of all bottled water is actually just tap water.
- Producing bottled water requires 2000 times the energy cost of producing tap water.
- Thanks to a worldwide drive to reduce the consumption of artificially sweetened cool drinks, the consumption of water in single-use plastic bottles is increasing at a staggering 10% per year.

Clearly, exploitation of the vast market for healthy, bottled drinks has left us - the tax-paying public - vulnerable: after all, we are the ones who have to pick up the bill to clean up the mess - money which could have been better spent elsewhere.

Now for a bit of advice:

- Do make use of Overstrand's recycling service - simply stick your plastic bottle, cap and all, in one of our clear bags, leave it out for collection on the designated day, and we will do the rest.
- While drinking water is far preferable to sugary cool drinks and sweetened juices, it would be of huge benefit to the environment, your health and your finances to buy a glass or metal reusable water bottle to refill with tap or filtered water.
- Also, do keep in mind that reusable plastic water bottles often contain bisphenol A (BPA), an industrial chemical that can seep into food and beverages with dire effects. Consequently, reusing plastic water bottles, especially once they have been exposed to heat, is not a good idea.

In short, despite the fact that recycling plastic bottles would reduce the need for raw materials and save energy, consider how much better it would be for the environment and marine wildlife if we were simply to prevent single-use plastic bottles from entering the system.



Campaigning against single-use plastic is in the interest of all, man and beast, who calls Overstrand home. If you would like to contribute your thoughts in this regard or would like to offer advice, feel free to contact Fiona Matthes by e-mail: [fionamatthes@gmail.com](mailto:fionamatthes@gmail.com)



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