

## TRANSFERRING OWNERSHIP A BREEZE: PROVIDED WE ALL STICK TO THE RULES

**By law, no property may be transferred from one owner to the next unless a rates clearance certificate (RCC) has been issued by the local authority in question certifying that all rates, services and sundry charges and any estimated amounts payable on the property have been settled in full.**

To prevent instances where it has to prevent and/or withhold transfer of ownership, Overstrand urges everyone who plans on selling or acquiring a property to take heed of the following arrangements.

First and foremost, Overstrand's Rates and Data Control Office would like to point out that applications for rates clearance certificates are handled by a conveyancer (attorney) and **not** by the seller.

The municipality will only issue a clearance certificate once it has received a completed prescribed application form, together with all required documentation, from the conveyancer.

Nevertheless, the seller remains responsible for paying all costs incurred in this regard, as well as for settling any outstanding amounts owed to the municipality.

Secondly, rates clearance applications for properties without any improvements require an initial inspection by the Fire Department before the conveyancer will be notified of any outstanding amounts payable.

Should the vacant stand be declared a fire hazard, a plot-clearing deposit will be added to the advance collections unless the property is cleared, re-inspected and declared fire-hazard free by the Fire Department.

Note, too, that on receipt of duly completed rates clearance application forms, the municipality must be allowed 10 working days to forward the amount due for payment and a further 10 working days to produce the RCC once proof of payment has been established.

Where a debtor has entered into an arrangement with the municipality in

respect of arrears on a property, the RCC will not be issued until such time as the full outstanding amount has been settled.

Rates clearance certificates are valid for 60 days, and the amount due for payment will include three months' advance collections plus all current outstanding debt on the property.

Where properties are equipped with water and/or electricity meters, sellers are reminded to ensure that disconnection forms are duly completed so that these can be transferred to the new owner (the buyer).

Similarly, buyers of properties equipped with water and/or electricity meters are reminded to complete connection forms. These forms are available on Overstrand's official website.

Any queries with regard to the above can be directed to Overstrand's Rates and Data Control Office at 028 313 8000 (fax 028 312 1894) or via email to [enquiries@overstrand.gov.za](mailto:enquiries@overstrand.gov.za).

### REALTORS BEWARE

Anyone advertising a property to let or for sale must familiarise him/herself with Overstrand's by-law on posting outdoor signage.

Should it be found that signage exceeds the prescribed limit, or that pointers and/or banners impede visibility at critical pedestrian or vehicular junctions, heavy fines will be imposed.

Note, too, that Overstrand Municipality is, by law, entitled to remove all outdoor advertising and/or signage that pose a threat to its publics.

For details on the prescribed standards and rules go to [www.overstrand.gov.za/en/documents/bylaws](http://www.overstrand.gov.za/en/documents/bylaws) and pay particular attention to section 1.9, 5.3 and Schedule A of the by-law in question.

## Momentous new Karwyderskraal agreement signed

### Overstrand's access to landfill site guaranteed for next eight years

Following on successful negotiations, the Overberg District Municipality (ODM), Overstrand Municipality and Theewaterskloof Municipality have now agreed upon a service level agreement for the Karwyderskraal landfill site.

This agreement, signed on Friday 6 July 2018, covers the estimated useful lifespan of the Karwyderskraal landfill site as a whole and, once the new cell at the site has been completed, is expected to remain effective for at least eight years.

In terms of the agreement, the ODM has agreed to construct a new cell at the landfill site and to maintain the site as a whole to such an extent that both the Overstrand and Theewaterskloof municipalities as well as other interested parties within the Overberg region will be able to dispose of general waste at the site.

According to estimates, the new cell (the fourth one of its kind) will be able to accommodate approximately 200 000 tons of solid waste.

Based on these calculations, and given the current growth rate, it will take approximately eight years to fill the cell before a new one has to be commissioned. Karwyderskraal's lifetime is estimated to be 55 years.

At the time of signing the agreement, Municipal Manager Coenie Groenewald remarked that the protracted negotiations, stretching over a period of almost 18 months, finally resulted in Overstrand Municipality, as well as other interested parties, committing themselves to reducing their carbon footprint so that the lifetime of the landfill site as a whole can be extended.

Overberg District Municipality's Municipal Manager David Barretti (seated) signs the service level agreement witnessed by (from left to right) Overstrand's Municipal Manager Coenie Groenewald, Director of Finance Santie Reyneke-Naudé and Director of Infrastructure and Planning Stephen Müller, with Theewaterskloof's Municipal Manager Gerrit Matthyse on the far right.



## INSTALLATION OF UNDERGROUND CABLES IN MOLLERGREN PARK

Overhead power lines linking Mollergren Park to the switching station in Hermanus are currently being replaced by underground cables.

As part of this upgrade to the area's electrical infrastructure, new streetlights will also be installed.

Overstrand Municipality apologises for any disruptions and inconvenience caused as a result of having to lay the cables and would like to reassure all affected parties that this project will be completed by end-September 2018.

## SAVING WATER IS THE WAY! C'MON, LET'S SAVE THE DAY!



Amongst those who partook in the puppet show on water and waste recently hosted by Overstrand at Zwelihle Primary were (from left to right) Deputy Principal Kholeka Sampo, Story Team's Anette Kahts, teacher Fundiswa Mpobongo, Story Team's Marhette van Huyssteen, Solid Waste Manager Johan van Taak, Story Team's Celeste Loriston and Thozama Mangana Tukutezi, Deputy Director: Engineering Planning Hanré Blignaut and teacher Nompucuko Monakali. In front are learners Esethu Mduwela and Onele Qete.

Grade Ones attending Zwelihle Primary recently enjoyed a visit by the colourful characters of Story Team as an extension of a campaign to create awareness of the concept "waste not, want not" amongst the little ones.

This time round, the puppet show - hosted by Overstrand Municipality - focused on why it is important to save water, to recycle and to prevent pollution of our oceans.

The intention with the puppet show - presented in English, Afrikaans and isiXhosa at primary schools throughout Overstrand - is to instil a sense of respect, empathy and responsibility towards our planet as well as to demonstrate how ecosystems hang together.

## Disabled, pensioned or farming? You may qualify for a rebate

Farmers as well as pensioners and disabled persons have until 30 September 2018 to submit their applications for a rebate on rates and taxes to Overstrand's Rates and Data Control Office.

In the case of farmers, agricultural properties will be rated at the "FARMS" tariff, subject to the owner/farmer providing proof that the property is used for *bona fide* farming purposes.

In the case of pensioners or disabled persons, a rebate will be considered if:

- The owner/s are South African citizen/s
- The applicant/s are the registered owner/s
- The owner/s occupy the property as his/her/their primary residence
- The owner/s are at least 60 years of age or in receipt of a disability pension from the State
- The gross monthly household income is not more than eight times a state-funded social pension per month (R13 520)
- The property does not consist of more than one residential unit
- The applicant/s do not own more than one property

Application forms for rebates are available on Overstrand's official website: [www.overstrand.gov.za](http://www.overstrand.gov.za). Enquiries with regard to the above can be directed to the Rates and Data Control Office on 028 313 8000 (fax 028 312 1894) or via email to [enquiries@overstrand.gov.za](mailto:enquiries@overstrand.gov.za).

## MAKING USE OF THE 'HONEYSUCKER' SERVICE? - Be sure to apply for a tariff change before 30 September

CONSUMERS WITH CONSERVANCY OR SEPTIC TANKS WHO CANNOT CONNECT TO A SEWERAGE NETWORK may apply to have their tariff changed at the beginning of a financial year, or with a change in the property's occupancy status.

### Residential Option 1:

Pay a basic fee of R89.17 plus the infrastructure levy of R10.94 per month with the understanding that every time a tanker service is requested, this service will be charged at R608.80 per 6 kℓ or part thereof (office hours, i.e. weekdays before 15:00) or R1 217.60 per 6 kℓ or part thereof (after hours) per removal.

### Residential Option 2:

Pay a basic fee of R132.35 plus R14.90 per kℓ of water used per month, based on a maximum of 35 kℓ per month (70% of 50 kℓ), plus the infrastructure levy of R10.94 per month, which will entitle you to tanker call-outs during office hours at no additional charge. As per option 1 above, all after-hours service requests will be charged at R1 217.60 per 6 kℓ or part thereof.

Enquiries in this regard can be directed to Overstrand's Rates and Data Control Office on 028 313 8000 or via email to [enquiries@overstrand.gov.za](mailto:enquiries@overstrand.gov.za).

## WATER RESTRICTIONS STILL IN FORCE

Despite the welcome rain during the past couple of weeks, residents in the Hermanus area are reminded that Level 2 water restrictions have not been lifted.

Accordingly, if you use municipal water to water your garden, you may only do so for ONE HOUR per day, before 09:00 or after 17:00, ONE DAY per week. The day per week is determined in accordance with street numbers. For residents with even numbers, it is Wednesdays ONLY, and for those with uneven numbers, Tuesdays ONLY. The use of irrigation systems is still allowed but, remember, only for one hour.

Note, too, that vehicles and boats may only be washed with a bucket and cloth and that the hosing down of hard surfaces or paved areas is prohibited.

Residents are also reminded that all well points and boreholes must be registered at the office of the area manager, and consumers must ensure that they display the appropriate signage - clearly visible from a public thoroughfare - to this effect.

As from 1 June 2018, the first level of water-restriction tariffs applies to the administrative area of Hermanus only. The tariff for domestic water use up to 6 kℓ per month has not increased, but the tariffs for domestic use above 6 kℓ per month increased by 30%. The water tariff for all non-domestic use has also increased by 30%.

Remember, every drop you save today is worth twice as much tomorrow.

## CUDDLE A PENGUIN CHICK: DONATE A TOWEL

The African Penguin and Seabird Sanctuary is in urgent need of old towels to help keep around 42 abandoned African Penguin chicks safe and warm. In an attempt to provide the chicks with a safe and relatively clean crate until such time as they can be released, the sanctuary has to change the birds' "bedding" on a regular basis: A daunting task indeed.

All donations will be welcomed and can be dropped off between 09:00 and 16:00 at the APSS building (located near the junction between the Kleinbaai/Franskraal road) or at any Cape Whale Coast tourism office.

Alternatively, call Gillie Hine on 066 480 5054 or the penguin rescue line on 072 598 7117. APPS will gladly collect.

## KALFIEFEES PROMISES TOP- NOTCH ENTERTAINMENT

This year, the *Hermanus Times* Kalfiefees will take place from Wednesday 8 August till Sunday 12 August and, once again, promises to bring top Afrikaans theatre productions to Hermanus.

The festival programme offers something for everyone:

- Lovers of serious theatre can look forward to major drama productions such as "Die reuk van appels" and "Soebatsfontein".
- For those who rather prefer a serious laugh, there are excellent comedies such as "Lag 'n slag" and "Operasie Holm", while everyone's favourite comedian, Marc Lottering, promises to have his audience in stitches on Saturday 11 August.
- Music lovers can look forward to big names such as Coenie de Villiers, Elvis Blue and Daniële Pascal, while the performance by Stellenbosch's university choir promises to be yet another highlight.
- On top of this, there are also book reviews and children's theatre to look forward to.

Don't miss out on this exceptional festival. Visit [www.kalfiefees-hermanus.co.za](http://www.kalfiefees-hermanus.co.za) for more information and be sure to book your tickets via Computicket (0861 915 8000) well in advance.

## LOCAL IS LEKKER!

On Sunday 19 August, OAK will proudly present **Megan-Geoffrey Prins** - the boy from Riversdale who made his concerto debut at age 11 in concert in Hermanus! Today, this young man is studying towards a PhD in Musical Arts at the Cleveland Institute of Music. The concert will commence at 15:30 in the Civic Auditorium. And in honour of all *cum laude* winners of the Overberg Eisteddfod, OAK is to host a special performance on Wednesday 5 September. This concert will commence at 19:00. Tickets for both concerts are available from the Tourism Office in Hermanus on 028 312 2629. Any enquiries can be directed to René du Plooy on 082 940 4238.

