

JUNE 2019

**24-hour Emergency Fire Brigade** 028 313 8000/8111  
028 312 2400

# Bulletin

Official newsletter of the Overstrand Municipality

## KARWYDERSKRAAL LANDFILL RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY



The event was attended by a long list of dignitaries, including Overstrand Executive Mayor Dudley Coetzee, Overstrand Municipal Manager Coenie Groenewald, Overberg District Mayor Sakkie Franken, Overberg District Deputy Mayor Archie Klaas, Overberg District Municipal Manager David Beretti, Overstrand Cllr Kari Brice and Overberg Cllr Steven Fourie.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony for the ceremonial opening of Cell 4, constructed at the regional landfill facility in Karwyderskraal, was held on Friday, 29 March 2019.

This terrain was designed and developed to provide for the long-term landfilling of regular household waste and to divert organic waste, which is composted on site.

The Karwyderskraal landfill site is the property of the Overberg District Municipality and has been functional since 2002.

Covering an area of  $\pm 4.5$  hectares, the construction of Cell 4 commenced in June 2018 and required the excavation of 130 000 m<sup>3</sup> of clay. The new cell is approximately 3 to 4 metres deep and will have an airspace capacity to accommodate 524 000 m<sup>3</sup> of solid waste, which means the cell will have a lifespan of approximately eight years based on current disposal rates.

With a life expectancy of 57 years, it is anticipated that the Karwyderskraal landfill site will provide airspace to its user municipalities for many years to come.

Cell 4, and the facility, complies with stringent conditions set by national and provincial government. Amongst other precautions, a high-density, polyethylene plastic liner has been installed to prevent the pollution of ground water. Given that Cell 3 is rapidly nearing the end of its lifetime, Cell 4 is now fully operational.

## New netball court for Stanford

On Monday, 6 May 2019, Overstrand Executive Mayor Dudley Coetzee, along with Monday's Rotary Club, launched phase 3 of a dedicated netball court during a sod-turning ceremony held in Stanford.

Phase 3 was preceded by two earlier phases during which several schools and netball clubs from the area attended workshops on how to coach netball and to reinforce the benefits that can be derived from participating in sports in general.

Given that South Africa is to host the 2023 Netball World Cup in Cape Town, it is quite understandable why municipal officials and Rotarians alike are so pleased with the progress that has been made to date. Equally pleased are the Rotary Club of Knoxville, Tennessee in the USA and the Rotary Foundation who have raised funds to build this court in Stanford.

It is anticipated that the new netball court, adjacent to the existing soccer field in Bezuidenhout Street, will be completed by August this year.



Recently pictured at the sod-turning ceremony to mark the construction of the new Stanford netball court are (from left to right) Rotarian Sharmen de Gale, Rotarian Malcolm Bury, netball coach Anshelle Damon, Rotarian Stephen Stocks, Area Manager for Gansbaai and Stanford Francois Myburgh, Rotarian Annie Ranger, Rotarian Lana Coates and, of course, Mayor Dudley Coetzee wielding the spade.

## Progress with regards to housing needs in Kleinmond / upgrading of Overhills

Studies with regards to utilising developable land in Kleinmond, upgrading the Overhills informal settlement and looking into the needs of backyard dwellers in Proteadorp are well underway.

Near the end of 2018, the team of professionals appointed to look into this matter submitted their report to the project steering committee and all officials involved.

Once this report and the reported housing needs in Kleinmond have been verified, it will serve as a basis to provide important social and economic information that is necessary to approach planning in Kleinmond and to determine, holistically, whether those who wish to reside in Kleinmond would, typically, prefer owning or renting a home, or to make use of GAP housing, or to have access to a serviced stand. Some may even prefer to live elsewhere.

Following on a rather protracted procurement process, the provincial Department of Human Settlements appointed VPUU (Violence Prevention through Urban Upgrades) in the course of March 2019 to undertake the survey at all informal and backyard structures in Overhills and Proteadorp.

Following on two recent engagements with the project steering committee and the general public, VPUU indicated that field workers have been recruited and trained and confirmed that the survey commenced at the end of May 2019. According to VPUU, fieldwork and data capturing will be completed by end August 2019, and it is anticipated that the findings will be presented to the steering committee at that time, where after those findings will be presented to the broader Kleinmond community for consideration.

Meanwhile, whilst awaiting the outcome of this report, Overstrand's housing department has launched a project in November 2018 whereby all residents are afforded the opportunity to complete an application for subsidised housing and to be registered on a potential beneficiary list.

Note, though, that the investigation conducted by the VPUU is totally separate and will have no bearing on housing applications submitted to Overstrand.

*FynArts*  
HERMANUS

Enjoy a bumper festival programme of visual and performing arts, music, cookery demonstrations, wine tastings and a wide range of interesting speakers and workshops.

Included in the line-up from 7 to 17 June are 10 demonstrations by renowned chefs who, in the company of television personalities, will share their skills, recipes and anecdotes, complete with a wine-tasting on the side. Each demonstration will be projected simultaneously onto a television screen. For a detailed programme, visit [hermanusfynarts.co.za](http://hermanusfynarts.co.za). Tickets can be purchased online from [webtickets.co.za](http://webtickets.co.za), from the tourism office in the station building or by calling 060 957 5371. Also remember to sign up for the FynArts newsletter, Facebook and twitter (@hermanusfynarts).





## REDUCED BUILDING PLAN FEES FOR FIRE VICTIMS

The Overstrand Council has approved the request from the Building Control Department to assist property owners across the Overstrand, whose houses were destroyed or badly damaged during the devastating fires at the beginning of the year.

Residents, who have been affected by disasters and who are in the process of rebuilding their homes, will be charged a fixed amount of R500 (excluding VAT) for building plan fees. Normally, the 2018/19 tariff of charges for Building Plan Applications for a house of 250m<sup>2</sup> is R10 000.

The municipality took this decision in an effort to assist residents who suffered great financial losses. The period for reduced building plan fees for buildings destroyed or badly damaged during disasters, will be until 30 June 2021.

Should you require further information and/or advice in this regard, please feel free to contact us on enquiries@overstrand.gov.za or visit

**HERMANUS ADMINISTRATION**

16 Paterson Street, House no. 2

Tel: 028 313 8089

**GANSBAAI ADMINISTRATION**

1 Kapokblom Street

Tel 028 384 8321

**STANFORD ADMINISTRATION**

17 Queen Victoria Street

Tel: 028 341 8500

**KLEINMOND ADMINISTRATION**

37 Fifth Avenue

Tel: 028 271 8427

## CAMPBILL FIRE - PROGRESS REPORT

The process of tackling the smouldering underground fires in sections of the Onrus River peat wetland area, which is situated on the property of the Camphill School and Farm Community, has finally begun.

Characterised as the only remaining piece of palmiet vegetation wetland, this peat land is of considerable ecological importance since it plays a critical role in the functioning of the Onrus River and the Onrus Estuary and must, therefore, be protected. The peat land covers an extensive area of 33 hectares and is estimated to be 12 000 years old.

The sub-surface fire is burning in a 9 hectare area which is covered with invasive alien species and is eroded. This section of the Onrus River has been burning since 11 January 2019.

Because of the intensity of the fire, it is practically impossible to douse it in a conventional manner.

Unfortunately, the recent rains have not had an effect in filling up the water table, which is what is needed to extinguish the fires. Interesting to note is that the previous time the peat land burnt, it took eight months, without intervention, before the fire was extinguished by a wet rainy season.

Temperatures towards the centre have been recorded at 330°C.

The depth of the fire varies because of the eroded state of that part of the wetland: One of the peat ore sites measured heat at 3.9 m under the ground. In some parts, the peat is 7.25 m deep, although it is even deeper in the central channel.

In addition, the ground is fractured into honeycomb cracks through which strong smelling gas consisting of sulphates, carbon dioxide and methane emanating from these hot spots is seeping. The fire is creating a substantial amount of smoke that is affecting the air quality in the area significantly and has a detrimental effect on the health of individuals within the community and the school, necessitating the temporary relocation of the learners to alternative accommodation. (The learners are still not able to move back to the farm, and the school is accommodated in the Fernkloof Nature Reserve hall.)

### The solution

- In a joint effort between Overstrand Municipality, the Department of Environmental Affairs, the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Working on Fire (WoF), Rob Erasmus (a wildfire investigator), landowners, the Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency and various other experts from across the country, it was agreed that a Working on Fire team, consisting of 25 members, will set up a base camp at Camphill farm and use the unique SPIKE TOOL developed in Indonesia.
- Focusing on an area of 800 m<sup>2</sup>, a series of nine holes per square metre will be drilled with the intention to flood the fire from the bottom up.
- The WoF team will be working seven days a week, and it is anticipated that they will need at least three months to fully extinguish the fire.

We urge the public to please avoid the area. This challenging fire has resulted in the ground becoming soft and unstable, and there are places where it simply sinks away. Motorists are also advised not to stop along the road to watch the WoF team at work.

## UPGRADES TO THE GANSBAAI LIBRARIES



Pictured here are the Gansbaai library personnel: Sharman Geldenhuys (librarian), Ronette Dreyer, Edna van der Linde and Busisiwe Mtatase (front).



Overstrand Municipality is upgrading two of the libraries in the Gansbaai area.

The Gansbaai library will remain open and operational throughout the renovation project, even though the work may get a little noisy at times.

Gansbaai library personnel appreciate the community's continued patience and support and encourage residents to make use of the facility and services. "We believe the improvements will be meaningful for the community and would have long-lasting benefits for current and future generations," librarian Sharman Geldenhuys said.

The Eloxulweni library will be closed to the public until June 2019, if everything goes according to plan.

**Upgrades are expected to be completed in June 2019.**

**Contact the Gansbaai library for further information on 028 384 8346.**

## OFFICIAL INAUGURATION OF SPEED HUMPS IN WESTCLIFF DRIVE A 'JOYOUS' OCCASION

Two traffic-calming 'speed tables' (or speed humps) have been constructed along Westcliff Drive to deter motorists from racing down the street.

These traffic-calming measures were built at the Westcliff Drive and Arundel Street intersection and at the pedestrian crossing at the intersection of Westcliff Drive and Orothamnus Avenue.

"It's the first time I have officially opened a speed hump," Executive Mayor Dudley Coetzee said tongue in the cheek.

He thanked the ward committee members for their valuable input in making Overstrand's roads

better and safer. "It pleases me to know that our ward committee system is working."

Ward 4 Councillor, Anton Coetsee, was justifiably pleased with the Westcliff residents' achievements and thanked Jan Cilliers for his relentless efforts in driving this project over many, many years. "The speed at which people drive down this road creates a dangerous situation and Jan refused to take 'no' for an answer, thank you."



Pictured at the jubilant occasion to mark the official inauguration of the speed humps in Westcliff Drive are Mayor Dudley Coetzee, Ward 4 Councillor Anton Coetsee, Ward 4 committee member Jan Cilliers who spearheaded the project and some of his fellow committee members as well as Westcliff residents.



Overstrand Arts / Kunste (OAK) will host James Oesi (Double Bass) and Collaborative Pianist Andrea Vasi, from the Netherlands, in concert on Sunday

afternoon, 28 July. The concert will commence at 15h30 in the Civic Auditorium. These two artists are bound to wow the audience in more ways than one!

**Tickets are R150 (R60 for students) and available from the Tourism Office (028 312 2629) in Mitchell Street, Hermanus. Enquiries to René du Plooy on 082 940 4238.**



James Oesi