

	Telephone	Fax
Hermanus	028 313 8000	028 312 1894
Gansbaai	028 384 8300	028 384 0241
Kleinmond	028 271 8400	028 271 4100
Stanford	028 341 8500	028 341 0445

24 Hour Emergency 028 313 8000/8111
Fire Brigade 028 312 2400

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Bulletin

Official newsletter of the Overstrand Municipality



Protea wheelchair basketball players join locals for a game or fun

WHEELCHAIR STARS STRUT THEIR STUFF

What a day the 3rd of December turned out to be for Overstrand's disabled people! Intended to raise awareness about people living with disabilities and their needs, the day kicked off with a parade through the streets of Hawston and ended with a wheelchair basketball match - with one professional player from the Protea Sports Club to a side!

Arranged and co-ordinated by the Overstrand Association for Persons with Disabilities, young and old were catered for with various interest groups such as the Overberg Wheelchair Association, the Greater Whales Disability Sport Club, Wheelchair Basketball South Africa, the Overberg Sport Club, the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport and the municipality pitching in to make this a truly memorable occasion.

The South African Institute for Drug-free Sport did their bit, too, by entertaining the little ones with a puppet show with the theme "say no to drugs" and presenting an informative talk on the pitfalls of drug usage for professional disabled athletes who came from all corners of Overstrand to attend the event.

The highlight of the day, though, was no doubt the wheelchair basketball match during which two members of the Cape Town-based Protea Sports Club - Shawn Hartmick and Shane Williams - joined in the fun.

With the aid of the newly founded Overberg Disability Sport Federation, and given the enthusiasm displayed by all on the day, we are confident that this event on Overstrand's annual calendar will keep going from strength to strength.

OVERSTRAND'S SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT STILL TOPS

In the annual competition to crown South Africa's Greenest Town, Overstrand walked off with the laurels in the category solid waste management for the second consecutive year.

To be in the running for this accolade, the adjudicators look at the cleanliness of residential areas, landfills, transfer stations and dumping sites. Solid waste management in general is also taken into account, as are a municipality's initiatives to recycle waste and its awareness campaigns aimed at instilling sound waste management and recycling practices amongst the public in general and scholars in particular.

Overstrand Municipality would like to thank all residents for their splendid co-operation in disposing with waste in an environmentally sustainable manner. Without your assistance, we would not have qualified for this award!

PERMISSION REQUIRED TO MOUNT MEMORIALS

In terms of the Integrated Coastal Management Act, it is illegal to affix or erect any structure - including memorial plaques and crosses - along the coastline without the competent authority's permission to do so.

Unfortunately, the trend nowadays seems to be to mount plaques, crosses and other structures in memory of loved ones who have passed along Overstrand's coast at will without first consulting the authorities.

This practice not only detracts from the character of our natural environment and unspoilt landscape, but is also against the law.

Given that Overstrand's natural coastal zone by and large falls within the boundaries of proclaimed state and/or public land, and is thus subject to the laws and regulations governing such properties, the public is advised to first approach their local administration before mounting or erecting a plaque/cross or any other structure in memory of a loved one.

The alarming increase in this practice will leave the municipality with little choice but to summarily remove illegal memorials of this nature.

This could cause a great deal of embarrassment, and sorrow.

Thus, before mounting a plaque or cross in memory of your loved one, first consult the municipal administration in your area. In some instances, quite acceptable alternatives are on offer - for instance, having a tile installed as part of an existing cliff path - provided these alternatives are administered and managed by the designated control body.

Do note that this rule also applies to affixing plaques to already existing benches along public walkways.





A hero's welcome awaited Dr. Sylvia Earle (middle) and her team when they recently arrived to unveil three Hope Spots in recognition of efforts to protect whales, sharks and penguins along our beautiful coast. The envisaged worldwide network of Hope Spots will contribute towards an appreciation of our oceans as producers of life-sustaining oxygen and purifiers of harmful carbon dioxide and help to ensure that their unique biodiversity is preserved.

OVERSTRAND BEST PERFORMER IN SA

Key findings released by Municipal IQ, a specialised local government data and intelligence organisation, reveal that eight out of 10 top-performing local municipalities are in the Western Cape, with Overstrand topping the list followed by Stellenbosch in second and Steve Tshwete (Mpumalanga) in third place.

Shortly after this announcement hit the headlines, Overstrand's Municipal Manager, Mr Coenie Groenewald, revealed on Friday 5 December that Overstrand has yet again obtained a clean audit for the 2013/14 financial year.

Expressing his gratitude towards each and everyone who has made these achievements possible, Groenewald said: "This is no doubt a direct result of your huge effort as dedicated staff, taking pride in your work and working together as a team with the support of the Executive Mayor and Council as body corporate."

He did, however, caution that these achievements do not mark the end of the road in the municipality's

endeavour to deliver on its constitutional mandate. "There will always be room for improvement, and everyone must continue to explore new ways of delivering good governance and ensuring our rate-payers and residents receive good value for money," he said.

This sentiment is reflected by Municipal IQ economist Karen Heese who remarked that a drop in expenditure during the 2013/14 financial year is indicative of recessionary impacts having an adverse effect on municipal revenues and, as a result, their ability to address the challenge of considerable backlogs being experienced in both urban and rural contexts.

Visit www.overstrand.gov.za to read the full story on how Municipal IQ go about ranking South Africa's 278 municipalities and how the respective provinces fared.

It is hoped that assessments such as these, which highlight both successes and failures in the work of municipalities, will contribute towards improved local government delivery countrywide.

FOUR NEW COUNCILLORS... AND FOUR NEW ALDERMEN



Ward 2 - DA
Cllr Riana De Coning



Ward 5 - ANC
Cllr Sicelo Gxamesi



Ward 7 - DA
Cllr David Botha



Proportional - ANC
Cllr Dynai Mandlake

Following on an array of by-elections, three new councillors have recently been appointed to Council. They are Cllr Riana de Coning (Ward 2), Cllr Sicelo Gxamesi (Ward 5) and Cllr David Botha (Ward 7). Cllr Mandlake Dyani also joined Council as proportional representative for the ANC to replace Cllr Gillion who has been seconded to parliament.

In addition, Council awarded the title alderman to four serving councillors during a special council meeting. Councillors earn points for each completed year served and are awarded additional points for officiating as mayor, speaker, member of the mayoral committee or chair of a ward committee. Services rendered at a district municipality are also taken into account, with a minimum of 15 points being required to be considered for aldermanship.

The recipients were Philip Appelgrein (Ward 9), mayor Nicolette Botha-Guthrie and two proportional representatives of the ANC, Philipus May and Makhaya Ponoane. **Congratulations to all!**

Recycling well on track in Hawston and Mt Pleasant, but...

Since November, Hawston and Mount Pleasant have joined in Overstrand's efforts to recycle reusable waste material as far as possible. To this end, a two-bag-system is employed whereby recyclable materials are placed out for collection in a clear plastic bag and wet waste in a bin or black bag.

Most residents are by now quite adept at placing their recyclable materials - cans, paper, carton, glass and all plastic in a separate clear plastic bag, and for this we say thank you. There are, however, instances where recyclable materials are intermingled with wet waste in the same recycle bag, resulting in especially recyclable plastics and paper getting wet and spoil which in effect render them useless.

The clear plastic bags provided free of charge by Overstrand Municipality for the purposes of recycling cost a lot of money, and if they are not used correctly, it could result in huge losses.

To truly turn the two-bag-system into a resounding success, we would like to appeal to those residents of Hawston and Mount Pleasant who have mastered the two-bag-system to please lend a hand: Should you notice that friends and neighbours are accidentally mixing their wet and recyclable waste materials in the same clear plastic bag, remind them gently that this is not the way it should be done and offer a bit of advice on how best to rectify the matter in future.

If everyone cooperates, we can turn this project into a success and have Hawston and Mount Pleasant serving as an example to the rest of Overstrand on how one should go about doing your bit for recycling and, in the long run, preserving our precious resources in the interest of future generations.

REFINING OF COASTAL MANAGEMENT LINES BACK ON TRACK

The Western Cape Government's Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEADP), with the support of Royal HaskoningDHV, has commenced with the refinement of the coastal management lines which were developed in 2011/2012.

Accordingly, all landowners and interested and affected parties are advised to pay attention to notices published in local papers and to expect personal communiqués in this regard soon.

Meanwhile, other stakeholders are invited to register on the database and/or to request further information by contacting one of the following:

- Tasneem Steenkamp: 021 936 7694 (t), 021 936 7610 (f), overbergCML@rhdhv.com (e-mail)
- Caren George: 021 483 2724 (t), 021 483 8326 (f), coastal.enquiries@westerncape.gov.za (e-mail)

BACKGROUND:

Coastal management lines are intended to regulate and prevent insensitive, inappropriate and unsustainable development in sensitive coastal environments, to ensure public safety and public interests and to reduce the risks posed by climate change and the dynamic coastal processes that are taking place.

Thus, if you want to have a say in the promulgation and regulation of these lines, be sure to register on the database of interested and affected parties!