

SEPTEMBER 2013

Bulletin

Official newsletter of the Overstrand Municipality

MANDELA DAY SPIRIT REKINDLED

Projects undertaken by Overstrand Municipality in collaboration with ward committees and community organisations on Nelson Mandela Day did not only inspire participants but also rekindled the spirit of the Rainbow Nation anew.

This day was instituted by the United Nations as an opportunity for humanitarian action, the idea being that everyone should spend at least 67 minutes - one minute for each year of his life Madiba devoted to the promotion of social justice, equality and the protection of human rights - to do something for the good of his or her community.

This year, concerns about the former president's ill health and the mere

fact that he was turning 95 actually encouraged greater participation. Under the theme, "Take action; inspire change; make every day a Mandela Day", some very interesting activities took place, as is evident from our photo gallery.

Overhills (photo right)

In the Overhills informal settlement, staff members of the Kleinmond office spent some time to decorate the area where the municipality had previously installed play-park equipment. The children immediately swamped the equipment despite the stormy weather, much to the enjoyment of Area Manager, Cecile Jonkheid, and her staff.



Gansbaai tree/refuse

In the Gansbaai area, municipal employee TC Smith helped to cut down a large dead fig tree in the rear courtyard of the Herberg-aan-See old-age home and to remove the cuttings to the municipal dump. In the previously disadvantaged areas of Beverly Hills (Blompark), Masakhane and the RDP housing area of Gansbaai, the municipality, in co-operation with the Gansbaai Ratepayers' Association, assisted residents to clean up their yards.



Crèche shake-up

Members of the Hermanus division of the Overstrand Fire and Rescue Service were labouring away to fix up the garden of the Nomzamu Crèche in Zwelihle when Mayor Nicolette Botha-Guthrie stopped by to afford them a well-earned break. *From the left are Gcobisa Pilingane, Shane Booysen, Maluzi Nompuzu, Masixole Langatye, Wayne Haman, Carl Galant, Lovuyo Mayile and Stanley Moses.*



Mandela Garden in Mount Pleasant

Ward 4 Councillor, Lianda Beyers-Cronjé, and members of the community used their time to plant shrubs and flowers in Tulip Park in Mount Pleasant to create a Madiba garden. Botriver Bricks donated half bricks which will be used to create a paved pathway through the park.



Lea Goodall

Mayor Nicolette Botha-Guthrie visited Ms Lea Goodall, a resident of Hawston, who suffers from the rare Elephantiasis disease.



Junior Council

The Overstrand Junior Town Council used Mandela Day to redecorate Zwelihle's Welcoming Wall under the guidance of Alex Forsyth, a visual arts-and-craft expert. Staff members from the Enlighten Education Trust and students from Qhayiya Secondary School joined in after school.



Beach Clean-up

A beach clean-up project on Saturday, 20 July, was well supported by Rooiels residents. Bags full of rubble were removed. Although it cannot be said with certainty what the cause of the pollution is, it is suspected that beaches and/or landfill sites on the Cape Town side of False Bay may be to blame.

WEEKENDS OF FESTIVALS IN SEPTEMBER 2013

THE WHALES ARE A "CALLING"

The Hermanus Whale Festival is celebrating its 22nd year as the only enviro-arts festival in South Africa. Scheduled for the weekend of 20 to 24 September, this festival once again promises to put "the creatures of the deep on stage and under the spotlight alongside top performers and musicians".



Hermanus, known as the best land-based whale watching destination in the world, plays host to thousands of visitors annually who flock to this seaside resort to feast their eyes on our unique natural environment, revel in the antics of the Southern-rights - the most revered amongst our esteemed attendees - indulge in good food and music, and

enjoy the many activities on offer, simply in anticipation of Spring.

Naturally, centre stage belongs to the whales, hence the Marine Endangered Species Expo Marquee. But, as is to be expected from most superstars, these creatures from the deep have come to rely on a splendid support cast of a more terrestrial nature to take care of "human" needs: Plenty a morsel to

entice even the most discerning food and wine connoisseur; fantastic events designed to rid the over-energetic of just about any urge, be they sports-people or of the age where they simply can't keep still; arts and crafts that beg the question: "Now why didn't I think of that?", and music to suit festival goers' every mood - you choose the vibe.

To obtain a detailed programme of events, be sure to visit www.whalefestival.co.za. Alternatively, contact the festival office at 028 313 0928 or send an email to festival@hermanus.co.za.



THE TRADITION LIVES ON

The Hermanus Botanical Society is once again looking forward to hosting its traditional Flower Festival - a festival where everyone residing in the Overberg can celebrate their region's very own export product: Fynbos!

The Flower Festival will be held from 26 to 29 September in the Fernkloof Nature Reserve, with the support of Cape Whale Coast, the tourism marketing arm of Overstrand Municipality.

Variety is the spice of life, or so the saying goes. And if you like your fare of the not-so-bland kind, come feast your senses on the range on offer here: Glorious massed proteas and ericas banked around a fascinating wetland environment in the Fernkloof Hall, a marquee filled with stalls where you can learn all about managing life in a fynbos environment, and an array of arts and crafts that could well result in your Christmas

shopping list being done-and-dusted three months in advance... Now wouldn't that be good?

Gardeners, too, should not miss the displays in the amphitheatre where ideas around attractive garden designs for small areas will be demonstrated first-hand.

Teas, coffees, cakes and light lunches are all on offer. As for the kids, an interactive puppet theatre, together with other fun activities, will ensure 100% occupation all the while.

And the really good news? Jack's indigenous plant nursery will be open throughout the festival.

The festival is open from 09:00 to 17:00 every day. For adults, entry amounts to a mere R15.00. Entrance for children under 12 is FREE. For more information, send an e-mail to botschoermanus@telkomsa.net or dial 028 313 8100.

IMPRESSIVE FLOWERS EASY TO GROW

Rudyard Kipling captured the truth about gardening when he coined the saying that "Flowers are not made by singing 'Oh, how beautiful', and sitting in the shade". The gardeners amongst us can all testify that it requires a lot of skill, knowledge and hard work to make a garden bloom.

Gardeners are also keen to learn more about what really works. Overstrand Municipality has been inundated with calls of compliments and enquiries ever since the plants on the Voëlklip Traffic Circle island started blooming.

Municipal horticulturist, Lauren Rainbird, says that the

plants which are blooming so profusely are the Chasmanthe floribunda, also known as suurknol.

Both the Chasmanthe floribunda var. floribunda and Chasmanthe floribunda var. duckittii are deciduous, winter-growing corms which are easy to cultivate and will grow in full sun or semi-shade. The duckittii variety, which is from the Darling area, carries spikes of yellow flowers in winter to early spring.

Both varieties are water wise in the winter rainfall areas and occur naturally in the Cape flora.



NEW COUNCILLOR FOR WARD 3



The newly elected councillor for ward 3, Ms Kari Brice, has been a very involved and active resident of Hermanus for the past 21 years. Apart from playing a role in numerous events, tourism organisations and charities, she also showed her interest in municipal affairs by serving on ward committees since 2001. She says she is extremely passionate about her ward, which consists of a diverse community and has many contentious issues that must often be dealt with. Ms Brice won the seat with 84 per cent of the votes for the Democratic Alliance in a hotly contested by-election on Wednesday 7 August.

SARS DATES FOR REST OF THE YEAR

The scheduled visits from SARS to assist Overstrand residents with their tax forms and other queries will take place as follows:

1 and 2 October 2013 @ Banqueting Hall
5 and 6 November 2013 @ Banqueting Hall

Consultations can take place on Tuesdays from 11:00 - 18:00 and on Wednesdays from 09:00 - 14:00.

The above schedule is subject to change on short notice, and to confirm that everything is still going according to plan, please contact Jolanda Hendricks (LED Officer) at 028 313 8928 or per e-mail to jhendricks@overstrand.gov.za.

SEPTEMBER CONCERTS IN AUDITORIUM

At 15:30 on Sunday, 15 September 2013, the Overstrand public will have the privilege of hearing highly acclaimed violinist Zanta Hofmeyr in concert accompanied by Elna van der Merwe. They will perform works by Beethoven, Messiaen, Tchaikovsky and Franck.

On Wednesday night the 18th, the Overberg Eisteddfod Prestige Concert will be held, and the public will see and hear the cream of the young artists from our region perform on stage.

Book at BELLINI GALLERY on 028 312 4988. For further enquiries, call Ren  du Plooy on 082 940 4238.



Zanta Hofmeyr