

November  
2009

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# Bulletin

Official newsletter of the Overstrand Municipality

## CBD relief road construction officially started

# STATION SITE DEVELOPMENT GETS THE NOD

Approval for the amendments to the conditions of rezoning of the Hermanus Station Site was granted on 1 October 2009 by the Western Cape MEC for Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, Mr Anton Bredell.

This means that the planned development on this site by Shoprite/Checkers South Africa can go ahead and that this major element in the revitalisation of Hermanus' central business district can take shape.

At the same time the announcement was made, work on the CBD Relief Road started officially. The first phase of the projects entails the construction of the northern roundabout, and this will not have a major impact on the normal traffic flow in town. Parking at the United Church and the Hermanus Primary School from Royal Street will be redirected to the site at the foot of Hoy's Koppie.



Councillors, officials and business leaders took an interest on 5 October in the heavy road building machinery to be used in the construction of the CBD relief road.

The conditions for the rezoning, amongst others, restricted the development to a gross lettable area of 7240m<sup>2</sup>, a

minimum of 35 residential units, underground parking for at least 342 cars, surface parking for at least 160 cars and

an above-ground building of two storeys with a third-storey loft and coverage which ensures the retention of a visual corridor and axis between Hoy's Koppie and the coast.

According to the letter of approval, the architectural style of the development must be compatible with the old station building and other adjacent and nearby historic buildings, whose character must be protected to the satisfaction of the municipality's director of infrastructure and development.

Mayor Theo Beyleveldt welcomed this decision and said this approval will mean a lot for the revitalisation of the Hermanus CBD, together with the construction of the relief road, which officially commenced on 5 October 2009. In recent years, several other upgrading projects for areas like the Cliff Tops, Gearings Point and Market Square have been undertaken.



Guests present at the time of the commissioning were afforded the opportunity to walk through the plant and observe all the processes. In the front are Stephen Muller and Anton Coetsee. In the background, Mayor Theo Beyleveldt and Deputy Mayor Pieter Scholtz can be seen.

## WATERWORKS COMMISSIONED

Gansbaai's new water-purification works at Franskraal was officially commissioned on 15 September 2009. The development of this plant and its related infrastructure is the biggest single capital project ever to be tackled by Overstrand Municipality and came at a cost of more than R44 million.

According to Mr Stephen Muller, Director Infrastructure and Planning, the municipality can now cater for the community's normal needs for the next thirty years and for the peak-time needs for at least the next 10

years. He is of the opinion that Overstrand's council should be lauded for the long-term vision they displayed in this regard.

The Franskraal purification works was a top priority, because the capacity of the plant left a lot to be desired in terms of the community's needs, especially during peak times. At the event, Area Manager Kat Myburgh related how tense things became when nine years ago, on the eve of the December peak holiday season, the reservoir ran dry.

## NEW COUNCILLORS EXPERIENCED

Rudolph Smith of the Democratic Alliance and Phillipus May of the ANC were welcomed as Overstrand councillors on 23 September 2009. They fill the two vacancies for proportional councillors which arose with the resignation of aldermen Verrell Herbert and Willie Smuts.

In the meantime, it has also been announced that Cllr Jan Gelderblom (ANC) has been designated to serve as one of Overstrand's councillors on the Overberg District Municipality.

The 42-year-old Smith, who lives in Hawston and is a former pupil of the Swartberg Secondary School in Caledon, is not new to local authorities at all. He has already served as councillor with the Swellendam Municipality and Overberg District Municipality, where he served for some time on the Mayoral Committee and took care of Corporate and Health Services. In the nineties he also held the offices of Mayor and Deputy Mayor on the Botriver Transitional Council.

In 2006/07 he served on the executive committee of the Western Cape branch of SALGA and was the deputy chair of the Sector Education and Training Agency for Local Government in the Western Cape. During this time, he also served on the



Premier's Economic Forum (Rural Division) and the Western Cape Labour Forum (Rural Division). Smith started his career at a sawmill in Botriver and also gained experience of trade unionism.

The 50-year-old May, also from Hawston, served during the term 2000 to 2006 with both Overstrand and the Overberg District Municipality. He was the District Municipality's deputy mayor for three years and responsible for the Finance portfolio. As a member of the local welfare committee, the Brewelskloof Hospital Council and various provincial committees, he has a good idea of the state of the community's wellbeing and also has a lively interest in sports and recreation. He, too, is a product of the Swartberg Senior Secondary School and has obtained a qualification in library and information science from the University of the Western Cape.

## RWP EXERCISES ITS RIGHT TO FREEDOM

Regiment Westelike Provinsie (RWP) will execute the right of freedom of entry to Overstrand Municipality on Saturday 7 November 2009 at 11:00 in Hermanus followed by a drive-through of military vehicles in other areas of the municipality later that day.

The parade will start in Magnolia Street in front of the Municipal Offices, where the troops will be inspected by the Mayor. Following that, a procession with a military band, a company of soldiers on foot and twelve Mamba vehicles will march through the centre of town.

The right of freedom was granted to the unit in 2006 because of the area's long-standing association with RWP. Many men of the region joined the regiment during World War II. Since then, the unit became involved with the annual Remembrance Day service on Poppy Day in Hermanus.

This tradition will be continued this year with the wreath-laying ceremony taking place on Saturday at 09:30 at the Cenotaph on Market Square above the Old Harbour, and not on the Sunday as the custom is. At this event, all those who have lost their lives doing military duty for their country will be remembered.

These events will also mark the 75th anniversary of Regiment Westelike Provinsie. The unit was established on 7 September 1934 and mobilised five years later for World War II. It played an active role in 1977 in South West Africa/Namibia, where five riflemen were killed and 71 injured in a train accident, and assisted the SA Police during the state of emergency in 1980. Fully integrated into the SA National Defence Force after 1994, RWP took part amongst others in Exercises Thunder Chariot, Cobra and Revelation and enjoyed a highly successful deployment in December 2008 on the border with Zimbabwe near Mussina.



## Corporate Wear for Car Washers

Standard Bank is doing its share to stimulate job creation in the Overstrand area. When approached by the municipality's Economic Development Directorate to sponsor uniform wear for a group of 20 car washers, the local branch responded by donating t-shirts, caps and water bottles for their use. Donning the wear at the handing over on Wednesday 30 September 2009 were, from left, Sullani Nazo, Solile Mpuma, TN Sonamzi, John Sibungile Thembani, Velile Mpuma and Khangelani Ngamtweni. Behind them are Lollie Viljoen, branch manager, Niel Liebenberg, business banker, Thembi Malinga, LED officer, and Soli Madikane, Director: Economic Development.

## OVERSTRAND ARTS ACTIVE

Overstrand Arts / Kunst (OAK) was founded earlier this year, and its mission is to promote outstanding quality of all performing arts and make Hermanus the Overstrand's arts mecca.



- 29 November  
Black Tie Ensemble
- 4 and 5 December  
Twaalfde Nag (drama)  
(Afrikaans)

Bookings at Bellini's  
Tel. 028 312 4988

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS IN THE AUDITORIUM

- 17 November  
Ben Schoeman, Pianist

For enquiries or suggestions, please contact René du Plooy on 028 312 1895 or mobile 082 940 4238 or email at renedup@telkomsa.net

## BABOON SURVEY ON WEBSITE

Baboons is a huge source of irritation for many Overstrand residents and for this reason, the municipality has committed itself to manage the problem and to reduce conflict by keeping baboons out of residential areas.

Baboon monitors and an electrified fence are some of the measures being utilised to ensure that these animals keep to their natural habitat.

Yet, based on complaints being received, it seems as if baboons still manage to gain access to residential areas and to forage there. Since baboon monitors are only contacted in the case of serious incidents, municipal decision makers do not have sufficient data to determine what the true extent of the problem is.

To facilitate the reporting of observations, the municipality has now created a website for this purpose. It can be accessed easily by way of links on the municipal website [www.overstrand.gov.za](http://www.overstrand.gov.za) or via the Community Forum on the website or by making use of the following URL: <http://baboons.overstrand.gov.za>

By simply clicking the mouse a couple of times, the form can be filled out and submitted. However, we did allow space for comments should a reporter wish to report something in particular.

Residents who are regularly visited by baboons can gain access to the form via their computers' 'desktop' by clicking on "Send" under "File" in Internet Explorer and then selecting "Shortcut to Desktop".

Participants will also be able to use the website to see how many reports have already been submitted and where baboon movements have been observed.

The reporting system is very simple and with everyone's cooperation, a proper database can be generated that will aid decision making.

## POLICE COMMUNITY FORUM



### ASSIST THE POLICE IN FIGHTING CRIME

Police Community Forums operate in accordance with the Police Act and, among other objectives, aim to promote partnership, communication, joint problem identification and joint problem solving between the SA Police Service and communities.

Communities were recently invited to meetings where the SAPS gave crime statistics and identified crime patterns in their regions. Following from that, the five main policing priorities were identified.

At the meetings in the Overstrand area, it became clear that the "Big 5" crimes in our region are burglaries, theft, assault, marine-orientated crimes and drug and liquor offences.

If we really want to smash the "Big 5" in

Overstrand, we as community must accept the responsibility to assist the Police to fight our common enemy: crime. Community-based organisations are urged to affiliate with the forums in our different towns. Communities are also encouraged to participate in awareness campaigns, which are planned in conjunction with the SAPS. Let us keep Overstrand clean from crime.

We are approaching the festive season. Let us all be alert and know that criminals are not on vacation; in fact, they are active 24 hours a day and seven days a week. We wish you all a crime-free festive season.

Contact Hennie Westraad of the Hermanus Police Community Forum on 082 820 4811 to share success recipes in the combat of crime.

## WORLD ENVIRONMENTAL CALENDAR: N° 8

### BIRDING BIG DAY 2009 Help Bird Research and Conservation

The annual Sappi Bird Life South Africa Birding Big Day will take place on Saturday 28 November this year. It is an annual "competition" amongst South African Birders to see who can spot the most bird species as well as an opportunity to raise funds for bird conservation and bird monitoring work. More than 15% of South Africa's birds are listed in the Eskom Red Data Book of Birds and many require urgent conservation interventions.



A common garden visitor, the Cape robin (Afrikaans: Gewone Janfrederik) – The bird of the year

There are three categories (rules apply to each) in which to participate:

1. Garden (urban) category: record all the birds you see or hear in your garden during the 24-hour period;
2. SABAP2 (South African Bird Atlas Project) category: only registered atlasers with Animal Demography Unit observer numbers may participate;
3. Traditional Birding Day category (four sub categories): count the number of birds in a 50km radius

with the aid of teams consisting of three to four people.

The top three winners in each category receive certificates of recognition. Of course, only free-living birds may be recorded - no caged birds! Several lucky-draw prizes will be given away, including weekend getaways, books, guided tours and much more. For more information on the event and the full list of prizes visit [www.birdlife.org.za](http://www.birdlife.org.za)

NATIONAL FRAUD  
HOTLINE

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