

### In this issue

This issue of the Swartland municipal newsletter focuses on service delivery while also keeping you informed of all municipal activities.

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#### Swartland Municipal Police to change to Traffic and Law Enforcement Service

The municipal police service is to be restructured from 1 July 2013, to focus on traffic and law enforcement only.

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#### Swartland snippets

Liquor licence holders may trade according to the hours stipulated in their existing liquor licences up until 31 March 2013. From 1 April 2013, the hours stipulated in the municipal by-law will apply.

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#### German twinning benefits Swartland youths

West Coast College hospitality students to enjoy spin-off from twinning agreement with German Sachsen-Anhalt province.

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#### Database for workers

Persons who are interested in being registered on the database for general workers are again requested to apply now.

#### Clean AND green!

Upon printing of this newsletter at the beginning of December, Swartland Municipality just got news that it may celebrate yet **another clean audit** report, this time in respect of the 2011/12 financial year.

This exceptional achievement – which very few municipalities in the country manage to attain – once again confirms Swartland Municipality's pursuit of and dedication to managing the money that our residents entrust us with responsibly and free of corruption.

In addition to this, the municipality was awarded third prize in the **Greenest Municipality** Competition during an award ceremony held on 20 November 2012. In this competition, participating municipalities nation-wide are evaluated on five core elements, namely Waste Management; Energy Efficiency and Conservation; Water Management; Landscaping, tree planting and beautification; Public Participation and Community Empowerment; and Leadership and Institutional Arrangements.

The prize includes R50 000 in cash, as well as organic compost, a carbon footprint calculator and two signage boards valued at R130 000.

#### Municipal police adjusts focus

If the Executive Mayoral Committee adopts the strategic plan in this regard on 13 December 2012, the municipal police service will have a new name and structure from 1 July 2013 to give effect to a more efficient service, which will save the taxpayer approximately R3 million per year.

Creating a safe environment for Swartland residents remains a priority. However, unlike the current service, which has had to focus on crime prevention also, the 'new' service – which will be known as the Swartland Traffic and Law Enforcement Service – will have the enforcement of traffic laws and municipal bylaws as its sole aim.

The restructured service will eventually have only 30 permanent officers in its employ, instead of the 48 posts provided for on the staff structure. An additional 45 reservists, who will patrol the 11 towns in the municipal area on foot, will be appointed in terms of Government's Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP). In terms of the EPWP, R80 of these officers' remuneration, which will amount to a total of R120 per day, may be recovered from National Government.

To gain insight in the strategic plan as well as the final decision of 13 December, contact Philip Humphreys or Mark Green.

**[INSERT PHOTO: RAADSHEER RUST, SPEAKER]:** Alderman Klasie Rust has recently been appointed speaker of the municipal council. Alderman Rust started his career as a municipal councillor in 1979 and has served various terms as mayor during this period.

### From the Executive Mayor

These days, we tend to become heavy-hearted very easily. With higher taxes, the escalating petrol price, exorbitantly expensive toll gates, retrenchments, ageing, illness ... phew!

I have pinned the following note onto my notice board: ***Dream more while you're awake ...***, but with so many negatives around, one struggles to 'dream' something positive! On the radio, one hears: " *Where are we supposed to save if the economy already has us pressed for cash?*" My heart bleeds when I hear people say: " *Once I've paid my rent, bought essential medicine and paid R1 000 for groceries, I have R25 left ...*" That means that this couple eats for less than R40 per day. It also means they don't have money for clothes, telephony, the church, saving or emergencies. What does one buy for R40? How do you live? What do you dream?

I still dream that the Swartland will be a beautiful place – that the entrances to our towns will be attractive and that people will immediately feel at home, because everyone they see seems happy and friendly. I dream that there will be no rubbish lying around. I dream that our parks will be filled with lush vegetation, that all our public buildings will be surrounded by bright green lawns, and that somewhere in our towns, there will be a pleasant open space where our Saturday shoppers can sit and relax, enjoy a drink and a bite to eat, and where their shopping will be safe while their children play on swings and the mothers stroll through the stalls. I dream that there will be no hungry, unwashed beggars asking me for R2 glue-sniffing money; that no senior in the Swartland will be lonely. Do you think I'm dreaming of paradise? Probably, but my notice board says: **Dream more while you're awake, and work harder at it.** And I know: There are many proud Swartland residents who share my dream and are prepared to work hard to turn it into a reality.

I wish each and every Swartland resident a blessed 2013.

Alderman Tijmen van Essen

### Swartland snippets

Read here for short snippets, dates and events that may affect you.

- **Liquor licences:** The holders of licences that were issued prior to the commencement of the Western Cape Liquor Act for premises on which liquor may be sold for consumption either on or off the licensed premises, are to note that – should the licence holder (in terms of the licence previously issued) have longer hours in terms of the licence conditions than provided for in the municipal by-law that regulates trading days and hours – that longer hours will apply up to and including 31 March 2013 (and not 31 December 2012 as was previously believed to be the case). It is to be noted also that where the municipal by-law entitles the licence holder to more rights, for instance the right to trade on Sunday, such rights are effective immediately. Enquiries: Madelaine Terblanche
- The municipal police service recently relocated from the premises in Rog Street to the former health clinic site in Disa Street, Westbank, Malmesbury. The contact details for the service remain unchanged, namely 022 487 9400 during normal office hours and 022 487 6479 after hours. Enquiries: Phillip Humphreys or Mark Green
- With a view to the national elections to be held in 2014, Swartland residents who are not yet registered on the voters' roll as well as voters who have changed address since the 2011 elections can report to the municipal offices in Malmesbury to be registered. Enquiries: Juliana Lategan
- Dumping of builder's rubble and waste on vacant erven: Residents of all Swartland towns should note that this is illegal and punishable with a fine. Residents of Moorreesburg may contact Babs Engelbrecht to arrange for their garden refuse to be removed for free on Tuesdays. This refuse should be placed outside in black bags.
- Customers are to note that the Payment Association of South Africa (PASA) has reduced the maximum amount that can be paid by cheque from R5 million to R500 000 from 1 July 2012. This move is aimed at boosting payments via electronic funds transfer and to curb fraud.

### Authorisation required PRIOR to the commencement of construction

Swartland residents who intend erecting new buildings or altering existing ones, should take note of the following information:

In terms of the law, Swartland Municipality is the competent authority tasked with regulating all construction on even in the jurisdiction of the municipality, **including construction on properties situated in the rural area** of the municipality, and no construction may be carried out in the municipal area without Swartland Municipality's prior approval.

The following **procedure** must be followed to obtain the required approval:

- An application on a prescribed form (available from **Swartland Municipality**), supported by a properly drafted building plan and specifications, documents and information required by law, as well as any details that the municipality may require (**in quadruplicate**), along with the stipulated application fees, must be submitted to the municipality. Applications may be submitted at any of the municipal offices in Malmesbury, Moorreesburg, Darling, Yzerfontein, Riebeek Kasteel and Riebeek West.
- Upon approval of an application, the applicant will receive – apart from a copy of the approved building plan – numerous notice forms, which the applicant in conjunction with the municipal building inspector as well as the appointed competent person (architect, technologist or drafter) must complete during site inspections that are to be carried out in the course of construction. The aforementioned forms must also be submitted timeously at the above offices.
- As soon as the application has been approved and the building foundation has received clearance (where applicable), construction may commence.
- Upon completion of construction, and following a final site inspection by a municipal building inspector at the applicant's written request, an occupation certificate will be issued if the municipality is satisfied that construction has

been carried out in accordance with the approved building plan, and all required documentation have been submitted.

Construction carried out without the required prior approval is seen as **unauthorised** and constitutes a **criminal offence**. The municipality will recover a flash fine as well as additional investigation fees attached to such unlawful construction. **Swartland Municipality** will also take such steps as it may deem necessary and appropriate to have the illegal act rectified. (Enquiries: Michael Jacobs, Building Control Officer)

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#### **German twinning creates unique opportunity for Swartland youth**

Swartland Municipality recently concluded a n agreement that will offer 50 students of West Coast College the opportunity to supplement their level 4 training in Hospitality Management with an intensive finishing course at a major hospitality college in Magdeburg, Germany, during 2013.

This agreement is the latest spin-off flowing from an official multi-terrain cooperation agreement entered into between Swartland Municipality and the Sachsen-Anhalt government in 2005. This latest initiative, which will benefit the Hospitality Studies Faculty of West Coast College, not only contributes to equipping our youth with world -class skills, but also positions the Malmesbury-based faculty as a preferred institution as opposed to other colleges in South Africa.

Swartland Municipality was instrumental in putting together the project, and has facilitated the entire process between various stakeholders, both local and overseas. Graduates will attend a short bridging course at West Coast College, after which they will travel to the DEHOGA *Fachakademie* in Magdeburg, Germany, for master's classes as well as placement at the leading hotels and restaurants of Sachsen-Anhalt to receive theoretical and practical training. In addition to pocket money, they will receive comfortable accommodation, meals and free training. Insurance, all accreditations and registrations as well as assessments are included. The total value of the project for 2013 amounts to R18 million.

After a year, the students will return to South Africa and will be supported if they choose to pursue an international career on either land or sea, which is also included in the qualification. "With this exposure, our youth will return as entrepreneurs," says Councillor Chris Hunsinger, Executive Mayoral Committee member for Economic Development. He adds: "The hospitality sector is one of the most prominent economic drivers in terms of job creation and returns, and we believe the partnership with West Coast College is an important link to facilitate local economic development."

Hereby, South Africa also becomes a founder of the future Global Gastronomy Education Network, which will be located in Sachsen-Anhalt to offer continuous training from 2014. Another part of the agreement, which was signed in Ilseburg, Germany, on 16 November 2012, entails the placement of a lecturer of West Coast College in Wanzleben, Germany, to teach English to all foreign students.

In addition to the talks and the signing of agreements, the Swartland delegation were also received by the Landtag Präsident Gerhard Miesterfeld at the Parliament in Magdeburg, where they delivered a message on behalf of the Swartland mayor and made a presentation on South Africa, the Western Cape and the Swartland. Pictured here, are Landtag Präsident Gerhard Miesterfeld (left) with Councillor Chris Hunsinger. **[INSERT PHOTO MIESTERFELD & HUNSINGER]**

#### **Boost for eco-tourism**

The Swartland now boasts a brand-new birding route after volunteers, birders and Swartland Tourism joined forces to establish 14 different birding spots.

Research has shown that bird-watching as a hobby is growing in popularity, and that between 21 000 and 40 000 birders visit South Africa every year. South Africa is listed as one of the world's leading bird-watching destinations, with approximately 960 species occurring in Southern Africa. Furthermore, the Swartland is fortunate enough to be home to a quarter of the endemic species of Southern Africa.

The region has a diverse landscape, ranging from coastal areas, fynbos and renosterveld to wheat fields, vineyards and olive groves, which all contribute to the wide variety of birdlife found here. The list of various bird types that have been sighted here consists of some 250 species. Swartland Tourism hopes that the route will contribute to eco-tourism and will raise awareness about, and promote the conservation of, the threatened renosterveld.

Detailed maps and summaries of the routes are available on Swartland Tourism's website ([www.swartlandtourism.co.za](http://www.swartlandtourism.co.za)). The maps provide a clear indication of nature reserves, hiking trails, bird hides, a synoptic list as well as other tourist attractions. A birding course for beginners will be presented from 31 January to 1 February at Malmesbury Library. Those interested in attending may phone 022 487 2989 for more information.

#### **[INSERT PHOTO: VOËLROETE]**

In attendance at the launch of the Swartland Birding Route were (from left to right) Arnold van der Westhuizen, Fiona Hellmann, Linza Louw and Mia Louw.

#### **Homeless in Malmesbury**

Swartland Municipality's Community Development Division recently coordinated various discussions to address the challenges surrounding the homeless in Malmesbury. From October 2012, the shelter for the homeless has conducted fieldwork twice every evening throughout the week to offer the homeless an alternative to life on the streets. Many opportunities were created to collect information in order to try and reunite the homeless with their families or to encourage them to become economically active again.

The municipality currently partners with The Haven Nightshelter Swartland in order to address the challenges and needs of the homeless at a regional level. Along with this organisation, the municipality provides the homeless with the following services upon request: a place to sleep, meals, ablution facilities, social services, clean clothing (if available) as well as assistance to return to their families.

During a recent interaction in Malmesbury, these services were offered to the homeless as an alternative to life on the streets. A survey has shown that homeless persons spend their nights in various spots throughout the town. The municipal police assisted in determining the owners of the sites where the homeless persons seem to be sleeping. The owners were subsequently contacted and informed that there was indeed an alternative available to the homeless. Such owners may therefore request the homeless to leave their premises, or may even have them criminally prosecuted if need be.

The challenge surrounding the homeless can only be effectively addressed in partnership with various role players. Should you wish to become part of the solution, please contact The Haven Nightshelter Swartland on 022 486 5191.

#### **BLADSY 4**

### **Kufunwa abasebenzi abangenabungcali (DB 1/13)**

UMasipala wase-Swartland uhlaba ikhwelo lokuba nenze izicelo zezikhundla somsebenzi nje ongenabungcali (isalathisi sesicelo DB 1/13).

Isicelo sakho siya kugcinwa kuvimba weenkukacha zabantu abafuna umsebenzi isithuba seenyanga ezintandathu. Ngeli xesha, uMasipala wase-Swartland uya kusebenzisa abantu abanamagama adweliswe kulo vimba weenkukacha kumasebe ohlukeneyo njengoko kula masebe kufunwa abasebenzi nje abangenabungcali.

Uya kuba ngumgqatswa ofanelekileyo ukuba usempilweni ngokomzimba, unesazisi esisemthethweni. Uyukuba ngumgqatswa ukuba akunambali yolwaphulo mthetho.

Kwisicelo sakho kuyimfuneko ukuba ubandakanye oku kulandelayo ukuze siqwalaselwe:

- Ikopi eqinisekisiweyo yeSazisi sakho okanye iphepha-mvume lokuqhuba;
- Uxwebhu lwesicelo olugcwalisiweyo, kunye
- Nesihloko somsebenzi (umsebenzi ongenabungcali) kunye nenombolo yesalathisi (DB 1/13) yesi sikhundla.

Amaxwebhu esicelo ayafumaneka kwii-ofisi zikamasipala kuMasipala wase-Swartland yaye makangeniswe buqu kwiCandelo leeNkonzo zoNcedo lwezaBasebenzi kwi-ofisi yomasipala wakho. Kananjalo uvumelekile ukuba uthumele isicelo sakho ngeposi kule dilesi: Private Bag X52, Malmesbury, 7299.

Abafaki-zicelo abathi bazicengele izikhundla kooceba okanye kumagosa kamasipala baya kuthintelwa ukuba bafake izicelo.

Abafaki-zicelo abanee-akhawunti zikamasipala ezisemva ngentlawulo abasayi kuqwalaselwa ngaphandle kokuba bayinxalenye yeprojekthi ejongene nokwabelana ngobulungisa.

**Umhla wokuvalwa kokwamkelwa kwezicelo: 31 uJanuwari 2013**

### **General Workers (Reference: DB 1/13)**

Council invites applications for these positions for inclusion in a database that will be valid for 6 months. This database will serve as a source document for the placement of general workers as and when required by various departments within Swartland Municipality.

The ideal candidates reside within the Council area, have good physical health and strength, are in possession of a valid identity document. It would be to your advantage if you have no criminal record.

Applications will not be considered if:

- Certified copies of ID's or driver's licences (if applicable) are not attached
- The prescribed application form is incomplete
- The job title and reference number (DB 1/13) is not indicated

The prescribed application forms are available at the various municipal offices in the Council area and must be handed in at the Human Resources Services Section or the various municipal offices, or forwarded to Private Bag X52, Malmesbury, 7299.

Applicants who canvass with Councillors or officials with the view of appointment, will be disqualified.

Candidates whose municipal accounts are in arrears, will not be considered, except participants in the equitable share project.

**Closing date: 31 January 2013**

**Swartland Haven Nightshelter invites you to "Give Responsibly" over the festive season**

Our R10 Passports are available from Geard Pharmacy, Janno's Restaurant and the shelter. Purchase a passport, give it to a homeless person and direct them to the shelter. This will entitle the person to the following services: food, clothing, a bed, a shower, social services and assistance to get back home.

When we see someone in need, we intuitively give to those who ask. However, when we provide financial and material help directly to homeless person living on the street we are merely enabling him to continue living on the streets; inadvertently harming that vulnerable person by increasing his alienation from his family, friends and home community.

Please consider spreading this message. We invite you, your family and friends to "**Give responsibly**", provide real help; pray with the homeless person and refer him to the Swartland Haven, 5 Varing Street, Malmesbury. For more information, contact us on (022) 486-5191. *(See article on page 3)*

\* This newsletter is distributed quarterly to all Swartland residents. The English copy of all Afrikaans items is available on our website. / \* Hierdie nuusbriëf word kwartaalliks aan alle Swartland-inwoners versprei. Die Afrikaanse weergawe van alle Engelse insetsels in hierdie nuusbriëf is op ons webtuiste beskikbaar.