



The municipality saluted our fire-fighters during SOMA for the incredible work they did when a massive fire threatened homes and businesses at Cape St Francis and Sea Vista last month.

The municipality is proud also of the special President's Award they received from the Algoa Bay Rotary Club this week in recognition of their bravery. Executive Mayor Daphne Kettledas said:

While not all fires make the news, our fire-fighters are called on to put their lives at risk almost every week. The municipality is grateful to them for their selfless service and capacity over the past term through the acquisition of new equipment and the upgrade of fire hydrants. A new satellite fire station was opened at Hankey last year and a further R1-million was set aside on the current capital budget to build a satellite station at Oyster Bay

later this year. The Council also recently approved a Disaster Management Plan while wardens and risk assessors will be done over the next few months with the assistance of the Sarah Baartman District Municipality. The recent big fire was not the only nature-linked crisis of that magnitude to hit Kouga over the past few years. Emergency services also had to deal with more than one fire and the collapse of the Sand River Bridge at St Francis.

The fact that each disaster was overcome is testimony to the calibre of this area's emergency services. The municipality is grateful to Kouga and its partner institutions. It is also testimony to the selfless manner in which Kouga's community pulls together in times of need.

Kettledas ended her address by adding that nothing would have been possible were it not for everyone pulling together.

Executive Mayor, Daphne Kettledas with all the firefighters who received awards
Photo: Bev Mortimer



Kouga Firefighters get another well-deserved 'Thank you'!

Members of the St Francis community had the opportunity this month to say their own big "Thank You" to all Kouga firefighters and the members who were involved in the massive 9-day fires that started late January this year.

A celebratory function was held at the St Francis Bay Fire Station in St Francis Drive. The Rebels Rus Conservancy most kindly raised approximately R11 500 specifically for the firefighters and said thank you to them for coming to their aid to

homes from the flames. St Francis Links prepared the meals for about 60 firefighters. Some of the food prepared came from the community members during the fires. The Rebels Rus donation added to a bigger spread and a larger celebration for those who deserve it most.

A big thank you was also expressed to all donors for assisting in ensuring a worthy celebration for these brave and tough firemen and women.



Deward Barnard, Fire Chief of the Kouga Fire Department seen with Michelle Brown of Algoa Bay Rotary Club. Photo supplied.

Kouga's Fire Chief Deward Barnard and his Team of Firefighters received the Rotary Algoa Bay Presidential award for their bravery, their tireless efforts and their endeavour in fighting fires in St Francis.

These firefighters earned the nomination for during long nights and blazing days never giving up in order to save the homes of those within the affected areas from the St Francis nine-day fires in January this year.

The Rotary President's Award was held on 23 February. For this award members nominate a person or organisation they consider has gone above and beyond the call of duty, who has gone that extra mile and made a difference in people's lives.

DU BRUYN
Marine

P.O.Box 702
St Francis Bay
6312
Cnr Tarragona and Main Rd
Email: dbmmarine@gmail.com
Website: dbmarine.co.za
Dries Du Bruyn

Tel: 042 294 1930
Fax: 042 294 1816

