

All the Firefighters awarded



The municipality saluted our fire-fighters during SOMA for the incredible work they did when a massive veld fire threatened homes and businesses at Cape St Francois 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 Ketteladas 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 it was able to improve fire-fighting 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 The Council also recently approved its Disaster Management Plan while ward-based risk assessments 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 five years. Emergency services also had to deal with more than one flood and the collapse of the Sand River Bridge at St Francis.

"The fact each disaster was overcome is testimony to the calibre of this area's emergency services staff, both those working for Kouga and its partner institutions. It is also testimony to the selfless manner in which Kouga's community pulls together in times of need."

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

Executive Mayor, Daphne Ketteladas with all the firefighters who received awards

Photo: Bev Mortimer

Kouga firefighters awarded for bravery



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

Kouga's Fire Chief Dewald Barnard and his team of Firefighters received the Rotary Algoa Bay Presidential Award for their bravery, their tireless efforts and their endurance 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.

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 municipal and district Firefighters 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 as a big thank you to them for coming to their aid to

homes from the flames.

St Francis Links e prepared the meals for about 60 firefighters. Some of the food prepared came from donations received during the fires. The Rebels Rus donation added to a bigger spread a rd 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.



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