



#### THE WAY I SEE IT...

**What a month June has been!** We all know about the dreadful little bag of 'weather tricks' that Cape St Francis digs into frequently. Five seasons in one day, bitterly cold on-shore winds, Westerly busters which make it impossible to perform the most normal daily activities! Well, despite a few exceptionally cold days, June has seen the most balmy, sun filled days that I can remember. These combined with a stunning azure blue sea, a pristine, clean village and friendly and welcoming residents, it seems impossible to believe that any World Cup visitor could not have fallen in love with the place. Daily we get reports of how foreigners have been impressed beyond words by what they have experienced in South Africa. As one foreign journalist, who started out as being sceptical, stated: " I have been blown away by the global embrace that South Africans have offered up to the world. South Africans are drinking deeply from the cup of humanity that has been brought to their doorstep. I now understand the true meaning of the African word 'ubuntu'! "



#### A WHALE OF A STORY!

**In mid June a dead 20 foot humpback whale was washed on to the rocks at the Lighthouse at Cape St Francis.** How does a local municipality deal with five tons of decaying animal matter, especially when it coincides with period of stepped up visitor activity due to the World Cup and coincides with that time of the year when Cape St Francis attracts many surfers due to excellent wave conditions? Imploding the massive carcass in situ? Rather messy as shown on a USA beach in 1970 when decayed animal matter was spread far and wide. [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1\\_t44siFyb4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1_t44siFyb4).

In this case, cutting it up into manageable sizes was considered but was decided to be too risky in terms of the attraction the blood and flesh would create for sharks in the area. Towing it out to sea was not an option due to its position on the Wild Side. After much head-scratching, it was decided by Disaster Management personnel that it should be removed from the site and disposed of elsewhere. A low-bed truck without sides saw the massive carcass have to be reloaded twice!



#### A WATER CRISIS UPDATE

**Recent rains in the larger Port Elizabeth area have given only marginal relief to the drastically low water levels of the dams which feed water to Cape St Francis.** As of the 21st June, the Churchill Dam, which is solely responsible for the water used at Cape St Francis, has risen from 10.8% to 18.5%. The combined levels of the dams feeding the Port Elizabeth metropol stand at 34.4%. The catchment areas feeding the main dams are situated in the interior of the Eastern Cape and these are summer rainfall areas. Therefore with no indication that the drought is over, hopes for more dam-filling rains must focus on the September to January period. An additional pipeline from the Orange River Project is aimed for completion by 2013 and it is hoped that this will provide a consistent supply of water to our area when the dams in our catchment areas fail to provide this.



#### GREAT NEWS FOR HOME OWNERS!

**South Africa had the best performing housing market in the world over the longer term - that is according to the 'Economist' magazine.** The publication's Global House Price Index shows that SA house prices rose by a cumulative **418%** over the past 12 years (1997-2009), far outstripping any of the other 20 housing markets tracked by the index. The next best performers were Australia, Britain and Spain with growth of 181%, 175% and 167% respectively. For most of us struggling to pay monthly bond installments and watching the number of properties on the market increase daily, it sure doesn't feel like it but I guess that is the benefit of statistics - they give one an overview that the average person doesn't have. So hold on to that property. It is still a great investment!!

#### HAVE A LOOK AT THIS PROPERTY!



An immaculate and charming timber home backing on to the nature reserve. Upmarket finishes throughout, an indigenous enclosed garden, a private and protected entertainment area are just a few more of the features that this property has to offer. Centrally positioned, it also has two garages and a large unused area which with simple renovation, could offer extra accomodation. **Priced at R1 850 000,00**



For more information on this property visit:

[www.debbienicholsonproperties.co.za](http://www.debbienicholsonproperties.co.za)



#### IT MAY INTEREST YOU TO KNOW...

- Cape St Francis has had its share of **World Cup visitors!** The Cape St Francis Resort has hosted groups of both Chilean and Serbian supporters. Enthusiastic Resort staff report that they received lessons in basic Spanish in preparation for this. Some commented that the Chileans were very friendly['chilled'?] while the Serbians were less approachable!
- In the past month some residents at Cape St Francis, involved in an **appeal process against the Municipality** for valuations seen as unfair and unjustified, have had the electricity to their homes cut. This seems to have arisen out of the residents continuing to pay rates at the original level. What makes it more confusing is the fact that this was in accordance with a municipal directive that until the appeal process had run its course, those appealing against the rates, would continue to pay rates at original level. The appeal process has not yet commenced in this area.
- **The filming of Blue Crush II**, a movie centred around surfing, is set to have a few episodes shot at Cape St Francis. After close liason with FOSTER, Transnet and Trudi Maln who runs Penguin Rescue at the Lighthouse, it has been agreed that the movie makers may utilise an area close to the lighthouse. Filming is due to take place around the 14th of July.

P.O. Box 735 | St Francis Bay | 6312  
Cell: 082 267 2788 | Fax: 086 651 8699  
Email: [info@debbienicholsonproperties.co.za](mailto:info@debbienicholsonproperties.co.za)  
[www.debbienicholsonproperties.co.za](http://www.debbienicholsonproperties.co.za)



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