

Bryanston East Community Forum

P O Box 71673 Bryanston 2021 Tel: 011 463 6066
admin@becf.co.za www.becf.co.za

Newsletter June 2009

Dear residents of Bryanston East

At a recent meeting with the Sandton SAPS it was once again highlighted how well the security initiatives in our area are working. Since we started the initiative with the Community Forum, SAPS and Protea COIN the crime in Sector 2 has dropped by about 50%. Relative to the rest of Sandton we live in a very good area but it could be so much better if all the residents in our area did their bit.

Some very sad facts to back this up :

1. Of all the arrests made in our area about 1/3 are thrown out of court because the residents are unwilling to go to court because its not worth the time.
2. We have several instances in the past few months where residents saw a crime committed to others and did nothing. They did not even push a panic button. I am not saying that one needs to get involved but at least raise the alarm. It could save someone's life.
3. We have numerous residents who take advantage of the reduced fees offered by Protea COIN to BECF members who then refuse to pay their BECF membership fees. The excuses range from inflation, to too busy but they are always the first people to complain to BECF about issues in the community.
4. At the monthly SAPS sector meeting held at the St Michael's Church we get excited when we have 10 to 12 residents attending. On the other hand our domestic watch program has in the past three months addressed over 500 domestics who have to walk to the meetings which are held standing on street corners or in the parks.
5. Our last river clean up was attended by 5 residents but all the boy scouts and cubs in the area cleaned our part of the Spruit.

As residents we cannot hide behind our high walls and electric fences for ever. We also need to stop complaining about the state of the country if we are not prepared to do anything to help. We are not suggesting that you need to become a policeman but please stop complaining and get involved.

The initiative is working but to take it to the next level we really need to residents to do their bit. If you are not a member of the Bryanston East Community Forum please sign up - it costs only R150 per month or R1 200 per annum.

We would also ask you to sign up with Protea COIN. They have four dedicated vehicles in the area and we need 100 more residents signed up to get our next vehicle.

Russell Kleyn

RECYCLING CANS

Litter, particularly from discarded food and beverage packaging, is a major contributor to unhealthy infestations and urban decline.

From 1993 to 2006, approximately 750 000 tons of used beverage cans have been recovered in Southern Africa. Apart from the huge amount of landfill that has been saved, the living environment has been improved substantially.

Once the cans reach a recycling depot, they are weighed and payment is then given to whoever provided them. This helps schools and charities to raise money as well as providing informal employment for those out of work.

At the depot the cans are sorted into steel and aluminium, and then crushed into bales convenient for transportation to the recycling plants. In South Africa Eskor and Nampak's recycling plants receive a portion of the cans but a large percentage of the bales are shipped to India and Pakistan.

Recycling protects the environment by:

- Reducing the use of raw materials.
- Reducing the impact of landfill on the environment and also of unsightly and unhealthy litter particularly in pristine areas.
- Reducing air pollution, less iron-ore and oxygen that generates CO2 is used.
- Reduction in energy usage as less energy is required to use recovered cans than to produce steel from virgin materials.

Did you know that recycling one aluminium can save enough electricity to power a television for 3 hours.

For more information please visit www.collectacan.co.za.



Residents are invited to attend monthly Sector Crime Meetings presented by Inspector Lee Ramdiyal. These meetings are scheduled for the first Thursday of every month at the St Michael's Church (cnr Mount and Bryanston Drive) at 18:30.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

- **Metro Emergencies, Ambulances, Accidents** - 011 375 5911
- **Police** - 10111
- **Fire** - 10177
- **Sandton Police Station** - 011 722 4200/4355
- **Victim Support** - 082 774 7564
- **Inspector Lee Ramdiyal** - 083 775 4674
- **Joburg Connect** - 011 375 5555
(City Council, parks, water & electricity)
- **Electricity Eskom** - 086 003 7566
- **Water** (24 hour helpline) - 011 688 1500
- **ER24** - 084 124
- **Coin Control Room** - 086 180 7000
- **Coin Vehicle N12** - 082 053 3547
- **Coin Vehicle N17** - 082 825 3763
- **Coin Vehicle N18** - 082 461 5054
- **Coin Vehicle N19** - 076 629 0902
- **Chris van Zyl** -082 649 4785
(Dedicated Coin Sales Consultant)

PREVENTING CRIME IS EVERYBODY'S RESPONSIBILITY

Preventing crime is everybody's responsibility and starts with us being more aware of what is happening around us at all times.

Herewith some basic crime prevention hints:

- Keep driveway gates closed.
- Keep doors and security gates locked.
- Be aware of who is driving behind you and what's happening around you, especially when nearing your home.
- Avoiding parking your vehicle on the street.
- If you notice anything suspicious alert your security company and the police.
- Never leave your house without activating the alarm (even if you're just rushing to the shop for milk and bread - a few minutes is all the perpetrators need to gain access).

When you see suspicious persons or vehicles try to obtain a full description. This will assist the police and security companies when looking for them. Take note of details like:

- Make of vehicle
- Colour of vehicle
- Registration number
- How many occupants
- Clothing worn
- Which direction did they go

Everyone can play a role in the prevention of crime. Please get involved in community initiatives – together we can make a difference!

BECF ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Community Forum's financial year ended on 28th February 2008 and our audited financial statements have now been prepared. A full set can be downloaded from the web site at www.becf.co.za or can be emailed to you. The annual general meeting will be held at the venue of the normal monthly meeting at St Michaels Church, cnr Bryanston Drive and Mount Street, on 2 July 2009 at 18:30.

In summary however our financials are as follows :

	2009	2008
Revenue i.e. normal monthly income	769,901	549,567
Donations received	80,050	
Operating expenses	780,722	525,136

The breakdown of the operating expenses is shown in the annual financial statements, but 56% is employee costs and the remainder simply relate to the running of the operation.

Where large donations have been received these have been used to buy capital items e.g. the bakkie, cleaning equipment etc.

As you can see, our income has grown by about 40% and we are effectively running on a breakeven basis which we are comfortable with at this stage. We would like to grow our income and are planning on employing a dedicated sales person to sell the BECF and Protea COIN initiative to residents.

If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Russell Kleyn and Willie Boonzaier



CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

- ☞ I have the right to a loving and caring family, a proper safe and comfortable home, clothing and healthy food.
- ☞ I have the right to be told the house rules of where I live
- ☞ As a child, I should not be forced to work
- ☞ I have the right to an education suitable to my aptitudes and abilities.
- ☞ I have the right to a say in my care, and any changes to how I am cared for, according to my age & maturity.
- ☞ I have the right to get special care for special needs
- ☞ I have the right to be protected from hurt
- ☞ I have the right to good health care if I am sick and to be kept away from cigarettes, alcohol & drugs
- ☞ I am a real person and have a right to be treated properly
- ☞ I have the right to be taken seriously and to make mistakes
- ☞ I have the right to my own religion and culture
- ☞ I have a right to my name and my nationality
- ☞ I have the right to be treated the same, no matter what my colour, race, gender, language or religion
- ☞ I have the right to be proud of my heritage and beliefs
- ☞ I have the right to speak and be heard
- ☞ I have the right to send and receive private mail that is not read or opened by others
- ☞ I have the right to privacy
- ☞ I have the right to own my own things
- ☞ I have the right to speak and visit in private with my family or any other person like my big friend, a person representing me like my social worker or my lawyer
- ☞ I have a right to a lawyer in courtrooms and hearings affecting my future
- ☞ I have a right to live in a nice place and not be put in prison or in a police cell
- ☞ I have the right to know what my rights are

Inspector Lee Ramdiyarl

There will be no BECF Newsletter in July, as I will be on Safari, but as soon as I get back I'll get busy with the August Newsletter.