

BECF

newsletter

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Along the spruit with the River Rangers

The Braamfontein Spruit which runs through Bryanston is one of the attractions of the area. Keeping it clean and safe for the use of residents requires constant effort of a number of organizations.

The main news about the spruit during February and March has been the devastating diesel spill caused by Standard Bank. The visible result was the effect on the wildlife of the area. Ducks, fish and smaller aquatic life were poisoned by the oil. For over a week the smell of oil was

nauseating and despite clean up efforts, it was not until the spruit had flooded a few times that smell and the pollution were eradicated.

This is a reminder to us of how fragile the ecology of an urban river really is. Anything which is released into a storm water pipe or channel finds its way into the river. One of the major pollutants is plastic. Most of the plastic bottles and packets thrown down in the street find their way into the river leaving an unsightly mess along the "highwater"

line after each successive flooding. This is not just a Bryanston issue because all the debris from suburbs higher up gets washed down.

Thanks to the hard work of BECF cleaners and also through the organization of spruit cleanups like the one on 15th March keep the Bryanston part of the spruit looking better than it does in other suburbs.

Andrew Murray
www.riverrangers.org.za

BECF riverbed clean up



IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Metro Emergencies, Hospitals, Accidents - 011 375 5911

Police - 10111

Fire - 10177

Sandton Police Station - 011 722 4200/4355

Victim Support - 082 774 7654

Inspector Lee Ramdiyal - 083 775 4674

Coin Control Room - 086 180 7000

Coin vehicle - 082 053 3547

Coin vehicle - 082 461 5054

Coin vehicle - 082 825 3763

Joburg connect (City Council, parks, water, electricity) - 011 375 5555

Electricity Eskom - 086 003 7566

Water (24 hour help line) - 011 688 1500

Security guard strikes back

Johannesburg - A security guard single-handedly apprehended four suspects when they tried to rob a house in Bryanston, Johannesburg. Wellington Langa, 28, a guard from Protea Coin Security, shot one suspect dead and wounded another in the buttock.

The two other suspects were not armed and immediately surrendered, said police spokesperson inspector Bheki Thwala. Langa said he had been patrolling a gated community when a gardener at one of the houses drew his attention.

The gardener had seen four men jumping over an electrified wall and look for cover in the bushes in the back garden. The men had apparently climbed onto the roof of their vehicle, a red Toyota Condor, in order to get over the high wall.

"I went in and saw the guys hiding among the bushes. The one started shooting at me. One of the bullets went right by my head."

He fired back and shot one of them dead. He hit him in the neck and thigh. The second suspect had tried to take out his weapon and then Langa shot him in the buttock. He ordered the other two to lie on the ground and then he called his colleagues over the radio.

On Wednesday Tonya Delamere, 37, the owner of the house, praised Langa's swift actions. She had not been at home when the incident happened.

However Delamere's sister Kim Cohen, 34, who lived in a flat on the same property, had been at home. "The suspects were carrying ropes and handcuffs in a bag, probably to tie us up," Delamere speculated on Wednesday. She also said that the gardener had seen the same Toyota Condor parked around the corner from the house on Tuesday.

One of the passengers had got out of the vehicle and asked to use their toilet. "The gardener became suspicious and chased them away. Later he had walked around the outside of the house and found a ladder in the bushes which the men had presumably hidden there.

According to Titus Mazibuko, operations manager of Protea Coin Security, Langa had not received any special training. "He does tactical skills and fitness at one of our training schools." He said the men were very fit and strong.

10/04/2008 08:07 - (SA)
Leané du Plessis, Beeld



Inspector Lee Ramdiyali addressing a domestic forum in one of the road closures

Letters of thanks

Dear Lez,

Last night myself and a friend were involved in a smash and grab on the bridge on William Nichol drive between the on ramp and off ramp to the highway. This happened around 7pm, the cars were bumper to bumper. We noticed a smash in grab in process 2 cars ahead of us in the right lane and as I turned to my friend there was a man trying to smash the window on the passenger side where my friend was sitting, I then reversed and went forward trying to avoid this thug....I happened to notice a coin security car light in my review mirror and in the interim the thug had smashed the window and was trying to steal our bags. It was at this time that Benny and another security guard jumped out their car and ran towards the thug who literally jumped over the bridge or maybe hung on there, we not to sure. Benny then proceeded to follow us and ask if we were ok as well as give my friend a hug and apologized for what had happened to her (who subsequently was out from London 3 days ago) I just wanted to write a letter to thank Benny for his efficient and professional manner in which he handled this situation and helped us. I can safely say that if it wasn't for him we would have been hurt or even had our valuables stolen. Its not often you find service like this in the country we live and I am VERY VERY grateful for such wonderful people.

Yours sincerely,

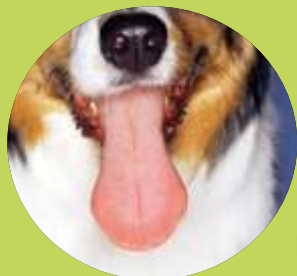
Samantha Karam
DIRECTOR
Lazee Daze CC

Hi George,

On Wednesday night, 5th March about 10pm, I had the pleasure of receiving help from Wellington Langa, who was patrolling the Bryanston area. He stopped his vehicle and assisted me whilst I was changing a flat tyre, then furthermore ensured that I was kept safe, when two pedestrians walked past that had clearly consumed a fair amount of alcohol.

I appreciated such fantastic service. Wellington is a credit to your organization!

Thank you for this assistance,
Gary Salgado



HOUSE & PET SITTER

Going away?

Leave your home and pets in capable and caring hands.

Contact Kerry

084 318 9859 or kerryn.liebenberg@gmail.com
References available on request