

PHEZULU GAME ESTATE

NOVEMBER 2008

NEWSLETTER

I walked into Checkers on Saturday morning, my shopping list running through my head. I headed down the stationery aisle when I suddenly realised that the stationery had disappeared and I was standing in the middle of a Christmas Display. Instant headache....

*I leaned on my trolley for a few seconds, a bit numb at the thought of the year going by so fast, but then I smiled because **this year** we can truly say we have achieved great things. In spite of the petrol price going up, the Rand going down, the World going mad and then the petrol going down...**twice**... Our Estate has reached several milestones this year and it is looking stunning.*

I have just received an e-mail from the Harvey Family saying that they will be arriving around the 17th of November. I can't wait to see their faces when they finally walk into their finished home. They haven't seen their beautiful trees, their rock driveway, their smooth floors, their fitted kitchen or even their rock pool with out the mud and frogs in it.... Great excitement!

I have to wonder what's the first thing that you do when you arrive at your new home after driving for five whole months. (With two children) Well we will all know soon enough. When they started their trip on the 23rd July it felt like it would take them forever to get here, now the day of their arrival is just around the corner.

*Garth and Gail Schonewolf have moved into their home. Anyone who knows Garth will understand when I say....Thank Goodness ☺. Building a home is very stress full, but the build up to the **BIG MOVE** is very exciting. Garth and Gail have been on site since December as they rented the show house from us whilst they built. You may think that they would have been used to living in Phezulu after 9 months, but the reality of Phezulu and them achieving their dream was only felt on the first night they slept in their beautiful home. Garth sent Leo a text message late that night saying...“Pinch me I'm dreaming...” and I think that those four words said it all.*

The show house is now empty and looking for a new family. It's a great idea to rent the show house whilst you build. Let me know if you would like any more information in this regard.

Craig and Caroline Bentley are moving in to their beautiful home in the next 2 weeks. Their blinds and curtains are up, landscaping complete, and they are really looking forward to their big move.

A big welcome to a new Phezulu Family, Didier, Bridget and their children who will be moving into Erf 118 on the 15th November. Anne and David have rented out their home, but I'm sure we will still see Anne on a regular basis going on her long walks. Anne is a very familiar sight at Phezulu and certainly "part of the furniture".

Our first AGM for the Home Owners Association was held last month and Gavin Houlden (Erf 123) and Steaphan Mac Donald (Erf 107) were voted in as Directors.

The Directors have been allocated the following portfolios:

Leo Kroone – Conservation

Ashley Dell – Security

Steaphan Mac Donald – Finance

Gavin Houldin – Landscaping and Architecture

Michelle Thomas – Public Relations/ Security

Sub-committees have been formed for Security and Landscaping.

Garth Schonewolf has agreed to join the Security Sub-committee. He is extremely pro-active and has the enthusiasm of 5 people.

Althea Kroone and Belinda Mac Donald have agreed to join the Landscaping Sub-committee. This committee will review all the landscaping plans and ensure that the landscapers adhere to our protocol. We are looking for one more home owner to join this committee, please drop me a line if you are able to assist. I'm sure everyone will agree that this is a very important area of Phezulu that we can not lose focus of.

At the AGM it was agreed that the Home Owners should network for the benefit of each other and the Estate. As a very good example, Hans and Gonni Poeller own a company called TVAE based in Pinetown. They import aluminium satellite dishes, which come standard in white. The white does not blend in well with our thatch roofs, so they have imported some dishes in grey, which will blend in and be more aesthetically appealing. Hans is a specialist in his field and I can strongly advise that if you need assistance with satellite connections or computer networks that you talk to him. I have Hans's contact details if you need it.

We would like to congratulate Hans and Gonni, (Erf 102), Pam and Nick (Erf 175) and Stephan and Mijra (Erf 101), for breaking ground on their sites. We look forward to watching all three of their dream homes come out of the ground.

Shannon and Mike Atkinson (Erf 151) have really had a big year. They are building a beautiful home, moving here from Richards Bay and Shannon gave birth to a healthy baby girl named Jaidyn. It won't be long and they too will be living in their home that they have already named "LALAPHANZI".

Leo and Steve are putting together an induction course for our Home Owners. Every person accessing the Conservation area will be required to go on the course and be made fully aware of the behaviour that will be expected of them whilst they are in the Game Reserve. The induction course will be informative and will include

topics such as snake recognition, emergency procedures, what to do if you come across an aggressive or sick animal, where to walk etc...

An indemnity form will be required by every person accessing the Game Reserve.

The course will be a great opportunity for Home Owners to get together and really appreciate the lifestyle that they have bought into. I have been involved here for 5 years and I still get goose bumps when I drive into the Conservation area. The amount of land that has been reclaimed from the alien vegetation invasion is unbelievable. Well done to Steve and the Conservation Trust Ladies for all their hard work. We have over eighty head of large game in the Game Reserve and hundreds of small indigenous game such as duiker, bush buck, bush pig etc...

The next Directors meeting will be held on the 25th November 2008. Please remember to send any correspondence to me at least four days before. The Directors would like to thank everyone for their co-operation and positive feedback. It's not an easy job being the judge and jury but I'm sure everyone will agree that following the rules and being consistent is the key to running a successful Estate.

We are looking for any Home Owners who would like to volunteer to attend a fire fighting course and be available to be called out in an emergency. We would like to encourage community living with mutually beneficial relationships, and in the case of an emergency the more "hands on deck", the better.

The sales office is no longer open every Sunday, and potential purchasers are not allowed to drive around the Estate to "just have a look". All access is now strictly by appointment only. Leo and Ashley have made this decision as they respect that Home Owners want peace and quiet on the weekends and to obviously to maintain a high level of security. We will now ever advertise "Show Sundays" one weekend a month and both Margie and I will work and strictly control access to all the sites and the show houses.

The builders will start shutting down from the 12th of December, and will return from between the 7th to the 12th January 2009, depending on the building company. The front office will be closed from the 19th of December 2008 until the 7th January 2009.

Both Steve and Chris will be working over the Christmas season. The garbage will be collected and the grass cut during this time. Steve will arrange an additional garbage collection on Monday the 29th December 2008 to dispose of all the extra Christmas rubbish.

Please let me know who will be going away on holiday and who will be staying on site. We also ask that all the residents supply Chris with a list of their guests who will be staying on site during the holidays. Security is a primary concern for everyone and there can be no exception to the rules over the holidays.

In closing I want to report on the encouraging feedback I received from our first "Show Sunday". It always amazes me when people visit our Estate and say that it's the first time they have ever seen it advertised. My proudest moments are when

people visit for a second time, and walk around with their mouths wide open, visibly shocked to witness how successful Phezulu has turned out to be.

*The quality and beauty of our homes are, with out a shadow of a doubt,
MIND BLOWING.*

Please support our first Conservation Trust Run/Walk. This is going to be an annual event. Details below.

“Perfection is achieved, not when there is nothing more to add, but when there is nothing left to take away.” Antoine de Saint Exupery

*Warm regards
Michelle*

PHEZULU CONSERVATION TRUST
CHALLENGING 5KM OR 10 KM
RUN/WALK

DATE: 7TH DECEMBER 2008

VENUE: PHEZULU SAFARI PARK

TIME: 8AM

CUT OFF TIME: 11AM

ENTERANCE FEE: R20.00

Enquiries: Sandy or Natalie on (031) 777 1000

ALL ENTRY FEES WILL GO TO THE PHEZULU CONSERVATION TRUST

Get fit, have fun and support a great cause.