February 2011

Focus on Sunninghill COMMUNITY

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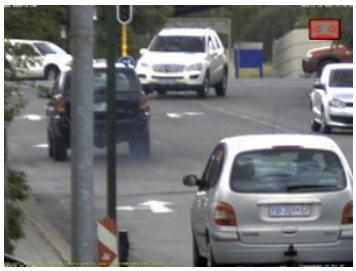
New is the year, new are the hopes and the aspirations

For many the New Year symbolizes the beginning of a better tomorrow and we at Sunninghill Community wish all our members a better tomorrow and a wonderful 2011.

2010 was a busy year for Sunninghill Community and we are pleased to say a successful one. Our efforts in reducing crime in our area paid off with the lowest crime stats for Sunninghill in a number of years. Our new cluster of cameras on the corner of Tana and Naivasha road are working well and thanks to Massmart we will be installing additional cameras on the corner of Peltier and Maxwell Drive next month.



Huge inroads were also achieved in the beautification of our suburb with literally thousands of trees having been planted along the K60 and Rivonia Road. Our Madiba forest on the cnr of the K60 and Nanyuki Road was a great hit and the 67 trees up for adoption were snapped up in two weeks. This year we plan another Madiba forest, this one will be located on the corner of Malindi Road and Nanyuki Roads. 2011 will see many of our intersection beautified, work continue and hopefully if funds are available completed with regards to the rehabilitation and clearing of the Sandspruit River between Paulshof and Sunnnghill.

This is some of what Sunninghill Community has done and plans to do to make our suburb the jewel of the north. Are you making a difference in your suburb? Can you honestly say that you are doing your bit? If you are a member of The Sunninghill Community Ratepayers Association you most definitely are, but if not then it's time that you made **2011 the year** that you committed to the area, after all not only is it your investment but the area you live and work in.

Dads & Lads BARBER SHOP By Fay

Dads & Lads have great pleasure in welcoming Michelle Olsen to the hair stylists team.
Michelle offers a free Tea Tree head massage to all her clients who have supported for many years and looks forward to seeing you soon.
Tel. 011 803-5015

Who is Sunninghill Community you ask?

Sunninghill Community is a registered Section 21 (non profit) company initiated by the residents and businesses of the suburb of Sunninghill – concerned about the rapidly declining urban environment and increased criminal activities in the area. The perception of crime, grime and general environmental disorder in most urban areas has a negative impact on residents, staff, employers and the willingness of people to visit the area and thus sustain economic growth and development.

The current operations of Sunninghill Community have been funded by membership subscriptions from concerned residents and businesses. The funding has enabled the organization to perform ratepayer functions such as arranging for potholes, road markings, water leaks, robots, street lights to be repaired, upgraded and/or installed. Object to illegal construction/building, report by law violations, remove illegal signage etc. Sunninghill Community employ staff on a continual basis to assist in maintaining and upgrading our verges, parks and pavements. In addition Traffic Wardens are employed to help during peak hour traffic congestion.

On the safety and security side Sunninghill Community has a network of dedicated pro-active patrol vehicles (5 at this time) that pro-actively patrol, observing vehicles and pedestrians. These vehicles and the manpower in them provide much needed backup and support to the under resourced SAPS and Metro Police when security operations are performed in the area. In addition live CCTV cameras are being installed (we have 34 camera's at this time, with a new cluster of 4 cameras being installed on the corner of Peltier and Maxwell Drive) in the suburb and are being monitored live from the Sunninghill Community Control room. These camera's have provided and continue to provide vital information and evidence to our local Police on suspected crime activities and crimes committed. There have been a number of arrests directly attributed to footage and information from our cameras.

The objectives of Sunninghill Community, working closely with the City of Johannesburg and local organizations are to:

- Address and improve current safety, health and environmental issues;
- Achieve and sustain a well-managed, safe and clean public space;
- Add value to the suburbs' facilities, look and feel – via creative community initiatives;
- Create a shared community amongst the residents, institutions and business sectors;
- Create and promote strong collaborative relationships between the Sunninghill Community and City utility organizations and agencies.

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Our local authorities have the responsibility to provide basic services such as security, electricity, water and sewerage, as well as road maintenance, traffic lights and garbage collection. More and more we are finding our local authorities have neither the budget nor the staff to address these issues adequately. Without proper attention to these matters, a once sought-after residential suburb and business node can become a less desirable place in which to live and work; property values can decrease; unwanted developments can proliferate and ordinary day-to-day life can become chaotic for those who live and work in the area. One of the solutions to either uplift the area where decay has set in, or to prevent the downward spiral before it has started, is for the local ratepayer association – Sunninghill Community with the contributions and support of its members to become involved and assist with management of the suburb.

Sunninghill Community acknowledges the consequences of the economic crisis, and the effect it may have on our residents and businesses. However, one of the consequences of the economic crisis is that crime increases. If crime was allowed to run away with us, and criminals returned to Sunninghill, it would be very difficult to rectify that in the future. The economic crisis did not result in a reduction of traffic into and out of Sunninghill. Without our member contributions we would have to reduce (or stop) the traffic wardens monitoring our busy intersections. This will make life very uncomfortable for our business tenants their employees and residents of Sunninghill.

Our aim is to achieve a well-run community – one that can proudly say it has desirable addresses and is a safe, secure, friendly and co-operative environment in which to live and work.

So come on all of you, we challenge you to join us in our very rewarding work. Let's make the wish of Sunninghill becoming the jewel of the north a reality. Contact us on **suncommunity@iafrica.com** and find out how to become a member of The Sunninghill Community Ratepayers Association.

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Exciting projects for Sunninghill Estates

Much emphisis was placed on the beautification of Sunninghill Park towards the end of 2010 and many of these projects are ongoing, such as the river project, new Madiba forrest and the beautification of the intersections. Over the next few months we plan to, with you the communities help, "dolly up" Sunninghill Estates. The two projects we have identified at this time is the planned rose planting in the Kilindini Park and doing up the Edison Crescent entrance to Sunninghill Estates

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The Sunninghill Muslim communities have initiated a project "Plant a Rose and Adopt a Rose" and have donated 100 rose plants, 3 sets of cement tables and benches, 3 set of benches, and two large pot plants for the entrance into Kilindini Park. Please visit our website for more details on how you can become involved in this splendid initiative www.sunninghillnews.co.za

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The entrance to Sunninghill Estates

is another project we are planning for the first half of this year. Our plan here is to create a attractive, practical entrance to this part of Sunninghill while making it difficult for busses and vehicles to use this area to park, where they block visibility of those trying to leave the Sunninghill Village Shopping centre. Sunninghill Community would like to call on residents of Sunninghill Estates to send us some simple, cost effective design ideas for this area shown on the left. The existing structure will be replaced. Please send your ideas and designs to suncommunity@iafrica.com.

THE BUSINESSES AND RESIDENTS OF SUNNINGHILL COMMUNITY SAY THANK YOU!!

Sunninghill Community Ratepayers Association and all its members would like to say a VERY BIG thank you to Dereck Meiring who, due to work pressure has recently resigned as an Exco member of Sunninghill Community. Dereck has spent many years serving the community of Sunninghill, firstly as a member of the then Sunninghill Estates Homeowners Association and more recently as an EXCO member of Sunninghill Community. Much of what we have achieved in Sunninghill over the years can be attributed to Derecks love and commitment to our suburb. We know that although Dereck has left our committee he remains an active and solid supporter and member of our Ratepayers Association.

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Speeding in Sunninghill becoming a huge problem:

With all the new roads that have been built in our suburb a once quiet residential area has been transformed into a motor racing circuit. *Speeding motorists, some of you residents and some of you driving through our area, beware!!* Sunninghill Community has requested of the Metro Police to begin a campaign in Sunninghill of setting up speed traps to catch and fine these culprits. Maxwell Drive, the K60 and Rivonia Road being some of the roads we will be concentrating on. A number of accidents and near missed have occurred along Maxwell Drive with children and parents leaving St Peters College into Maxwell Drive in danger.

This picture is of a vehicle that was speeding down the K60 in December and ended up in the road reserve next to Chili Lane. How no one was injured is beyond belief.

At a dinner party recently I overheard a guest informing a visitor from overseas that **"In South Africa we not only drive on the left hand side of the road but on what is left of the road".**

Please assist Sunninghill Community in reporting potholes. The more that complain the quicker the problem will be dealt with.

Contact the JRA on 011 375-5555 report the problem and then pop us an email to suncommunity@iafrica.com with the reference number

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Sunninghill Security Companies working together to rid our suburb of crime.

Sunninghill Community Security would like to congratulate and thank **Savika Armed Response**, our security provider and **Amalgamated African Security**, the security provider for the Sunninghill Village Shopping Centre on the arrest of criminals recently who were responsible for the theft of laptops and other items out of vehicles at the shopping Centre.

Due to wonderful communication, co-operation and team work these two security companies were jointly responsible for the arrest of suspects who were literally caught in the act and handed over to the Sandton Saps. Well done to all concerned. The security officers responsible from both companies will be receiving well deserved rewards from Sunninghill Community Security.

REMINDER… The Sunninghill Community and Johannesburg City Parks campaign to clean up and rehabilitate the Sandspruit River is due to continue in February.
Visit our website www.sunninghillnews.co.za for more info. We are in dire need of funds to pay the casual workers we use for this initiative. If you would like to donate towards this project, please contact Kerry on suncommunity@iafrica.com

Have you visited the Sunninghill Community webpage? Please do so to keep up to date on what is happening in your area. www.sunninghillnews.co.za

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