

# RV NEWS BULLETIN

APRIL 2015

## 1. Social

### 1.1 River Braai

This year's first river braai was held on 25 April 2015. A quick head count saw about 120 people attending the braai. Fires were lit and beautiful weather ensured everyone had a lovely time in the river bed. Thanks to all the residents who joined us and special thanks to those who arranged the event.

### 1.2 Zandspruit Airshow

Zandspruit will be hosting an airshow on 13 June 2015

### 1.3 SCS Earthday Festival and Cycle Race

SCS will be hosting their Earth Day Festival on 16 May 2015. A cycle race will take place in conjunction with the school, Raptors View, Zandspruit and Kaya Ndlovu. Most of the route is along the fence-lines. If you would like to participate in the race, please contact the school for more information

## 2. Ecology

### 2.1 Female Leopard

Just about everybody has heard about the young female leopard which has been sighted at the School and along the Sandspruit River over the last couple of weeks. It has been a great privilege, but due to the leopard being sighted during the day time and spending a lot of its time on the school property, concerns have been raised regarding the safety of children. Although it does not show signs of aggression towards humans, the school still had reservations. A meeting was held with various people with extensive leopard experience. It was collectively decided to have the leopard captured, collared and released further down the Estate in the wilderness area. This will hopefully keep the leopard away from the School area and have it establish its territory in the greater conservancy area. The collar will enable us to monitor her movements and alert the school should it come onto the School property. The leopard has been caught and will be fitted with a collar this week. Look out for the whole story in the next Raptor.

**We remind everybody on the estate that this is a wild animal and extreme caution must be exercised.**

### 2.2 Estate tours

We have the names of a few people who responded to our offer to be taken around the Estate to see how it is managed – if you are interested please let the office know. The tours will be conducted by either Byron or Hugh Marshall.

## 3. Farm Management

### 3.1 Roads

We are moving into the winter period, which means there is a greater focus on road improvement. We will be conducting a trial using a product known as Armoflex, on high wearing areas such as the corner at RV 140. This process is designed to decrease the “wear and tear” and prolong the life of those areas and reduce the maintenance costs over time.

3.2 Housing developments

The estate continues to grow at a steady pace and the current figures below are as at April 2015

Houses under construction	Houses developed	Empty stands
9	191	104

**4. Capital projects and expenditures**

- 3.1 RV Electrical grid – Motla has been tasked to continue with the detailed design for the electrical grid.
- 3.2 Water project – Tenders have been obtained for the purchasing of water storage tanks on Stand 10. We will advise you when these are finalized. The engineers are completing the final design criteria.
- 3.3 Town planner – Nelson Khupela has been appointed to attend to the rezoning of Stand 10.

**5. Security, health and safety**

5.1 Domestic staff security screenings

We remind all residents that as per the previous bulletin, all domestic staff must to undergo IDECO security screening. This is the same process as has been implemented with all contractors. Due to all the long weekends we were requested to extend the deadline to 31 May 2015. After that date, domestic staff who have not been screened may be denied access onto Raptors View. You can book a screening at the Quemec office on 015 793 1850 and the cost is R85 per employee. If you have any problem in this regard, please contact the office or Byron.

5.2 Tenants security screening

Security is one of the top, if not the number one concern on the Estate. We are continuously working proactively to improve security on the Estate - to identify risks and to address them. One of the concerns raised was the potential for tenants to pose an internal security threat. It has been suggested that all tenants should undergo the IDECO security screening. The Security Subcommittee will be debating this matter and should you have any input/suggestions, please convey these to Byron.

5.3 Short term rentals

A number of properties are being advertised on the internet at nightly rates. This is against the RVHOA rule dealing with short term rentals and represents a real and significant risk to the estate's security. A final appeal is made to these people to cease this practice.

As from 1st August this year a minimum fine of R 20 000.00 will be issued to the owner and also to the estate agency who continue with this practice. In addition the estate agency will be barred from conducting any further business on Raptor's View Wildlife Estate.

As we have agreed in the past, hosted short term rentals will continue to be permitted provided that the registered owner of the property stays with them on the property and accompanies the guests for the full duration of their stay on Raptor's View Wildlife Estate.

5.4 Gate access

We have been monitoring the access of residents through the main gate. We have communicated to members that no contractor will be permitted to come through the main gate as a visitor. This activity has decreased and we thank residents for co-operating. However, there are residents who still bring in domestic staff through the main gate without the appropriate staff access card – kindly refrain from this activity.

**We remind residents that anybody working on the estate has to undergo IDECO security screening and has to be in possession of a valid access card. By not complying with this, residents are misusing their own access system and creating security loopholes.**

## 5.5 Fire season

### 5.5.1 Fire Breaks

Due to the recent rains, we have extended the compulsory firebreak deadline to 31 May 2015  
The Estate staff will be able to assist with the cutting of firebreaks - contact Byron for any information.