

Hi All !

This certainly has been a busy week for GPCA.. behind the scenes as well as as a community.

“I love the smell of napalm in the morning!”

For those who were home during the day today (I envy you), you may have noticed the low-level operations of the SAPS Air Wing Helicopter as it flew over the area. At times they were so low that washing was blown off of lines and leaves of off trees.... There was a lot of excitement with cop cars chasing around the area. Apparently they were chasing suspects from a housebreaking in Kloof ie. the same gang who targets us. They gave chase and suspects were arrested... 3 suspects arrested and a golf recovered, but the gist of the story is that the bad guys lost, the good guys won and due to the awesome work of the SAPS, tonight some more of the scum are shot/in jail. Our commendations go out to the SAPS members, Dog Units and the Air Wing who co-ordinated the operation.

On that note, I'd like to mention a few key points for the public when these type of events occur. Basically, when all this action went on there were numerous phone calls to the 10111, the SACAN emergency line, residents were flagging down police cars... all to ask, “What’s going on !?”

Please in future, folks bear in mind that these guys are in the middle of a major operation. The fact that there are police choppers circling and cars driving around means that there is no need to report what’s going on, the police are already there, so there’s no need to phone the call centres to ask for details. Especially when the resident next door pay have just seen suspects running through their yard and need to report it. There were actual cases today of people trying to get through to the SA CAN number to report something while this was going on and the number was engaged.

In future :

1. The community must NOT wave down SAPS members if they “Just want to know what going on.”
2. OR Phone 10111 or SA CAN as it just blocks the lines...
3. Wait for an sms instruction but lock yourself inside.
4. If you have any concerns or something to report other than “just wanting to know,” you MUST call the numbers.

In the event of something like this taking place, an SMS will be sent out to keep people informed.

Preventative Policing

We'd like to take this opportunity to send a shout out to the SAP who did a roadblock on the Everton Road bridge on Monday in the late evening. Residents who had an encounter with them said that the police were very efficient and polite and volunteered safety and security tips to passers-through. This is a prime example of the sort of activity we need in the area and we'd like to commend the officers involved.

Crime Report

Crime in our region is still on the uppers. Thankfully, we in Gillitts Park are still not bearing the brunt of it, but the rest of the Hillcrest area is and some of it still gets through. Keep your eyes and ears open and watch out for each other.

Members Guide

Gillitts Park has produced a Members Guide, which contains a variety of useful contact details and security information. This is available for free download off the website www.gillittspark.co.za but we will also have a hardcopy delivered to every post box in the next couple weeks. This was designed to be kept available in your homes, for reference in the case of an emergency or needing a contact number. In addition, we will also be delivering a printed copy of the Membership Application form. We still need paying membership to expand on the current operations of the GPCA, so please could you complete the form if you have not already and get it sent through. The cost is only R35 per month and every cent goes back into projects for the area.

There is also an Incident Management form on the website which is a valuable tool. It gives details on various things including how to respond to various emergencies. Take the time to download and view this.

Elections

To all those responsible citizens who participated in the recent by-elections for Ward 10, well done. The elections went off without a hitch, there were three parties standing candidates in our ward, the ANC, the IFP and the DA. The results of the elections for Ward 10 was IFP – 0.4%, ANC-1.8% and DA-97.8%.

That's all for today Gillitts Parkers....

Love Life and Stay Safe !

Best Regards,

Charles Atkinson
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www.gillittspark.co.za