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Thatchfield

NEWSLETTER

IN THE SPOTLIGHT:

Tips on Using Gas Appliances

Loadshedding is forcing a lot of residents to switch to gas in their homes. When using a gas stove or geyser, or portable appliances such as heaters, there are some safety requirements that you need to observe. Gas is a good servant but can be a terrible master!



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From the Estate Manager's Desk

Spring is here! Residents will note that our gardening team were very active during the winter months. All the trees in our estate and around our boundary walls were pruned. A concern I would like to bring to our residents' attention is that of residents not pruning trees in their erf. Trees are allowed to encroach neighbours' walls, and complaints have been received in this regard. This leads to unnecessary tension between neighbours. And congratulations to our June and July Garden of the Month winners. I am truly proud of residents who maintain their gardens, as it improves the image of our estate.



Building activities

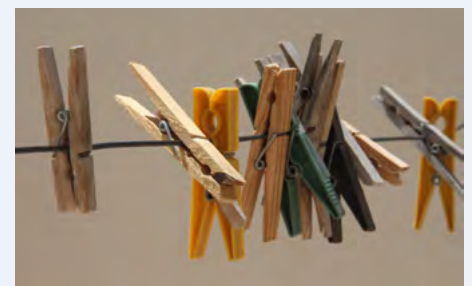
Thatchfield Estate is like a beehive - with a lot of building activities going on. Homeowners are doing extensions/additions to their existing dwellings and our empty spaces are getting lesser by the day. The THOA does inspections once a building activity has been completed. Please note that the THOA does not do a building regulation inspection, but an aesthetic inspection. We inspect the surrounding area to ensure it is free from building rubble, and we look for damage caused to the infrastructure. We also use this opportunity to look at house numbers as this is a huge concern. We still have a few houses without house numbers. House numbers are very important. Rule 2.5.2.4.1-2 of the THOA Rules of Conduct refers:

- 1 In the interest of diversity, the Board has placed the onus on the property owner to provide a neat and aesthetically street number. However, the board reserves the right to determine the acceptability of any such numbers or signs, at their sole discretion, and take all steps as may be required to remedy

any signs of numbers they deem unacceptable. This is to ensure the image of the estate is maintained.

- 2 Should any member fail to comply with Rule 2.5.2.4 the Board may erect the required street number and recover the cost thereof from the member.

Laundry on Perimeter Walls



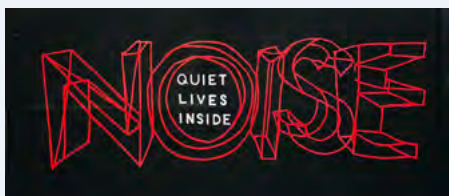
The THOA gets daily calls about washing and carpets hanging on perimeter walls. This leads to unnecessary tension between neighbours. Our investigations have revealed that domestic workers are the main offenders, and in most of the cases it is because they do not know that they are not permitted to hang laundry on the perimeter walls as it compromises the estate's aesthetics.

Continue >>>

Stormwater Drains

The rainy season is approaching. We are concerned about residents and gardeners disposing waste into our estate's stormwater drains - from black refuse bags filled with garden refuse, to branches and stones and children's toys. Residents need to take note that the water that runs into our stormwater drains flows into our estate's man-made dam. After each rain session, the dam must be cleaned of waste. Please talk to your gardeners and educate them as they are unaware of the consequences of their actions. We had walls collapsing because stormwater drains were blocked. Your assistance in this matter is appreciated.

Generators



Complaints of noisy generators are received during loadshedding and unscheduled power outages. Rules 8.1 to 8.5 of the THOA Rules of Conduct refer.

Residents are urged to purchase silent generators. Positioning of generators is also very important; please be considerate when it comes to operating your generators. No portable generator may be operated in the estate after 22:00hrs.

Power Substations

Thatchfield Ridge, Hills, and Close experience regular power outages due to the poorly maintained City of

Tshwane power cable infrastructure. There were too many joints on some of the cables. This was rectified and since these power cables were replaced, the situation has changed and the power feed and supply to our estate is more regular and dependable.

The latest feedback from COT officials is that they are looking at our request to be separated from Olievenhoudtbosch ABSA section. They are investigating the possibility of changing the switching configuration. This concern is receiving the necessary attention and feedback will be given to residents on all the social media groups.

Thatchfield Market Day

Two market days were held, on 4 June and 30 July 2022. Good feedback was received and the interest in the market days is strong. I want to thank each one of you who participated and visited the market day. Without our Thatchfield residents' involvement, the success would not have been realised.

Thatchfield Golf Course Shopping Centre



At last, Thatchfield Estate is seeing some developments regarding the long-awaited convenience centre being built next to the Thatchfield Golf Course. This indeed is a milestone. Residents must note that this development

is not a THOA development but a private development. The land being developed belongs to the developer as the Golf Course is not part of the THOA. The THOA does not allocate space for rent. Should anyone want to inquire, they should contact the appointed contractors to obtain further information.

THOA Offices



The THOA and its staff are committed to a professional and effective service policy. Where possible for residents, please make an appointment to avoid unnecessary queuing in front of the THOA offices. Also note that the THOA office is regularly sanitised for your safety.

Lastly, I would not have been able to manage the estate without your continues support and assistance. Let's keep up with the UBUNTU spirit and reach out to our fellow neighbours. Keep up with the spirit of neighbourliness, and let's be positive! We have a lot to be thankful for.

God bless you all.

Kind Regards,
Mossie Mostert
Thatchfield Estate & Ridge Estate Manager



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From the Editor's Desk

For contributions to the newsletter, please email me at: editor@thatchfield.co.za. (Attention Alison Ziki). You can also Whatsapp at **0820844839** to set up an interview if you have a story to share. We encourage residents to share with the community their special events like weddings, graduations, and other special achievements. Our goal is to make this platform as interactive as possible, so we encourage you to freely share your views and experiences through the newsletter.

Welcome to the August 2022 edition. As usual, we cover matters pertaining to the running of our estate, and bring to your attention issues that you need to be aware of as residents.



Mrs South Africa 2022 Finalist from Thatchfield!



One of our own, Mrs Sisanda Qwabe-Coutaud, did us proud by entering and reaching the finals of the Mrs South Africa 2022 pageant. The winner will be crowned in November. We sat down with Sisanda and asked about the experience.

What is the Mrs South Africa pageant?

Mrs South Africa is a national pageant that offers women a life-transforming journey, teaching us how to be the best version of ourselves, how to be a voice of change, and to show up as the strong, influential women we are.

The pageant has been described as an 'MBA of Life', offering married women a chance to invest in life skills and in business skills, and to develop networks.

It is a PR vehicle to showcase the virtues of real, relatable African women. The program was created for married women who would ordinarily not have such a platform to compete and be ambassadors for South Africa, on a global scale. Throughout the journey, women discover themselves again, and learn that they are never too old to follow their dreams and become voices of change.

How has your journey been like?

I entered this pageant to challenge myself in something new, and to test my ability to achieve things I used to consider as beyond reach. Imagine a girl from one of the poorest villages in this country making it onto the national stage; it was something that sounded improbable, but I wanted the impossible to happen! I was hoping to use this platform to open doors that would ordinarily not be open for me. I wanted to grow my business, I wanted to have a voice to challenge some of the things I am not often offered an ear for as an ordinary citizen. And, hey, I got more than that! My highlight is the sisterhood, the bond I have created with the other contestants. I've seen other contestants voting for me, despite being in the same competition. I started doing the same, and in the end I realized that it was not about the crown or prize, but about the journey.

My other highlight was seeing people from my village of Manguzi grouping up to vote for me. I remember at some

point I was number 62 out of a 100 contestants, but within 30 days the people of this country put me into the Top 3. Soon after, I was at Number 1! I walked away with a Top Influencer award that got me an automatic entry into the finals. I was amazed by the love I got from my fellow residents in Thatchfield Estate. People would keep voting for me and reminding others to vote, even people who did not even know me. Thatchfield Estate residents went all out for me, and I am truly grateful.

Any learnings to share?

I have learnt that in life you're really never alone. Just speak up when you need help, and even strangers will come out for you - just speak! This goes especially for people living with depression - please do not suffer in silence, you'll be surprised by the love you'll receive from even strangers. Just speak. Talk!

How does the future look like?

I want to adopt young women from townships and villages and empower them to stand up for themselves. I want to create a safe place for girls where their dreams are never trivialized, but rather encouraged and supported. A place where there are no limitations to their goals, a space where girls are not seeking validation from the wrong places.

Garden of the Month - June and July 2022 Winners

Congrats to our winners. Our gardens are improving, and most complexes are looking more and more beautiful. Let's keep on working to make sure that our gardens and driveways are as clean as possible.



June 2022

Congratulations to Mr Sandile Ncanana & Ms Zama Phili from Barbet Street in Thatchfield Hills, winners of the June 2022 garden of the month.



July 2022

Congratulations to Mr & Mrs Mocke of Thatchfield Crescent, winners of the July 2022 garden of the month.

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House Fires: Tips on Using Gas Appliances



Loadshedding has led to many homeowners switching over to using gas at home. When using an LPG gas stove, geyser, or mobile gas appliances such as heaters, you need to keep safety requirements in mind.



What is LPG gas?

LPG (Liquefied Petroleum Gas) is a hydrocarbon gas that exists in a liquefied form.

LPG is a colorless, low carbon and highly efficient fuel. Supplied in two main forms, propane (C_3H_8) and butane (C_4H_{10}), LPG has a range of uses – from providing fuel, BBQs, heating homes, and much more.

It is essential for a qualified and registered gas technician to assess your appliance requirements at home, install or inspect your gas fittings, and issue a compliance certificate. You should have your gas appliances and facilities inspected every five years and have a new compliance certificate issued for insurance purposes.

Ventilation around gas cylinders, pipelines, and appliances is a major safety hazard. When you change a gas cylinder, a small amount of gas is released, which is why the set-up comes with such strict rules on placement. Did you know that if you open a gas cylinder outside and hear the pressure escape and eventually subside, it's not empty! Air is let into the cylinder and increases the risk of an air/vapour ignition. A full gas cylinder that is opened while not connected is a great risk, as the air/vapour ignition risk will be outside the cylinder.

What to check for when buying gas:

- Always make sure that you are buying from an authorized franchisee.
- Do not forget to check the company seal and safety cap on the cylinder at the time of delivery.
- Do not accept the cylinder if the seal is broken.
- Please look for the due date of testing, which is marked on the inner side of the cylinder stay plate.
- Do not accept the cylinder if the due date is past.
- Check for gas leaks by applying soap solution on cylinder joints and Suraksha pipes at the time of putting the new cylinder into use.
- Do not use open flame to detect leaks.

When cooking with gas:

- Keep the doors and windows of your kitchen open for proper ventilation.
- Do not place flammable or plastic items near the flame.
- Never leave your cooking unattended.
- Wear clothes that do not catch fire easily.
- Close the regulator knob to OFF position when cylinder is not in use.

Maintaining and storing your LPG appliances:

- Disconnect the gas regulator and affix the safety cap on the cylinder when your gas stove is not in use for long.

- Always store the gas cylinder in an upright position and away from other combustible and flammable materials.
- As good practice, change the Suraksha tubes once a year.
- Always use ISI approved tubes, stoves, regulators, and LPG appliances.
- Make sure all parts of your LPG system are in good condition.
- Never tamper with your LPG cylinder.

In case of an emergency:

- Do not panic.
- Close regulator and burner knobs.
- Open all doors and windows for ventilation.
- Extinguish all flames, lamps, incense sticks, and sources of fire.
- Put the safety cap on the cylinder.
- Call your distributor or emergency service for help.
- Do not operate electrical switches and appliances in the room.
- Isolate main electrical supply from outside.
- LPG is heavier than air and it settles on the ground. Use all available ventilation to disperse the gas.

Always have a fire extinguisher at hand. The best fire extinguisher for LPG gas is Carbon Dioxide; hand units for small fires only and the mobile units for larger fires.

Dry Compound is extremely useful on LPG liquid and vapor fires. The **2 Kg or 9Kg Dry Compound Extinguisher** is specially recommended for smaller fires, and the mobile units for larger fires. Be smart and stay safe!



WE OFFER:

- 9 Hole - Bookings not necessary
- Driving Range
- Short Game Practice Area
- Fishing
- Venue area for Birthday/Golf Days
- Kids area
- Shop for snacks and drinks

WE CATER FOR THE FOLLOWING:

- Birthday parties
- Yearend functions
- Baby shower
- Golf days
- Relaxed Business meetings



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