

Come march against serious crime with comedian Desmond

• David Dewes (email):

What makes South Africans the most apathetic nation in the world?

I've often asked myself this question.

Why is it, that South Africans fail to do anything, when our government has violated the constitution of our country, by being unable to provide reasonable protection for its citizens?

Do we, as South Africans, really believe it is going to get better if we just remain in "couch potato mode"?

When will we wake up to the reality that as citizens of this country, we can make a difference?

When will we realise, we've got to stop complaining and start doing?

Gauteng will be given the opportunity on Tuesday, 10 June, when comedian Desmond Dube will attempt to get the support of a million people to march on the Union Buildings in Pretoria.

All in protest against the unacceptable levels of serious crime in our country. Can you afford not to be there?

Buses will be leaving from the secure parking area behind the new Pick 'n Pay in Florida at 7.30am.

The cost will be about R60 per person. For more info contact Renee on 011 674 2660 or email renee@wcibrokers.co.za

Bad press is not helping the property market at all

• Nico Liebenberg (CEA), property consultant, Leapfrog Roodepoort (email):

I'm responding to the articles about show houses being targeted by criminals.

This is not the only problem home owners and estate agents face these days.

I'm working for a BEE real-estate company (Leapfrog) I've established myself in the Lindhaven area and achieved market share in this area with 12 mandates in the area.

The "For Sale" boards are also being targeted by criminals. They take the steel droppers and sell it for scrap metal.

I had no other option but to

mount the boards on the owner's gates.

Most sellers don't even want a "For Sale" sign outside their property, because they are scared of being targeted by criminals.

In this current market we are in, we need as much exposure on a property as possible.

All this bad press is not helping the property market at all, and we at Leapfrog are using initiative and creative thinking to leap over the competition and crime.

Our clients' safety and satisfaction comes first.

This is easy to do, all you have to do is communicate with your clients and educate them on what is happening in the market.

Andrew is an upright person and the best car dealer I have known

• Eunice Botha, Roodepoort:

A tribute to one of the most decent upright people I have had the good fortune of knowing.

His name is Andrew Gossman of Auto and Technikon in Roodepoort.

I have known him for over 30 years.

He has helped me on routine services for my vehicle.

He has never not been there to assist us.

Service like this is impossible to compete with.

Just recently he personally helped us with one of the most important decisions we had to make.

In a short amount of time. This is regarding purchasing a car.

Be warned people, there are many sharks out there.

He has remained constant, his nature is calm at all times and never been able to not help one.

This, I may add, is hard to do with me because I am a nag bag.

Andrew, may God bless you.

Recently I had panelbeating done on my car.

His son, Greg, does that and friends, you should see the quality of this guys.

Obviously, following in his dad's footsteps.

A sincere thank you to you guys.

Life in the slow lane

Cliff Buchler

Sounding off

Back home after a stint in the northern sticks I've a hearing problem. And it's nothing to do with deafness, or selective hearing (when you discreetly switch off when wifey comes up with a stickler).

No, it's about noise levels playing havoc with your sense of hearing. In fact, you want to run away and hide under the bed.

You see, for the last few weeks I've been entrapped on my lonesome at a guest lodge away from the *hoer en rumoer* of the town.

Most of the guests are conference delegates speaking in languages I can

neither speak nor understand, so during the hours of darkness my mouth goes dry with no speakies. My mom-in-law always spoke of stink asem when the mouth had nothing to say to nobody for long spells.

And the sounds of the night in this god-forsaken place are silent.

Not even a chirp from birds finding the place scary and dangerous and hide in their nests until sunrise.

The cats wondering around are either spayed or retarded - not once did I hear any tell-tale sounds of love-making (so rife in our pad at home).

In other words, I've become used to the sounds of silence, and now have to wean myself into coping with high

decibel music and chattering individuals.

To illustrate how bad it is, even my favourite restaurateurs Matthew, Raymond and Deon, get into my bubble, so much so that I flee to the toilet.

Not that it helps much as even the noise of the flushing had me running out like a crazed loon.

At home? I tell you, I'm hard-pressed to preserve some sanity at the sounds emanating from the box. Those soapy voices cause my stomach muscles to knot and I come out in a cold sweat.

As for the radio with its daft DJs and repetitive sounds called music has my eyes bulging and neck going into a spasm.

Then there's the night sounds of randy cats, and hadidas intent on using the breeding season to its full potential by observing daylight saving

Wifey is throwing in words like "psychiatric treatment" and "trauma counselling" to give you some indication of the gravity of my affliction.

Hopefully by the time you read my next rendering I would've got over the grating sounds of my pc keyboard. If you don't hear from me, you must know I've thrown the keyboard at the alley cats or high-rolling hadidas.

BACK-CHAT

"Enjoyed your piece, 'Latent lesson in learning'. I'm from those parts and know exactly what you mean." — Ms LA Gomes.

• Email: cliffb@iburst.co.za

Tips to survive SA

• Peter Wood, Wilropark:

I have personally experienced a lot of the crime and violence plaguing our country these days.

I would like to offer some tips that may save lives and property, and that are not generally published:

• If you have a security door in front of your wooden front door, always unlock the wooden door first.

If you see anything amiss, or the burglars are waiting for you at the premises, there will still be a barrier between you and

them, enabling you to escape and summon assistance.

In most cases, burglars enter the back of the house.

• Do not leave any spare house keys or tools lying around inside the house.

The point of entry of burglars is often small, and if they are unable to open exterior doors they cannot remove large appliances or objects.

• If you are in a public place such as a train, restaurant or pub, be alert if two or more persons enter and do not remain in a

group.

A group of robbers will generally separate, taking up station at the exits and windows to prevent people leaving, and to keep a lookout for people approaching.

Often a 'spotter' will walk through the train or establishment to assess the situation prior to the robbery and will leave immediately to summon his cronies.

I hope that these tips will make people more aware and will help to protect them. Trust your instincts and do not take any suspicious circumstances for granted.

Is anyone actually going to help Block Five?

• G J Chowles, Ansfreere:

With reference to the article on the front page of the Roodepoort Record dated 23 May.

I wish to comment. I have every sympathy with Florence Nhlapo and the 400 residents of Block Five.

Councillor Dhlamini's comments in the last paragraphs of the article are very vague and cannot be accepted as applying in this particular case.

Are the people living in Block Five 'illegal land invaders'? According to your article they were relocated to Block Five on the express instructions of the Roodepoort Council in June 2000.

What sights is the councillor referring to? (or should it be sites) and why could this matter not have been resolved in eight years? Can the residents of Block Five be regarded as living on the street or being of those "who have to be relocated"?

According to your article all 400 residents were relocated in June 2000 and according to the caption under the photo that accompanied the article, their numbers have not increased in eight years.

I would very much like to know whether there is a timetable to address the problems of the residents of Block Five.

"In the future" sounds rather a long time away. They have, after all, been waiting for eight years.

PRICE RIGHT COMPUTERS

Shop 3, Allensnek Retail Park (Next to Builders Warehouse) car Hendrik Potgieter & Jim Fouché Strubensvalley 011 679 4429

LEXMARK Z730 SAVE R100 * 13 Pages per minute * Easy installation ADD R25 for a USB Cable NOW R230.00 WAS R330.00	Desktop-SATA SAVE R100 250 Gig Hard Drive NOW R550.00 WAS R699.00	DUAL CORE 2.0 * 1024MB RAM * 250 Gig Hard Drive * DVD Writer Dual Super Multi * USB - Port X6 * Onboard LAN/VGA/Sound * 2-Year Limited Warranty SPECIAL R2500 Incl. VAT
--	---	---

WOOD HOME DELIVERY

083 702 6840

DEBT COUNSELLING

Unable to repay Debt? We can help you!

Professional NCA Registered Debt Counselling Service

You have the right in terms of the National Credit Act to obtain help from a registered Debt Counsellor

Tel: 086 111-3967
E-mail: johan@octogen.co.za

Octo9en (Pty) Ltd

Lose weight in 2008!

• Men, women & children
• Weight & cm loss
• Body Reshaping
• Reduced Cellulite
• Detoxification
• Toning & Maintenance

30 minutes on our computerised body toner machine is equivalent to:

600 sit ups
600 lift ups & 600 push ups

You could lose up to 10kgs in 4 weeks

Jane Before

After Jane lost 12 kgs

THE FIRM
Shrinning & Health Clinics

Somerset Office Estate Kudu St. Allen's Nek 011 475 9297	Ruimsig Office Estate 193 Hole-in-One Road, Ruimsig 011 958 2223
---	--

Prof Billy's Aids Clinic

Stop Suffering in Silence - There is now a cure for Aids!

Call **Prof Billy Kariaga Ph.D** or call sister **Siza** on **011 472 6852**
073 639 8630 or **082 718 3831**
visit shop 27, **Florida Square, (next to Shoprite) Florida**