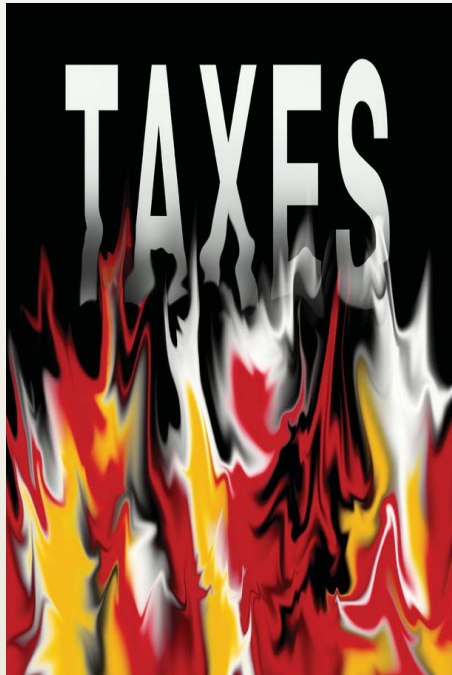


Avoid hefty taxes

The following new draft taxation law amendment will impact on many ABHOA members. Prior to 2001, many people used companies to hold a domestic residence to avoid transfer duty. Capital Gains Tax (CGT) was introduced in 2001, thereby creating a potential dual level charge. The residential property company anti-avoidance rules introduced in 2002 also eliminated the transfer duty benefits of the company holding structure. In addition, STC-free (secondary tax on companies) treatment for capital profits was limited to pre-2001 capital profits.

Because of these changes, a limited window period was granted to transfer a residence out of a company structure. This window period eliminated all adverse consequences of CGT, STC and transfer duty. However, this window period has long since expired.



Now, a Companies Act annual fee needs to be paid by all companies to reduce the number of inactive and dormant companies. None of the companies holding property has a commercial purpose that justifies the proposed annual fees. Thus, most taxpayers with homes contained within a company would have a renewed desire to transfer their homes out of these companies into their own names. But with the window period closed, the liquidation, winding up or deregistration of these companies will result in adverse tax consequences for both the company and the person.

Tax relief has been provided for a two-year window period starting 1 January 2010 and ending 31 December 2011 so that companies solely containing a residence used exclusively for domestic purposes by the individual shareholder or spouse can liquidate, wind up or deregister tax-free. Thus the impending company law annual fee can be avoided.

A-twitter over Bishops

With their dazzling red plumage, breeding male Red Bishops are a delight to watch. *Euplectes orix*, known as a Rooivink in Afrikaans, is a small passerine bird belonging to the bishop and widowbird genus *Euplectes* in the weaver family *Ploceidae*. A passerine is a bird of the order *Passeriformes*, which includes more than half of all bird species. Sometimes known as perching birds, or less accurately as songbirds, the passerines form one of the most diverse terrestrial vertebrate orders. It's roughly twice as diverse as the largest of the mammal orders, the Rodentia.

Red Bishops are common in wetlands and grassland in southern Africa. North of the equator, it's replaced by the Northern Red or Orange Bishop.

Sporting a thick conical bill, the Red Bishop is 10-11 cm long. Breeding males are brightly-colored with red (occasionally orange) and black plumage. Non-breeding males and the smaller females

have streaky brown plumage, paler below.

It has various twittering calls and a nasal contact call. Males have a buzzing song. Fairly gregarious, these birds nest in colonies and forage in flocks. Often they'll roost in mixed flocks with other members of the weaver family. They feed on seeds and some insects. Red Bishops attack their prey aerially and feed on wing or take the prey to a secluded venue where it's killed, torn into small pieces and eaten. Prey includes butterflies, bees, wasps, locusts and ants. Red bishops are usually hawked aerially.

In the breeding season these invertebrates are found near water among grass, reeds or crops such as sugar cane. Outside the breeding season they'll venture into drier grassland habitats. At the start of the breeding season, males build several nests to attract females, performing a display flight with their feathers fluffed up. They're polygynous and mate with several females. The nest is most commonly built

among reeds and is made of grasses and other plant materials woven together. Two to four eggs are laid.



The debt of us

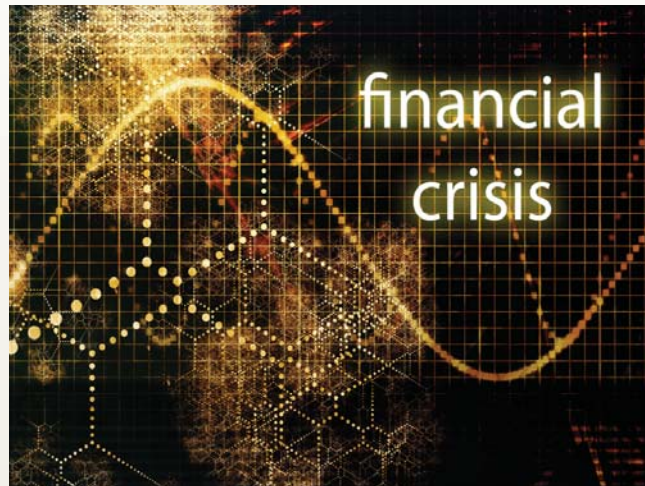
An increasing number of Atlantic Beach residents appear to be falling into the debt trap, living well beyond their means. Even people with good credit histories can fall on dire financial times. Cost of living has skyrocketed over the last two years and we need to protect ourselves until the economy turns. The worst thing you could do is deny there's a problem.

The National Credit Act was legislated to promote a fair, accessible and effective credit market, as well as protecting consumers from reckless lending and over-indebtedness. Debt Review, also known as Debt Counselling, came into effect in June 2007 to provide consumers with protection from creditors. A person is over-indebted when living expenses exceed income. Any person unable to pay his monthly debt payments can apply for Debt Review and a debt counsellor will be appointed to negotiate on your behalf to creditors for payments that you can afford.

First the debt counsellor will determine whether you're indeed over-indebted.

Once your application has been accepted, the debt counsellor will inform all your creditors and every registered credit bureau that you've applied for debt counselling. You won't be able to access any further credit until your debts have been repaid and will even have to cut up your credit and store cards.

The debt counsellor will then determine what you can afford to repay each month and will enter into negotiations with your creditors to restructure your debt. If your creditors agree to the repayment proposal, the counsellor will apply to the National Consumer Tribunal for a repayment plan consent order. During the 60 days' Debt Review process your creditors won't be able to proceed with legal action against you or repossess any of your assets. However,



don't stop making payments. Pay what you can afford.

Debt Review can help you control your debt without the need to obtain new loans. As soon as you're able to make regular payments or you've paid off your debt, the debt counsellor will report to the credit bureaus and provide you with a clearance certificate. You'll then qualify for credit again.

Spotlight on Romayne Midgley



ESTATE SECRETARY

Born: 15 Sept 1970, Johannesburg
Career: asst accountant – Lotus SA, accountant - Computer Horizons, asst accountant – Inanda Polo Club, shareholder & CEO of Promanage
Education: B Com (MAC) (Wits), CIS (Unisa)

Personal best achievement: My son
Professional best: Founding and managing Promanage
Most-liked about the estate: Exposure to interesting people
Least-liked about the estate: The politics
Aspirations for the estate: Harmony
Person who's had the biggest influence on your life: My husband
Favourite actors: Meryl Streep, George Clooney
Life philosophy: You'll be happy if you have something to do, someone to love and something to hope for
Biggest ever opportunity: Helping to form and grow the Cape Rottweiler Club
Hope for future: For my son to grow up healthy, happy and able to fulfill his potential
Favourite reading: Almost anything - except romance
Favourite colour: Green
Best TV programme: Don't watch much TV
Favourite food/drink: Sushi & Coke
Best time of day: Any time spent with my husband, son and pets

Favourite music: Adult contemporary
Favourite holiday: The bushveld
Favourite sport (self): Equestrian and competing with my dogs in various disciplines
Favourite sport (spectator): Equestrian
Biggest extravagance: My pets
Car: Honda Jazz
Pets: 6 Rottweilers – Ember, Astrix, Arak, Schnupps, Delphi, Kaiser; pavement special Lady Jane; horses Beetle & Power; cat Camilla Katinka; Timneh parrot Sasol; budgie Geoffrey; Sun Conure Jo Jo; corn snake Sonic
Miscellaneous dislikes: Hypocrisy
Married: Nick (16 yrs)
Children: St. John (14)
Clubs: Cape Rottweiler, Western Province Rottweiler, Cape Hunt & Polo, Inanda Polo
Hobbies: Gardening, working my dogs and horses



It's with horror that we need to report on a person/s stalking and killing cats on the estate and indications are that the perpetrator is probably a resident teenager. The torture of animals is indicative of psychopathic behaviour and parents need to be aware that such a child has the potential to grow into a dangerous adult. He/she needs help – fast.

Psychopaths are incapable of feeling guilt, remorse or empathy for their actions. They're generally cunning, manipulative and know the difference between right and wrong, but dismiss it as not applicable to them. Psychologist Charles Montaldo says, "They're don't experience normal emotions such as love, generally

Psycho

One therapist suggests that there are three ways that one could spot psychopathy in a child: bedwetting (not related to a medical disorder), a fascination with fire and/or firesetting (pyromania) and cruelty to animals. Dr Robert Hare wrote in his book *Without Conscience* that psychopaths often make intense eye contact, or have unusually piercing eyes.

Michael G Conner, Psy.D, cites the case of an older teen who had no sense of guilt. "The only thing that saved him was

and -important; prone to boredom; deceptive behaviour and lying; conning and manipulative; little remorse or guilt; shallow emotional response; callous with a lack of empathy; living off others; poor self-control; promiscuous

sexual behaviour; early behavioural problems; lack of realistic long-term goals; impulsive lifestyle; blaming others for their actions; short-term relationships; and juvenile delinquency.

Researchers suggest that there may be a genetic influence that creates a psychopathic personality. Research using brain scanning technology has revealed that the brain of a psychopath processes information differently. One famous brain imaging study showed that psychopaths



react without considering the results and show extreme egocentric and narcissistic behaviour.

"Since the psychopath has no real emotions, they develop their own personality throughout their life by mimicking those around them. Their inability to control inappropriate outbursts of anger and hostility often results in loss of jobs, disassociation with friends and family and divorce. This in itself is filtered by the psychopath into a justification process for more aggressive behaviour.

"Because of their inability to gauge when their actions are dishonest, deceitful or dangerous, they also fail to accept that there are consequences for their actions. They maintain a belief that they can outwit those who pursue them and that they'll never be caught. Once caught, they believe they'll find a way out."

a mother who loved him, took him to counselling for years and spent much time patiently teaching him right from wrong. In one conversation he told me, 'People know when something's wrong because it feels wrong. I have to be reminded that stealing is wrong. I don't feel bad if I take something.'

A psychopath is usually a subtle controller. They do this by playing to the emotions of others. People are used for entertainment and to build their self-esteem. They invariably value people in terms of their material value (e.g. money, property, comfort, etc). When they get other people into trouble, they seem to have no regret for their actions.

Leading expert on the psychopathic personality Dr Robert Hare lists these warning signs present in the psychopathic personality: superficial charm; self-centred

remained calm looking at photos of dead bodies in motorcar accidents whereas other people were clearly upset.

Parents with a child like this usually end up frustrated. They'll often shield their child from the consequences of their actions and continuously try to educate their child about right and wrong. When the child doesn't 'get it', many parents resort to punishment. Severe and repeated punishment is the worst thing you can do. And child abuse is a sure way to create a social misfit or a monster. What these children need is intensive guidance, instruction, training, choices, consequences and supervision.

Don't assume anyone is a psychopath based on their behaviour alone. Obtain a professional opinion from a qualified mental health professional if you think you're raising a psychopath.

Seen on Broadway

Spotted during a night on the town were Atlantic Beach residents – 130 of them in fact - having a heck of a good time. They were all participants in our theatre bus trip to On Broadway during July.



Creepy crawlies unite

On 5 September an expert from Butterfly World will present a talk on spiders and scorpions at 14h00. This will be followed by the announcement of the garden competition winners. Register your gardens now, because great prizes are offered: three overnight stays, a Pick 'n Pay voucher for R1 000, secateurs, vouchers for seeds and a Kirstenbosch trip.



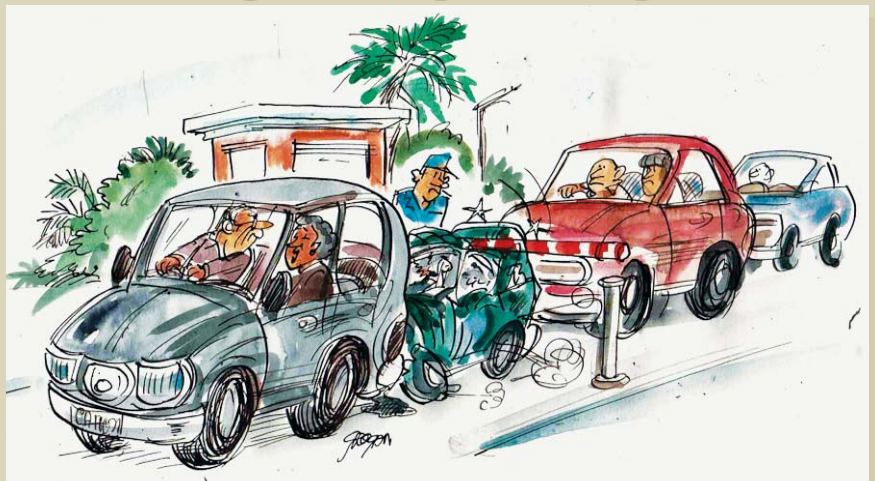
The winning team with landscape manager Ellmer Hartnick and estate manager Markus Savage at the back. Front: Paul Pieterse, Lesley Buske, Martiens Hendricks, Gerald Williams and ABHOA chairman Don Austen.

Landscaping victory

Atlantic Beach's landscaping department was divided into several teams some time ago to see which team produced the best-looking landscaped area. After much deliberation, the award went to team Victory for the MCE gate. Members are Lesley Buske, Martiens Hendricks, Gerald Williams & Paul Pieterse. Second place was achieved by Free Spirit for the main gate. Members: Leon Appollis, John Arendse, Dirk Davids, Edward Malanga & Charlto Marthinus. Third place went to

Unexpected for the beach gate. Members: Jeffrey Faviers, Bronwin Sampson, Isaac Dudley & John Swartz. Fourth place was awarded to Riemvasmaak for Sea Hare and Nautilus Circle. Members: John Langley, Avril James, Zamuxolo Malanga & Frederick Benjamin. In fifth place was Garden Kings for Colebrook & Brunswick Villages. Members: Colin Jacobs, Lesley Fransman, Mario Poggenpoel & Walter Lottering.

Tailgating dangers



"That's the new definition of a split-second: the time it takes between an Atlantic Beach resident spotting a tailgater behind him and slamming on his brakes."