

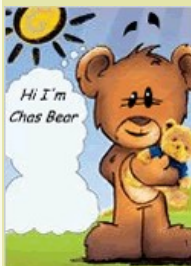


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**FROM BERRY EVERITT**

Having just celebrated Freedom Day with family and friends, I've been reflecting once again how fortunate we are to live in this country - and especially to have had leaders who were determined to negotiate peace 17 years ago, instead of allowing SA to descend into the kind of conflict we currently see raging in so many other parts of Africa.



I also think we each have a responsibility now to follow their example and use our talents and skills to make SA a better place in whatever way we can - and also to stop our hard-won democracy from being eroded by negative forces such as corruption and, even worse, indifference.

Which is why I was so delighted to read this month of the progress being made by the Human Settlements Department, under the leadership of Minister Tokyo Sexwale, in rooting out the corruption that has been such a huge stumbling block in the way of providing decent housing for the millions of South Africans still living in shacks.

To date, more than R50m has already been recovered from housing subsidy scammers, and more than R2bn worth of dodgy housing contracts have been uncovered, some of them involving major construction companies.

This is a great example of what can be achieved when one person takes a proactive and determined stance - and reminded me once again of the story of Monty Roberts, the famous "horse whisperer", author and ranch owner. When Monty was in school, he was asked to write an essay on his dreams. He wrote that he would like to own his own 200-acre ranch and raise Thoroughbred racehorses, but his teacher gave him an F, saying his dream was unrealistic. At the time Monty was living in a camper on the back of a pickup truck but even when he was given a chance to get a better mark by rewriting his essay, he told the teacher: "You keep the F; I'm keeping my dream."

Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could all cultivate that attitude about our dreams - individual as they are - for the bright future of SA?

**In the news this month**

**The future is less house, more home**

All the statistics show that buyer preferences are tending towards smaller homes at the moment - and not just because that's all that's available or all they can afford...

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When the time comes to sell your home, it may seem natural to award the marketing mandate to your friend who just happens to be an estate agent...

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Eskom has already advised users that with winter and heavy electricity usage on the way, it cannot guarantee that there will be no load shedding in the coming few months...

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The problems that were foreseen as the result of recent directives issued by the Registrar of Deeds regarding "forced sales" in HOA-controlled estates have been averted...

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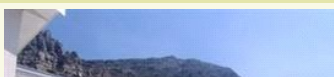
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**Selection of most viewed Properties for April 2011**



**Constantia - R 10,950,000**



**Oakdene - R 760,000**





St Helena Bay - R 1,550,000



Bishopscourt - R 10,000,000



Durbanville - R 5,995,000



Constantia - R 8,995,000



Durbanville - R 1,695,000



Kommetjie - R 2,300,000



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