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Al Areen

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Sunset Hills on-schedule delivery

Model units – ready to the public

Total sales up to 80%

An announcement was made that the construction of Sunset Hills – a mixed-use development located on Al Areen Development, South of Bahrain, is well on-time and a villa model unit is now ready for display to investors, unit owners and potential buyers.

Sales performance exceeded forecasting targets during the past year and demand remains strong for units within the project. The Sunset Hills Client Relationship Centre located in Al Areen Development quarters, provides information to investors on the project itself as well as displays the project model. Onsite, the villa model provides a good feel of the actual project and the project's proximity to attractions in the area.

Sunset Hills, a USD 100 million project owned by Abu Dhabi Investment House and Soroooh Investments (Kuwait), is scheduled for completion in 2009. The development occupies a land size more than 40,000 square meters in Bahrain's landmark Al Areen Development, situated in the resort's southern gateway.

When completed, Sunset Hills will house 300 real estate units, including deluxe villas, villas and luxury apartments. Multipurpose buildings and a club are also planned for the development.

With a prime location at the heart of Bahrain's new world-class recreational district, Sunset Hills residents will benefit from the facilities and attractions around the project, including Banyan Tree Resort, the Delmon water park, the Bahrain International Circuit, The Al Areen Wildlife Park, as well as pipeline shopping and entertainment facilities.



Al Areen New Northern Access Road Opened

Al Areen was delighted with the Government's completion of the new Northern Access Road that opened in March ahead of the Formula One Grand Prix that took place last month. The 3.5km stretch of dual carriageway will ultimately provide the main access to Al Areen, bringing visitors directly to the main commercial and leisure sections of the Al Areen Development.

For now the road will provide a safer and more direct access to both the Lost Paradise of Dilmun Water Park and the Banyan Tree Resort, replacing the previous single lane road that took visitors on a 10km journey right around the Al Areen development. "We are delighted that not only will visitors be able to get to these attractions far more easily", said Stephen Rothel, "but with the quality of the road and lighting, and the reduced quantity of construction traffic, the journey will be much safer for every one"

We would like to extend our gratitude to the Ministry of Works and the Electricity and Water Authority for their continuous support for all the Development Projects in the Kingdom of Bahrain.



Arthouse Launches at Banyan Tree Al Areen

Building on the success of last year's April event, and due to popular demand, the Culture Vultures are delighted to be able to repeat the Arthouse format, this time on a larger scale. With encouragement from both the public and artists alike, we have endeavoured to include a broad cross section of highly talented and skilled artists, photographers & sculptors, each of whom has the originality and professionalism to take the event onto the highest level of contemporary art in Bahrain today.

As the name suggests, the event is not only an opportunity to showcase local artists, but provides an opportunity for the general public to visit the artists' studios to see where the creative process takes place. You will be able to meet the artists and view not only the finished product, but works in progress and the working method of each individual; what inspires them, and the themes behind their work. We have more to offer this year, including almost double the number of artists, and we are particularly delighted to present many more highly accomplished Bahraini artists. There will also be a Culture Vultures Caravan, in the form of an Arthouse Bus, which will be available to transport Arthouse visitors along specific routes.

We would particularly like to thank our Sponsor, BANYAN TREE AL AREEN for supporting this venture, and for providing such a wonderful venue for the opening exhibition which will run for the duration of the event. In addition, we would like to say a very big thank you to The Bahrain Arts Society, and The Bahrain Contemporary Art Association, both of whom have given us so much help and encouragement.

This year any profits made from the event will go to the Bahrain Fort Charity Fund supporting children's cultural programs.



93,682 join in Bahrain Grand Prix Weekend

Over 93,682 turned out to witness Brawn GP's third victory of the season at the Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix and to catch up on the latest entertainment in the Formula One Village Vending Area.

As Jenson Button took home the Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix trophy, fans congregated at the vending area to see the live performances from across the globe. A treat was in store to all those attending, who got to witness the legendary David Merlino break the underwater world record with a time of 21 minutes and 29 seconds.

Meanwhile, Bijoumiyo continued to wow crowds with their sounds of soul and funk throughout the day which culminated in a final concert in the evening with all performers taking part including the Petebox,

Addaggio, Top Bananas, Limpopo Zambezi Acrobats and more.

The Formula One Village Vending Area also saw swarms of fans look on at a stunning performance brought to the circuit by the Italian flag throwers. Queues continued to meander through the Vending Area as fans got the chance to see Bernie Ecclestone's very own Grand Prix Heritage Car Collection of 24 Formula One cars dating back to the 1930s that have never before been seen under one roof.

Autograph sessions also saw Formula One fans line up in their thousands as Renault's Nelson Piquet and Fernando Alonso as well as legendary Johnny Herbert and Jean Alesi from the Speedcar Series hopped aboard the dhow.

Throughout the day visitors to the BIC enjoyed exhilarating entertainment and breath-taking performances which were topped on the list by the Vander Brothers Triple Space Wheel daring act. Musicians Bijoumiyo brought the sounds of funk and soul to listeners as they relaxed in the traditional jalsa area, whilst Top Bananas brought visitors an eclectic mix of disco and jazz.

Martin Whitaker, Chief Executive Officer of Bahrain International Circuit said: "We have seen a spectacular Grand Prix with superb talent on the track as well as off-track in the vending area. The public response has been better than ever, and while the economic climate has dented our corporate sales a little this year it's a huge tribute to the support this sport enjoys at the Home of Motorsport in the Middle East."

Suad Al Ghailan Graduate from University of Bahrain

Suad Al Ghailan, joined Al Areen Holding Company in March 2007 as a graduate trainee, where her job title was "Marketing and Corporate Communications Coordinator". She recently graduated from the University of Bahrain, with B.Sc. in Public Relation & Mass Communications with High Distinction.

Since then her duties have increased to take advantage of her interpersonal and conceptual skills. Her responsibilities include: events, public & media relations, investors and clients affairs.



An Athletic Face from Al Areen: Mohammed Al Qattan a Promising Future

Mohammed Al Qattan, a young Bahraini sports lover, dreaming of playing in the world league of volley ball.

Before he started playing volley ball back in 1999, swimming was his passion, but with encouragement of his family he shifted to volley ball.

In 2001 he joined Al Najma club, one of the leading volley ball teams in Bahrain until 2007 when he decided to move on to East Riffa club where he still playing.

He faced a major set back when he was severely injured in his knee and shoulder, but that did not stop him for coming back and he quickly made it to Bahrain national volley ball team.

Winning for Mohammed means looking forward to achieving more and his ultimate dream is to play at an international level.

Mohammed Al Qattan joined Al Areen Holding Company in 2002. He is very grateful for everybody in Al Areen for their support and understanding, "Al Areen is my second home and the management completely understand the nature of my involvement in the sport field and they encourage me further and further to achieve more and facilitate my participation in local and international tournaments", he said.

"My future ambition is complete my university studies and excel in my career with Al Areen" he added "I can't find the right way to express my deep appreciation for all who supported me all over the way, especially Al Areen management and team".

Mohammed has recently married and all at Al Areen wish Mohammed and wife all the best for their future together.

BANYAN TREE AL AREEN - **STAY MORE, PAY LESS**

This Summer there's no better place to relax than right here at Banyan Tree Al Areen- the region's leading all villa private pool resort.

With luxury and privacy like this, you won't want to leave and now there is a perfect reason not to, because all Summer long - the longer you stay the less you pay.

Get 25% discount on your 1st night!

Get 50% discount on your 2nd night!

Get 75% discount on your 3rd night!

And the 4th night is free!



Offer is valid from 1st June until the end of Ramadan 2009 and subject to availability.

More information about our Summer discounts, or to book this offer please contact us directly at telephone: +973 17 84 5000 or email: reservations-bahrain@banyantree.com.

Pasion Latina

Latino music, known the world over for its fiery passion, tuneful melodies and playful lyrics ignites a spark amongst music lovers all around the globe. The passionate depths of classical and contemporary Latino music and song were brought to an exclusive audience by acclaimed Soprano Clara Mansilla and Tenor Herbert Suarez on May 1st at the luxurious Banyan Tree Al Areen.

Both professionally trained singers, Clara and Herbert hail from the USA where their Latino background and multi-cultural upbringing fostered a love of Mexico's rural conjunto music, the sophisticated melodies of Cuba, the rhythmic sounds of Puerto Rico and the Brazilian folk music of Heitor Villa-Lobos. Through their wonderful voices, Clara (soprano) and Herbert (tenor) were able to share the passion of Latino song along with accompaniment by Alistair Auld, a well known and admired versatile pianist.

This magical concert included music from a wide range of classical and contemporary songs, ranging from Puccini's O Mio Babbino Caro to Leonard Bernstein's Maria from West Side Story. In keeping with the Latino theme Banyan Tree Al Areen offered guests a sumptuous dinner buffet with special delights carefully prepared by its international culinary team.



Banyan Tree Staff Participate in Promoting a Healthy Sustainable Environment on Earth Day

In recognition of Global Earth Day, over 100 associates from Banyan Tree Al Areen joined forces with 30 volunteers from the Youth Centre of Dar Kulaib village for a full day of desert cleaning and conservation awareness.

In an effort to promote a healthy, sustainable environment, Banyan Tree Al Areen launched the environmentally focused "Banyan Tree Goes Green" campaign last November. Since then, hundreds of volunteers representing each and every department of the resort have put heart and soul into developing a sustainable desert conservation program in order to beautify and relieve the public areas surrounding the resort.

The Banyan Tree associates were delighted on Global Earth Day when the members of the youth Centre of Dar Kulaib village volunteered to assist the afternoon desert clean-up session. Together this hardworking team filled hundreds of garbage bags, as they systematically collected large quantities of plastic, glass, aluminum, cardboard and other environmentally damaging items. It is the aim of the "Banyan Tree Goes Green" campaign, to inspire the community to come together on a mission to keep Bahrain beautiful!

Should you or your business be interested in joining Banyan Tree Al Areen in their desert conservation activities, please contact Catherine Bolton at: +973 3605 6383 or email her at: catherine.bolton@banyantree.com

Al Areen Holding Company B.S.C. (Closed)

Tel: +973 17838666, Fax: +973 17837778, P.O. Box: 18108, Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain
www.alareenresort.com