New angle taken on mower safety

Innovation by council staff develops idea to make mowing difficult embankments safer and easier

A LITTLE bit of ingenuity means mowing down embankments is now easier and, most importantly, safer for council staff.

What started out as an idea from council staff is now an innovative mower fail that is being used.

The aim was to find suitable equipment to attach to the front of council’s rubber-tyred tractor that would allow for safe mowing operations in their “embankments”, without the machine having to work on uneven angles.

>> More information and have your say online at connectingmackay.com.au

COUNCIL will undertake local Coastal Councils for Magela Point and Slade Point/Lamberts beaches the second quarter of 2018.

Council is still awaiting finalisation of NRMA funding for cycle repairs on these beaches and it also remains to be seen - whether there will be some emerging worlds in the meantime.

But work will also start on coastal plans for these areas, which will include community consultation.

It is envisaged work will start on the Magela Point plan this month and Slade Point/ Lamberts Beach in February next year.

Each coastal plan is expected to take about three months to complete and, when completed, will be released to the public.

>> More information at mackay.qld.gov.au/mower

Coastal plans to be prepared

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Survey nets washing feedback

TWO new paid parking machines have been installed in two City Centre car parks.

The coin-and-credit-card-operated machines can be used in the Mid-City Carpark, on the corner of Gordon and Gregory streets, and the Cinema Carpark, on the corner of Gordon and Paying streets.

They work in coordination with council’s new PayStay system, giving motorists the option of using an app on their mobile phone to pay for parking or using coins or a credit card at the machine.

Community Engagement Committee chair Cr Fran Mann said the PayStay system was removed after a short 2G mobile network shut down.

But she said council had listened to feedback from residents who indicated they still wanted the option of paying via machines.

“The two new machines are operational and work in conjunction with PayStay,” she said.

Machines operating

This year’s Global Grooves festival plans to take theColour of a world tour to a single day step further.

Community Engagement Committee chair Cr Fran Mann said that organisations really wanted to capture the feeling of going on holidays and immersing yourself in different cultures.

She said to experience an overseas destination properly there were usually some key ingredients, and all those ingredients were covered at Global Grooves.

Of course, there’s the food – you must try the authentic national dishes,” Cr Mann said.

There’s the music, dance and ceremonies – experiencing and witnessing these traditions that are passed down through generations is “a real privilege,” she said.

This year Global Grooves is continuing the experience with festival-goers able to try new foods and learn to create a new skill from different cultural groups.

Not only that, but it’s an overall experience that will make your holiday memorable.

This year, for the first time, you can meet and have your photo taken with the performers in their traditional dress in our Global Grooves Photo Hub.

That means you have no less than 15 different music and dance acts from around the world to dance along to and have your photo taken with. You can fill your day without leaving Mackay.

Known for its atmosphere that fills your senses – from the aromas and tastes of mouth-watering cultural cuisine, to the sounds and sights of everything from Scottish bagpipes to African drums and Indian rhythms – Global Grooves is the Mackay region’s largest multicultural event.

Cycle workshops

You can learn a new skill from the professionals, as well as learn what you need to know to get involved in your own time.

>> More information at mackay.qld.gov.au/paystay

To know more about our next initiative – the 2018 Fringe program. As an event in the region happening in July comes to a close, Mackay Regional Council’s Fringe Event, the event benefits by bringing focus to Mackay’s promotion and the official program. This will bring Mackay to life for the entire month – promoting the event and events should prove to be a hit and capture the attention of everyone.

This is a free event, jam-packed with food, entertainment and things to do and learn. We would encourage everyone to come along and make sure you play for the fireworks finale at 5pm,” she said.

Fringe prog

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Festive grants

COUNCIL is encouraging greater participation in the festive spirit with its annual Christmas Grant Program offering up to $10,000 grants to community groups and not-for-profits to help them use the barbecues, ding ding accordions and really get into the festive spirit. Applications should be submitted no later than Sunday, October 28.

For further information visit mackay.smartygrants.com.au/