



COUNCIL - in brief -

Drought help

ONE dollar from every chicken parmigiana sold this month at Foodspace will go towards buying hay bales for drought-stricken farms. Cr Fran Mann said council had partnered with the Buy a Bale Foundation to raise funds to buy hay bales to send to farms that are completely out of fodder and had no access to hay locally. The Buy a Bale program has delivered more than 160,000 bales across four states since September 2013. A Foodspace chicken parmy will cost you \$14.50 or \$11.50 without chips.

Casey Avenue

WORK on stage one of the Casey Avenue upgrade is on track to be complete by the end of August. Work on stage two will begin immediately after this work is complete. During stage two, Casey Avenue will be reduced to single-lane traffic between Leisure Street and the Mackay Museum. Traffic management will be on-site. Street parking will be unavailable during construction and motorists are asked to take advantage of the extra parking provided in Leisure Street carpark. Stage three will take place between October and December.

Grants on offer

COMMUNITY and not-for-profit groups can apply for up to \$10,000 from an \$84,000 council funding pool. Applications are open for the first round of council's Community Grants for this financial year. The aim of the Community Grant program is to provide assistance to local community groups/organisations that make positive contributions to the quality of life in the local government area. Grants are available for two categories: Community Grants of up to \$10,000 and Small Equipment Grants of up to \$1000. Submissions close midnight, September 7. Apply at mackay.smartygrants.com.au

Save the date

THE Great Northern Clean Up is on Saturday, September 1, and Sunday, September 2. This is your chance to help keep Mackay clean and green. Sites will be listed on council's website and Facebook page closer to the date.

Seniors Expo is great day out

THE Mackay Seniors Expo on August 21 is an information hub for seniors, boasting more than 70 exhibitors.

The event, held at the Mackay Showgrounds in the Big Shed, will cover everything and anything that might be of interest to our more distinguished demographic.

It enables seniors to speak with government agencies, health and aged care providers, community groups, leisure and lifestyle services and many more service providers about what they can offer.

Kicking off at 9am and running until 1pm, this event is free and easily accessible.

Cr Fran Mann said not only



The Big Shed at the Mackay Showgrounds is an excellent venue with plenty of room to move around and great open-air acoustics.

was there free, plentiful and easy parking close to the venue, there was also a drop-off and pick-up zone for those with mobility issues.

"This year we have also arranged buses that will be

running from Sarina and Mirani so that seniors living in more regional areas of council's footprint have access to this fantastic event," Cr Mann said.

The buses will leave from

the Sarina Neighbourhood Centre and Mirani Council Chambers at 8.30am and will return at 12.30pm.

Residents must pre-register to catch the buses by calling 4961 9596 or 4961 9434.

>> Mark August 21 in your calendar. For more information on the 2018 Mackay Seniors Expo visit our website mackay.qld.gov.au/expo

What we found in our recycling bins

Audit of more than 4000 bins across the Mackay region finds most residents are 'recycling right'

THE results of our recycling bins audit are in and the clear majority of Mackay residents can give themselves a pat on the back.

The latest recycling bin audit results showed just eight per cent contamination in bins.

And once residents with recycling bin contamination received educational material, most of them had removed the contamination by the second inspection.

Council officers inspected more than 4000 recycling bins across the region over a two-month period as part

of the recycling education program.

Areas inspected included Eimeo, Walkerston, South Mackay, West Mackay, Mackay City, Slade Point, Beaconsfield and Campwin Beach.

Cr Karen May said the care taken by residents with regards to recycling meant council was able to find markets for our recyclables.

"Our stockpiles were starting to climb due to the China ban," Cr May said.

"Now that our recycling

material has a very low contamination rate, we have been able to find markets for our recyclable material."

Cr May said residents with contaminates in their recycling bins were educated by council officers as part of the audit process.

She said most responded in a positive manner by not having non-recyclable items in future collections.

"On receiving educational material, 81 per cent of bin owners had removed the contaminate by the second inspection."



Henry and Angus Porter make sure they recycle right.

The top five contaminants found in recycling bins during the audit:

1. Recycling in plastic bags
2. Plastic bags
3. Food
4. Textiles/clothing
5. Polystyrene

Items that can be placed in yellow-lidded recycling bins:

- Paper, cardboard and magazines
- Aluminium cans, steel cans and aerosols
- Glass bottles and jars
- Plastic bottles and container with numbers 1 to 6.

Plastic bags, including reusable bags and soft plastics, cannot be recycled as they get caught in our recycling machinery.

>> Mackay residents are encouraged to continue to "recycle right" and visit council's website mackay.qld.gov.au/recyclerright for further information and tips



The Brisbane Heat WBBL team will return to Harrup Park this summer.

Howzat! Mackay hitting sixes

MACKAY has plenty of runs on the board in terms of hosting cricket spectacles and we're not ready to declare yet.

The latest was hosting an over 60s Veterans Crickets carnival last week.

The aptly named Sunshine Veterans Carnival, held in brilliant Mackay winter sunshine, attracted 12 visiting teams, or about 150 players, plus supporters to the region.

The visiting teams came from as far away as Victoria, New South Wales and southern

Queensland for the second annual carnival.

Cr Ross Gee said council supported this carnival through its Invest Mackay Events Attraction Program.

He said Mackay was able to secure this carnival because we boasted excellent cricket facilities and success in hosting big cricket events.

"Two Brisbane Heat WBBL matches were played here last summer and they're returning here again early in January next year to take on

the Adelaide Strikers and Melbourne Renegades," he said.

"Harrup Park has also hosted in recent years a Sheffield Shield game, an international series involving Australia A, and Bulls Masters versus NSW Baggy Blues charity games.

"We're also hosting the first week of the Cricket Australia U17 Male National Championships in October, as well as state under 13 and 14 male championships in December."

Healthcare experts to visit city



HEALTHCARE workers from across Australia will descend on Mackay next month for a major primary health conference.

The myPHN Conference 2018, which is themed "Connecting our healthcare together", will attract more than 60 expert health speakers and around 400 delegates on September 1 and 2 at the MECC.

Former Australian Prime Minister and current chair of beyondblue, Julia Gillard AC, will be a keynote speaker at the event, hosted by Northern Queensland Primary Health Network (NQPHN).

Council is supporting both September's myPHN and October's **SEGRA 2018** conferences through its Invest Mackay Events Attraction Program.

>> More details at myphn.com.au

SEGRA in spotlight

MACKAY will host some major conferences over the next couple of months, including one of the nation's largest economic development gatherings.

SEGRA 2018 will be held at the MECC from October 22 to 25.

SEGRA, which stands for Sustainable Economic Growth for Regional Australia, is in its 22nd year. It is recognised as Australia's most creditable independent voice on issues affecting regional Australia.

Deputy Mayor Amanda Camm it was exciting for Mackay to host such a prestigious national conference, expected to attract more than 300 visitors to the region.

>> Register now at segra.com.au/registration

She attended **SEGRA 2017** in South Australia, when Mackay was announced as the 2018 host.

"The theme for this year's conference is 'Beyond the Boom: Opportunities for growth and vitality,'" Cr Camm said.

"Mackay is a perfect backdrop for such a major economic development conference and discussions centred around that theme," she said.

"We're a vibrant provincial city and a service centre for the agricultural, mining and tourism economies.

We're also emerging from the effects of a resources downturn following booms in that industry."

2018 MACKAY SUGAR CITY Sounds

Saturday Sept 22
BB Print Stadium, Mackay

ONE NIGHT ONLY! THREE GREAT LIVE AUSSIE ACTS:

**THE LIVING END
BIRDS OF TOKYO
PETE MURRAY**

PLUS, CONCERT TO BE OPENED BY A YET-TO-BE-SELECTED LOCAL MUSIC ACT. SHORTLISTED CANDIDATES INCLUDE:

- TIA GOSTELOW
- BROOKE SCHUBERT
- ALT MUSIC
- JOHNNY BREEN - JB
- STYLUS CREW

VOTE FOR YOUR FAVOURITE THIS WEEK AT TRIPLEM.COM.AU UNDER THE "WIN" TAB.

Book Sugar City Sounds tickets at themecc.com.au



At the launch of Sugar City Sounds are (from left) promoter Rick Szabo, Mayor Greg Williamson and MECC and Events manager Andrew Bobeldyk.

'Sweet' gig to be won

SUGAR City Sounds at BB Print Stadium Mackay next month will be a memorable concert for the region and an extra special night for one local music act.

The search for a local artist to open the gig, which will be headlined by Pete Murray, Birds of Tokyo and The Living End, is nearing its climax.

A shortlist of five local music acts was selected and they are this week playing live in the Triple M Mackay and the Whitsundays radio studio — one per day.

They are (in no particular order) Tia Gostelow, Brooke

Schubert, ALT Music, Johnny Breen — JB and Stylus Crew.

The finalists, including judges' choices and a people's choice, will be announced on air next Tuesday, August 21.

The public can vote for the people's choice via the Triple M Mackay and Whitsundays website.

The finalists will then play at Harrup Park Country Club's inaugural Beer and BBQ Festival a few days later on Saturday, August 25, where a final winner will be chosen.

That winner will open the Sugar City Sounds concert

at BB Print Stadium on Saturday, September 22.

Deputy Mayor Amanda Camm said opening a major concert featuring such big-name Australian acts would be a fantastic opportunity for the winning local act.

"The local act will get to play in front of thousands, as well rub shoulders with three of Australia's best live acts," she said.

"It is a prestigious gig and there was plenty of interest from local musicians, with judges having a tough time coming up with a shortlist from the long list of entries."