

Town by town

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WITH
ANDREA FALVO

Do you have an event or issue north of the city you want to see covered? Send an email to andrea.falvo@news.com.au

NORTHERN CITY

Public forum

A PUBLIC forum at Smithfield will explore the potential new direction towards developing social entrepreneurship in Far North Queensland. The forum will run from 8.30am – 1.30pm at The Cairns Institute, James Cook University, Smithfield on Thursday and will bring together all those with an interest in social enterprise including social entrepreneurs, non-governmental agencies, policymakers, academics, students and funders. For more details, visit <https://events.jcu.edu.au/SocialEntreForum> or contact Dr. Narayan Gopalkrishnan at narayan.gopalkrishnan@jcu.edu.au

DOUGLAS AND TABLELANDS

Bridge upgrade

TABLELANDS Regional Council will next month start work to upgrade the Leslie Creek Bridge on Curtain Fig Road. Work on the bridge is expected to run from June to October and will include the existing single-lane timber bridge being replaced with a two-lane concrete bridge that will increase safety for road users, extend the life of the bridge and require less maintenance.

Sugar season starts

MOSSMAN Mill will commence crushing for the 2018 sugar cane season on June 4. During this time cane trucks will be on highways and roads every 30 minutes, seven days a week. Motorists and cyclists are urged to be mindful during time.

Resealing complete

DOUGLAS Shire Council crews have completed the first of four wing walls on a new culvert on Forest Creek Road. Resealing on Cape Tribulation and Forest Creek Rd is expected to be completed in the next two weeks.



OPERATIONS BASE: Tablelands Regional Council has released the artist's impression for the Community Education, Training and Disaster Coordination Centre, which will be built on Vernon Street. Construction will start in July.

Response centre image released

A NEW community education, training and disaster co-ordination centre on the Tablelands is one step closer to construction.

Tablelands Regional Council has released the artist's impression for the new centre, which will be built on Vernon Street at Atherton.

Work will start early in the new financial year and should be completed by June 2019.

Once built, Mayor Joe Par-

onella said the facility would provide a space for community groups and government agencies to conduct natural disaster resilience and preparation training and will be the base of operations for the Local Disaster Management Group.

"It is extremely important to us that we have a centre where we can effectively co-ordinate a disaster response in our region," he said.

"Our effectiveness will be

further enhanced by being located adjacent to Queensland Fire and Emergency Services and SES.

"Hopefully the weather will be on our side during construction." The Community Education, Training and Disaster Coordination Centre project is a joint initiative of Tablelands Regional Council and the Queensland Government.

"The Local Government Grants and Subsidies Program

is hugely popular with regional councils and is delivering terrific results for jobs and regional economies throughout regional Queensland." Local Government Minister Stirling Hinchliffe said.

"This includes in the Tablelands, as this terrific new Community Education, Training and Disaster Coordination Centre will provide an important new asset for local residents."

CAPE YORK & TORRES STRAIT

No Tobacco Day

APUNIPIMA Cape York Health Council will hold events across eight Cape York communities this week to celebrate World No Tobacco Day (May 31). The events will raise awareness of the health effects associated with tobacco use and exposure to second hand and third hand smoke. Apunipima will hold events across eight Cape York communities from May 30 to June 1, including Wujal Wujal, Coen, Napranum, Hopevale, Kowanyama, Mossman and Cairns. For more details, visit <http://www.apunipima.org.au/>

Diabetes program

A NEW project to help people manage their diabetes has been launched at Coen. The project is called '4X4 I'm on the Healthy Track' and involves four participants who work with four clinical staff over a four week period. Overseen by Apunipima nurse practitioner and diabetes educator Shona Lynch and chronic disease indigenous health worker Kaylene Coleman, the aim of the project is to introduce and encourage participants to self-manage their diabetes. Ms Lynch will present her insight on the program later this year to nurses from across the South Pacific at the 18th South Pacific Nurses Forum, held in the Cook Islands.

Jewellery workshop

TWELVE jewellers from across the Torres Strait have been introduced to the possibilities of a growing art movement through the Indigenous Jewellery Project (IJP). The Gab Titui Cultural Centre recently hosted IJP founder and curator Emily McCulloch Childs and contemporary jeweller Melinda Young for the week-long workshop, which taught artists new techniques in jewellery making and design. Torres Strait Regional Authority chairman Napau Pedro Stephen said the workshop was part of an ongoing commitment to support the development of the region's artists.