



Hepburn Shire youth set an example for Rural Health Week

Spare a thought during **Rural Health Week May 15 to 21** about this year's theme – Creating Healthy Communities. Many things contribute to the health of a community including residents being active, involved and happy.

The Hepburn Shire Council's Hepburn Healthy Communities Project focuses on this very thing and providing for youth is a vital component.

Hepburn Shire Council Youth Development Coordinator Dani Richardson said a number of projects underway to encourage young people to not just participate in activities but to run them, were glowing examples of striving to achieve a healthy community, now and for the future.

"At the recent Blue Light Disco in Daylesford there was a record attendance of 140 young people," Ms Richardson said.

"The event was run by local youth FReeZA and Hepburn Shire Council Youth Committee(YAC) members.

"The following day the young people were back for more, to run the Battle of the Bands Push Start/FReeZA finals during

the Swiss Italian Festa.

"Both events were a huge success with young people running both events. The FReeZA crew were the sound technicians for both events while the youth also ran the sound, door, security, kiosk, games and cloakroom.

"Members of the youth council also managed the stage with one member using the event as part of her VET Music Industry Studies."

"Recognising, harnessing and developing the talents of young people in our community provides for community connectedness and resilience which reduces the risk of self harm, substance abuse and negative risk taking behaviour," Ms Richardson said.

"Young people in our shire that are becoming involved in some positive groups and making new friends, are actually creating a buffer zone, which will assist them in bouncing back after difficult life experiences," she said.

To enquire about FReeZA, YAC or Council youth services phone Dani Richardson

5321 6118.

To enquire about the Hepburn Shire Council's Hepburn Healthy Communities Project phone Brian Dunn on 5345 8399 or visit the web site www.hepburnshire.com.au



Team work: members of the Hepburn Shire FReeZA committee are competent when it comes to managing and running events.

PROPERTY VALUATIONS...

what you can expect

Council's contract valuer Mr Vin Bourke has just completed the 2006 revaluation of all properties in the Shire. The Revaluation is a State Government requirement which values all properties as of January 1 2006.

In determining the value of a property the valuer takes into account such things as property sales, buildings and their conditions as well as other property improvements.

Stronger property values do not always mean rate increases for property owners because the Council does not need to collect more rate revenue just because property values have risen.

Rates will simply be redistributed according to shifts in property values that have occurred in different parts of the Shire.

The Council sets a budget each year that determines the amount of rates that the Council requires to provide and improve services throughout the shire.

The money required from rates is then divided into the Capital Improved Value (CIV) of all rateable properties to determine a rate in the dollar, individual rates are then apportioned according to the value of your property.

The effect of rising property values results in a lower rate in the dollar.

The new valuations will appear on rate notices for 2006/07 which will be forwarded late July or early August.

Valuation details will not be available prior to this.

The overall increase across the Shire has been relatively consistent with less than a 10 per cent variance between the ward averages.

While this will mean there will be a redistribution it will not create large increases similar to that of previous valuations.

Residents who believe the valuation that has been placed on their property is incorrect, will have an opportunity to lodge an objection within two months of receiving their notice.

Concerns can also be discussed with the valuer or Council Finance Manager John Traill by phoning 5348 2306.

IT IS RURAL HEALTH WEEK...

remember the Hepburn Shire Council's Hepburn Healthy Communities

CATCH UP FOR A COFFEE

BUY ONE GET ONE FREE VOUCHER PROGRAM

Use the voucher you collected from last week's Council Page in the Advocate to catch up with someone for a coffee at participating businesses (details on voucher).

The program is aimed at encouraging people to get to know others in their neighbourhood and help with creating a sense of community. The coffee voucher program is valid until May 21.

PROJECTS RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING ACROSS THE SHIRE IN COUNCIL'S DRAFT BUDGET

The Hepburn Shire Council's draft budget has been declared as the best result for the community since the Hepburn Shire Council was formed in 1995.

The draft budget recommends projects to be funded across the municipality with many communities set to benefit.

The success of the budget dates back to February when the community was invited to attend a series of public meetings.

In previous years the public meetings were held in April to comment on the draft budget once formulated – this year the community helped shape the budget formulation.

Hepburn Shire Mayor Heather Mutimer said involving the community right from the very beginning of the project has helped the Council in formulating a budget which includes many of the wishes of the community.

"The process adopted this year was strongly directed by the extensive community feedback we received," Cr Mutimer said.

Initiatives of the draft budget include:

- The provision for the appointment of a full time environment officer
- Construction of a new toilet block in the Creswick township - \$250,000.
- An additional outdoor staff member to primarily service maintenance in the Clunes township.
- Repairs to the Trentham town clock - \$13,000.
- Increased funding for library services.
- Increased expenditure, above inflation, for the maintenance of roads and footpaths to be topped up with an additional \$611,259 Federal Government grant allocation from the Road to Recovery Program.

Funding has also been recommended towards projects including the Trentham Neighbourhood House redevelopment, Old Glenlyon dam rehabilitation work and fire tanker hard stand, improvement to Calamben Park, community meeting facility improvements for Creswick RSL, \$50,000 for further development of the Daylesford Youth Park, repairs to Clunes Bottle Museum, \$50,000 for footpaths to the Trentham Hostel from town centre, tree safety work at Yandoit on the school bus route, \$6000 for security for Newlyn Sporting complex, Creswick Preschool improvements, Daylesford Senior Citizen Room improvements, \$10,000 for repairs to Creswick Museum, \$60,000 for footpath from community centre to Cambridge Street in Creswick, \$9,600 towards Trentham Historical Society Building extension and \$15,000 towards Daylesford Spa Railway facilities.

Council Corporate Services Director Chris Cowley said the task of allocating a budget was challenging.

"However, the pending budget is perhaps the best result ever achieved in the Hepburn Shire with projects recommended for across the Shire which will benefit many communities.

"We have not been able to include every project recommended by the community but those which have missed out this year can be revisited next year," Mr Cowley said.

The draft budget was presented at last night's Draft Council Agenda meeting and the next phase will be for the document to be placed on public exhibition.

Residents will be invited to comment and all submissions will be considered prior to the budget being formally adopted in June.

The following planning applications have been lodged with Council between April 24 and April 28, 2006.

File number	Address of the land	The proposal or development
2005/8893	Lot 2 PS 541041S, township of Daylesford, Lot 2 Stanley St, Daylesford.	Construction of a double storey dwelling.
2005/8894	234 Frenchmans Road, Creswick	Construction of a dwelling.
2005/8895	9 Crockett St, Daylesford.	Alterations and additions to existing dwelling.
2005/8896	3 Cobblers Lane, Daylesford.	Four lot subdivision.
2005/8897	47 Vincent St, Daylesford.	Redevelopment of the existing Rex Theatre and, including new shops and associated street level carparking and demolition of existing dwellings at 6 and 8 Duke Street.
2005/8898	898 Porcupine Ridge, Rd, Porcupine Ridge.	Alterations and additions to existing dwelling.

Please note this list of Planning Applications is for public information only and is not intended to be notification of a Planning Application in accordance with Section 52 of the Planning and Environment Act. Clauses within the Hepburn Planning Scheme may specify that certain classes of development are exempt from the notice requirements of Section 52 (1) (a), (b) and (d), the decision requirements of Section 64(1), (2) and (3) and the review rights of Section 82(1) of that Act.

COMMUNITY GROUPS INVITED TO APPLY FOR SURPLUS COMPUTERS

The Hepburn Shire Council has a number of pre-loved computers which are available to community groups. Please submit a request in writing ASAP to Chris Wilson, PO Box 21, Daylesford or email cwilson@hepburn.vic.gov.au

ARE YOU HOLDING AN EVENT IN THE HEPBURN SHIRE AND LIKE EVERYONE TO KNOW ABOUT IT?

It's easy!

If you would like your event publicised on the Visit Daylesford website and displayed in the Daylesford Regional Visitor Information Centre just visit the web site www.visitdaylesford.com

Click on Events, then click on Add Event and enter the details of your event.

When organising an event on public land or for general enquiries when holding an event in the Hepburn Shire please contact the Council's Tourism and Recreation unit Wednesdays on 5321 6111.