Landmark Development for Palmerston Underway

It was wonderful to see the construction of the widely anticipated “Boulevard Plaza” complex start on 10 June.

The Chief Minister broke ground on the project that will transform the heart of the Palmerston CBD from a dust bowl and bitumen car park into an exciting mixed use development that will revitalise Palmerston’s CBD, attracting residents, shoppers and businesses.

Boulevard Plaza will be the first mixed use development of its kind in Palmerston. It will provide the first urban living opportunity in the centre of Palmerston and will be the city’s tallest building.

The project developer is Randazzo Properties, a Territory business that traces its roots to 1954 when the population of Darwin was only 8,500 people.

Boulevard Plaza is designed by local architects, Jackman Gooden and will be constructed by Territory building company Sunbuild.

The completed project will consist of a mix of apartments, offices, retail and car parking which will provide services and business opportunities to the Palmerston community.

Boulevard Plaza will connect the different precincts of the CBD by providing covered footpaths and making it easier for pedestrians to walk between the Palmerston bus exchange and the CBD’s key retail and recreational facilities.

Stage 1 of the project includes 77 apartments which will be completed in late 2017 with other stages to follow.

Concept drawing for “Boulevard Plaza”

TERRITORY DAY AND MY FAMILY FUN DAY

Thank you to the hundreds of constituents who joined me for my 5th Annual Territory Day Family Fun Day and BBQ. It was fantastic to see so many families out enjoying our lovely Dry Season weather. This year we celebrated 38 years of self-government in the Territory, our unique Territory lifestyle and our wonderful people.

I also loved seeing thousands of people attend our Territory Day concert at Marlow Lagoon featuring Shannon Noll and a huge fireworks display.
TRIPLE ZERO CALLS ANSWERED FASTER

Territorians are having their Triple Zero emergency calls answered faster than ever before.

New figures show more than 94 per cent of calls to 000 are now being answered within 10 seconds compared with 62 per cent three years ago.

NT Police have been commended on their successful implementation of Project Polaris to reform and improve the Joint Emergency Services Communications Centre and there has been a significant improvement in call response times since the project began.

General calls are also being answered more quickly, with nearly 86 per cent now within 20 seconds compared with only half in 2012-13.

I am proud of the Government’s major overhaul of the service with 45 civilian call takers employed to improve the response times. This has also freed up uniformed officers for frontline duties.

DUAL CAMPUS HIGH SCHOOL IN PALMERSTON

The Country Liberal’s Government is continuing to progress the implementation of a dual campus college model in Palmerston with the amalgamation of Rosebery Middle School and Palmerston Senior College. Two campuses, one college. Since 2011, government school education in Palmerston has experienced a decline in student numbers in Years 7 to 9. This model will assist in improving retention and engagement of students, whilst maintaining the benefits of dedicated learning spaces for middle and senior years.

The motivation for implementing this new model is to provide students and their families with a seamless education experience from Year 7 to Year 12, greater choice and better access to a wider range of subjects, resources, expertise and learning opportunities.

In Palmerston, we want to connect Rosebery Middle School and Palmerston Senior College to provide continuity and consistency in teaching and learning for students over a six year period. This will improve student outcomes.

The dual campus college model will provide increased programs, additional curricular and extra-curricular activities that being a larger school can offer for students in Years 7 to 12.

This is an exciting opportunity for students in Palmerston. It will also strengthen Palmerston City Schools which is a commitment by all government schools in Palmerston to work together to achieve the best outcomes for students.

If you would like to discuss this exciting initiative further, you are welcome to contact Sue Healy, Principal of Palmerston Senior College on 8935 0222 or Jill Hazeldine, Acting Principal of Rosebery Middle School on 8930 5200.
The Country Liberals will seek a mandate at the Northern Territory election on August 27 to protect the community from serial property offenders, as we understand that property crime is “the number one issue” of concern to law-abiding citizens.

The Country Liberals Government’s Bail Amendment Bill was opposed by Labor during parliamentary sittings on 27 June.

Under the proposed changes, repeat offenders would either be held in prison on remand or monitored electronically if released on bail.

I am being told by constituents that they are fed up with repeat serial offenders who commit crimes when we’re at work, or our kids are at home after school; who smash our cars at night, who cause crime and disruption in our community.

The amendment means that repeat offenders wouldn’t get bail unless they’re electronically monitored. Labor opposed this amendment.

Property crime has been reduced under the Country Liberals Government, but repeat offenders are a genuine cause for concern.

For Labor to oppose it shows a lack of support for victims of crime.

Many people have spoken to me in support of our Bail Amendment Bill and I would like to see it passed into law. In my view, serial offenders belong behind bars or with an electronic device around their ankle. I would like to hear your views on this.

8th Commonwealth Youth Parliament

The 8th Commonwealth Youth Parliament will be held from 6 – 10 November this year in Victoria, Canada.

After last year’s successful youth parliament held in Darwin, young people from around the world will once again have the opportunity to come together to gain experience in parliamentary proceedings under the watchful eye of experienced members and officials, as well as show how the next generation may approach parliamentary politics.

The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly is now seeking expressions of interest from any Northern Territory residents aged between 18 and 29 to be the Country Liberals delegate to this year’s event in Victoria, Canada. Entries close Friday 22 July.

Travel and accommodation costs will be provided by the Northern Territory branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association.

Nominees for the Northern Territory delegate to the 8th Commonwealth Youth Parliament will need to send the following items to Cheryl.owens@nt.gov.au:

2. A resume
3. A cover letter that answers the following selection criteria:
   • Demonstrated ability to provide leadership in youth organisations;
   • Highly developed interpersonal, communication and negotiation skills with the proven ability to liaise effectively with people from diverse cultures
   • Knowledge of Northern Territory and national youth issues

I would be happy to provide a letter of support to any suitable applicant that wishes to contact me.
Green Space Landscaping Project Underway

I have been a strong advocate for creating “entrance statements” so that residents and visitors feel a sense of arrival and pride when entering their community. As a result, the Green Space Landscaping Program was developed and expanded.

The Green Space Landscaping Program will assist in minimising the impact of development on the urban environment through the use of tree and plant species that complement existing native vegetation and previously planted areas. Importantly it will also provide a sense of arrival and identity at key locations on the Territory network.

Contracts to the value of $3.2 million will see six locations on major urban roads across Darwin and Palmerston enhanced with significant landscaping works. Works will include irrigation, planting, grassing, signage, lighting and landscaping within verges and medians of selected roads and intersections.

In Palmerston, Stuart Highway / Temple Terrace Intersection, Chung Wah Terrace Eastern Verge, Catchlove Street to Elrundie Avenue and Kirkland Road / University Drive Roundabout will be enhanced.

This program will ensure residents and visitors have a sense of arrival when entering different parts of our community. It will renew peoples pride and make a big impression on drivers.

In Darwin, key transport nodes such as the Stuart Highway / Bagot Road intersection and overpass will be targeted through the program. The Darwin airport entrance at the intersection of Henry Wrigley Drive and McMillans Road will also be enhanced which will assist in improving the visitor experience to the Top End.

It is important that we invest in the look and feel of our community.

DARWIN FLOOD MITIGATION WORKS

The Country Liberals Government has delivered on its commitment to reduce flood risks in Darwin with flood mitigation works progressing at the Marrara Triangle Flood Detention Basin and the Narrows.

The construction of upgrades to Dwyer Park in the Narrows which will hold stormwater in the Sadgroves Creek catchment is expected to be tendered in July. This work will also include an upgrade of Dwyer Park’s playground and facilities.

In 2014, the Country Liberals Government allocated $25 million to form the Darwin Flood Mitigation Advisory Committee to outline a range of projects to reduce the risk and impact of flood events in Darwin.

This is the first time any Territory Government made such a financial commitment to reduce the risk of flooding.

Design and construction work to improve flood mitigation in Darwin has been ongoing since October last year. Construction work is focused on reducing flooding in the Narrows area, including installing a culvert under the recently constructed duplication of Tiger Brennan Drive and the Benison Street intersection.

The risk of flooding in the Narrows will be further reduced by improving the flow of stormwater from RAAF Base Darwin to Sadgroves Creek through the construction of new drains along Reichardt and Benison Roads in Winnellie.

The design of the extension of the drain to Dick Ward Drive is also well underway.

An additional $13.2 million will be allocated to stormwater management and works in the Ludmilla/Narrows, Wadham Lagoon, Yarrawonga and Pinelands catchments.

Conceptual impression of Dwyer Park upgrades
Disruptive public housing tenants put on notice

The Country Liberals Government has put unruly public housing tenants on notice that bad behaviour will not be tolerated.

The Country Liberals Government has adopted new measures to address the problem and improve the livability of public housing complexes for residents and neighbours, including:

- New public housing tenants will be required to serve six months’ probation;
- A “red card” rule will be introduced, under which six demerit points trigger eviction.

The probation policy will involve fixed-term tenancy agreements of six months for all new public housing tenants. The Department of Housing will rigorously enforce the new measures and the new public housing red card rule will be twice as tough as the current policy.

Under the new red card rule, the eviction process will be automatically triggered once a tenant accrues six points for antisocial behaviour.

Antisocial behaviour can be reported by either contacting the Public Housing Safety Officers on 1800 685 743 or by completing an online Antisocial Behaviour Complaint Form at https://www.nt.gov.au/property/public-housing/feedback-and-complaints-about-public-housing/online-antisocial-behaviour-complaint-form
The Country Liberals government is excited to unveil a new WWII mural and announce the official opening of purpose built mountain bike trails at Charles Darwin National Park.

The mural captures the significant history of Charles Darwin National Park, complementing the historic ammunition storage bunkers and memorabilia from World War II and Indigenous history sites scattered right through the park.

Darwin Artist David Collins pulled together a team of talented artists which included well-known Melbourne street artist Andrew Bourke, local artist Jesse Bell and Larrakia man Tony ‘Duwun’ Lee – who designed the Indigenous element of the mural.

The Country Liberals Government has committed $160,000 towards the new mountain bike trails as part of the government’s commitment to provide a healthy and outdoors lifestyle for Territorians.

The trails are named after WWII planes – Spitfire and Wirraway – which have been depicted in the mural. The Wirraway Trails winds through the centre of the park and the more challenging Spitfire Trail, is graded as ‘difficult’

For more information on the mountain bike trail at Charles Darwin National Park, please visit https://nt.gov.au/leisure/recreation/mountain-biking/charles-darwin-national-park

Bus shelters benefit from local art

The Country Liberals Government is using Indigenous art as an innovative measure to reduce graffiti across Greater Darwin.

Urban bus shelters are at times targeted with graffiti and the Country Liberals Government is reducing repair costs by painting art on shelters as this has been shown to reduce vandalism.

Local artist and youth family support social worker David Collins and artist Jesse Bell have been leading the painting of 10 city bus shelters in a bid to reduce vandalism and graffiti removal costs. These bus stops include:

- 109 & 110 Bagot Road, Ludmilla
- 181 & 299 Stuart Highway, The Narrows
- 286 Stuart Highway, Berrimah
- 287 & 297 Stuart Highway, Winnellie
- 173 Stuart Highway, Parap
- 227 & 228 Dick Ward Drive, Nightcliff

Four Indigenous youth from the Department of Corrections have assisted in the preparation, cleaning and clear coating of the bus stops. The project helped fulfil community service work obligations for these youth and provided meaningful and rewarding tasks that contribute to the local community.

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KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR YOUR BIN STICKERS COMING SOON
PALMERSTON HOSPITAL SNAPSHOP

The Palmerston Hospital is coming along a rapid pace with the level one slabs on all buildings completed. It is now exciting to see the pouring of the concrete for level two’s suspended slabs beginning.

Main sewer and stormwater drains are also currently being completed along with fire and potable water services being laid.

Above left: Palmerston Hospital progress April 2016
Left: Palmerston Hospital progress July 2016
Below: Pouring of the concrete for level two’s suspended slabs

PALMERSTON PARK RUN IS FINALLY HERE!

Starting early August from Palmerston Waterpark

For more information contact
Mark Connolly
mark.connolly@parkrun.com
COLOUR IN CONTEST

1 July 1978

Self government

Territorian Pride

Happy Territory Day!

Territorian Pride

Entries close 29 July 2016. All entries will be displayed in my Electorate Office, names will not be disclosed.

1st prize - $30 Target Voucher; 2nd prize – Mini Golf family pass thanks to Flight Path Golf

Please either drop your entries into my Electorate Office or post to PO Box 4248, PALMERSTON NT 0831

For additional copies of the Colour In Contest please call 8999 5397.

Name........................................................................................... Age................. Phone........................................

Address..................................................................................................................................................................

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