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I have a couple of accolades to share with you this month. Firstly I would like to congratulate Andrew Ross and Andrew Mattaboni from our finance division. The Shire recently received a Certificate of Merit (second) in the Minister for Local Government Finance Awards for 2006/07 in the Large Rural Local Government Category. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> award for the Shire since 2002/03 financial year, which shows that we have not only achieved a high standard with our financial reporting but have maintained it over a lengthy period. I would also like to congratulate all the staff at the Shire. As an organisation we have recently achieved 365 days with no time lost through injury, which is a terrific milestone and one to be proud of.

Also on a safety note; as we are fast approaching Christmas and it wont be long before people start enjoying the festive season, I'd like to ask you to take care and keep safe whilst driving in and around the Shire in the lead up to the Christmas break.

A final reminder that the Australia Day Awards, which is your chance to nominate one of the many volunteers or volunteer groups within the Shire, close on 17<sup>th</sup> November. If you know of a group or individual who has done an outstanding job please nominate them.

**Paul Sheedy – Chief Executive Officer**

### Australia Day Community Awards

The Shire's Community Awards close on Monday 17 November 2008. Guidelines and application forms are available from the website and the libraries.

There are a number of categories:

- Citizen of the Year – nominee must be over 25 yrs
- Young Citizen of the Year – nominee must be under 25 yrs
- Community Group / Event of the year
- Young Sportsperson of the Year

Nominees for both group and individual awards must be volunteers residing in the Shire and can either be nominated by others or self nominated.

We have many wonderful people and groups who volunteer within the Shire, so please don't let this opportunity to have them acknowledged pass you by.

The Awards will be presented at a function to be held in the Hugh Kilpatrick Hall – Boyanup on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2009, to which all volunteers within the Shire are welcome to attend. You will need to RSVP to ensure adequate catering, so please look out for details in future editions of the Snippets.

If you're not sure what a volunteer is or whether you are eligible to be nominated, or have any questions please don't hesitate to contact Lesley, Michelle, Sue or Donna from the Community Development Team.

### Combined Dalyellup / Capel Youth Advisory Council Meeting

**R U GOIN 2 YAC**

**ON FRI 21 NOV @**

**CPL COM CEN FM 5PM?**

**HRD IT GUNA B FUN?**



For further info please

Text Sue on 0439937574

### Ever thought of running a B&B?

The Shire wishes to support business activities through tourism promotion and other initiatives, however we can't do this unless the business or accommodation activity has the required approvals.

There certainly is a shortage of short stay accommodation within our Shire, so if you have what it takes to run a B&B or similar then contact staff in the Shire's Planning area who would be willing to assist you achieve your outcome.

### Fancy a Block in Capel's Light Industrial Area?

Council is currently receiving registrations of interest from people who are interested in purchasing an industrial property in Capel.

If you haven't already lodged your interest then do so today! Post it to the Shire Offices (PO Box 369 Capel) marked to the attention of Vicki Davies or via email to [info@capel.wa.gov.au](mailto:info@capel.wa.gov.au).

All registrations of interest will be sent a formal tender document when the sale of the lots proceeds.

### Retaining Walls

#### Building License Required for Retaining Walls!

Yes that's right, a building license is required for all retaining walls.

Council has experienced an increase in the number of unauthorised retaining walls being constructed throughout the shire.

The building of retaining walls can be stopped or delayed until relevant applications are lodged and certificates of approval obtained or alternatively legal action can be initiated.

Even if you have completed the retaining wall you still need to apply for a Unauthorised Building Certificate.

If you don't have permission to build your retaining wall, then it can cost you more as you will need a Consulting Structural Engineer to certify the wall and if its not right you might have to make some construction changes.

Also where a retaining wall is going to exceed 500mm in height above the natural ground level, there could be visual privacy issues that need to be considered under the Residential Design Codes

You really do need to make sure either you or your contractor has obtained the right paper work before starting the job.

Please obtain a building licence and if in doubt contact the Building Services Staff at the Shire on 9727 0222.

### FIREBREAK DEADLINE.

**All residents are reminded to read the Fire Break Order you recently received from Council.**

Please assist local Emergency Services Volunteers by being vigilant with Fire Prevention, as local volunteer bush fire brigade members are ordinary people, doing extraordinary tasks.

**The deadline for the installation of firebreaks within the Shire of Capel is the 30<sup>th</sup> of November each year.**

**The additional requirement on urban and special rural land this year is:**

All other grass remaining on the property is to be slashed to a height not exceeding 100mm. If it is not possible to slash the remaining grass it can be burnt or sprayed with a suitable herbicide to prevent any regrowth during the summer months.

**The Restricted Burning Period** is from the 2<sup>nd</sup> November to December 14 2008 and March 15 to April 26 2009 and permits to burn are required from your local Fire Control Officer during these dates.

**The Prohibited Burning Period,** commences on the 15 December to March 14 the following year inclusive.

**THE ABOVE DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DEPENDING ON WEATHER CONDITIONS.**