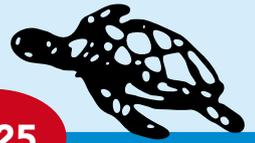


Palm Island Voice

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ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL

Thursday 22 March 2012

\$1.25

Issue 100

Local councils call for independent AMP review

Controversial Alcohol Management Plans affecting Indigenous communities should be reviewed so an independent judgement can be made on their effectiveness, says the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ).

LGAQ President Cr Paul Bell said member councils across Queensland had called for a review last year, citing increased evidence of unintended social and economic consequences arising out of the alcohol restrictions. "These restrictions are more than a decade old and an independent call has to be made on whether the benefits outweigh the problems they have caused," he said. "We know that since the AMPs have been introduced, incarceration rates for young people have increased in some communities, people have been dislocated and there

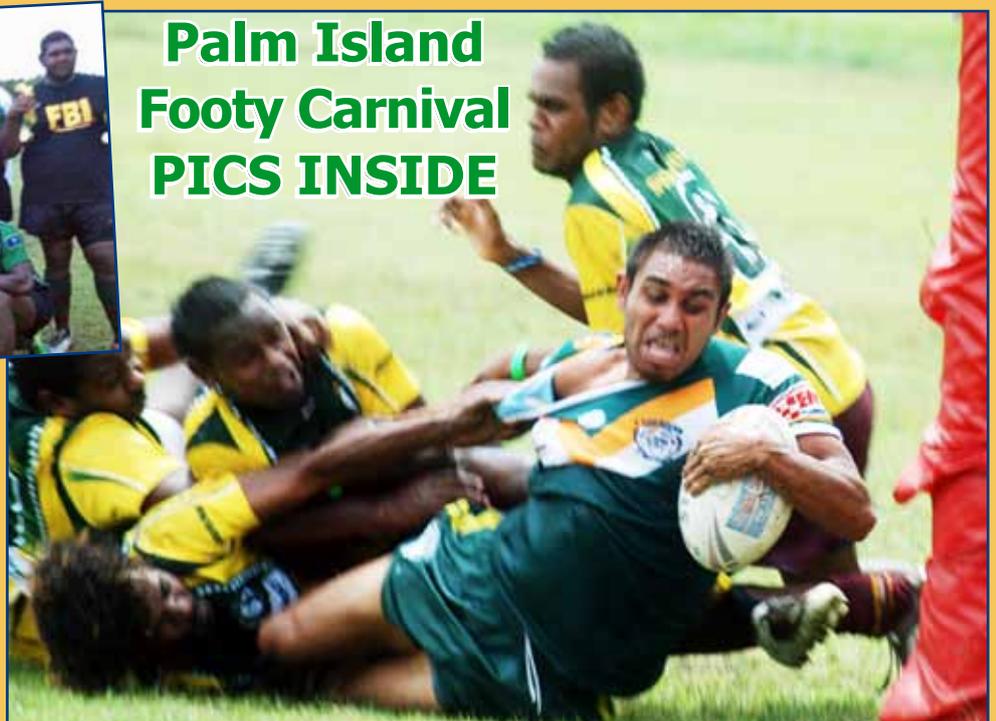
have been increased rates of homelessness." Palm Island Aboriginal Council Mayor and LGAQ Policy Executive member Alf Lacey said Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island councils stood ready to work in a genuine partnership with whichever party formed government, to address alcohol abuse problems besetting their communities. Cr Bell said Indigenous councillors lived in the community, saw first hand the problems caused by alcohol and dealt daily with its consequences. "They are ideally positioned to

know the extent of any issues, as well as what will work and what won't work to fix any problems," he said. "Imposing AMPs from outside is not the solution." "Let's work together and fix an issue that has been seen too much as a political football and not enough as a problem that stands in the way of sustainable improvements for Aboriginal communities." *Palm Island Voice* has asked the question and has material on AMPs from all local candidates standing in the State election except Jenny Stirling (Greens) & Michael Punshon (Family First Party). **See page 2 for more...**



SHEER EFFORT shows on their faces (*right*) of Barracudas Malcolm Larry, Shae Palmer, Josh Landers, Billo Wotton & Owen Marpoondin. Descendants, above, were narrow victors on the day. See pp 6-7...

Palm Island Footy Carnival PICS INSIDE



AMPs – what they say...



**Sitting Member
Mandy Johnstone**

Member for Townsville Mandy Johnstone has condemned the LNP candidate for Townsville for not sticking up for women and children in Indigenous communities. Ms Johnstone said the LNP candidate had revealed his true colours by back flipping on comments he made during an ABC radio interview in January when he said Campbell Newman and the LNP would undertake a 'very detailed review of the AMPs and engage the stakeholders.'*

"If this is the LNP's idea of a 'very detailed review' then I would hate to think what they would be like in government," Ms Johnstone said. "Campbell Newman's off-the-cuff policy to abandon alcohol management plans is reckless and puts at risk the safety of women and children in our indigenous communities.

"It is not a human right to be able to drink alcohol. However it is a human right for women, children and elders to feel safe in their own communities.

"The electorate of Townsville takes in Palm Island which has in place an Alcohol Management plan, and the LNP candidate needs to come clean and say whether he supports Campbell Newman's rash policy decision."

Ms Johnstone said alcohol management plans had been put in place in these communities because of unacceptably high levels of harm, and exit strategy plans were in place based on a range of conditions.

* ABC North Queensland, 31 January 2012



**LNP candidate
John Hathaway**

LNP candidate for the seat of Townsville, John Hathaway, believes Alcohol Management Plans (AMPs) are just one method to deal with one of the symptoms of disadvantage in a number of Indigenous communities.

"They are not a long-term solution to that disadvantage, which ultimately requires breaking the cycle of welfare that traps too many Aboriginal Queenslanders," he said. "For that reason, AMPs are a short-term band-aid solution at best."

Mr Hathaway said he was disappointed that the Labor Party had chosen to use this serious issue as a political football for election purposes.

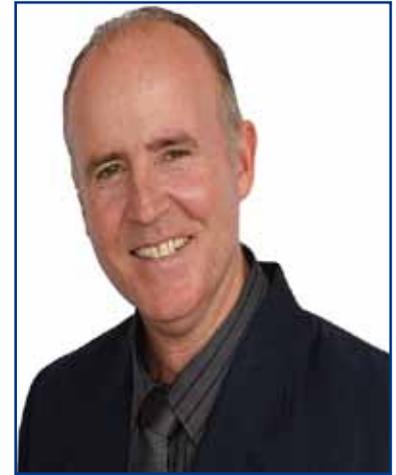
"I intend to work with Aboriginal people in my electorate to deal with the real issue which is providing jobs and economic opportunity," he said.

"We all know that AMPs are not perfect, but I believe they are necessary in the short term.

"We need to continue to monitor the AMPs to ensure we don't just shift the problems elsewhere or ignore the core issue of breaking the welfare trap," he said.

Mr Hathaway said the LNP, if elected on March 24, would move quickly to review the effectiveness of the policy in consultation with indigenous Queenslanders.

"The LNP believes indigenous voters should have every opportunity to enjoy the same rights, opportunities and obligations as other Queenslanders," he said.



**Katter's Australian Party
candidate Ray Grigg**

Alcohol management plans have been in place in 19 remote Aboriginal communities now for almost 10 years.

These plans were developed by community justice groups and were originally put in place in response to the high level of alcohol fuelled violence towards women and children.

There has been discussion recently for the removal of some or all of these restrictions to be removed to bring into line these communities with the rest of Queensland.

Before any changes are made to the management plans there needs to be a review of the success or otherwise of these management plans with extensive input from elders, community leaders, women, and other stake holders.

A review of the effectiveness of the management plans need to be examined ie:

- Has there been an increase in school attendances?
- Has there been a reduction in assaults against women and children?
- Has there been a reduction in criminal activity?

Katter's Australian Party would encourage communities under alcohol management plans to work together to have greater self determination on issues such as this that affect their communities.



Winners are swimmers, with more rewards to come

Bwgcorman Community School students were recently rewarded for their hard work, great attendance and appropriate behaviour with boat rides around the Island.

The School's newsletter congratulated the students who qualified from years 1-10, who got to spend a day swimming and socialising at one of the many beautiful swimming areas around Palm. More than 100 students have enjoyed this reward to date and these trips will continue throughout the year, so there will be more!

The school has appealed to parents and the community to continue to encourage their kids to attend school after overall attendance rates fell slightly in early March.

Pictured above & below are students on a recent rewards trip as well as the latest crop of Start and Bronze Card holders, and Students of the Week.



Here is the list of players who have been nominated for the Palm Island **Legends of League** team in 2012:

Vern Daisy
Obe Geia jnr
Josh Geia
John Baira (dec)
Lennie Malone
Tony Camenzuli
Pat Walsh (dec)
Steve Walsh (dec)
Algon Walsh
Hector Poynter (dec)
Roy Nallajar
Harry 'Bomber' Johnson (dec)
Cedric Harvey

Billy Barnes
Jacob Baira
Sam Conway jnr
Kenny Watson
Eddie Cooktown (dec)
Phillip Bengaroo
Raymond Burns
Wayne Chookie
Roy Baira snr
Bill Blackley
Ezra Langlo
Ronny Hero
Raynard Baira
Ray Georgetown

Greg Santo (dec)
Alec Santo
Ron Geia
Russell Parker
Gary Doolan
Vernon Noble
Vince Thimble
Jason Thimble
Tabua Oui
David Baira
David Geia
Sam Conway jnr (dec)
Cooper Kerr snr (dec)
Peter Cannon (dec)

Too many for one team? What would your line-up be if you had to choose one team?!! Best forward? Best back? Captain? If you're game enough to choose we'd love to hear from you!

MEANWHILE Vince Thimble said he has hundreds of old Barracudas pics and has agreed to allow the *Palm Island Voice* to publish some in coming editions - watch this space for more!!!



Dennis names Palm's biggest and best

TO coincide with the 100th edition of the *Palm Island Voice* we asked Palm Island's Ray Dennis to name the best boxers he has trained since arriving here in 1999.

Mr Dennis has trained 41 Australian League champions, 60 Queensland State champions and 86 Queensland Golden Gloves champions.

He started with Ted Nona, Thomas Bonner and Ingai Geia (all Australian Title winner in 1999).

"Eleven Palm boxers took part in the State of Origin tournament held in Mackay that year," he said.

"Of the 33 bouts our boxers won 10.

"Robert Haines defeated a NSW opponent and was judged best senior and Ted Nona best junior.

"Ingai Geia was the only Palm boxer defeated but by the end of the year won the Australian Title." Mr Dennis said that Telstan Sibley and Robert Johnson were unlucky to lose at National Titles held at Dandenong in Victoria.

"Robert was a very good boxer who won a State Title in 1999," he said.

"Telstan won a junior Australian Title and then stepped up and also won an Intermediate Title under-19 in the same year, which was 2001," Mr Dennis said.

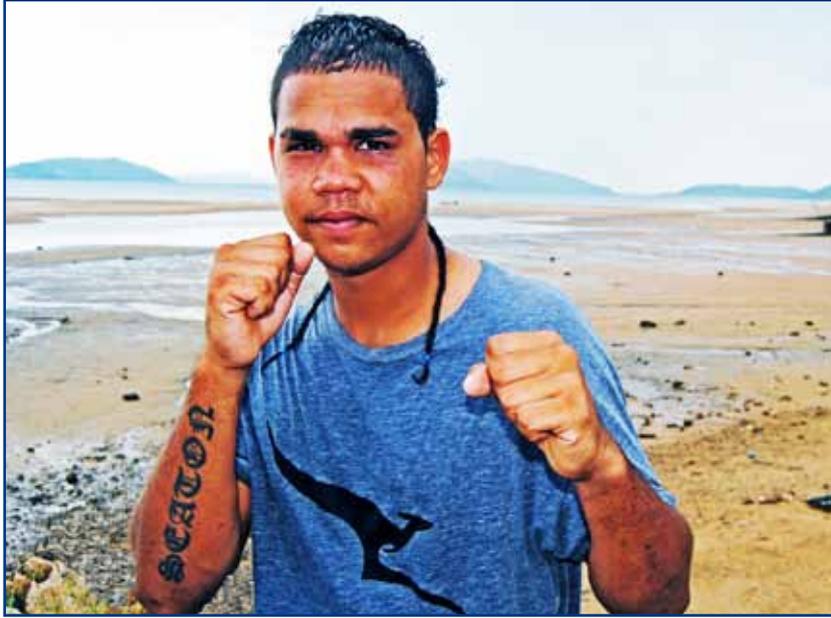
Telstan also defeated Daniel Behan who later went on to represent Australia at the Olympic Games.

Seneva Baira won an Australian Title in 2001 and also was the first Indigenous female to win an Australian Title.

Gerald Wotton won Australian Titles in 2001, 02 and 04.

Pita Bourne also won Australian Titles in those years twice defeating Paul Fleming, who went on to compete at the Olympic Games.

Now well known as a top class Palm rugby league player, Pita also



defeated now quality world ranked professional boxer Fred Mundraby on four occasions.

Pita also defeated Tom Clarke three times and Clarke is now an Australian professional champion. Clinton Palmer and Alec Dennis both won Australian Titles twice. Luke Lenoy started boxing as a 10-year-old and won three Australian Titles and was judged best junior twice.

Selwyn Seaton (*pictured*) who is now training again after a break, won Australian Titles three times and was judged best junior twice.

John Baira had five bouts for five wins and defeated Paul Fleming.

Quality footballer Darryl Pearson, who shone for Hope Vale at the recent Palm Island Allblacks carnival, was also a star boxer.

Maverick Fox was unbeaten in five bouts and was a Queensland champion.

Renowned Palm fisherman Ebanese Oui fought a 27-year-old at the Golden Gloves and received a very bad decision when he was aged 14.

Fred Bulsey, rated amongst the best footballers on Palm, was a top boxer according to Mr Dennis.

"Raymond Haines was a top boxer

and also Charlie Gibson who had a lot of speed and ability," he said.

"Craig Desatge was very unlucky not to win an Australian Title in 2001 and performed well at many tournaments.

"Assan Sam could have been a top boxer if he had kept training.

"Assan fought Mark Flanagan, now a top professional, three times and won once."

Assan Sam defeated Will Tomlinson, who

has just won a World Title, at Gordonvale,

"David Clarke almost beat Fred Mundraby and was unlucky to lose the Australian Title at Tasmania in 2006," he said.

"Noby Clay was the best female boxer and she always gave away weight and won an Australian Titles in 2009, Patrick Clarke and Reggie Palm Island were both Australian champions and two of our very best during the past few years."

Current young boxers who Mr Dennis rates highly include Steen Walsh, Joey Geia, Isaac Bulsey and David Sam.

"David is the Australian Super Heavyweight champion and Isaac did well to win gold at the Australian Golden Gloves," he said.

He said Dennis Haines jnr had started training with his father Dennis Haines snr, and was very talented.

Mr Dennis said there are many talented boxers on Palm who could go on to be National or even World Champions.

"But they must train hard and stay off the alcohol and dope," he said.

"If they become world champions they could be rich and famous."



2012 Palm Island Barracudas Rugby League Allblacks Carnival



POSITIONS VACANT

Land Liaison Officer



The Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council is seeking the services of a highly motivated individual to serve the Council as the Land Liaison Officer.

The position operates in a challenging work environment and applies expert technical knowledge to the allocation of land and related matters dealt with under the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Acts Native Title legislation. The position is specifically responsible for the management of leasing processes associated with the acts; works closely with other departmental functional groups and interacts with peak bodies, community groups, other government agencies and local authorities to achieve its aims.

You will require excellent communication skills and the capability to work in a positive team environment is essential, as well as taking on an autonomous role.

The position is a fixed position for three years. An attractive salary is attached to the position and will be dependent upon experience and qualifications.

Community Project Officer (Sub-Divisions)

The Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council is seeking the services of a highly motivated individual to serve the Council as a Community Project Officer (Sub-Divisions).

This position has three (3) main functions:

- Provide program management and coordination support to PIASC in regard to the implementation of the housing development on Palm Island over the next three years;
- Liaise with the Palm Island community about issues and concerns about the housing program that may arise during planning and implementation stages; and
- Hold a capacity building responsibility across PIASC, Coolgaree CDEP and the local community.

You will require excellent communication skills and the capability to work in a positive team environment is essential, as well as taking on an autonomous role.

The position is a fixed position for two years with a possible extension. An attractive salary is attached to the position and will be dependent upon experience and qualifications. The position is funded by the Australian Government.

For Position Descriptions please contact Andrea Kyle-Sailor, Director Corporate Services, Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council or email andrea.kyle-sailor@palmcouncil.qld.gov.au

Applications should be marked CONFIDENTIAL and in writing with any relevant information to: Ross Norman, Chief Executive Officer, Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council, Palm Island

Applications close: 6th April 2012

Palm Island Voice

Public & Community Notices

Palm Island Voice Public & Community Notices are your best choice for anniversaries, birthdays, Meeting Notices, sales & all your classified needs - and most of them are free!



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Our freight hours for pick up or to drop off at the Palm Island office are from 2.30pm until 4.30pm. If you need to pick up or drop off outside of these hours please speak to Clint on 4770 1011.

Please also be advised that we will not be operating over the Easter period; we will travel on Thursday the 5th of April, and then again on Tuesday the 10th of April.

We wish everyone a safe and happy Easter!

DAY & DAY
SHIPPING



Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council

is closed every second Friday (Council pay week) for RDO.

The next RDO is Friday 30 March.

REMEMBER: the Bank & Post Office now closes each Council RDO (every second week).

For emergencies on Friday please call 0458 789 011

For more information contact Council on 4770 1177

Wishing Tooya Gorringer Happy 7th Birthday for 5th March
Wishing Albert Gorringer Happy 17th Birthday for 13th March
Love from mum Ruth, dad Albert, Hannah, Sondra & your family & friends of Palm Island

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**CONGRATULATIONS
PALM ISLAND VOICE!!!**

Palm Island Barge Company congratulates the Palm Island Voice on its 100th issue - well done!

A very BIG congratulations on the 100th edition of the *Palm Island Voice* from
Phil Peachey, A/g Director,
Department of Communities

Work for the world's largest humanitarian organisation

Engagement Coordinator

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Strategy

Managing the operation of a small Red Cross site office on Palm Island, you will assist in the service delivery of Red Cross programs to the Palm Island community by delivering program outcomes. You'll also form partnerships with service providers located in Townsville to assist the transient population group.

For further information, please visit our careers page at

redcross.org.au

For enquiries, please contact Michelle Deshong on (07) 4759 6159.

Applications close 5pm Monday 2 April.



Australian Red Cross

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Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are strongly encouraged to apply.

Palm Island Voice 2012

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(14 days to pay, invoiced on publication)

18 point (about 1 cm), single colour, include your logo and/or multiple weeks by negotiation with the Editor - only \$99 (+ GST) per page! Your contribution will help us to print extra colour pages and photographs of your favourite sporting team or event as required.

Display Ads

(14 days to pay, invoiced on publication - smaller ads by negotiation with the Editor)

Add 10% for design work and another 20% for a guaranteed colour page in hard copy.

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Quarter A4 Page \$120 + GST Colour \$144 + GST

Classifieds

Items for sale under \$1000 – FREE Public & Community Notices – FREE

Births, Deaths, Marriages, Birthdays – FREE

Sale Price over \$1000 & Other Notices – 4 lines – \$10

Ads are to be booked by no later than 5pm on deadline day and material submitted no later than COB the next day. For more information contact the Editor, Christine Howes, on 0419 656 277 or at chowes@westnet.com.au

SUBSCRIBE!!!

On trial until 1 July 2012, you can now subscribe to the Palm Island Voice in hard copy.

Full year rates will be:

Government: \$200 (from now up to 07/12: \$80)

Community & NGOs: \$120 (up to 07/12: \$50)

Individuals & Families: \$60 (up to 07/12: \$20)

Contact the Editor (details above)

to secure your copies now!!!

The Palm Island Voice is funded and supported by advertising and hard copy sales, and the Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council.

It is printed in Cairns by The Plan Man (4035 6914). Delivery to our Townsville outlets is with thanks to the Palm Island Community Company (PICC) and to Palm Island courtesy of West Wing Aviation.

Please support us so we can continue to support you!

Netball kicking off every week

Every Wednesday from 5.30–7pm the CFF Junior Netball Challenge takes place at the local Palm Island PCYC.

The challenge is run and organised by Deniece Geia (CFF casual staff member), Daphne Lawrence CFF (staff member) and community volunteer Coralie Lawrence. Young people in age groups from 5-8 yrs, 9-12 yrs and 13-16 yrs are encouraged to attend and participate. So far we have two teams playing a weekly challenge.



Captain of the Red Dragons (*above*) is Jayden Morgan and caption of the Blue Dolphins (*also above*) is Mary Fraser. Their challenge is not so much about who is the best netball team, but more encouraging others to come on board, get involved and get physical. The teams have lots of fun and there are mistakes made on court, but that's why we want to encourage parents and guardians to get their children signed up – young people should learn how to play a sport while they are young.

We also want to encourage as many students as possible from both schools to come along and have some fun. No student is turned away, we want to give every child an opportunity to be a part of either the existing teams, or to make up another team – we are not fussed about different suburbs, school or ages, we are here to help your child play some deadly netball and that's it!

If you are interested in helping out or have children and teenagers who want to play netball, please do not hesitate to call Daphne on 4770 1555 or see Deniece at the PCYC.



Come and play in the

Cathy Freeman Foundation

After School

Netball Competition

Any players interested in signing up should visit the Cathy Freeman Foundation office and speak to Daphne Lawrence (0427 637 386) or new coach Deniece Geia.

Age Groups:

5 - 8 years

9 - 12 years

13 - 16 years

WHEN: Every Wednesday 5.00pm - 7.30pm

WHERE: PCYC

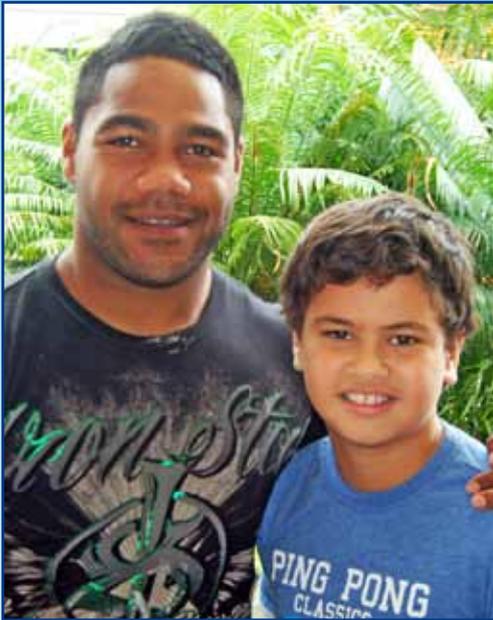
www.cathyfreemanfoundation.org.au

Chris Sandow sends a big 'giddyay' to Palm Island

NRL and Parramatta Eels superstar halfback Chris Sandow - pictured below with a young fan in Townsville last weekend— has sent a big hello to family and friends on Palm Island.

Sandow was a member of the Eels side who somewhat unsuccessfully (42-6) took on the North Queensland Cowboys last Saturday night at Dairy Farmers Stadium.

Barracudas players and supporters looked after Sandow, who is one of their favourite NRL players. Chris played for the Barracudas at the 2010 Bindal Allblacks carnival in Townsville.



Pics by Alf Wilson

Below is Palm Island champion boxer Peter Bonner with world champion Les Sherrington, who was recently in Townsville. For trainer Ray Dennis' top boxing picks over his career here since 1999, see page 5!



Rain? What rain?! Above is Thomas Sarabo, aged 6, and Connor Haines, 7, running the ball during a break at the Palm Island Allblacks Carnival ...more pics pp 6-7...

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Fax 4770 1305 With thanks to Alf Wilson

and to all the Palm Islanders who have contributed to this issue of the *Palm Island Voice*.

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Palm Island Voice

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