DANCERS DO US PROUD

STUDENTS from Warruwi Community School are receiving a rock-star welcome while performing in China as part of the NT Ensemble.

In a life-changing experience, the five talented students travelled to Anhui Province on a performance tour with the NT Music School.

“The boys did Warruwi proud with the big moves and electric energy”

The excursion is the first time Territory students have travelled to China to perform contemporary Australian and traditional Indigenous music and dance.

The five students from Goulburn Island, known as the GBI Super Crew, are travelling and performing with nine other students from Darwin.

Minister for Education Peter Chandler said the students were representing the “unique arts culture” of the Territory.

“A sister-school agreement between the Northern Territory Music School and Tongling Middle School Number 4 was established in 2015 and saw a school group from Tongling perform at the annual Beat Festival last August,” Mr Chandler said.

Sophie, a teacher at Warruwi School, is posting excited Facebook updates back to the crew’s classmates and family on Goulburn Island.

“The GBI super crew are on local Chinese television,” she wrote on 28 April.

“About 4 million people will see them dance. How proud. Yesterday they were treated like superstars by the Chinese students. Strong kids!”

A video shows the crew signing autographs and being mobbed by Chinese students.

Around 2000 students turned out at Tongling school to watch the NT Ensemble perform.

“Although it was a big crowd, the boys did Warruwi proud with the big moves and electric energy,” Sophie wrote.

“They really loved the performance by the boys so much that after the show, they were all bombarded with signings, handshakes and photos from all of the Chinese students – and I was as well!”

NT Music School Principal Andy Mison said the program was designed to give middle school students a high quality professional performing arts experience that would support their study pathways in the arts in senior years.
WHAT’S ON
If you have an upcoming event you would like to see listed in this space please phone Mark at The Wire on 8979 4965 or email wire@westarnhem.nt.gov.au.

On your bike. The 2016 Kakadu Triathlon gets underway from 6am on Saturday 14 May, raising money for the aeromedical charity, CareFlight. Call Leona on 0409 103 893 to volunteer, or come along to Alberto Luglietti Memorial Pool to catch all the action in Jabiru’s hottest sporting spectacle.

WEEKLY
Tuesdays Cricket training Arnhem Oval Jabiru 5.30pm
Jabiru Art & Craft, Youth Centre 7.30pm
Playgroup, Jabiru Courthouse 9.30-11am
Aqua Fitness, Alberto Luglietti Memorial Pool 6.15pm
Wednesdays Junior Soccer, Magela Oval 6pm
Stroke Technique Alberto Luglietti Pool 6.15pm
Primal Fitness & Bootcamp $15 Magela Oval 6.30pm
Thursdays Cricket training Arnhem Oval Jabiru 5.30pm
Aqua Fitness, Alberto Luglietti Memorial Pool 6.15pm
Pick the Joker Jabiru Golf Club 6.30pm
Pool comp $100 Jabiru Golf Club 6.30pm
Membership Draw, Jabiru Sports & Social Club 7.30pm
Fridays Badge draw, raffles, meat trays Jabiru Golf Club
Pool comp $10 entry winner takes all JSSC
Meat tray raffle, JSSC
2nd & 4th Sunday of the month Lunch and Membership Wheel, win meat trays JSSC

MAY
Thu 5 Minjilang Local Authority Meeting 10am
Sat 7 Bubbles and Balls Ladies Luncheon - Ladies have a day off from the kids! Jabiru Golf Club 1pm
Wed 11 WARC Ordinary Council Meeting, Council Chambers Jabiru 7pm
Sat 14 Kakadu Triathlon, Jabiru Pool 6am
Thu 19 NO MORE Family Violence strategy launch, Gunbalanya community
Wed 25 Mothers Day
Wed 25 National Simultaneous Storytime, Jabiru Library 11am
Fri 27 Nominations close 2016 NT Ranger Awards
www.parksandwildlife.nt.gov.au 8999 4555
27 May-3 June National Reconciliation Week

JUNE
Sun 5 World Environment Day
Wed 8 WARC Ordinary Council Meeting, Council Chambers Jabiru 10am
Mon 13 Queen’s Birthday public holiday
Tue 21-Thur 23 Aboriginal Building Connections for our Kids, Gunbalanya 8923 1400
25 June-25 July School holidays

MEET YOUR COUNCILLOR: DAVISON NAVIRRIDJ

COUNCILLOR Davison Navirridj is West Arnhem Regional Council’s longest-serving member.

Better known as Davo to the people of East and West Arnhem Land, he attended an old Oenpelli Mission School before making his way to the big smoke of Darwin, attending Kormilda College Boarding School in 1975.

During his years in Darwin, Davo played Australian Rules football with the mighty yellow and blue, the Mak Mak Wanderers Eagles Football Club, where he was a Vice Captain at Under-16 level for two seasons.

In the 1980s, Davo returned to his home town of Gunbalanya and took up a role as a Community Liaison Health Worker with the NT Medical Health Service. He was energetic in his role and loved helping his fellow countrymen with immunisation and healthy lifestyle practices.

In Gunbalanya, Davo met his beloved wife in Elizabeth Rami, who changed her surname to Nawirridj when they had their first child.

After working for decades at Gunbalanya Clinic, Davo moved to a role at Community Council as Department of Social Security agent where he worked for around 15 years.

Davo was also a council member for old Kunbarllanj Ngunabara and also for Gunbalanya Ward.

In 2012, Davo was re-elected to West Arnhem Regional Council as a Councillor for Gunbalanya Ward.

Cr Davison Nawirridj encourages young school leavers to take up positions at Council so they can become active role models in their community.

He also believes it is important to be involved in culture and ceremony.
The dengue mosquito has never been found in Jabiru, but that doesn’t mean it’s not ready to make itself at home. Each year, medical entomologists carry out a mosquito breeding survey of Jabiru to confirm the absence of the exotic dengue mosquito Aedes aegypti.

The NT is currently free of the dengue mosquito, which can transmit dengue fever, yellow fever and Zika virus. However, there is the potential that this mosquito, which is present in North Queensland, could inadvertently be transported into the NT as eggs in old tyres or other receptacles.

Entomologist Allan Warchot told The Wire that international shipping presented the biggest threat. “There have also been two incursions in six months at Darwin Airport,” he said. “With people travelling in and out of Jabiru there is the potential that the dengue mosquito could spread here.”

Mr Warchot visited Jabiru on 13 - 14 April with technical officer Tomoko Okazaki, collecting mosquito samples for identification. “We try to get to all regional towns once every year, and usually visit Jabiru towards the end of April,” he said.

The mosquito has been found twice in Tennant Creek in the past 12 years, with eradication programs needed to eliminate it.

Aedes aegypti breeds in artificial receptacles in urban backyards – receptacles such as used tyres, buckets, drums, rainwater tanks, roof gutters, bird baths and dog water tubs could provide breeding sites for this species.

“The thing about this species is it only bites people, and only during the daytime, when most people don’t think about covering up against mosquitoes,” he said.

**JABIRU ABUZZ WITH MOZZIE INSPECTIONS**

**LGANT FLOCKS TO KAKADU**

The LGANT conference and general meeting gets underway on Thursday 14 April in the newly renovated Jabiru Community Hall.

Mayors, ministers and special guests flocked to Kakadu in April for the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory conference at the newly renovated Jabiru Community Hall.

West Arnhem Regional Council Mayor Lothar Siebert said the LGANT meeting was a great opportunity to showcase the region’s attractions and Council’s accomplishments.

“In the past few years, Council has made significant achievements, including improved financial stability and probity, and strengthened governance, thanks to the ongoing efforts of our hardworking team of Councillors and staff,” Mayor Siebert said. “We have completed a $220,000 upgrade to the Jabiru Community Hall in time for this meeting, as part of our efforts to reinvigorate Jabiru as a place to be, for both residents and visitors.”

In his opening address, Mayor Siebert welcomed guests to the meeting and thanked the NT Government for its $100,000 contribution to the hall upgrade. “A vibrant and viable Jabiru is crucial to the ongoing provision of core services across West Arnhem, and we trust we have the support of both sides of politics in making this goal a reality.”

Speakers at 14 April meeting included Local Government Minister Bess Price Department of Local Government and Community Services executive director David Willing, Department of Mines and Energy CEO Ron Kelly, with guests from both sides of parliament, including Opposition Leader Michael Gunner.

LGANT President Damien Ryan welcomed the involvement of senior figures from Government and Opposition. “With Federal and Northern Territory elections due this year, it is an opportunity for all sides of politics to outline their plans for local government,” Mayor Ryan said.

He said the 2016 NT election document would be a priority issue at the meeting. Mayor Siebert said the battle for the funding dollar was one that councillors across the NT fought every day.

“At West Arnhem we remain focused on supporting improvements in the areas of health, housing, education and jobs,” he said.

“But without a safe and stable home life, we can make no gains in health, education or jobs, which is why housing – good quality housing backed by ongoing maintenance and improvements – is crucial to the success of our region.”

**ROADS TO RECOVERY FUNDS A GOOD START**

The Federal government’s Roads to Recovery funding will increase by $50 million per year from 2019-20, under the new budget.

But the Australian Local Government Association says more is needed to address a $1.2 billion annual funding shortfall to maintain Australia’s local roads.

Mayor Troy Pickard, President of ALGA, said more needed to be done, especially in regional areas. “Additional investment in local roads must be part of the solution to increasing transport productivity on the nation’s transport network,” Mayor Pickard said.

He said a three-year pause on FAGs indexation in the 2014-15 budget had been “unexpected” and “severe”. “The indication that indexation is expected to return in 2017-18 is welcome,” he said.

“There is a need for continued investment in infrastructure at all levels of government and this should remain a priority for all parties in their upcoming election campaigns.”

The West Arnhem Wire | 1 April - 12 May 2016
OUR NEWEST CITIZEN IS FLYING HIGH

A NZAC Day now holds even greater significance for our newest citizen, Jonathan Clark, who undertook his citizenship ceremony on the special day. Johnny said it was a proud moment.

“I’m so glad I came over for the dawn service in Jabiru, it was a very moving event, and has made today so much more significant to me,” Johnny said.

A qualified pilot, Johnny flew from Gunbalanya with his girlfriend Kara to attend the service and participate in the march.

Born and raised in Edinburgh, Scotland, Johnny completed a degree in his mother country before arriving in Australia in 2007.

Initially working on a holiday visa, he fell in love with Australia – and an Australian girl – and decided to stay and make his life here in Oz.

He received his permanent residency in 2009, and since then has lived in Melbourne, Darwin and Gunbalanya, where he works as a pilot for Gunbalanya Air.

Mayor Lothar Siebert, who presided over the citizenship ceremony, is also Johnny’s employer at Gunbalanya Air.

After singing a robust rendition of Advance Australia Fair, Mayor Siebert congratulated Johnny on his achievement and welcomed him as an Australian Citizen.

Well done Johnny, and welcome.

MYSTERY FROM HISTORY

A PHOTO in the last edition of The Wire (Ed. 345, 11-31 March 2016, page 4) of a Landcruiser crossing a creek has brought a number of replies from our readers.

From Ralph Blyth:

From a reliable source, the photo in The Wire is a NT Conservation Commission Toyota heading back out to the East Alligator.

Where – Magela Crossing North Side looking back towards Jabiru
When – Around 1980
Why – That’s where they lived and worked.

Jim Orum writes:

The photo was taken at the Magela, around 1982, you can see the back of the crocodile warning sign. I think the mob in the Toyota were Pancon employees from Jafa.

I have attached photos of the same place from 1982 and 1984. The stuck car was in 1984 and the others were 1982 when we swam across and walked up through the S bends on the other side.

A lot of people used to go out to the Jafa Country Club to play golf back then.

Jonathan Clark and Kara McDonald.

Another photo taken by Flemming Jensen during his time at Nourlangie Safari Camp (Ed. 345, page 8) shows a Landrover and a timber building on stilts with a staircase at the front. The picture was shared on the Old Darwin facebook page.

Judy Opitz, from England, commented:

That pic noted as Nourlangie Safari Camp is actually the pub/store at Coowinda, the Jim Jim pub on the Jim Jim Crossing which was set up by Tom and myself in the 1960’s. I’m still around but I don’t think there’s much left of the pub from what I hear.

Bill Muirhead:

My son Chris was out there a year or so ago ... It’s still standing, albeit a little worse for wear. He was impressed with the quality of build. Given our “not so sympathetic climate” environment when it comes to old (historical by top end standards) buildings, the fact that it’s still standing is a credit to you and Tom.”

Do you have a snapshot of local history?
Write to wire@westarnhem.nt.gov.au.

The West Arnhem Wire acknowledges the traditional owners of country and their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures, and to elders, past, present and future.

The Wire is the only regular source of news and information in the Kakadu and West Arnhem Land region. More than 800 copies are distributed fortnightly to Jabiru, Warruwi, Minjilang, Maningrida and Gunbalanya.

Our electronic edition goes out to more than 600 individual email addresses across West Arnhem Land.

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The Wire is published by West Arnhem Regional Council. The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect those held by the Council or Councillors.

West Arnhem Regional Council
PO Box 721
JABIRU NT 0886
www.westarnhem.nt.gov.au
Call (08) 8979 9465 or email wire@westarnhem.nt.gov.au to discuss how we can help you spread your messages around West Arnhem Land.

The West Arnhem Wire | 1 April - 12 May 2016
RIO Tinto is ready to bankroll any shortfall in the cost of rehabilitating the Ranger mine, to the tune of $100 million, after ERA entered into a credit facility agreement with Rio, its major shareholder.

In a statement, ERA said the agreement provided assurance to stakeholders that the rehabilitation at Ranger could be fully funded “in a range of business scenarios”.

At its recent Annual General Meeting, ERA said it would “preserve the option” of its 3 Deeps underground project.

ERA Chief Executive Andrea Sutton said any decision would come down to “supply and demand”.

“Ultimately what the board has decided is that we will review the Ranger 3 Deeps project on a periodic basis,” Ms Sutton said.

ERA stopped mining at Ranger in 2012, continuing to process uranium ore as it prepares for the lease expiry date in 2021, with rehabilitation to be completed by 2026.

General Manager Operations Tim Eckersley told The Wire that ERA was confident it would be able to fully fund its rehabilitation obligations.

“The rehabilitation program is estimated to cost $509 million, and we ended 2015 with $433 million in cash reserves,” he said.

“We continue to operate and improve our cash position, and will be processing for another five years.”

Ranger Pit 3 is backfilled with tailings and millions of tonnes of rock in readiness for rehabilitation.

“Tim Eckersley with the dredge ‘Jabiru’ and stainless-steel workboat ‘Mudskipper’ on the tailings dam.”

Tim Eckersley with the dredge ‘Jabiru’ and stainless-steel workboat ‘Mudskipper’ on the tailings dam.

“Ranger Pit 3 is backfilled with tailings and millions of tonnes of rock in readiness for rehabilitation.”

Ranger Pit 3 is backfilled with tailings and millions of tonnes of rock in readiness for rehabilitation.

“‘The objective of rehabilitation is so Ranger could be incorporated into Kakadu National Park.’”

“Traditional Owners of the Ranger area, the Mirarr, welcomed ERA’s announcement of its credit agreement with Rio Tinto.

Senior Mirarr traditional owner Yvonne Margarula said she was happy that ERA was listening.

“It has taken a long time and we have had to argue a lot, but they are doing the right thing now,” Ms Margarula said.

Gundjeihmi Aboriginal Corporation Chief Executive Justin O’Brien said it was important to note that the credit facility could be terminated by ERA.

The agreement will also automatically terminate if ERA makes any expenditure on 3 Deeps without Rio’s consent, other than for care and maintenance.

Mr Eckersley said while ERA has stated there will be no development of Jabiluka without approval of the Traditional Owners, the company had not ruled out further development at Ranger.

“However the Atomic Energy Act would need to be amended to allow the Ranger Authority to extend beyond 2021, and no government would do that without the approval of the Traditional Owners,” he said.

“However the Atomic Energy Act would need to be amended to allow the Ranger Authority to extend beyond 2021, and no government would do that without the approval of the Traditional Owners,” he said.
Nourlangie Safari Camp, here is 9SLK
Is anybody listening? (My radio code)

From the Diaries of Flemming Jensen 1968-1969

In the previous episode, Flemming struggled to put food on the table, or even under the table for five hungry dogs ...

Tuesday 4th February 1969

I would go hunting today. First of all the dogs are starving and secondly I would like to show that I could catch a buffalo on my own!

Unfortunately I had to listen to the radio in the morning. I can only receive because I do not have enough power to send and since there was nothing to do before nine o’clock I took off.

It was raining heavily and I was hoping for better weather. I drove as far as I could and then had to continue on foot.

We had probably gone a couple of hours (I had Patra with me) and I was about to turn back when I suddenly saw a buffalo. It was quite far away but I took my chance. I hit it but it was only wounded.

Then came a frantic hunt with Patra first and I rushed behind.

Before it was finished I had used eight cartridges. Two shots in the lungs, one shot in the stomach, one in the leg and one in the heart and finally a shot in the neck. Two shots were misses. I must admit that it was a big fellow.

There is a strange sense of relief and triumph when the animal goes down.

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There is a strange sense of relief and triumph when the animal goes down.

There is a strange sense of relief and triumph when the animal goes down.

While we were on our way a second buffalo nearly frightened the life out of me. If I had my rifle it would have been alright but I have left it at the car. I decided not to bring it when I should carry the meat the long way back.

This new buffalo was probably only about ten metres from me. Luckily it was more surprised than me and fled after a few seconds of indecision. I kept Patra. I dared not let him run.

After cutting up the buffalo, I came home through mire and mud with about thirty kilos of meat on my back. It nearly took my breath away.

We were home around five pm so it has been a hard day’s hunting in the bush. But it was worth it!

The dogs seem to be happy in any case. Looking at their stomachs they could roll after they were fed.

Wednesday 5th February

It has rained nearly all day so I have limited my activities to a minimum.

The Aborigines never seem to be busy I have been told and I have not seen the opposite yet.

In the afternoon I fixed the boats. They must regularly be pulled further up and emptied of water. Afterwards I tried to start the water pump but it would not start. It must have been the water. On the way to the water pump I heard a crocodile roar nearby. That was also one of the reasons that I’m not messing too much with the pump. The crocodile was maybe hungry and I was not armed.

With Allan still away in Darwin, Flemming continues his hunt for food in the next episode.

Reproduced with permission: Kakadu National Park Cultural Heritage & Biodiversity Management Unit.

Flemming Jensen with a termite mound.

There is a strange sense of relief and triumph when the animal goes down.

They get their rations all year round, twice a week. If it was not arranged in this way they would never get something to eat I think! Or any way, it is only twice a week when they receive their ‘retirement goods!’ They do not know how to ration. They use what they have and do without until they get something again.

I give them flour, sugar, rice, baking powder, tea, tobacco, jam matches and dried milk. On Sundays they also get a couple of beers. This day they for sure always turn up! Besides this they are getting cornflakes, cigarette paper and various other things fortnightly. I gave myself a good time.

With Allan still away in Darwin, Flemming continues his hunt for food in the next episode.

Reproduced with permission: Kakadu National Park Cultural Heritage & Biodiversity Management Unit.
WARRUWI TURNS OUT AND TUNES IN

WARRUWI 106.1FM is back on the airwaves providing local news and giving residents of South Goulburn Island a voice in their community.

The station has been off-air following the retirement of long-serving broadcaster Solomon Imerganyan late last year.

The 15 April relaunch of the station was a great success, with more than 100 local residents turning out for celebrations that included traditional dancing, a radio raffle, and a free barbecue hosted by West Arnhem Regional Council and Yagbani Aboriginal Corporation.

Pastor Billy Nawaloimba opened proceedings with welcoming prayers, after which Member for Arafura Francis Xavier Kurrupuwu and community leaders addressed the crowd.

WARC’s new Broadcasting Officer Darren Narul joined with TEABBA radio’s Bernard Namok Jnr (Bala B) to broadcast the morning’s proceedings live to some 29 communities around the Top End.

“The response and assistance I received from the community has been amazing,” Darren said.

Media Coordinator Mark Coddington and Francis Kurrupuwu MLA drew prizes of personal radio sets for students.

Mark thanked elders and traditional owners for supporting the event.

“A very special thanks must go to Solomon Imerganyan for his outstanding service to radio broadcasting in Warruwi over the past four decades,” he said.

WARC acknowledges the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet for their support of local radio services through their Indigenous Advancement Strategy.
ON Saturday 30 April, Kakadu National Park and West Arnhem Regional Council hosted “Welcome to the Dry Season”, a free event to mark the official reopening of the Jabiru Community Hall to the public.

Doors opened at 11am onto live entertainment, free balloon twisting and fire truck rides for the kids, Indigenous artworks and demonstrations, a Kakadu National Park information display, market stalls and more.

Throughout April, locals and visitors alike enjoyed the opportunity to learn about seasonal bush foods, participate in painting and weaving demonstrations and enjoy walks with local Bininj/Mungguy, the traditional occupants who have lived in harmony with this ancient natural landscape for 50,000 years.

Member for Arafura Francis Xavier Kurrupuwu MLA cut a ceremonial ribbon to re-open the hall on the day, which Council has renovated at a cost of $240,000.

WARC thanks Mr Kurrupuwu and Minister Peter Styles for their support, and the NT Government’s $100,000 contribution to the hall renovations.

Thanks also to the WARC works crew, Kakadu National Park for co-hosting the event, Mercure Kakadu Crocodile Hotel, the Children’s Ground arts team for their work on the burarr mural, Sonia Bochow and Phil O’Brien for the entertainment, Matt De Sair and Valentin Markez for cooking the snags, all the stallholders.

**SEE PHOTOS, PAGE 13**

**KATHERINE ATTACK A CROCWISE REMINDER**

A YOUNG man is lucky to be alive after he survived a crocodile attack in the Douglas Daly region north of Katherine.

Peter Rowsell told hospital staff that a crocodile had bitten him on the foot on Monday 25 April while he was camping with his family about 15 metres from a river.

The croc then dragged him out of his tent.

Peter Rowsell, 19, was attacked by a crocodile at Palm Creek north of Katherine - PHOTO SUPPLIED

“The dry season is upon us, more and more people will venture out to camp in the wonderful places in the Top End and we urge campers to Be Crocwise at all times.

“There is no room for complacency when it comes to crocodiles.”

**RANGER EXCHANGER**

**WELCOME** to the second edition of the Ranger Exchanger.

It’s been great to see people around town running, biking or in the pool training for the Kakadu Triathlon next month.

Not only is the triathlon great motivation to get active, it’s also an event that brings the whole community together.

At Ranger Mine we have health and safety programs, processes and policies to ensure that everyone goes home safe to their families, every day.

Safety is a core value for our business.

**Sports and social activities help us all lead a healthy balanced lifestyle**

Good mental health and wellbeing in and outside of work, and being active community members are also fundamental for maintaining a safe workforce.

Access to community sports and social activities like the Kakadu Triathlon help us all lead a healthy balanced lifestyle.

And there are certainly lots of activities to get involved with. The Jabiru Biathlon is coming up and there’s no shortage of boot camps, netball games or golf tournaments around town.

Following the Jabiru Bombers, especially our employees in the team, was a highlight throughout the wet season.

Well done to the Jabiru Biathlon team for making it to the preliminary final. Last month we welcomed 50 Indigenous young footy players to Ranger Mine as part of the AFL Rio Tinto Footy Means Business program.

We are really proud to support this initiative. The program included elite training and coaching, networking and professional development as well as cultural and educational activities - it’s one of those once-in-a-lifetime opportunities for the participants.

Congratulations to the couple of talented young local players who were selected to join the programme.

Selection wasn’t just based on their footy skills on the field, but also because of how they engage with their communities and their potential to serve as positive role models.

With the dry season upon us I hope you all take the chance to get outdoors and keep active.

I look forward to seeing some familiar faces at our upcoming community events.
HOME AND FAMILY CLOSE TO THE HEART OF OUR SAFE HOUSE TEAM LEADER

TEAM Leader at the Gunbalanya Women’s Safe House, Analam Gamarrawu, has previously worked at Gunbalanya School and as Community Safety Officer with the Night Patrol, was educated in Gunbalanya.

She spent two years at a boarding college in Darwin, but couldn’t wait to get back home.

Analam loves her children and her grandchildren, and says one of her favourite things is to watch them play and grow up.

Analam lives in Middle Camp with her husband Mathew, her son and his wife, and three grandchildren. An older granddaughter also lives in Gunbalanya with her husband in Banyan camp.

Analam’s daughter Loraine lives with her husband and six children on Goulburn Island, and while they do visit each other, Analam says she would like to see them more often.

Analam remembers living with her husband and children in her younger years with her mum and dad on her father’s land, Coopers Creek, where they spent their days hunting, fishing, swimming and telling stories.

The kids went to school were picked up for school in the morning by Steve Etherington, and returned in the afternoon.

After her father passed away, the family returned to Gunbalanya, going back for visits to camp on the beach with the grandchildren.

Analam remembers when horses roamed freely in the community, and buffalo on the outskirts, and says it’s sad not to see that anymore.

West Arnhem Regional Council is lucky to have Analam, who has a real passion for helping women and children, at the Safe House.

“It’s good to be able to work here so I can help, and we can all feel safe,” Analam says.

She is currently working on bringing the strong women of Gunbalanya together, organising ongoing regular meetings for the women to find a strong voice and to be supportive of each other in the community.

LEST WE FORGET: ANZAC DAY 2016

Petty Officer Tuwaga Tikoinavuli, former Able Cook with HMAS Waterhen and HMAS Success Sandy Beaumont, Able Seaman Joshua Hodge and Anzac Day guest speaker CPO Scott Dawson.

Nate and Chloe lay an Anzac Day wreath on behalf of Jabiru Area School.

Setting out on the Commemorative March from Jabiru Town Plaza to Lake Jabiru Park.

Christian, Tracey and Sorell Diddams with Anzac cookies.

Former Royal Australian Corps of Transport Private Joshua Heatlie.

Janet Thomson with grandfather Bruce Lloyd’s medals.

Dom Cotell, Malachi Allen, Haydn De Sair and Jarrah Kamholtz raised the flags at the Dawn Service in Jabiru.

5th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment soldiers Private Aaron Brady, Private Liam Coghlan, Corporal Jackson Pearson, Private Dylan Tunner and Private To’Mekas Torr at Lake Jabiru Park.
Myrtle rust is in the NT
Help keep it out of Kakadu

What is Myrtle Rust?
Myrtle Rust *Uredo rangellii* is a fungal disease that attacks and kills plants in the Myrtaceae family (including paperbarks, eucalypts, allosyncarpia ‘an-binik’, syzygiums ‘bush apples’ and turkey bush).

Growing tips, leaves, young stems, fruits and flowers are attacked by the small brown spots, which turn bright yellow/orange and powdery after a few days.

Myrtle Rust poses a serious risk to Kakadu’s native plants and ecosystems - including bush food and medicine plants.

Let’s keep Myrtle Rust out of Kakadu!
Myrtle Rust arrived in the Tiwi Islands, NT, in May 2015 - by November 2015 it had spread to the Darwin region. Myrtle Rust has the potential to spread to Kakadu – but we don’t want it here!

The disease could spread on clothing, vehicles, equipment and on infected plants brought in to Kakadu from Darwin or east coast Australia. Stay away from infected plants.

If you think you’ve seen Myrtle Rust in your garden or in the bush...

1. **DO NOT TOUCH, DISTURB OR REMOVE IT.** It can easily get onto your clothes and spread.
2. **Record its location, take a photo if possible** (without touching it).
3. **Call Kakadu National Park to investigate.**

Contact
Anthony Mann
Threatening Processes Officer,
Park HQ, Jabiru
8938 1175 or 8938 1100

Credit Northern Territory Government
SMARTER THAN THE AVERAGE QUOLL

TEN ‘toad-smart’ quolls have been released in Kakadu as part of a three-year project to repopulate the threatened species in the park.

Threatened Species Commissioner Gregory Andrews travelled to Kakadu to help release the quolls with Traditional Owners Bessie Colleman and Mick Markham and their families, Kakadu National Park rangers, scientists from UTS: University of Technology Sydney, The University of Melbourne, and Northern Territory Parks and Wildlife staff.

“We released the quolls after dark and I slept out in a swag with them on Elder Bessie Colleman’s country,” Mr Andrews said.

“After seeing well over 100 cane toads hopping around, with one even getting under my work mate Oliver’s swag, we were feeling quite concerned during the night. But in the morning it was like Christmas. Early signs were that the quolls’ training had worked.”

Using radio tracking, scientists and Kakadu rangers confirmed none of the quolls had eaten a cane toad and all had found safe hiding places for the day.

The quolls, from Astell Island, were trained to avoid eating poisonous cane toads at the Territory Wildlife Park.

“The project is part of a $750,000 Threatened Species Strategy to make Kakadu safe again for native animals and plants.

“Quolls are an iconic carnivorous Australian marsupial and an incredibly important part of our ecosystem,” Mr Andrews said.

“By teaching the quolls not to eat cane toads and making Kakadu safe for them from feral cats, we can ensure their survival in this important world heritage-listed area.”

Parks Australia, Director of National Parks, Sally Barnes said the research at Kakadu National Park had shown that each generation of quolls learnt to avoid cane toads.

“We are thinking this will only need to be done once to protect quoll populations from cane toads as each generation learns to avoid them,” Ms Barnes said.

“The Kakadu research shows us that ‘toad-smart’ quolls can be reintroduced after a cane toad invasion.”

ON THE ROAD AGAIN

Alfred Gawaraidj, Mickey Yalbarr, Terri Nami, Richard Narwirr and Albert Nawaraidj from Council’s works crew in filling potholes in Warruwi on 20 April. Council Service Manager Kupa Teao says he has been getting positive feedback from the community about the work the crew are doing.

One of Kakadu’s smart quolls getting behind in his paperwork. PHOTO: DAMIEN STANIOCH
Be Bat Aware

Do NOT touch bats

Australian bat lyssavirus is a virus similar to rabies that can be fatal to humans.

All Australian bats have the potential to carry lyssavirus.

1. If bitten or scratched by a bat: Wash wound with soap and water; apply antiseptic
2. Bat saliva in contact with eyes, nose or mouth: Rinse well with water
3. Contact the Centre for Disease Control or Jabiru Health Clinic for treatment: 8979 2018
4. If you find a bat on the ground, contact West Arnhem Regional Council: 8979 9444

Contact your nearest Centre for Disease Control

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<tr>
<th>DARWIN</th>
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For more information visit:
www.health.nt.gov.au/Centre_for_Disease_Control/Publications/CDC_Factsheets
THE media spotlight turned to the wilds and wonders of Kakadu recently, as Kakadu Tourism hosted an event marking the 30th anniversary of the movie Crocodile Dundee.

The $8 million film, released in Australian cinemas on 30 April 1986, was an immediate success, grossing some A$400 million globally.

Crocodile Dundee showcased some of Kakadu’s most spectacular landscapes including Ubirr, Nourlangie and Gunlom, along with the region’s Aboriginal culture and the rich wildlife, particularly its saltwater crocodiles.

Chair of Kakadu Tourism Rick Allert said conditions were perfect for a major revival in tourism to Kakadu.

“A relatively dry ‘wet’ season has meant that most of the Park’s attractions will be open from May, which is about a month earlier than usual,” Mr Allert said.

“We also have the advantage of Kakadu’s most popular gateway city – Darwin – being far more accessible in terms of accommodation.”

He said the past three years had seen a scarcity of rooms and high prices because of major resources projects.

“But these are now virtually at an end and there is far more accommodation available.

“In the 30 years since Crocodile Dundee was released, tourism infrastructure such as roads, accommodation and tour programs have made visiting Kakadu much easier, but what hasn’t changed is the unique landscape and indigenous character of the region.

“It is still one of the most remarkable and beautiful attractions in Australia.”

Mick Dundee and friend.
HELLO family and friends,

April has been a busy month, with Parliamentary Sittings, time spent travelling to Pirlangimpi and Milikapiti and a trip to Jabiru and Warruwi.

We have two big elections later this year, in the Territory and Federally, and I look forward to working with my communities and government colleagues in these coming months.

Being in Warruwi for the relaunch of Warruwi Local Radio was a great opportunity to see and hear the positive work happening across this community.

I visited the cyclone shelter, had dinner at the Aged Care facility and was pleased to be able to make a donation to Warruwi school to support five kids showcase their musical talents – in China!

Thanks Warruwi for your warm welcome.

I will be at the Jabiru Community Hall for the re-opening day and market on the 30th April, and then travel to Gunbalanya and Maningrida in early May.

I look forward to catching up with many of you.

In the meantime please do not hesitate to contact my Electorate Office on 0429 919 539.

My office has a part-time position available now in Maningrida. Contact my office if you are interested.

FRANCIS XAVIER KURRUPUWU

MLA

A MESSAGE FROM THE MEMBER FOR ARAFURA

REUBEN MUNMURULU

Centrelink Agent employed by Council, says he enjoys helping people in his role and mentoring others on the computer.

Barbara Gurwalwal and Joyce Djogibar complete Aged Care training in Gunbalanya with West Arnhem Regional Council, one of the region’s largest employers.

Francis makes a donation to Warruwi students travelling to China with NT Music School.

Francis with the construction crew at the new cyclone shelter in Warruwi.

The cyclone shelter, on the school grounds in Warruwi, is almost complete.

West Arnhem Wire - Fortnightly news in brief from Jabiru, Gunbalanya, Maningrida, Warruwi and Minjilang

SKILLED UP IN WEST ARNHEM

Barbara Gurwalwal and Joyce Djogibar complete Aged Care training in Gunbalanya with West Arnhem Regional Council, one of the region’s largest employers.

Francis with the construction crew at the new cyclone shelter in Warruwi.

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LIVE & WORK

ARNHEM LAND & KAKADU

- Building Supervisor – Gunbalanya
  Full Time – Accommodation available
  Applications close 8 am Tuesday, 3 May 2016

- Electrician – Gunbalanya or Maningrida
  Full Time – Accommodation available
  Applications close 8 am Monday, 9 May 2016

- Media Coordinator – Jabiru
  Full Time - Accommodation available
  Applications close 8 am Monday, 9 May 2016

- Community Safety Assistants x 2 – Minjilang
  Casual - No accommodation available
  Applications close 8 am Monday, 30 May 2016

- Community Safety Assistants x 2 – Warruwi
  Casual - No accommodation available
  Applications close 8 am Monday, 30 May 2016

To apply:
Visit website below or phone 08 8982 9522
www.westarnhem.nt.gov.au/employment
Email completed application to vacancy@westarnhem.nt.gov.au

Indigenous people are encouraged to apply
PHIL O’Brien, the filmmaker behind ‘On Tour and Lookin for a Feed’, is back with another low-budget blockbuster, ‘Crazy Days at the Old Brumby Moon’.

After a conflict at a local pub while trying to drink Darwin dry, an outback drifter who has played it hard for way too long finally tries to pick up the pieces of his life.

Heading back out bush to start life again, returning to his one-horse home town of Corrella Springs, he has a chance to right a few wrongs.

But it is never going to be easy.

Filmed amongst the rustic charm of Mount Bundy Station, this comedy-drama has more twists and turns than two snakes having sex on a rocky ridge.

It has its gala premiere in Darwin, and Phil O’Brien says everyone can come along for free.

“It’s rated E for just a bloody Epic,” Phil says.

“It’s a low-budget film with a generous sprinkling of dry Aussie humour. Possibly drier than that old bit of pie crust you found under the seat of your car.”

Along with David Gulpilil, Daniel Tapp, and a character-driven cast, Phil and the crew filmed at Mount Bundy on a $4000 crowd-funded budget that makes Burke and Wills look like two-man syndicate on a lottery-winning bender.

“The cast and crew thrived on optimism and were dedicated to the task of churning out another cracker,” Phil said, describing the process as a bit like “climbing Mt Everest in thongs”.

A real celebration of low-budget Territory filmmaking, Crazy days at the Old Brumby Moon premiers at BCC Cinemas in Mitchell Street, Darwin, 7pm Wednesday 4 May. Admission is free.
Joint Management Officer

Location: Kakadu National Park HQ, NT
Position number: NT07
Salary package: PO2 ($59,439 - $69,456 pa) + entitlements
Contract term: 3 years

The Joint Management Officer Kakadu plays a key role in providing park-based capacity for the Northern Land Council to effectively perform its statutory functions and obligations to represent the interests of Aboriginal traditional owners, in relation to the use and management of Kakadu National Park (KNP).

You will be required to undertake consultations with traditional owners and other affected Aboriginal groups to ascertain and express their wishes with respect to the management, conservation and development of KNP. This will include planning, prioritising and the recording of consultation processes and outcomes for Park management development programs and projects.

The successful applicant will possess demonstrated professional competence in natural resource management, ecology, park management, cultural heritage protection, tourism or related fields in a cross-cultural context. Relevant tertiary qualifications and/or acceptability for membership of relevant professional organisations is desirable.

Applicants must have the ability to effectively liaise, engage and foster collaborative working relationships with internal and external stakeholders, including government agencies, commercial interests, Indigenous agencies and groups. Demonstrated communication, negotiation and problem-solving skills, with the ability to provide advocacy, advice and assistance to traditional owners and other Aboriginal people and to represent the NLC in park-related forums is required.

Knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal culture and society and the issues affecting Aboriginal people in the Northern Territory is essential, as is a Driver’s licence and the willingness to travel to remote areas.

Contact Person: Crag Carttling (08) 8920 5190
Applications close COB Monday 16 May 2016

To Apply:
Applications must address all selection criteria, an Application Pack can be downloaded from our website www.nlc.org.au or contact HR at jobs@nlc.org.au or call (08) 8920 5135 or (08) 8920 5100. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are encouraged to apply.

A strong voice for Aboriginal people across the Top End of the Northern Territory
GUNBALANYA’S YOUTHFUL EXPERIENCE

By Andrew Wainwright

WITH National Youth Week being held across Australia in the middle of April, six boys and four girls from Gunbalanya travelled to Darwin for the week-long celebration.

Team Health, West Arnhem Regional Council and Adjumarllr Aboriginal Corporation worked collaboratively with event facilitators Anglicare to provide the kids with an action-packed week of educational activities and fun.

The ten youths arrived in Darwin to meet up with Anglicare who generously bought them new shoes and clothes, which instantly brought a smile to their faces.

This was followed by fish and chips at the wharf before an early night after the exhausting three-hour drive.

On the second day the group headed to Anglicare headquarters to paint a couch for the following day’s Couch Surfing Event, which highlights the issue of youth homelessness.

The couch was creatively spraypainted with local animals such as long neck turtles, magpie geese, barramundi and file snakes, with an excellent depiction of the escarpment and billabongs of the stone country.

This was followed by a visit to TEEABA, where they were shown the processes of running a radio station.

A couple of the students also had a shout out to family and friends on air.

The main event, held on Wednesday, involved youth groups from all over the NT in the renowned Couch Surfing Race, where painted couches on wheels take to the streets.

Gunbalanya’s two teams put a good showing, but were unfortunately just pipped at the post in the final.

The students were treated to a night of laser tag, bowling and video games.

The following day included visits to the Northern Land Council, the Council for Aboriginal Alcohol Program Services, Danila Dilba men’s and women’s clinics, and NAAJA for some very informative and educational discussions with staff.

Anglicare then generously bought dinner at the Waterfront for everyone on the trip.

The final day comprised of a visit to Headspace to talk about youth mental health before the kids were set free for shopping at Casuarina Mall before the drive back to community.

All the Gunbalanya kids had a fantastic trip which saw plenty of laughter and smiles.

ON AIR: Hagar Naborlborhl and Lauren Manakgu live on TEEABA radio.

SURF’S UP: Gunbalanya kids with their entry painted and up ready to go in the Couch Surfing Race.

SMOOTH SAILING FOR CROKER PLAYGROUND

THE children’s playground on Croker Island is ready for the dry season, with the local works crew hoisting a shade sail back into place on Thursday 28 April.

West Arnhem Regional Council Service Manager in Minjilang, Trent Marshall, thanked local contractors for their help with the task.

“We received a great deal of assistance from MG Electrical contractors who were redoing the electrical lines throughout Minjilang,” Mr Marshall said.

At a meeting last year, Minjilang Local Authority members decided to spend their funding allocation of $44,000 on the new shade sail, with WARC contributing $34,316 to meet the balance of the costs for the nine-pole structure.

Vehicle registration and reminders made easy

Download the free NT REGO app to your smartphone/tablet for a faster and easier way to pay your rego and receive renewal reminders.

For more information visit mvr.nt.gov.au
Asset Disposal
Invitation to Make an Offer

Site: Kakadu National Park

Equipment: Various see items listed below

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<th>Reference No.</th>
<th>Description of Equipment</th>
<th>VIN / Serial No / Registration Plate.</th>
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<td>3468</td>
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<tr>
<td>4226</td>
<td>880 litre Denyer fire unit Located at South Alligator Ranger Station</td>
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Condition: As is, where is. Condition Reports available on request
Requirements: Buyer is responsible for all costs associated with collection and removal of equipment from the Site.
Collection Date: On receipt of payment, within 7 days of advise of successful offer
Offers: Interested parties must email their offers, referencing the Equipment they wish to purchase and including details of Purchase Price, to the Contact Officer before the Closing Time.
Inspections: 10am -12pm the 9th May 2016
Closing Time: 2pm the 13th May 2016
Contact Officer: Geoff Paterson
Phone: 08 89381100
Email: KNPTenders@environment.gov.au

Additional information:
Registrations on all vehicles has expired
West Arnhem Regional Council’s Sport and Recreation crew teamed up with Basketball NT’s Michael McLean in May to host basketball clinics in Maningrida.

Sport and Recreation Coordinator Seide Ramadani said more than 30 youngsters turned up to take part in two days of drills.

“They learned techniques in everything from lay ups to dribbling and shooting,” she said.

“Michael also ran some of the participants through the Level 0 umpiring and coaching.”

These clinics were made possible thanks to the support of Department of Sport and Recreation.

Maningrida School generously provided the basketball courts for the workshops.

Jabiru Mobile Collection Day

Saturday, 7th of May 2016

FROM: 9AM TO 12PM

Cash in your beverages containers for 10 CENT REFUND at Jabiru Shopping Facility (car park near public toilet), containers with 10cent refund printed only are eligible.

1800 RESPECT
NATIONAL SEXUAL ASSAULT, DOMESTIC FAMILY VIOLENCE COUNSELLING SERVICE
KAKADU triathlon

SATURDAY 14 MAY 2016
JABIRU, NORTHERN TERRITORY

Distance: Swim 250m / Bike 10km / Run 2.5km
Age: 14 and over (14-17 Junior / 18 above Open)
Categories: Junior and Open. Enter as an individual or team of 2 or 3
Registration opens: Tuesday 1 March.
Registration closes: Monday 9 May
Cost: $30 per person. All money raised goes to Careflight.
Hurry and register—limited number of entries.

FOR INFO GO TO: facebook.com/KakaduTriathlon

The West Arnhem Wire | 1 April - 12 May 2016
GUNBALANYA FOOTBALL COMPETITION KICKS OFF

By Jiorja McGrady and Shenea Mason

OVER the weekend of 16-17 April the Gunbalanya football competition got underway.

On Saturday, Middle Camp Lions played Arkulukk Magpies to start the season.

The match was great, with the Magpies coming out on top with a win.

On Sunday the Banyon Hawks played the Injalak Dockers.

It was a thriller but in the end Hawks won. Hawks full forward Angelo Lungguy said, “The game was played hard and fast in hot conditions but we still got the win.”

His excellent four-goal last quarter saw his team over the line.

Many of the community members came to the watch the games and enjoyed the close competition.

On 23-24 April, Banyon will take on Middle Camp and Arkulukk will tackle the Injalak Dockers.

SEEKING KAKADU’S DEADLIEST RUNNERS

By Jiorja McGrady and Shenea Mason

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GUNBALANYA SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB

YOUR LICENSED COMMUNITY CLUB!

- Bar hours
  - Tues & Wed 4:30 - 7:30pm
  - Fri & Sat 5:30 - 8:30pm
- Closed Sun, Mon & Thurs
- Snack food available all times
- Hamburgers and steaks Fri & Sat
- Mid-strength & light beers, soft drink juices & water
- 9 clean & tidy self-contained units

At the second Uluru Deadly Fun Run try-outs on Thursday April 21 are Caylis Perik, Caramon Khaisir, timekeeper Richard McArthur, Jordan Waterbury, Patrick O’Brien, Indigenous Marathon Project squad member and organiser Emma Cameron, Rodney Nagawalli, Emily Peterson, Kakadu Deadly Runners co-founder Patricia Miller and (front) support runner Ella O’Brien.

The search is on for our best marathon runners: a male and female champion who can represent Kakadu at the Deadly Fun Run Series Championships in June in Uluru.

Potential candidates who stretched their legs at a series of try-outs in April did so under the watchful gaze of Indigenous Marathon Project (IMP) squad member Emma Cameron.

Emma, who in 2012 was one of 12 Indigenous runners selected as part of the IMP 2012 New York City Marathon squad, said this was the first time Kakadu had looked to enter the Deadly Fun Run.

She said the first round of time trials had three try-outs with two support runners.

“The majority in the first round were girls, and this time we have five boys, so it’s working out well,” Emma said.

Co-founder of Indigenous running group Kakadu Deadly Runners, Patricia Miller, said it was encouraging to see family members at the try-outs.

“There has been a real show of dedication and support from families, and when we told runners to lift in the final stages they came in really well, posting some good times,” Patricia said.

Emma said the Deadly Fun Run was an IMP initiative.

“Every year they put out the expression of interest for 18 to 30-year-olds to train for the New York Marathon,” she said.

She said selectors were not just looking for fast runners, but athletes who had the necessary determination and commitment.

IMP Director Robert De Castella said he was surprised by the lack of Indigenous representation in distance running.

“The response we’ve had demonstrates this latent interest in marathon running,” he said.

“I think we have the potential of identifying some real talent.”

Emma Cameron and Emily Peterson put in the hard yards around Brockman Oval in the try-outs.
FOOTY MEANS BUSINESS IN JABIRU

JABIRU local Mickitja Rotumah-Onus was one of the standout Territorians in the Footy Means Business first development program for 2016, according to coach Aaron Davey.

“Mickitja certainly has a bright future and hopefully he goes down south this winter and continues his footy because he has got a positive future ahead of him,” Davey said.

Along with fellow Jabiru recruits Jaylen Blyth, Rodney Nagawalli and Justin Cooper, Mickitja will have the chance to play in the curtain-raiser match to Dreamtime at The MCG on Saturday May 28.

The game at The G is the culmination of the Footy Means Business training program, a partnership between Rio Tinto and the AFL in which a squad of 50 Indigenous men undertake training and development, as well as educational and cultural activities including visits to Jabiru and Kakadu National Park.

AFL Diversity Manager Ali Fahour said the young men benefited from being part of the program, which focuses on development and talent opportunities.

The squad’s NT visit culminated with a game Tiwi Islands game on Sunday 21 March. The footy players, aged 18 to 24, were split into two teams to play an intra-squad match on Wednesday 16 March at TIO Stadium before taking on a squad made up from The Recruit, a reality TV series, prior to the Tiwi Islands Football League grand final.

Davey said Rotumah-Onus, who plays for Nightcliff in the NTFL, more than held his own in the match.

“Mickitja Rotumah-Onus has been excellent and played on a couple of real big boys from The Recruit which is good for his development,” Davey told the NT News.

“It is a win-win for all, these camps are amazing from a learning perspective.”

Aqua Fitness

AT JABIRU POOL

TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS 6.15 - 7.00 PM

COST PER PASS (10 SESSIONS):
$50 if you already have a Jabiru pool season pass
$80 if you don’t (includes entry + 10 Aqua Fitness sessions)
OR: $10 per casual entry and Aqua Fitness session

POOL ENTRY TO PARTICIPANTS ONLY

STARTS TUESDAY 8 MARCH

The Maningrida Swimming Pool crew, Ron and Leroy, ran extended hours over the April school break.

The kids in Maningrida had a great time splashing around, playing games and cooling off in the heat.

Jabiru Pool has also been running a variety of holiday programs for families to enjoy. From 2-20 May, West Arnhem Regional Council will be refurbishing the concrete around the Maningrida Pool and installing a new shade structure, during which time the pool will be closed to the community.

Ron and Leroy will take the opportunity during this time to paint the walls in the bathrooms and remove graffiti throughout the facility. Great work guys!