

Cleantech, green industry may hold keys to recovery

IDEAS about how cleantech and green industries could hold the key to economic recovery were put forward yesterday at a Wanneroo Business Association breakfast.

In his talk "making sense of the green tidal wave", Yanchep Beach Joint Venture economic development advisor Ian Martinus looked at the importance of green industries to the future of the US economy and compared it to opportunities in WA, including "greenfield" developments such as Yanchep and Two Rocks.

He said WA could follow the example of states in the US that were using their coastlines to maximise energy from wind and wave power.

Big cleantech facilities in the US were being funded through public and private sources. More money needed to

be invested in green start-ups and to bring ideas researched and developed by WA universities to market.

Dr Martinus said initiatives such as community supported agriculture programs popular in the US could work well in the Wanneroo region.

Cleantech companies, local food producers and exponents of healthy living will demonstrate how green technologies could shape the future of the northern corridor at the Yanchep Festival of Green Ideas on Saturday, October 31.

The event at Club Capricorn will showcase everything from new electric bicycles to WA-grown glass crushing technology. The festival runs from 10am to 3pm.

Dr Martinus will repeat his talk at the Joondalup Business Association annual general meeting next Tuesday.

Ball for alleged hoax caller

A FORMER sea rescue volunteer was released on bail on Tuesday after he allegedly put in a hoax Mayday call to Water Police, triggering a large-scale sea and air rescue operation off the WA coast for a sinking boat.

Clarkson man Scott Pike (25) appeared in Joondalup Magistrates Court on Tuesday after he allegedly made the hoax distress call using a marine radio from his home at 9.30pm on Saturday, October 17.

He faces a maximum two years' jail and a \$50,000 fine if he is convicted. Police are also seeking restitution for the \$50,000 search cost of

the 19-hour rescue bid.

Water Police co-ordinated the search over Saturday night and into Sunday and it involved its officers, Fisheries and Volunteer Marine Rescue Services and was backed up by the fixed-wing police aircraft and the RAC Rescue Helicopter.

Further investigations by Water Police and North West Metropolitan Tactical Investigation Group found the call was allegedly a hoax.

He was charged with one count of creating a false belief and is due to appear in the Joondalup Magistrates Court on November 11.

scene. The man has been charged with two counts of dangerous driving occasioning death and exceeding an alcohol limit of 0.08.

He is due to appear at Joondalup Magistrates Court on December 28.

Collision: lucky escape

A WESTMINSTER man and his son were lucky to escape without serious injury after their car crashed into the front of a home while trying to evade a ute in Marangaroo last weekend.

The car hit the ute at the intersection of Mirrabooka Avenue and Marangaroo Drive about 9am on Saturday, October 17. The force of the collision pushed his vehicle into the front of a Marangaroo Drive home, smashing through the front wall of the house.

The driver of the utility, an Alexander Heights man (27), also escaped without any injury after his vehicle rolled over. The accident caused traffic disruption for more than two hours.

Police are investigating.

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