

THE MANGAWHAI FOCUS

Bream Bay - Waipu - Maungaturoto - Dargaville - Mangawhai - Kaiwaka - Wellsford - Matakana - Warkworth - 1st July 2010

NZTA reaches into the community for new highway feedback

The NZ Transport Agency says planning for its new State Highway One from Puhoi to Wellsford road of national significance is stepping up a gear this week with the start of direct consultation with communities.

"We want as much feedback as possible from communities as their views will play an important role as we get into detailed planning for the route this new highway is going to take," says Tommy Parker, State Highway Manager - Auckland and Northland.

NZTA has three proposals on the table:

- The new highway will be entirely separate from the existing SH1
- Drivers will have access points to the highway at Warkworth and Wellsford
- The new highway will pass Warkworth to the west, and Wellsford to the east

Public consultation will include engaging with local communities, road users and key stakeholders such as local authorities and emergency services in the northern Rodney and the wider

Northland and Auckland regions.

The NZTA wants to use local knowledge to help the next stage of planning for the route selection.

"No planning has been done on where exactly the new highway will go as we would like the community to help us," Mr Parker says.

"There is a lot of local knowledge in communities that we want to tap into. This could include a range of topics such as natural areas, historic sites, cultural and community sites, landslips and unstable land. There is no substitute for local knowledge."

As part of consultation NZTA will also be visiting local properties. People from the project team will be contacting some landowners in northern Rodney to learn more about their area.

"I want to reassure people that this doesn't mean the highway will run through these properties," says Mr Parker. "However, it is necessary for technical specialists to get out and view the land to locate the best route."

"Some salami and zucchini and a lotsa mozzarella..."

However you sing it, it's still all about pizza. See the shennanigans on page 6

Sound of Music a family affair



STAGE CLASSIC: The original Sound of Music Broadway production opened in 1959. Taking a break during ORT rehearsal is (from front left) Mya Lawrence, Chiannae Smart, Molly Curnow, Amy Lawrence, Malachi Kerrigan, Elizabeth Harris, Nat Curnow, Cindy Randall, Samantha Cawkwell-Troost, Joseph Vincent.

Otamatea Repertory Theatre's production of *The Sound of Music* is a family show in every sense - Captain Georg von Trapp has one of his own daughters in his stage family.

Captain von Trapp, portrayed by Nat Curnow of Mangawhai, will be joined by eight-year-old daughter Molly who is playing the joint role of Marta.

This is Nat Curnow's first role for Otamatea Repertory Theatre, although he is no

newcomer to the stage. An experienced actor and musician, Curnow has starred in a wide variety of roles on stage, and in film and television. His younger daughter Molly shares his love of the theatre. Living in Mangawhai for the past four years, Curnow is a garden designer and real estate agent.

There are many other family combinations: Amy and Mya Lawrence, playing the joint roles of Gretl and Marta; sisters Kaye Fleming and Debbie Cocking and daughter,

Elise Cocking; sisters Dorothy Simpson, Stella Clyde and granddaughter, Samantha Cawkwell-Troost, who plays the role of the outspoken Brigitta; mother and son, Ngaire and Tom Dent play the roles of Frau Schmidt and Rolf respectively; Peter and Nanette Matheson, who have the roles of Franz the butler and a nun; sisters Penny Goodall and Sally Taylor who also play the roles of nuns of the Nonnberg Abbey. Sasha Dyer, acting dual roles of a postulant and Ursula the maid,

and her dad Jeff who is a guest at the ball. And more husbands have been drawn into the cast to dance at the ball at the von Trapp mansion.

■ Opening night is July 30 at 7.30pm at the theatre in Maungaturoto, and the show runs for an eight-show season. A special family concession has been set for the first weekend's shows. Tickets are now available at Tony's Lotto Shop in Maungaturoto and online at www.iticket.co.nz

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