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EXCLUSIVE First arrest under new law sparked by SA teen's murder

CAUGHT BY CARLY

TORY SHEPHERD
POLITICAL EDITOR

AN ADELAIDE man who allegedly posed as a teenage girl to groom and abuse children is the first person charged under Carly's Law. *The Advertiser* can reveal.



Staff seek a weekly day off

EXCLUSIVE
MILES KEMP

COUNCIL staff are set to be granted an eight-day working fortnight, giving them a long weekend every week.

Marion mayor Kris Hanna has voiced concerns over the Australian Workers' Union demand that workers squeeze 38 hours' work into four days and receive a 9 per cent pay rise over three years. He wants the Local Government Association to take charge of negotiations, fearing other councils could be forced into similar deals.

REPORT, PAGE 3

**HOME ALONE
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 [SOURCE SA LIFTOUT]



JOY: Walkerville Primary School Year 3 students Will, Olivia, Leo and Zara show their festive spirit. A parent group survey shows overwhelming support for Christmas carols in public schools amid concerns over a controversial draft education policy. Exclusive story, Page 8 Picture: BIANCA DE MARCH

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SEE PAGE 25 FOR CODEWORD

Bell tolls on carol policy

EXCLUSIVE
TIM WILLIAMS
EDUCATION REPORTER

CHRISTMAS carols in public schools is right in tune with parents and staff—with 98 per cent supporting the festive tradition.

The overwhelming survey result has sparked calls from a peak parent group that a controversial part of a draft Education Department policy be scrapped.

Only 19 of 1179 respondents to a questionnaire from the SA Association of State School Organisations said they would support a ban on carols.

The review follows an *Advertiser* report in June, in

which the Opposition and some conservative groups claimed new State Education Department guidelines on religious activities could be interpreted as discouraging carols.

It is up to principals to decide whether to hold carol performances.

SAASSO Director David Knuckey said: "We're asking the question because schools have been asking us the question since the story was in the paper.

"In light of the results, SAASSO will be asking the Weatherill Government to remove the Christmas carol section from the new policy."

Both the department and Education Minister Susan

Close have repeatedly denied ban claims, saying there has never been any intent to stop carols. "I have stated repeatedly that Christmas carols will not be banned in schools and there was never a suggestion that they could be," Dr Close said yesterday. "I would be leading the protest on behalf of my children if there was any threat to the Christmas tradition in schools."

The draft policy says public schools are secular and "therefore Christmas carols, singing and performing, for example, is not regulated by the department."

But straight after that it says: "There are clear policy requirements to ensure that

schools are not involved in promoting a commitment to a specific set of religious beliefs."

The Education Department yesterday could not say whether there would be any changes to the policy's wording, as feedback from community consultation was still being considered. About 87 per cent of survey respondents were parents, while 44 per cent worked in schools.

Mr Knuckey's report on the results said common themes among responses were that the policy was an example of "political correctness" and that Christmas was "a time of peace, joy and celebration for all, not necessarily religious".

One respondent wrote:

"They (carols) are a part of our way of life so they should stay."

Walkerville Primary performing arts specialist teacher Nathan Hamdorf said the school's annual end of year performance was "a themed singalong night" of largely non-Christmas songs, but with "a few Christmas numbers at the end" such as *We Wish You A Merry Christmas*.

"We'll throw in a traditional Christian one in there too. We've done *Silent Night*," he said. Opposition education spokesman John Gardner said the reference to carols must be removed to ensure there was no confusion among school leaders.

PAGE 18: EDITORIAL

It's no bum rap: Swift

TAYLOR Swift's lawyers have begun picking jurors for a civil trial pitting the pop star against a Colorado radio personality she accused of fondling her during a photo shoot.

The litigation centres on Swift's allegations that KYGO-FM's David Mueller slipped his hand under her dress and grabbed her bare bottom as they posed during a meet-and-greet session before her June 2, 2013, concert in Denver.

Mueller described Swift's accusation as "nonsense".

Orang-utan signs off

CHANTEK, a male orang-utan who was among the first-ups to learn sign language, has died aged 39. Zoo Atlanta has said.

Chantek, who was taught by a trainer who raised him like her own child, was being treated for heart disease.

"Chantek will be deeply missed by his family here," said the Zoo's Hayley Murphy.

"He had such a unique and engaging personality and special ways of relating to those who knew him best."

School staff abuse bill

LEGISLATION that would impose harsher punishment on adults who abuse school staff will today be tabled in Parliament.

The bill will introduce penalties of up to \$2500 for those who abuse or behave in an offensive manner towards school staff, and significantly increase the maximum penalties for school non-attendance.

Education Minister Susan Close said it was the most significant reform to education legislation in more than 40 years.

Group effort voted out

GROUP voting tickets in SA's Upper House will be a thing of the past after new laws passed the Legislative Council yesterday.

The new system, passed with the support of the Greens, Dignity Party and NXT, means votes will not automatically transfer between candidates from different parties, giving voters greater control.

Voters will be required to number at least 12 boxes if voting below the line, and at least one if voting above the line.

SKIN MAY BE IN BUT THIS POSTER'S ON THE WAY OUT

JADE GAILBERGER

A RAUNCHY ad for lingerie that leaves little to the imagination has been causing a stir in Rundle Mall—and not all the attention has been welcome.

Lingerie store Honey Birdette has been asked to remove posters on its shop windows featuring women in a new range of underwear where one model's areola is visible.

Mother Tracey Henley, 54, from Seaford Rise and daughter Stacey Henley, 31, from Huntfield Heights yesterday agreed the advertisement could offend people.

"I thought it was a bit raunchy. I can see how people are offended, especially if they've got kids," Tracey said.

Honey Birdette's store manager said they had not received any complaints. But Myer Centre Adelaide manager Peter Lee said they had fielded complaints.

"We have been liaising with (their) national office ... and have requested the posters be removed from display as soon as possible," Mr Lee said.



SHOCKED: Mum Tracey Henley and daughter Stacey outside the Honey Birdette store yesterday.

Picture: ROY VANDERVEGT/AAP

Police unveil helicopter's new eye in the sky

BEN HARVY

NEW hi-tech cameras, worth more than \$45 million, will give police and rescuers greater capability from the air.

The two new sensors, one of which is permanently attached to a helicopter, are part of a technology upgrade to replace

a 20-year-old camera system that has controversially failed at times in the past. The advanced cameras sense light, heat and produce high definition images to overlay digital maps, helping pin point the location of a person or object.

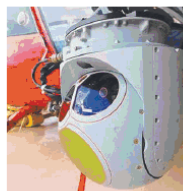
STAR Group officer-in-charge Superintendent David

O'Donovan said police had been using the technology for the past six months with success. The new technology replaces the Forward Looking Infra-red (FLIR) system.

The FLIR system failed during the police shooting death of Alexander Kuskoof during a siege at his farm near Tailem

Bend in 2015. Mr Kuskoof's death is the subject of a coronial inquiry, which has heard settings on the FLIR system were altered and footage of the incident was compromised.

Supt O'Donovan conceded the old system was "outdated", but said the upgrade "will serve us very well into the future".



SENSOR: The new camera