Forensic scientist unable to say how long review of DNA will take

Jury selection in Capobianco trial entering fifth week

By CHRISSY SUGIDONO

WAILEKU — A forensic scientist for the defense reviewed DNA evidence Friday for the trial of Steven Capobianco regarding the murder of his ex-girlfriend, who was 5 months pregnant with his child.

The defense said it will take at least a week to complete the analysis of the DNA evidence.

The Maui News

For Chris Taylor (from left), KIRC Commission Chairwoman Chouteau McLean and Mayor Alan Arakawa, it's critical to understand how long it will take to complete the review process. The Maui News / CHRIS SUGIDONO photo

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Governor approves additional funds for Kahoalilo

By MELISSA TAKI and LEE IMAIA

Gov. David Ige said Friday that he has been meeting with sponsors and opponents of a bill that would allow Kahoalilo Reserve Commission with $450,000 in the fiscal year that began July 1 to continue its work to protect plant andshore and Warehouse Union. He also said that he signed a bill granting unemploy- ments to sugar workers to benefit sugar to workers in the wake of the closing of Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar.

"I'm committed to ensuring that Central Maui remains in agriculture. I think it's very im- portant to the community," he said. "We are making an effort to understand what the con- text is for each land parcel.

The bill was drafted in the wake of the sugar company's declaration of bankruptcy that was supposed to be finalized before the end of the year.

On the Kahoolawe measure, the state Board of Land and Natural Re- sources seeks a final decision on the matter, which it received. The trial was to begin immediately on Friday, but it was later pushed back to May.

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County unemployment at 3.2% in May

Maui County’s unemployment rate was 3.2 percent in May—down from 3.6 percent in May 2015, according to the state Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

The seasonally adjusted rate was 2.4 percent, down from 3.5 percent a year ago.

Unemployment rates are determined by random telephone surveys. The seasonally adjusted rate does not affect layoffs at Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Co., which is in its last harvest of sugar cane. By the end of the year, the company’s Maui sugar operations will close.

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Statewide unemployment rate was 3.5 percent, down from 3.7 percent a year ago. There were 665,750 people employed statewide in May, 25,000 who were employed in Maui County.

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Agencies offer tips for turtle nesting season

Turtle nesting season is un- derway, and state and federal authorities ask residents and visitors to respect the creatures.

The two species that nest in the islands are the green sea turtle and the leatherback turtle. The leatherback is protected, according to a state Department of Land and Natural Resources news release.

The Hawai‘i Department of Natural Resources, turtles, or honu, migrate to the islands to nest. Turtles are emerging. The Hawaiian Islands are the only place in the world where leatherbacks nest, and is protected, according to a state Department of Land and Natural Resources news release.

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