TERRITORY Labor will announce a candidate in the seat of Araluen soon, according to Opposition Leader Michael Gunner.

The electorate, which takes in part of Alice Springs, is currently held by independent Robyn Lambley. It’s the only electorate in which Labor is yet to announce a candidate. Mr Gunner said a “strong candidate” would take on Ms Lambley for Labor.

“They will provide that strong opportunity for people in Araluen to be able to choose a Labor person in a potential Labor government,” Mr Gunner said.

Fillip for infrastructure

MORE than $39 million was awarded in contracts during June to upgrade Territorian schools, community housing and infrastructure.

Minister for Infrastructure Peter Chandler said the CLP invested more than $1.5 billion in infrastructure across the Territory in 2015-16. “There were 38 contract tenders awarded in June,” he said. Mr Chandler said that out of the $39 million awarded in June, over $20 million was through the Boosting Our Economy package.

“These investments in infrastructure and services are part of this Government’s commitment to building a prosperous economy by delivering critical infrastructure and improving access to goods and services for remote Territorians as well as enhancing our unique (NT) lifestyle the community values,” he said.

Sniper saw Lindt killing

A SNIPER deployed during the Sydney siege has described the moment he witnessed hostage Tori Johnson on his knees, followed by a muzzle flash, and the Lindt Cafe manager then falling forward.

“I just said ‘white window two hostage down’. I said that twice,” the sniper, who cannot be identified for legal reasons, yesterday told the inquest into the Sydney siege.

Mr Johnson and the 2.13am on December 15 witnessed hostage manager then falling forward. “I just said ‘white window two hostage down’. I said that twice,” the sniper, who cannot be identified for legal reasons, explained to the inquest into the Sydney siege.

Victim Tori Johnson

Police stormed the building after Mr Johnson was killed, bringing an end to the siege. The sniper codenamed “Sierra 3-3” told the inquest that while he was able to observe Monis at various times, he never had a clear shot.

NT enjoys biking boost

THE CLP’s new Mountain Biking Master Plan will establish the NT as the adventure riding capital of Australia, says Chief Minister Adam Giles.

The master plan was developed collaboratively by government agencies, land managers, the tourism industry and community groups.

“From the dramatic landscapes and red dirt of Central Australia to the tropical reerves of the Top End, the Ter- ritory is the perfect backdrop for mountain bike rides,” Mr Giles said.

“Our new master plan will help us grow this niche tourism market and attract even more holiday makers to the Terri- tory.” Alice Springs hosts two nationally recognised mountain biking events each year.

Bess Price

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