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Inside Today Woman charged with stealing car, painting it with white house paint. » A4

Get to know the mayoral candidates

The Fairbanks area's local election is just more than a week away. Do you have the info you need about the candidates and the issues?

The News-Miner has been providing a steady stream of stories about the candidates, campaign fundraising and spending, and the ballot measures that will be decided by voters in the Fairbanks North Star Borough and the cities of Fairbanks and North Pole.

Our coverage continues today with profile stories about each of four candidates for borough mayor. We've previously presented

Tammie Wilson

Republican representative for North Pole in the Alaska Legislature since 2009



Read Tammie Wilson's full profile inside. » A6

stories about the candidates' positions on the borough budget, education funding, the forthcoming arrival of the marijuana industry and air quality —

Robert Shields

Full-time UAF student and executive director of nonprofit group the Alliance for Reason and Knowledge



Read Robert Shields' full profile inside. » A6

just a few of the important issues in our borough. Today, you'll learn a bit more about the candidates. Local government is the government that most

Karl Kassel

Borough assemblyman since 2010, presiding officer of the assembly for two years



Read Karl Kassel's full profile inside. » A5

directly affects you, so being informed about the candidates and the issues is essential. You also can find information about the election

Cory Jackman

Most recently a cab driver, but has worked in commercial fishing and the tourism industry



Read Cory Jackman's full profile inside. » A6

process and voting in the borough's website (www.co.fairbanks.ak.us/elections) or by contacting the borough clerk's office or the clerk's offices at either

LOCAL ELECTIONS

Daily coverage of the candidates and issues of the Oct. 6 election continues today. See all stories online at newsminer.com/news/politics.

of the two cities. Election Day is Oct. 6. Learn about the candidates and the issues and remember to vote. —Rod Boyce, managing editor

GOOD MORNING



The weather.

Cloudy with patchy fog and a slight chance of snow, with highs in the 30s to 40s.

High today43 Low tonight36

WEATHER » A7

Aurora forecast.

Auroral activity will be moderate.

This information is provided by aurora forecasters at the Geophysical Institute at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

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SEAL LOVE

Researcher shares passion for marine animals.

SUNDAY FUN Page K3

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SOURDOUGH JACK: "Sounds like a fun ride to me!"



Co-founder John Stowman, right, helps Rachael Kvapil, left, log on to the FairBikes app to check out a bicycle as FairBikes bike sharing program puts out its first bicycles available for public use at Gulliver's Books on College Road on Thursday morning. ERIC ENGMAN/NEWS-MINER

Bike-share program makes small-scale debut

By Sam Friedman SFRIEDMAN@NEWSMINER.COM

The FairBikes bike sharing business started quietly Thursday morning, when Rachel Kvapil unlocked a shiny red bike with yellow tires parked outside of Gulliver's Books.

An inventory of 50 FairBikes arrived last week, and a handful of them are available for test rides in the University of Alaska Fairbanks area until winter sets in for good.

FairBikes is a small-scale model of a bike-share system used in cities like New York and Seattle. There are 600 cities with bike-share programs around the



Rachael Kvapil locks up a bicycle after taking a test ride as FairBikes bike sharing program puts out its first bicycles available for public use at Gulliver's Books on College Road on Thursday morning. ERIC ENGMAN/NEWS-MINER

world, but no others in Alaska, according to FairBikes co-owner John Stowman. The Fairbanks bike share company is also one of the few that uses a

for-profit business model. Next spring, the business plans to lock the 50 bikes at about 20 bike racks they plan to build around town. They plan

to rent the bikes for \$5 an hour, and offer unlimited 1-hour rides as part of a \$75 annual membership plan, Stowman said. For now, as part of a brief pilot program, there are two stations, outside Gulliver's Books and outside the Rasmusson Library. Rentals are free this year to anyone who downloads the FairBikes app on their phone.

Late September isn't an obvious date for launching a bicycle business in Alaska. Made by Florida-based Republic Bike, the FairBikes cycles aren't equipped with snow tires or ice studs, so they'll be put away in a few days or

FAIRBIKES » A3

Survey expected to restore Alaska's COLA

By Sam Friedman SFRIEDMAN@NEWSMINER.COM

A survey Fairbanks soldiers and airmen took this month will influence how much they are paid in November, potentially reversing a major cut they took to their cost-of-living payments more than a year ago.

A significant part of the take-home pay for Alaska's soldiers and airmen is the cost of living adjustment, usually known by the acronym COLA. It's paid to service members who are stationed in cities such as Fairbanks, where a dollar in salary doesn't go as far as it would in an average city in the Lower 48.

In August 2014, COLA rates around Alaska's military bases dropped, according to Senior Master Sgt. Maryann Navarro-Davis, the statewide allowance coordinator. Fairbanks COLA rates fell especially steeply, dropping by about 40 percent. That cut probably wasn't the result of plummeting cost of living in the 49th State, she said. It was caused by problems in the way the cost of living was calculated.

Under normal conditions, soldiers and airmen would be stuck with the lower COLA rate until its next scheduled recalculation in 2017. But this year, the state's military bases are getting a rare do-over. Through the end

COLA » A3



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HIPOW AUCTION & DINNER



Friday, Oct. 9 Fun for the whole family Free Admission

Saturday, Oct. 10 Black Tie Dinner Get your tickets today!

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October 9 & 10, 2015