



Daily News-Miner

THE VOICE OF INTERIOR ALASKA SINCE 1903

Inside Today

Vote today: Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. More election info » www.newsminer.com

GOOD MORNING



The weather.

Be on the lookout for more isolated storms today.
High today 65
Low tonight 45

Sunrise: 5:50 a.m.
Sunset: 9:55 p.m.

WEATHER » A11

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YOUNG CELLISTS

Cello intensive focuses on more than just music.

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SCHOOL VANDALISM

Two charged in July incident at North Pole High School.

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UNREST IN FERGUSON

Clashes between police, protesters continue in Missouri.

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SPIKERS GETTING STARTED

Nanooks volleyball team holds its first practice.

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SOURDOUGH JACK:
"I always vote early 'cause Tuesday's my favorite sleepin' day!"



Early voting turnout up from 2010

By Weston Morrow
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NEED ELECTION INFO?

Check our website for coverage and updates » www.newsminer.com/news/politics



Marc Mykkanen casts his early vote ballot at the Fairbanks regional Division of Elections office on Monday.
WESTON MORROW/NEWS-MINER

Voter turnout in the Alaska primary election was already well above that of similar recent elections on Monday, a day before Election Day.

Early voting by absentee ballot began two weeks ago. As of Monday morning — with a full day to go before the primary election — the division had received cast

ballots from 8,150 voters across Alaska. That compares to 2010, the last year in which the state held a gubernatorial election, when 5,125 total people voted early.

Alaska Division of Elections Director Gail Fenuniai said the division had received just more than 19,000 absentee ballots

heading into Monday. In 2010, the office received about 22,300 absentee ballots. The state will continue to accept absentee ballots for 10 days after the elec-

tion. "It wouldn't surprise me if we surpassed that number," she said.

VOTING » A10



Two sections of fence were damaged when a vehicle drove into and out of Rest Haven Cemetery in Delta Junction, also causing damage to several grave sites and a gazebo. PHOTO COURTESY OF ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

Vandal drives through cemetery

By Robin Wood
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A vandal drove a vehicle through a fence in two locations early Sunday and damaged a shelter at Delta Junction's Rest Haven Cemetery.

According to troopers, between midnight and 6 a.m. an unknown vehicle took out a 15-foot sec-

tion of white vinyl fence, struck and knocked over a gazebo, damaged grass and flowers at multiple grave sites, then exited through a second section of fence.

No headstones were knocked over, but a few American Legion flags were reported broken.

No estimates of monetary damage were avail-

able Monday.

The cemetery is maintained by the city of Delta Junction.

Alaska State Trooper Ricky Merritt collected car parts during an on-scene investigation and is working on potential leads.

Delta City Administrator Mike Tvenge said "gross damage" was inflicted to roughly half of the 12-acre cemetery, located near the edge of town on Jack Warren Road.

The gazebo, with a roof

and benches, was built in 2008 by Matthew Joslin as a service project for his Eagle Scout award, which he received in 2010. Tvenge said the heavy impact "shattered 4-by-4-(inch) posts."

"I can't understand the mindset of somebody that wants to go in and do damage to a cemetery," Tvenge said. "My intent is to rebuild it."

Anyone with information is asked to contact Troopers at 895-4800.

Contact staff writer Robin Wood at 459-7510.



Tire tracks trail across graves in front of a damaged gazebo at Rest Haven Cemetery in Delta Junction. A vandal drove through fencing and caused damage around the cemetery early Sunday morning. PHOTO COURTESY OF ALASKA STATE TROOPERS



The damaged gazebo at Rest Haven Cemetery in Delta Junction was built in 2008 by Matthew Joslin as a community service project to earn his Eagle Scout award. PHOTO COURTESY OF ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

Work together for cheaper gas, groups say

By Matt Buxton
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Every number shows more demand lowers the price to utilities substantially. The key to bring the price down to the consumer is to have sales."

Mark Davis, deputy project manager at the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority

The closer the community, the state and the Interior's utilities can work together on a project to truck natural gas to the Interior, the lower the price will be to consumers.

That was the overall message from an update on the Interior Energy Project delivered by the many state agencies, contractors and utilities held at the Westmark Hotel on Monday night.

Mark Davis, the deputy project manager at the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority, explained that better cooperation will

ensure that the Fairbanks-area utilities interested in buying natural gas — Fairbanks Natural Gas, Interior Gas Utility and Golden Valley Electric Association — can commit to buying more gas.

"Every number shows more demand lowers the price to utilities substantially," Davis said. "The key to bring the price down to the consumer is to have sales."

Davis explained that AIDEA is in the process of developing a model that can determine the price to consumers based on each expense along the way — from the construction of the plant, its operation, trucking, storage and distribution. He said some things, such as the plant's operation, have a bigger impact on price than others and that in the coming months the agency will work with its

contractors to target the state's funds most effectively.

Currently, Davis said the model is showing the delivered price of gas from the North Slope to Fairbanks is between \$11 and \$13.50 per thousand cubic feet of gas. That doesn't include distribution, which ranges from about \$3 to \$8 per thousand cubic feet.

GAS » A10

Ex-UAA worker accused of emailing threats

By Casey Grove
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ANCHORAGE — A former university employee here has been arrested for emails he allegedly sent this month to university officials in Fairbanks threatening violence in retaliation for his termination five years ago.

Edward W. DuBois faces a felony criminal count of sending threatening communications in the form of emails to University of Alaska employees in Fairbanks on Aug. 10 and 14, according to a charging document filed in federal court.

DuBois, 36, was employed by the University of Alaska Anchorage from October 2006 until August 2009, when he was a student services technician in the registrar's office, UAA spokeswoman Kristen DeSmith said. DeSmith said she could not comment on DuBois' personnel matters or the allegations in the charges against him.

In an appeal of his firing, DuBois claimed he was physically and sexually assaulted by his superiors, the charges state. During the last five years, he sent letters and emails to university officials in Anchorage, but it was not until this month that things turned criminal.

The charges include excerpts of what DuBois is alleged to have written:

DuBois wrote in the Aug. 10 email about his grievances against specific university employees and said he was fired for his "good-faith reporting of malfeasance."

"Am I an immediate threat to myself and others? No, not at the moment," DuBois wrote, according to the charges. "I still have hope that an agency outside of UAA can investigate these claims. Hence this appeal."

Another excerpt of the Aug. 10 email mentioned "mass violence and school safety," and DuBois described a scenario in which someone carrying out an attack could be considered the victim, with the university as the "antagonist."

DuBois' Aug. 14 email included identical statements but went a bit further with some new paragraphs. DuBois allegedly wrote that his complaints had been ignored for years and that he had been left with few options.

THREATS » A10

