



Daily News-Miner

THE VOICE OF INTERIOR ALASKA SINCE 1903

Inside Today UAS professor mauled by bear improving at Anchorage hospital. » INTERIOR, A4

City to take over Community Service Patrol

By Robin Wood
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The Community Service Patrol, responsible for responding to calls of inebriates in Fairbanks and potentially transporting them to approved locations, is getting a new operator.

The Downtown Association of Fairbanks will continue to operate CSP until June 1, after which the city

of Fairbanks will take control, according to Mayor John Eberhart. The agency responsible for providing CSP personnel, Securitas USA, will continue to be the contracted operator.

The Downtown Association was always an "agency of last resort" to operate CSP, according to executive director David van den Berg.

The association has agreed to continue

\$110,000 annual contributions — largely through community donations and grants — while the city expects to pay \$170,000 annually.

The downtown organization took over program operations in 2007 from Fairbanks Native Association after the loss of federal grants.

But in 2014, CSP services expanded citywide from the core downtown

area, resulting in a cost increase from \$190,000 to \$322,000, according to van den Berg.

Finding a new CSP operator "has been a long-term goal of ours," van den Berg said.

While searching for a new provider of services, Fairbanks issued a request for proposals but received none, according to Eberhart. The deadline was extended one week, but

only unacceptable proposals were submitted.

During an invitation to bid, Securitas was given a notice of bid award, and their contract is currently in negotiations.

James Dalton, Fairbanks branch field manager for Securitas USA, said it's possible CSP's operating hours will be reduced but that he hopes to make no changes to staffing. "Our biggest thing was

we wanted to keep our staff and the crew who've been doing it for the last couple of years," Dalton said, adding transporting inebriates isn't a normal operation for Securitas, but "it's a job our office loves."

In 2015, the Community Service Patrol responded to 6,262 calls for service and made 4,127 transports, according to van den Berg.

PATROL » A5

GOOD MORNING

The weather.
Mostly sunny in the morning, then clouding over in the afternoon, with highs in the 50s.
High today52
Low tonight32
WEATHER » A9

Aurora forecast.
Auroral activity will be active. Weather permitting, active auroral displays will be visible overhead.

This information is provided by aurora forecasters at the Geophysical Institute at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. For more information about the aurora, visit <http://www.gialaska.edu/AuroraForecast>

Teacher of the Year



Sean Genson, a history and geography teacher at West Valley High School, stands for a portrait in his classroom on Tuesday. ERIN CORNELIUSSEN/NEWS-MINER

West Valley teacher wins state history honors

By Weston Morrow
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For the past eight years, Sean Genson has been an integral part of the dynasty that is West Valley High School's National History Day participation. Last week, National History Day-Alaska recognized his contribution officially when it named him the Patricia Behring high school-level Teacher of the Year.

Genson, who teaches history, geography and government at West Valley, has participated in the National History Day program with his students since he first came to the school eight years ago. He has not only served as an advocate for the program as a teacher but also participated in the program when he was a student himself.

Genson becomes the third Fairbanks teacher to receive the award in the last three years, joining fellow West Valley teacher Heather DeMario, who won last year, and Barnette Magnet School teacher Heidi Imhof, who won the junior level award in 2014.

Alaska History Day Coordinator Valerie Gomez spoke highly of the effort put forth by both students and teachers in the Fairbanks area.



Sean Genson talks with Annemarie Timling about her project during his U.S. History class at West Valley High School on Tuesday. Students were designing websites for projects based on interviews with veterans. ERIN CORNELIUSSEN/NEWS-MINER

"I know they work collaboratively," Gomez said. "Their students seem to win most of the competition. They're kind of like well-oiled machines of little History Day students."

Genson said, from his perspective, having other knowledgeable teachers working on the program with whom he can collaborate is a huge help to the success of each

of them. "(For) Heather and I and other teachers, History Day is one of the things we take a lot of pride in and have high standards for our students," Genson said. "I can give her students a different perspective than she has and vice versa."

TEACHER » A5

Sen. Meyer: Not much support for permanent fund bill

By Becky Bohrer
ASSOCIATED PRESS

JUNEAU — Senate President Kevin Meyer said Tuesday that he doesn't think there's broad support in his chamber for a restructuring of Alaska Permanent Fund earnings.

He said not including tax bills, it would be the hardest bill of those left in play for the Senate to pass.

Rewrites of Gov. Bill Walker's bill calling for structured annual draws



Meyer

from permanent fund earnings and changes to the dividend program are pending in the House and Senate Finance committees. They call for annual draws of 5.25 percent of the average market value of the permanent fund for the first five of the six preceding fiscal years. A dividend of \$1,000 would be guaranteed for three years and after that be based on 20 percent of the draw and an amount equal to 20 percent of resource royalties.

During a House hearing Tuesday, Rep. Les Gara, D-Anchorage, said he worries provisions of the rewrite reducing the payout as oil prices rise are a "pathway to austerity" since they would limit the revenue available to address areas that have been cut in recent years.

Attorney General Craig Richards said the provisions speak to concerns about budget volatility and growing government when oil prices rise.

"What that does is, one, it's frankly, I think, the right way to handle the permanent fund, which is, we're not spending it when we really don't need it," he said during the hearing.

The portion of the draw dedicated for dividends would not be affected by the reduced payout.

JUNEAU » A5

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Clinton, Trump take big wins in the Empire State.
NATION
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LETTER OF INTENT
West Valley's Angaiak signs swim letter with UAF.
SPORTS
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SOURDOUGH JACK:
"When are primaries over? I'm sick of 'em!"

Men will serve 7 years each for October drive-by shooting

By Dorothy Chomicz
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Two men involved in a drive-by shooting in Shannon Park last fall were sentenced in separate hearings this week.

Christopher Ryan DeLaMerced Jr., 20, and James Arthur Allen, 19, were both charged with first- and second-degree weapons misconduct and two counts of

third-degree assault, all felonies, for shooting at the Droz Drive area home on Oct. 6, 2015.

The home's two occupants were not injured and the men fled the scene in a black Dodge Charger after the shooting.

DeLaMerced was arrested later that night and Allen was taken into custody by U.S. Marshals almost three weeks later in Memphis, Tennessee.

DeLaMerced pleaded guilty Tuesday afternoon to one count of second-degree weapons misconduct and one count of third-degree assault. He was sentenced to a total of seven years with four suspended, leaving three years to serve. He will be on probation for five years after his release.

Allen pleaded guilty to the same counts as DeLaMerced on Monday morning. He was sentenced to

seven years with five suspended, leaving him two years to serve. He will serve five years probation.

Allen was also sentenced for an Aug. 13, 2015, escape charge. He pleaded guilty to unlawful evasion and was sentenced to one year with six months suspended, and five years of probation.

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