



# Daily News-Miner

THE VOICE OF INTERIOR ALASKA

**Inside Today**

Weather hampers search for Anchorage man's body in Cantwell creek. » INTERIOR, A4

**GOOD MORNING**



**The weather.**

Cloudy with a slight chance of rain and highs in the mid- to upper 50s.  
High today .....56  
Low tonight .....38

**WEATHER » A9**

**Aurora forecast.**

Auroral activity will be moderate. Weather permitting, moderate auroral displays will be visible overhead from Barrow to Fairbanks.

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.gi.alaska.edu/AuroraForecast>

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**STILL UNBEATEN**

West Valley flag football record improves to 5-0.

**SPORTS Page B1**

...



**BIG BAG VOODOO DADDY**

Fairbanks Concert Association's season kicks off with band bringing swing, jazz and Dixieland.

**LATITUDE 65**

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**SOURDOUGH JACK: "If it'd been my train, I'd been railing against the delay."**



## Mudslide halts Alaska rail traffic

### Freight, passenger service disrupted for several hours

By Dorothy Chomicz  
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A mudslide just north of Cantwell early Wednesday temporarily stopped train traffic on the Alaska Railroad.

The mudslide covered the tracks at about 4:30 a.m. as a northbound overnight freight train from Anchorage was passing through, according to railroad spokesman Tim Sullivan.

The mudslide delayed the Fairbanks-bound freight train and

two passenger trains. Passengers were bused around the site of the slide between the Talkeetna and Denali National Park stations.

As the freight train traveled north Wednesday morning, the locomotive engineer saw the mudslide as it was happening and braked. The locomotive came to a stop "right up against the mudslide," Sullivan said.

There were no injuries or damage to the train.



**A mudslide blocks train tracks near Cantwell on Wednesday.** PHOTO COURTESY ALASKA RAILROAD CORP.

**MUDSLIDE » A5**

## MORNING SWIM



**A mallard drake swims across the Chena River near downtown Wednesday morning.** ERIC ENGMAN/NEWS-MINER

## Legislators clash with attorney general over marijuana rules

By Matt Buxton  
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Legislators sparred with Alaska's attorney general over the legality of marijuana clubs at a hearing Wednesday, arguing she had the wrong definition of "public."

A wide-ranging hearing about commercial marijuana largely focused on the lasting uncertainty of just where people can light up as cultivators and retailers get ready for their first sales.

Alaska Attorney General Jahnna Lindemuth, who recently was appointed to the position by Gov. Bill Walker, issued an opinion two weeks ago finding unlicensed marijuana social clubs were illegal. There is no current way to license marijuana clubs, as they're not one of the four licenses laid out in the 2014 voter initiative.

The initiative did create a fine for smoking in public, but didn't spell out what is considered pub-

**"I think when most people voted on the initiative, to the extent that they were looking at public places, they figured that just meant you can't have people smoking joints while walking down the street."**

Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux, R-Anchorage

lic. Most agree private businesses open to the public — such as restaurants and bars — are public, but a handful of businesses have opened as clubs, arguing because they require membership, they're not public.

Lindemuth explained the memo at a joint meeting of the House and Senate judiciary committees at the Anchorage Legislative Information Office.

"The initiative bars public consumption, and if you're joining others that you don't know in a club, that's a public place," Lindemuth said.

The House generally has taken a more lenient

approach to legalized marijuana, producing a sweeping bill in 2015 that went further than the ballot initiative did in legalizing marijuana.

That attitude was on display Wednesday, as House Judiciary chairwoman Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux, R-Anchorage, and House Majority Leader Rep. Charisse Millett, R-Anchorage.

LeDoux led most of the questioning.

"There are lots of definitions of what a public place may be for different purposes," she said. "I think when most people voted on the initiative, to the extent

**PUBLIC » A3**

## Fairbanks man gets 7 years for stabbing his neighbor

By Dorothy Chomicz  
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A Fairbanks man was sentenced to seven years in prison Wednesday for stabbing his neighbor in the head while the man was shoveling snow last year.

Nathan Carroll, 34, was charged with felony second-degree assault after the Nov. 24, 2015, attack, which left the victim with a 3-inch gash on the back of his head.

Carroll was intoxicated, belligerent toward Fairbanks police and had blood on his hands and clothing when arrested, according to charging documents.

Carroll pleaded not guilty and said he acted in self-defense because the victim had a shovel in his hand. The case went to trial, and a Fairbanks jury convicted Carroll in March of this year.

At the sentencing hearing Assistant District Attorney Rissa

Leonard asked Superior Court Judge Douglas Blankenship to sentence Carroll to 10 years in prison because his lengthy criminal history put him in the "worst offender" category.

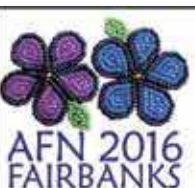
Carroll has 23 convictions for crimes including driving under the influence, vehicle theft, resisting arrest, criminal trespass and multiple assaults — three of which were on family members.

Leonard said Carroll had multiple probation violations on his record, had refused alcohol treatment when it was offered, had been on probation since 2002 and obviously had "no interest in rehabilitation."

She said Carroll needed to be isolated from the community because he is "someone who acts out violently whenever he's drunk or whenever someone won't let him have his way."

**SENTENCE » A3**

**INSIDE** Classified » B8 | Comics » B6 | Dear Abby » Latitude 65 | Markets » B7 | Opinion » A6 | Sports » B1



**Culturally Diverse Communication Training**  
September 17, 20, 24 and October 5, 8, 10  
Morris Thompson Cultural and Visitors Center

Free one-hour sessions on understanding cultural differences and how to communicate across a variety of cultures.

For more information or to register, visit [www.afnfairbanks.com/training](http://www.afnfairbanks.com/training)