



Daily News-Miner

THE VOICE OF INTERIOR ALASKA SINCE 1903

Inside Today

Eighty-year-old Fairbanks man OK after losing boat in the Tanana. » IN BRIEF, A2

GOOD MORNING



The weather.

Rain and fog in the morning, then scattered rain showers in the afternoon.

High today54
Low tonight38

Sunrise: 3:58 a.m.
Sunset: 11:39 p.m.

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BIRTHDAY BOY

Local 4-year-old makes his present a donation to the animal shelter.

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SPENDING HABITS

How methods of payment affect how you spend money.

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CLAY CEMETERY

Public Works takes over maintenance contract after disputed bid process.

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FIGHTING ZIKA

Efforts to prevent spread of virus push ahead without money from Congress.

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SOURDOUGH JACK:
"I do plenty o' things without the money to afford it!"



City to look at political activity code

By Robin Wood
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The Fairbanks City Council is expected to vote Monday on an amendment to the section of Fairbanks General Code that prohibits city resources for use in supporting proposed legislation.

The ordinance was introduced April 25 and postponed to the regular council meeting of May 23.

If approved, an amended version of the ordinance would add language to city code prohibiting

any city employee "take a position on any ballot proposition or proposed change to state or federal law" while using city property, resources or material. The council would be allowed to take a position after adopting an ordinance or resolution.

The original ordinance was less specific as to what employees were restricted from taking a position on.

During first reading, ordinance sponsor Councilman Jerry Cleworth said the change was prompted after Mayor John Eber-

hart sent a letter, on city letterhead, to the Legislature advocating for a position the council had not taken a formal, unified position on.

"I thought it was important for those legislators to know it was coming from one individual, and not from the body," Cleworth said at the April 25 meeting.

Multiple employees and unions



Cleworth

spoke out against the ordinance as originally drafted, including Police Chief Randall Aragon, Fairbanks Emergency Communication Center Director Stephanie Johnson and Robert Warren on behalf of the Fairbanks Firefighters Association.

Contact staff writer Robin Wood at 459-7510.



Eberhart

SPOTLIGHT · KLARA MAISCH

Local artist strives to instill passion in students, her work

By Weston Morrow
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When Klara Maisch was a child she wanted to be a forester like her dad.

Maisch isn't a forester, but she does spend her days among the trees. She doesn't protect nature, but she does preserve it.

As an artist, Maisch attempts the difficult task of turning a moving world into a moment in time. There's beauty in the world, but not all can find it, and fewer still can show it to you.

When Maisch sits on the tundra with a beanie on her head and a paintbrush in her hand, she's following the paths forged by both her parents. Her mother, Mary, spent years as a school teacher and as an artist.

Maisch graduated from the University of Alaska Fairbanks in 2012 with a bachelor's degree in painting and printmaking. Since then, she has worked on her own art and with young students developing theirs.

Since graduating, she has taken part in three Artists in the Schools residencies — with Chinook Charter School, with Pearl Creek Elementary School and most recently with North Pole Middle School.

She spent one of those residencies working alongside her mother — their first real artistic collaboration. Maisch says she never spent her childhood trying purposely to emulate her mother. It just came naturally.

When Maisch was in school, her favorite subject was always art. She has tried to bring that love back to students through her school residencies.

At Chinook, she worked with elementary-age students to create a nature mural in the school's library. At North Pole Middle, she worked with Scott Hansen's class to craft a four-part music mural that now hangs in one of the school's hallways.

"This mural actually, on a personal note, was really fun because I tried to let go of the final product a lot more and just respond to what the stu-



Above: Artist Klara Maisch sits in her studio space with a hoodie she designed on Thursday. Left: Some of Maisch's work hangs in her studio space.

ERIN CORNELIUSSEN/
NEWS-MINER

her work. She describes every one of her paintings as a failure — not entirely negatively but in a way that betrays her sense of success and failure as more than binary. Then she pauses.

"Maybe not a failure, but ... the moment it's a success it's like, well then what?" she said. "I've learned to be OK with failing, learned to be OK with the unknown and really fostered that because I think that's what keeps it exciting."

Being an artist isn't easy. Living without a steady paycheck isn't easy. Working toward a goal you're never sure you'll achieve isn't easy, but Maisch is willing to work with that.

"There's a bigger motivation at work that kind of trumps that fear," she said, "but not to say it's not there. I think it's important to acknowledge it. I mean, every blank canvas is scary before you start making lines."

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Klara Maisch

dents wanted to do and guide them where I could but really focus more on the process than the product and have faith that the product would be good in the end," Maisch said, "and it was."

In summer, she has spent the last four years with Girls on Ice, a UAF program for school-age girls that focuses on the intersection of science

and art — a crossing at the heart of Maisch's work.

"It's a really inspiring group of women for starters," she said. "It combines all of my passions. I don't know how to put it into words. It's glaciers, mountains, art, science, coming together, learning leadership, empowering young women ... I fail to describe how awesome it is."

Maisch will say she can't

put something adequately into words, but then she will, as she demonstrates with Girls on Ice.

"It's the environment, but it's also the fact that I get to sit next to someone who looks at the world through a more scientific lens, and I get to see the world through their eyes," she says.

Maisch brings that same belief in the ineffable to

Month-long closure of Fort Wainwright's Badger Gate begins today

Staff Report
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Fort Wainwright's Badger Gate will close for construction starting today and continuing through June 26.

To help alleviate traffic, the post will be opening the base's South Gate to inbound traffic only from 5 a.m. to 10 a.m. from Monday to Saturday.

The South Gate is accessible

from the northbound side of the Richardson Highway between the Badger Road and Lakeview Terrace exits. The South Gate is usually open only by special request.

Fort Wainwright's two other

main gates remain open as usual.

The main off of Airport Way is always open and the Trainor Road gate is open from 5:30 a.m. to 9 a.m., 7 days per week.

Contact the newsroom at 459-7572.

