



Daily News-Miner

THE VOICE OF INTERIOR ALASKA

Inside Today

Alaska has a record year for tourism, but may not stay competitive. » A4

GOOD MORNING



The weather.

Mostly clear. Highs in the upper 20s to lower 30s. Light winds. Tonight: Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower teens. North-east winds to 10 mph.

High today29
Low tonight9

WEATHER » A9

Aurora forecast.

Auroral activity will be active. Weather permitting, active auroral displays will be visible overhead from Utqiagvik to Anchorage and Juneau.

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>

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SAFE LANDING

Astronauts return to Earth after 115 days in the International Space Station.

WORLD Page A9

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MONDAY FOOTBALL

Cutler's return sparks Bears past Vikings.

SPORTS Page B1

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SOURDOUGH JACK:

"This election has felt more like an obstacle course than a marathon."



Police Chief Aragon resigns

By Kevin Baird
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Fairbanks Police Chief Randall Aragon resigned effective Friday afternoon, according to a city news release issued Monday.

Aragon resigned because he is "moving forward with his life," city Human Resources Director Angela Foster-Snow said.

Mayor Jim Matherly

accepted the resignation Thursday.

Aragon had been placed on administrative leave pending a personnel investigation.

Deputy Chief Brad Johnson, who has been acting police chief in Aragon's absence, will continue to preside over the police department.



Aragon

On Sept. 19, former city Police Chief Dan Hoffman sent an open letter to the City Council accusing Aragon of using his position to promote his own private security business.

Foster-Snow then began a personnel investigation, and the City Council requested a separate inquiry by an outside investigator. Then-Mayor John Eberhart's office hired an outside investigator.

Foster-Snow said she has handed off her investigation to the outside investigator. She said the investigation is ongoing.

The announcement of Aragon's resignation was postponed until Monday out of respect to police Sgt. Allen Brandt, who died Friday following eye surgery complications, Foster-Snow said. Brandt was shot five times Oct. 16, receiving injuries to

his legs and shrapnel in his eye.

Eberhart put Aragon on administrative leave on Sept. 22 then brought him back from leave on Oct. 19, citing a number of reasons. New Mayor Jim Matherly put Aragon back on leave during his first day in office, Oct. 25.

"I thought it was a little premature to bring him back,

ARAGON » A3



Early voters stand by campaign signs as they wait in line at a voting location in Dallas on Thursday. AP FILE PHOTO/TONY GUTIERREZ

Election Day promises to be a marathon

By Nancy Benac
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Grab some toothpicks to prop open your eyelids because Election Day, which is one week away, promises to be a marathon.

Polls open before dawn on Tuesday, Nov. 8, and it will be Wednesday on the East Coast before the last votes are cast.

It will be strictly a spectator sport for the estimated 46 million people who are likely to vote in advance. Oregon, Washington and Colorado are mostly vote-by-mail states.

The presidential nominees, Democrat Hillary Clinton and Republican Donald Trump, are expected to vote the old-fashioned way, trooping to their

polling places in New York and undoubtedly trailed by cameras.

Their running mates, Tim Kaine of Virginia and Mike Pence of Indiana, are likely to vote at home, later heading for New York to team up with their principals after spending much of the last three months promoting their respective tickets on their own.

It's a curtain-closer on one doozy of a presidential election and on House and Senate races that will determine which party controls Congress for the next two years.

A look at how Election Day unfolds, using Eastern time:

• 6 a.m.: The earliest polls open in scattered states along the East Coast. Already, though, a few hardy folk in three tiny

New Hampshire towns will have gathered just after midnight to win bragging rights as the first to cast Election Day ballots.

• 7 p.m.: Polls close in Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, South Carolina, Vermont and Virginia. This will be the first opportunity to read tea leaves about how things are going. Watch Virginia for an early indication in the presidential contest. Watch Indiana for an early indicator in the Senate; if Evan Bayh can manage a comeback, that'll be a good sign for Democrats who are hoping to retake the Senate.

• 7:30 p.m.: North Carolina, Ohio and West Virginia polls close. North Carolina is a good state to watch on the presidency.

ELECTION » A5

Public procession and funeral planned for Sgt. Allen Brandt

Staff Report
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The body of slain Fairbanks police Sgt. Allen Brandt will return to the city today from Anchorage, with a procession leading from the airport and east along Airport Way.

The Fairbanks Police Department late Monday announced details of the return and of a public funeral scheduled for Sunday.

Here is the schedule:

• The Anchorage route will begin at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue at approximately 11:45 a.m., proceed west on Tudor Road, south on Minnesota, and west on International Airport Road to Anchorage Ted Stevens International



Brandt

al Airport. Members of the public wanting to view the procession should find a safe place to park along the route. Questions about parking should be directed to the Anchorage Police Department.

• The flight from Anchorage is scheduled to arrive in Fairbanks at about 2:30 p.m. A procession will begin at Fairbanks International Airport and proceed east on Airport Way. All traffic will be stopped

when the procession approaches.

Members of the public should arrive no later than 1:30 p.m. and can park along Airport Way east of Dale Road by Pike's Landing, according to the Police Department announcement.

Access to Airport Way from University Avenue will be limited beginning at 1:30 p.m. so travelers going to the airport are advised

BRANDT » A5

Gwich'in name proposed to replace Birch Creek

By Sam Friedman
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A pair of proposals before the Alaska Historical Commission this month seeks to officially rename Birch Creek and one of its side channels to Gwich'in names.

The Birch Creek up for possible renaming is a 344-mile river that flows from near Central to the Yukon River. In the upper section of the river, 110 miles are designated as a federal wild and scenic river.

Edward Alexander of Fort Yukon proposed the name changes for Birch Creek. He proposed the Gwich'in name Ikhèenjik River for the main body of Birch Creek.

Alexander also proposed K'iidoontinjik River for Lower Mouth Birch Creek, a section of the creek that meanders west through the Yukon Flats before flowing into the Yukon River in a different section than the main mouth.

The first name is pronounced like Ih-hey-n-jik, and the second is like ey-dough-tin-jik.

The Alaska Historical Commission will consider the proposal when it meets Nov. 16. A public comment period for the name change proposal ends Nov. 14.

If the nine-member commission approves the name change, it would make the names official in the state. To be recognized at the federal level and used on U.S. Geological Survey maps, the name would then have to be accepted by the U.S. Board of Geographic Names.

CREEK » A3



NOTICE TO REAL PROPERTY TAXPAYERS

• Borough lobby will be open until 12 midnight on November 1st for public access to the tax payment dropbox.

• Payments must be postmarked prior to midnight on November 1st to avoid delinquency.

• Prior year delinquent taxes must be paid by cashiers check, money order, or cash.

Second-half 2016 Real Property Taxes are due Tuesday, November 1, 2016

To make payments on-line visit www.fnsb.us (note: a convenience fee is charged for this service)

TAX BILL

DUE 11/01/16

If you have questions call the FNSB Treasury & Budget Division at 459-1441