



Daily News-Miner

THE VOICE OF INTERIOR ALASKA

Inside Today

Beloved sax returned to owner after alleged thief tries to pawn it. » INTERIOR, A4

GOOD MORNING



The weather.

Cloudy with rain starting in the morning, evening storms and highs in the mid-60s.

High today65
Low tonight54

Sunrise: 3:25 a.m.
Sunset: 12:23 a.m.

WEATHER » A9

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CANTWELL COOKBOOK

Library selling community book as fundraiser.

KRIS CAPPS
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PANNER BASEBALL

Goldpanners split doubleheader with San Francisco Seals.

SPORTS
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QUICK COOKING

This salmon recipe is a simple summer meal.

FOOD
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SOURDOUGH JACK:
"A solved sax crime is music to my ears."



Budget veto cuts low-income heat aid

By Matt Buxton
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With the start of the new fiscal year last Friday, the cuts and vetoes to this year's budget are starting to take effect. One cut will impact more than 9,000 low-income households in Alaska.

That cut ends a state heating assistance for some 1,400 households in Alaska and will reduce assistance to more than 8,000 additional households, according to numbers provided by the Department of Health and Social Services.

According to the depart-

ment, 274 of those households are in the Fairbanks North Star Borough, affecting more than 750 people.

The budget that went into effect Friday eliminated the state-funded portion of the Alaska Heating Assistance Program. The state funding provided an average of about \$560 per year to families making between 151 and 225 percent of the federal poverty income levels.

Its use by Alaskans has declined in recent years, which was one of the reasons put forward for eliminating the roughly \$9 million program.

The cut was not one made through Gov. Bill Walker's \$1.29 billion in vetoes last week or by the Legislature but was made in Walker's proposed budget from December.

"Due to the combination of declining oil revenue to the State of Alaska, and the decline in program caseloads over the past several years, the AKHAP will be discontinued in Fiscal Year 2016," the governor's budget explained.

The impact of the cut will reach beyond the 1,300 households that received assistance through the Alaska Heating Assistance Program, accord-

ing to a news release from the department on Tuesday.

The program supplemented the federal assistance that nearly 8,300 households receive through the Low Income Heating Assistance Program. LIHEAP provides heating assistance to households making 150 percent or less of the federal poverty income threshold.

According to the news release those recipients will receive about 30 percent less because of the cut.

Contact staff writer Matt Buxton at 459-7544. Follow him on Twitter: @FDNMPolitics.

YOUNG LEARNERS



Colton Miller, 5, studies a handout on the European Space Agency's Rosetta spacecraft and its mission to orbit a comet during Space and Aviation Junior Camp at the Pioneer Air Museum on Tuesday. Marci Ward teaches a different topic on space or Alaskan aviation history each week through Labor Day. Classes are \$1 and last 40 minutes in the afternoon on Tuesdays and Thursdays. ERIN CORNELIUSSEN/NEWS-MINER PHOTOS



Above: Adriaanna Fields, 6, and her mother, Laura Minerva, look at a comet Adriaanna made. Right: Saffron Riley, 6, left, and Adriaanna color pictures of the Rosetta spacecraft.



No charges for Clinton, FBI says, despite rebukes

By Eric Tucker and Ken Thomas
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The FBI lifted a major legal threat to Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign Tuesday, recommending no criminal charges for her handling of highly classified material in a private email account. But Director James Comey's scathing criticism of her "extremely careless" behavior revitalized Republican attacks and guaranteed the issue will continue to dog her.

Comey's announcement effectively removed any possibility of criminal prosecution arising from Clinton's email practices as President Barack Obama's secretary of state. Attorney General Loretta Lynch said last week that she intended to accept the recommendations of the FBI and of career prosecutors.

But the FBI director's blistering televised statement excoriated her handling of national secrets, contradicted her past explanations about her emails and ensured she will remain on the defensive about voters'

CLINTON » A10

Lunch today aims to advocate for permanent fund restructure

By Matt Buxton
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Local economic and business groups are joining today to advocate for restructuring the Alaska Permanent Fund to pay for state government.

The so-called "advocacy luncheon" is today from noon to 1 p.m. at the Carlson Center and will feature both Sens. John Coghill and Pete Kelly, two Interior Republicans who voted in favor of restructuring the permanent fund.

The two, along with some local officials, will make the case for restructuring the permanent fund, which would reduce the dividend and make some

of the investment earnings available to government spending.

The meeting comes a week before the Legislature is set to return to Juneau for the second special session on the budget this year and a week after Gov. Bill Walker made history when he became the first governor to reduce the dividend through veto.

Walker called the special session to force the Legislature to continue working on a way to address the state's more than \$3 billion budget deficit with the main piece being an over-



Coghill



Kelly

haul of the permanent fund and its annual payout to Alaska residents.

He said he vetoed half the dividend in hopes of forcing legislators to respond by passing a fiscal plan that protects the state's savings, including the account from which dividends are paid.

The co-hosts of the meeting are the Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce, the Alaska Support Industry Alliance and the Fairbanks Economic Development Corp.

LUNCH » A3

More details emerge on attempted jail house escape

By Dorothy Chomicz
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Two convicted felons found outside their jail cell Monday told prison staff there had been an explosion in their cell.

According to a criminal complaint, Fairbanks Correctional Center staff found Justin Michael Porter and Adam Richard Bloom, both 29, standing in the hallway outside their cell shortly after 7 a.m. Monday.

The window in their cell was heavily damaged, the toilet had garbage in it and there were pieces of window frame and glass all over the floor, according to a criminal complaint filed Tuesday by Alaska State Troopers.

Troopers investigated and determined the center of three metal bars that run horizontally across the window glass was cut in the center and then pried from the wall. The bar was then used as a pry bar to destroy more of the window's structure, according to the complaint.

The window frame was beginning to break away from the wall, and the glass window panel had been broken out. Glass was found inside and outside the cell, and dried blood was found on the window sill and the wall.

Porter and Bloom had cuts and dried blood on their hands, according to the complaint.

ESCAPE » A3

