

## THE VOICE OF INTERIOR ALASKA SINCE 1903

**Inside Today** 

Fairbanks man charged with driving over woman twice in December. » INTERIOR, A4

# GOOD MORNING



#### The weather.

Mostly clear today with a few more clouds overnight.

High today.....-8 Low tonight ..... -24 WEATHER » A9

Aurora forecast. Auroral activity will be moderate. Weather permitting, displays will be visible overhead from Barrow to Talkeetna.

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





#### RIGHT AT HOME School district's theater manager loves her job.

INTERIOR Page A3

## North Pole considers pot restrictions Mayor's proposal would limit marijuana use to homes City Councilman Thom-

**By Amanda Bohman** ABOHMAN@NEWSMINER. COM

North Pole Mayor Bryce Ward introduced legislation on Monday effectively restricting marijuana use outside of the home.

The ordinance is part of a package of measures dealing with the regulation of marijuana in North Pole. The ordinances were advanced for a vote on Feb. 17.

The new voter-approved state law, which goes into effect on Feb. 24, decriminalizes cannabis but prohibits using it in public. What is a public place was left undefined.

Here is how Ward proposes to define a public place: streets, highways, sidewalks, alleys, transportation facilities, parking areas, convention centers, sports arenas, schools, places of business or amusement, shopping centers, malls, parks, playgrounds, prisons and other portions of apartment houses and hotels not constituting rooms or apartments designed for actual residence such as hallways, lobbies and doorways.

"We are saying that the only place it's allowed, if this ordinance passes, is in your home," Ward said.

as McGhee attempted to amend the ordinance by defining public places as those places funded with public money. His amendment failed.

If approved, the fine for using marijuana in public in North Pole would be \$100.

The measure would leave the door open to the possibility of North Pole allowing

**MARIJUANA » A3** 



Airline employees and their families cheer the Seattle Seahawks on the team's return from the Super Bowl Monday at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport in SeaTac, Washington. The Seahawks lost the Super Bowl to the New England Patriots on Sunday. AP PHOTO/ELAINE THOMPSON

# Natural gas could come via railroad

#### By Matt Buxton MBUXTON@NEWSMINER.COM

JUNEAU — The Alaska Railroad is applying to become the nation's first railroad system to ship natural gas by rail, a move that comes as the state looks for cheap ways to deliver the product to Fairbanks.

Alaska Railroad Corp. CEO Bill O'Leary told the Senate Finance Committee on Monday that the public corporation will apply this week with the Federal Railroad Administration to carry liquefied natural gas containers.

The attention comes a week after the state announced plans to buy Fairbanks Natural Gas and parent company Pentex in a bid to bring an increased supply of gas from Cook Inlet to Fairbanks. Gov. Bill Walker said he's targeting a low price for gas and will be looking to use the underutilized Alaska Railroad to achieve that goal. "With these announcements, we are certainly ready, willing and able to help with the movement of LNG," O'Leary told the committee. O'Leary said the application with the federal agency would allow the state railroad to begin shipping liquefied natural gas containers, known as ISO containers. He said the practice is common in Japan but has never been done in the United States. He said he expects the approval process to take

## FUTURE TECH

Could a smartphone completely replace your wallet? Not yet.

> **SCIENCE & TECH** Page B4

#### SOCCER STAR West Valley's

Zackariah Woods named to national all-star team.

#### SPORTS Page B1

#### SOURDOUGH JACK:

"I don't think them 'smartphones' would make good wallets. How would you even get the cash inside 'em?"



INSIDE

# shooting

#### **By Weston Morrow**

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Police are seeking a man accused of firing shots at another person in South Fairbanks during a dispute Sunday afternoon.

Bryon Kozevnikoff, 35, of Fairbanks, is wanted on charges of first-degree attempted murder, four counts of third-degree assault, third-degree misconduct involving a weapon and seconddegree theft, according to Fairbanks city spokeswoman Amber Courtney.

Police said early Monday evening that Kozevnikoff had been on the loose since Sunday afternoon and is considered armed and dangerous.

About noon on Sunday, Kozevnikoff allegedly stole a firearm from the home of an acquaintance he was visiting in the 1000 block of 24th Avenue in South Fairbanks and fired shots at another person. The bullets missed, according to police, but two people still reportedly received superficial injuries during the altercation. No one had to be transported to the hospital.

Courtney said anyone with information on Kozevnikoff's whereabouts should call 911. Contact staff writer Weston Morrow at 459-7520. Follow him on Twitter: @FDNMschools.

# SuspectMan accused of leading teenssought inin Galena liquor store burglar in Galena liquor store burglary

#### **By Sam Friedman** SFRIEDMAN@NEWSMINER. сом

A 19-year-old Galena man has been accused of leading two teenagers to burglarize the Galena liquor store Sunday morning.

Kyle Joseph Nickoli went to the privately owned liquor store through a back vent and took \$60,000 in cash, two cases of rum, nine rolls of chewing tobacco, two boxes of cigarettes and "various food and drinks," alleges a crim-

inal complaint filed in court Monday.

The complaint identifies Nickoli's alleged accomplices, age 15 and 16, only by initials because of their age.

Nickoli was charged with first-degree felony theft, the most serious category of theft under Alaska law. He also was charged with contributing to the delinquency of a minor and violating court-ordered release conditions.

Nickoli was out of jail on \$2,500 bail in an October Fairbanks case in which he is accused of stomping his cousin's head. In that case he was charged with fourthdegree misdemeanor assault. Police initially arrested him on the more serious charge of first-degree assault, but prosecutors reduced the charge a few weeks after Nickoli's arrest, according to court records.

Nickoli is being held without bail at Fairbanks Correctional Center. Contact staff writer Sam Friedman at 459-7545. Follow him on Twitter: @FDNMoutdooors.

GAS » A3

# **Obama submits record \$4 trillion budget**

#### By Andrew Taylor ASSOCIATED PRESS

washington – Promising to help America's middle class, President Barack Obama on Monday sent Congress a record \$4 trillion budget that would hammer corporate profits overseas and raise taxes on the wealthy while boosting tax credits for families and the working poor.

Obama's budget also would steer hundreds of billions of dollars to the nation's crumbling infrastructure of roads and bridges, help provide two years of free community college and reverse the acrossthe-board, automatic budget cuts that have slammed the Pentagon and nearly every government department.

In the face of certain opposition from Republicans, an optimistic Obama hailed a "breakthrough year for America" of new jobs, lower unemployment and shrinking deficits after the great recession of 2008, and he called for moving past years of "mindless austerity." The blueprint for the 2016 budget year that begins Oct. 1 represents a 6.4 percent increase over estimated spending this year, projecting that the deficit will decline to \$474 billion.

However, Obama's plan ignores the new balance of power in Washington, with Republicans running both the House and Senate. The GOP found plenty to

**BUDGET » A3** 

#### Breaking down the Obama budget

President Barack Obama's blueprint for the 2016 budget year calls for spending nearly half a trillion dollars more than the government is projected to take in.



SOURCE: AP analysis of White House figures

AP