



# Daily News-Miner

THE VOICE OF INTERIOR ALASKA

Inside Today UAF stumbles after fast start to a slow finish against Northwest Nazarene. » D1

## Assembly OKs on-site pot resolution

By Kevin Baird  
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A resolution commenting on the Alaska Marijuana Control Board's proposed — and somewhat confusing — regulations for on-site cannabis consumption was approved Thursday night by the Fairbanks North Star Borough Assembly in a 6-3 vote. Assembly members Shaun Tacke, Lance Roberts and Guy Sattley voted against it.

The public commenting was drawn out, with many arguing against on-site consumption altogether, with the possibility of stoned drivers chief among

the concerns.

Blake Burley argued against bringing on-site consumption to the borough just so tourists have a safe place to consume cannabis. He told the assembly to listen to its own residents' concerns about on-site consumption.

Kris Thompson, who supports on-site consumption, said, "If you don't like weed, move to North Pole," where the sale of cannabis is banned.

Karen Bloom, of the Alaskan Blooms cultivation facility, said the resolution was a loss-loss for the industry and prohibitionists. She encouraged the assembly to reject it and wait

for the MCB to finalize the regulations.

Assemblyman Matt Cooper, one of three sponsors of the resolution, asked Bloom whether she were aware regulations are open for public comment, and that the resolution was a means for the borough to give input on them. Bloom said she was aware.

Cooper later said the borough would be "left naked" in a sense if it doesn't comment on the proposed regulations.

"Remaining silent on these things is not going to do us any good," he said. "If they do pass these regulations, we should give input. This is an issue

that would be decided locally. We don't want vagueness if these regulations are adopted. I think it would be a mistake to not have our voice heard."

The resolution calls for "express language" ensuring municipalities can regulate on-site consumption, and asks for more protection for pot shop employees exposed to cannabis smoke.

At Tacke's suggestion, the assembly amended the resolution to strike a comment that encouraged the MCB to consider whether outdoor consumption sites would cause potential conflicts with neighbors.

Assemblyman Christopher Quist agreed with Tacke that smoke would dissipate in the open air and would have little effect on the surrounding area.

"Smoking indoors is a less-safe way to be consumed," he said. "It will dissipate outdoors. We're moving away from indoor smoking of multiple kinds of drugs."

Quist said if on-site consumption is approved by the MCB, the assembly should remember to be neighborly as it deals with on-site consumption on a local level.

MARIJUANA » A5

## Trump: Opioids a public health crisis

By Jill Colvin and  
Carla K. Johnson  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — In ringing terms, President Donald Trump on Thursday declared the opioid crisis a nationwide public health emergency — a step that won't bring new dollars to fight a scourge that kills nearly 100 Americans a day

but will expand access to medical services in rural areas, among other changes.

"This epidemic is a national health emergency," Trump said in a speech at the White House, where he bemoaned a crisis he said had spared no segment of American society.

OPIOIDS » A5



President Donald Trump speaks Thursday during an event to declare the opioid crisis a national public health emergency in the White House in Washington. AP PHOTO/ EVAN VUCCI

## THE TRAIL WENT COLD



A pair of walkers make their way Wednesday down the trail from the UAF West Ridge pull-out to the Georgeson Botanical Garden. ERIC ENGMAN/NEWS-MINER



This is Warren Commission Exhibit No. 697: President John F. Kennedy, extreme left, in his limousine Nov. 22, 1963, in Dallas. His wife, Jacqueline, Gov. John Connally, of Texas, and his wife were in front of the President. AP PHOTO

## The John F. Kennedy files Thousands of documents released

By Calvin Woodward  
and Deb Reichmann  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump blocked the release of hundreds of records on the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, bending to CIA and FBI appeals, while the National Archives

came out Thursday night with a hefty cache of others.

"I have no choice," Trump said in a memo, citing "potentially irreversible harm" to national security if he were to allow all records to come out now. He placed those files under a six-month

JFK » A5

## Much of Alaska's oil reserve is up for bid

ASSOCIATED PRESS

ANCHORAGE — The U.S. Bureau of Land Management has announced it will be accepting oil exploration bids for more than half of the land on a Northern Alaska petroleum reserve that's the size of Indiana.

The bureau's announcement on Wednesday is the largest lease sale to be offered in the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska, Alaska's Energy Desk reported.

A total of 900 tracts are up for bid, compared with the 145 tracts offered last year.

The land up for lease was guided by industry interest in the past. But earlier this year, Inter-

ior Secretary Ryan Zinke directed the bureau to maximize the amount of reserve land available for lease.

The reserve saw a spike in interest from the oil industry last year, which was spurred by a series of oil discoveries around the northeast part of the reserve.

Alaska's congressional delegation praised the announcement, while environmental groups said the reserve should not be "plundered without restraint."

"The (reserve) was always intended for development, not to be locked away in perpetuity like the previous administration attempted," Republican

OIL » A5

## GOOD MORNING



### The weather.

A slight chance of light freezing rain, isolated snow showers morning. Tonight: Snow showers, light freezing rain evening.

High today .....37  
Low tonight .....26

### Aurora forecast.

Auroral activity will be high(+). Weather permitting, highly active auroral displays will be visible overhead from Utqiagvik to as far south as Kodiak.

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>

SOURDOUGH JACK:  
"How about on-site Porta Potties for pot puffing?"



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## ICE DOGS HOCKEY! NORTH vs SOUTH

### Fairbanks Ice Dogs vs Shreveport Mudbugs

Friday, October 27 & Saturday, October 28  
7:30pm at the Big Dipper

On Friday, bring your NEW socks to donate to the Rescue Mission...let's help keep Fairbanks warm!

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