



Daily News-Miner

THE VOICE OF INTERIOR ALASKA

Inside Today Crime continues to dominate discussions on third day of special session. » A4

Trump asks for new defense silo at Greely

By Sam Friedman
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The White House has asked Congress to fund a fourth missile defense silo field at Fort Greely.

Fort Greely, near Delta Junction, is home to most of the United States' ground-based midcourse missile interceptors, missiles designed to protect the United States by intercepting

long range missiles as they fly outside the atmosphere.

In a letter to Congress on Monday, President Donald Trump asked Congress to add \$5.9 billion to this year's budget, including \$4 billion for missile defense and other North Korea-related military spending.

"This request supports additional efforts to detect, defeat and defend against any North

Korean use of ballistic missiles against the United States, its deployed forces, allies or partners," the president said in the letter.

The White House request specifically asked for \$200 million to build a fourth silo field at Fort Greely. Fort Greely currently has three silo fields, with a capacity of 40 interceptors. The United States has an additional four silos at Vandenberg

Air Force Base in California.

The president's request came during his 11-day trip to Asia, which included stops in Japan and South Korea. The budget amendment request also asks Congress for \$1.2 billion to give the Pentagon capacity to deploy an additional 3,500 troops in the war in Afghanistan and \$700 million to repair the USS John S. McCain and the USS Fitzgerald, Navy

destroyers that were damaged in collisions with civilian ships this summer.

In addition to the new defense funding, the president reminded Congress that he wants action on the \$1.6 billion he previously requested for his proposed Mexico border wall.

Alaska's three-member Congressional delegation

GREELY » A3

GOOD MORNING



The weather.

Mostly cloudy then becoming clear. Highs in the upper teens to lower 20s. Light winds. Tonight: Partly cloudy evening.

High today20
Low tonight9

WEATHER » A7

Aurora forecast.

Auroral activity will be moderate. Weather permitting, moderate displays will be visible overhead from Utqiagvik to as far south as 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.gialaska.edu/AuroraForecast>

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PACK IT UP

Stafford, Lions beat struggling Packers.

SPORTS
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SOURDOUGH JACK:

"There's not much worse than being stuck outside on a cold day."



The official ribbon-cutting ceremony took place Monday afternoon during the Tanana Chiefs Conference Sobering Center open house at the facility. ERIC ENGMAN/NEWS-MINER

Sobering Center gets dedicated

By Kevin Baird
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The Tanana Chiefs Conference Sobering Center was dedicated Monday afternoon and will have a soft opening "very soon," said Shirley Lee, a TCC employee who took the lead on bringing the sobering center to Fairbanks.

Seven people froze to death in Fairbanks during the 2007-08 winter, Lee said during the dedication, and six of those people were intoxicated with nowhere to go. Since then, TCC and other local organizations have looked at solving the issue. Since then, TCC established Housing First to provide a long-term housing solution to people battling addiction. But a more immediate way to help intoxicated people remained. The



The Tanana Chiefs Conference Sobering Center at 1300 Moore St. on Monday afternoon.

new sobering center addresses that issue.

"They deserve our help," Lee said.

Law enforcement officers or the Fairbanks Community Service Patrol can bring people to the sobering center, or people can admit themselves. The

Sobering Center gives intoxicated guests a chance to sober up for 12 hours in a safe environment. After being medically cleared, guests will be interviewed to see which other services they might need such as further detox from other

substances, addiction counseling or safe shelter from domestic violence.

The Sobering Center was originally supposed to open in June but the lease took longer than expected. Finding the

CENTER » A5

Man charged with attempted murder found soaked in blood

By Dorothy Chomicz
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A Fairbanks man accused of stabbing a man in the neck at a westside hotel room Friday night was shirtless and his remaining clothing was soaked in blood when he was taken into custody several hours after the incident, according to a criminal complaint filed in

Fairbanks court. Christopher Duane Turco, 39, is charged with attempted murder and two counts of first-degree assault. He was arraigned Saturday and is being held without bail at Fairbanks Correctional Center.

Emergency medical personnel and multiple Alaska State Trooper and Fairbanks police units responded to

the Extended Stay America hotel on Old Airport Way at 7:19 p.m. after a woman called 911 to report a heavily bleeding man lying in the road with a severe neck injury. The victim had sustained "major trauma to his neck" and was unconscious, according to the complaint.

MURDER » A5

Walker, who has a child attending a different high school, said she also planned to send her child to school. Parents are being encouraged to make up their own mind about sending their student to school, Walker said.

"We take all of these threats seriously," Walker said. "The parents that have called, we've said

THREAT » A5

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