ANCHORAGE DAILY NEWS

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STATE OF ALASKA
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Lisi Misa
being first duly sworn on oath deposes and says that she is a representative of the Anchorage Daily News, a daily newspaper. That said newspaper has been approved by the Third Judicial Court, Anchorage, Alaska, and it now and has been published in the English language continually as a daily newspaper in Anchorage, Alaska, and it is now and during all said time was printed in an office maintained at the aforesaid place of publication of said newspaper. That the annexed is a copy of an advertisement as it was published in regular issues (and not in supplemental form) of said newspaper on

Mar. 24, 31, Apr. 7/ 2023

and that such newspaper was regularly distributed to its subscribers during all of said period. That the full amount of the fee charged for the foregoing publication is not in excess of the rate charged private individuals.

Signed Lisi Misa

Subscribed and sworn to before

me this 7th day of Apr.

2023 Jada L. Nowling

Notary Public in and for
The State of Alaska.
Third Division
Anchorage, Alaska
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7/14/2024

Jada L. Nowling
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MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 07/14/2024

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POLITICS

Peltola votes against GOP-led House energy package but says permitting reform is needed

Riley Rogerson
Anchorage Daily News

WASHINGTON — Alaska Democratic Rep. Mary Peltola voted against a Republican-led energy package aimed at spurring energy production on public lands, saying the measure's "overarching intent was very good but the particulars are not so good."

The bill, dubbed the Lower Energy Costs Act, passed the House 225 to 204 with four Democrat defections. The measure has no prospects in the Democrat-controlled Senate, but makes good on House Republicans' campaign commitment to pass legislation that seeks to address domestic energy production and high gasoline prices.

The 175-page, wide-ranging measure intends to expedite permitting timelines for infrastructure projects by lowering standards on environmental reviews. Among other items, the bill also mandates that the Department of the Interior annually hold at least four oil and gas lease sales in the state of Alaska and a minimum of two offshore oil and gas lease sales in the Alaska region of the Outer Continental Shelf.

Peltola raised concerns that the bill rolls back parts of the Inflation Reduction Act, Democrats' signature $370 billion climate legislation, that encourage clean energy development.

"I think that there is a desire to get onto renewables and to get more energy that is more reliable and more stable prices, and that is just inherently more stable, like solar and wind," she said.

Peltola said despite voting against the bill, she is open to permitting reform efforts that look at that the National Environmental Policy Act, which requires federal regulators to consider projects' environmental impacts and allows for public comment.

"I think all parties are frustrated with the NEPA process," she said. "I don't think it's reasonable to have to spend 10 years on the permitting process, and this holds true for renewable projects as well. This conversation is just about as much about renewable projects as it is about petroleum projects."

Peltola said she believes in a public process, but supports considering ways the permitting process can move faster.

BECKY BOHRER / AP archive February 2023

Alaska U.S. Rep. Mary Peltola, a Democrat, speaks to reporters after giving an address to state lawmakers on Feb. 17 in Juneau.

"If we were ever to transition to something renewable, we don't want a clunky permitting system that's going to take 10 years," she said. "So that is why I support really looking at the NEPA process and seeing how we can make it better."

Permitting reform has been a major focus for Alaska Republican Sens. Lisa Murkowski and Dan Sullivan. Murkowski and Sullivan were two of seven Republican senators who backed a permitting reform effort led by West Virginia Democratic Sen. Joe Manchin last year.

Murkowski, the former chair of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, said Wednesday that she had not thoroughly considered the House package, but is interested in reviewing the permitting provisions in the bill.

"As one who is always very engaged in the energy issues and who is keenly interested in advancing permitting priorities, I want to look at it to see, are there parts of this House bill that we might be able to generate a level of support for on this side?" Murkowski said.

Last summer, Sullivan led a resolution to repeal some federal permitting regulations, which passed the Senate. Sullivan last month said that he remains committed to reforming the permitting process, which he called "broken."

"The dollars are coming, but if you can't permit the project on time, the opportunity goes away," Sullivan said in February.

ANCHORAGE

Animal shelter halts dog adoptions and surrenders due to highly contagious virus

Tess Williams
Anchorage Daily News

Anchorage Animal Care and Control stopped accepting or adopting out dogs this week after several animals tested positive for the highly contagious canine parvovirus.

Municipal officials expect the shelter to reopen for adoptions within the next few days, but it will be at least two weeks before they can accept any dogs. In the meantime, the shelter is asking people to utilize social media or other websites to help reunite strays with their owners or rehome a dog.

The shelter remains open and adoptions for cats or other animals are not affected by the parvo outbreak.

Two puppies brought to the shelter as strays began showing parvo symptoms after they'd been admitted and both tested positive for the virus on Tuesday, according to shelter spokesman Joel Jorgensen. Symptoms of the virus include vomiting, diarrhea and severe lethargy.

"We caught it pretty quickly from their entry into the shelter, but it usually takes a day or two until any of those symptoms start showing after they get it, and at that point they're in the shelter and they've been walking around," Jorgensen said.

A third dog, also less than a year old, tested positive for the virus on Wednesday, he said. Young dogs are more susceptible to parvovirus because they may not have completed their vaccination cycles and have weaker immune systems.

Treatment for parvo can be costly, so Jorgensen said the shelter had to euthanize the three dogs who tested positive.

Parvovirus spreads through contact and can be deadly if left untreated. It can be prevented with a vaccine.

The shelter automatically vaccinates dogs against parvovirus when they are surrendered, but Jorgensen said that the vaccine will not treat a dog who is already infected.

Every dog in the shelter is undergoing testing for the virus, Jorgensen said, and animals exhibiting symptoms are being quarantined to prevent any further spread. Adoptions will likely resume in the next few days, he said, but the shelter has to wait two weeks from the last positive test before they can accept more dogs.

"We don't want to put those animals in any health risk," Jorgensen said. "So it's really just asking the community to do their part to try to either find the stray's family, find a foster for it until we can reopen or adopt it themselves if they like it."

Jorgensen recommended checking social media, or websites like Craigslist and Alaska's List to find a new home for their pet or to search for a stray dog's owner.

Animal Care and Control officials are contacting people who adopted pets during the previous month, but Jorgensen said none had reported that their dogs were ill by Thursday.

The shelter had 64 dogs on Thursday, which is slightly higher than normal, Jorgensen said, adding the facility normally sees an increase this time of year.

MAT SU

Both drivers killed in head-on collision on Parks Highway in Houston

Anchorage Daily News

Two Willow residents died in a head-on collision Wednesday afternoon on the Parks Highway in Mat-Su, Alaska State Troopers said.

Investigators responded to reports of the collision in Houston at 5:35 p.m. and found that a 2005 Honda Pilot and 2001 Chevrolet pickup were involved, troopers said. Melissa Keown, 53, was driving the Honda and 71-year-old Michael Vial was driving the pickup, according to troopers.

They both died at the scene of the collision, in the area of Zero Lake Road at Mile 59 of the highway. No one else was in either vehicle.

Both were wearing seatbelts, troopers said.

Investigators are working to determine what caused the collision, said spokesman Austin McDaniel.

The highway was shut down for just over an hour and reopened to one lane at about 6:45 p.m., Houston officials said.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

A dance show, a mountain of music options and the Fringe Fest kickoff

THIS WEEKEND IN ANCHORAGE

Anchorage Daily News

The calendar turns to April this weekend, and spring activities are heating up just like temperatures. This weekend's events feature the close of the Pulse Dance Company's 13th season, performances from the Anchorage Symphony Orchestra and Anchorage Community Concert Band plus a fundraiser for Anchorage libraries. Here's a sampling of what's happening this weekend:

Asian Culture Night features Korea: 7 p.m. Friday, Atwood Theater, 621 W. 6th Ave.

This event features music and dance of Korea by the Sorigae Molgae. The Seoul-based performer presents Korean music through traditional Samulnori performances, performing with various foreign music genres including classic and jazz.

Pulse Dance Company in Concert: 7:30 p.m. Friday/Saturday, Sydney Laurence Theatre, 621 W. 6th St.

The Pulse Dance Company celebrates its 13th season with a show featuring both new and established choreographers, including Brittany Petry, Robyn Minor, Lee Ann Lopez and Kelsey Anderson. Tickets are $35.

Sweet Cheeks Cabaret 10th Anniversary Hullabaloo: 8 p.m. Friday/Saturday, 12:30 p.m. Sunday, The Broken Bleader, 535 W. 3rd Ave.

This multiday burlesque celebration features a Pandora's box performance on Friday. Saturday's show is titled "It's Phoebe's Line Anyway" and Sunday's brunch glam gathering is "Violet's Voluptuously Visual Show." Tickets range from $27-$36.

Anchorage Home Show: 10 a.m. Saturday/Sunday, Alaska Airlines Center, 3550 Providence Dr.

This is among the biggest home events of the year with more than 100 vendors. There are experts available for a remodel or redesign along with seminars for new projects. Tickets are $10 and $8 for military and senior citizens. Ages 17 and under are free.

Photo by HENRY TAYLOR

The powerful female cast is ready for battle in "Wars Within Us" by Kelsey Anderson.

Out North Fringe Fest: 4 p.m. Saturday, 411 D St.

The Fringe Fest kicks off with an open house on Saturday. The event highlights upcoming performances, activities and events in downtown Anchorage during the fest, which runs through April. Tours are available of the theater space, zines from Tent City Press and information on the Anchorage International Film Festival. Plus details on "Found Sound" an analog music project. The event is free and no registration is necessary.

Anchorage Library Fundraiser: 6 p.m. Saturday, Marriott Anchorage Downtown, 820 W. 7th Ave.

"Tricksters, Fools and Follies: An April Fool's Day Celebration for the Library" is the title of this dinner gala. Mr. Whitelseys is the keynote speaker for the event, which includes both live and online auctions. All funds raised support five Anchorage-area libraries. Tickets are available at librarychampion.com.

Going Places: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Discovery Theatre, 621 W. 6th Ave.

The Anchorage Community Concert Band's spring concert is a free event for the public. This performance features a variety of selections from "The King and I," "Down a Country Lane," the "Manhattan Symphony" and pieces by John Philip Sousa.

Family Concert: 3 p.m. Sunday, Alaska Center for the Performing Arts, 621 W. 6th St.

The Anchorage Symphony Orchestra's Family Concert returns with a performance of Russel Peck's "Thrill of the Orchestra" along with other family-friendly pieces. Tickets are $20 for adults and $14 for youths.

Check our online calendar for more event listings at adn.com/calendar.

MUSIC

Yung Gravy added to entertainment lineup at 2023 Alaska State Fair

Anchorage Daily News

Yung Gravy has been added to the entertainment lineup at the 2023 Alaska State Fair. The rapper will perform as part of the AT&T Concert Series on Monday, Aug. 28, at 7 p.m. Tickets for the show go on sale Friday at 10 a.m. Tickets, which include fair admission are $65 reserved and $55 on the lawn.

Starting out as a rising star on Soundcloud, Yung Gravy has gone on produce platinum singles like "Mr. Clean." Last month, the fair announced its first round of main stage entertainment options, which include Megadeth, Blues Traveler and Flogging Molly.

Yung Gravy is the latest in a list of major concert announcements over the last month.

Earlier this week, the Alaska Airlines Center and Williwaw announced Limp Bizkit will be performing at Alaska Airlines Center on Saturday, May 13. Presale is already underway but tickets go on sale to the public Friday at 10 a.m. Locals Delmag and Thera are scheduled to open the show and tickets range from $89 to $129.

DOUGLAS B. CLIFFORD / This archive May 2021

Minnesota rapper Yung Gravy performs with DJ Thunderlip on May 22, 2021 in Thunder Alley before the start of an NHL playoff game in Tampa Bay.

Fred Durst and DJ Lethal will be part of Limp Bizkit Eve on May 12 at Williwaw with Tayy Tarantino providing local support.

Earlier this month, Showdown Alaska and Moose's Tooth announced the lineup for the second annual Sundown Solstice Festival. It includes headliners Rae Sremmurd, Big Boi, Chromeo, and Slander and will be held at Cuddy Park. The festival will run from June 16-18 and will have vendors and food trucks. Local bands are also on the bill and well as acts like Freddie Gibbs, Nghtmre, OhGeesy, Claude VonStroke and Silverstein. Tickets are on sale now and 3-day general admission passes are $179. VIP packages are available.

Late last month, Erickson Unlimited announced it was bringing Grammy winning and platinum-selling band Train to Anchorage for a show on July 15. The all-ages show is being held at the Chinook Lot at 3rd and E Street downtown. Tickets are on sale now and are $85 with VIP packages available.

Cannabis 49 LLC is applying under 3 AAC 306.300 for a new Retail Marijuana Store License #25823, doing business as Coastal Cannabis Company, located at 1900 Mineral Creek Loop Rd. Valdez, AK, 99686, UNITED STATES.

Interested persons may object to the application by submitting a written statement of reasons for the objection to their local government, the applicant, and the Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office (AMCO) not later than 30 days after the director has determined the application to be complete and has given written notice to the local government. Once an application is determined to be complete, the objection deadline and application information will be posted on AMCO's website at https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/amco. Objections should be sent to AMCO at marijuana.licensing@alaska.gov or to 550 W 7th Ave, Suite 1600, Anchorage, AK 99501.

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ANCHORAGE

Director of city's Solid Waste Services resigns

Emily Goodykoontz
Anchorage Daily News

Anchorage's director of Solid Waste Services, Dan Zipay, resigned on Thursday, according to the mayor's office.

Mayor Dave Bronson gave no reason for Zipay's departure in a news release late Thursday afternoon, and did not comment on his tenure. The mayor's office did not immediately respond to questions about why Zipay is abruptly leaving the position. Zipay could not immediately be reached for comment.

Bronson has selected longtime Solid Waste staff member Evalu Filitaula as acting director, effective immediately, according to the mayor's office.

"Mr. Filitaula has been with SWS since 2005, and most recently worked as the General Foreman for the utility. The search for a permanent director will begin immediately," the mayor's office said.

The announcement came the day after the mayor's office suddenly announced the resignation of Adam Trombley, who had been chief of staff to the mayor. Tuesday was Trombley's last day on the job.

Bronson appointed Zipay in August 2021 to replace Solid Waste Services' previous director, Mark Spafford. Zipay oversaw the city's garbage collection, disposal, landfill, recycling and composting and other services.

Zipay owns Anchorage commercial trucking company Alaska Pro Truck and is the founder and former president and CEO of Alaska Waste, an Anchorage-based waste collection company, which he sold in 2009, according to the mayor's office.

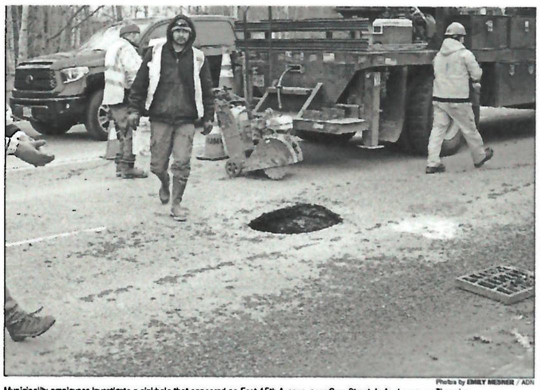
At the time of his appointment, state records showed Zipay and Roberta Zipay as 25% shareholders in a local, private waste service, Denali Disposal, according to state. State records also showed Bernadette Wilson — a former campaign chair for Bronson and Zipay's daughter — holding the other 75% in Denali Disposal.

At the time, the mayor's office said Zipay had become a silent partner in Denali Disposal in 2017. The mayor's office also said that Zipay was not involved in operations or decision-making, and that he was in the process of relinquishing his ownership stake and would no longer serve as a corporate officer for the company. Zipay is no longer listed as a shareholder.

Zipay's resignation is yet another in a string of resignations and firings of Bronson's top executives. Multiple executive jobs are unfilled, while some departments are being led by acting directors. Bronson's administration has seen upheaval amid a series of controversies.

Most notably, Bronson in December fired former city manager Amy Demboski. Later, in a scathing letter, Demboski accused Bronson and members of his administration of unethical behavior, misconduct and fostering a hostile work environment, among other allegations.

Since Demboski's firing, former acting municipal attorney Blair Christensen has also resigned, former deputy chief of staff Brice Wilbanks abruptly resigned, and the city's Human Resources director, Niki Tshibaka, resigned.



Photos by EMILY MESNER / ADN

Municipality employees investigate a sinkhole that appeared on East 15th Avenue, near Orca Street, in Anchorage on Thursday.

ANCHORAGE

Sinkhole closes portion of East 15th Avenue as crews assess repairs

Tess Williams
Anchorage Daily News

East 15th Avenue is expected to be closed in both directions between Lake Otis Parkway and Orca Street until Friday evening as crews repair a sinkhole, a municipal official said.

Anchorage police issued an alert Thursday morning asking drivers to use another route as municipal street maintenance workers assess the situation. Crews initially responded to a report of a pothole that came in around 6:45 a.m., then discovered it was actually a deeper sinkhole, said municipal Street Maintenance Manager Paul VanLandingham.

An aging pipe below the road separated at its joints and collapsed, he said, which created a void that led to the sinkhole. Crews will replace that section of pipe Thursday night and resume work early Friday, VanLandingham said.

The goal is to reopen the road between 5 and 6 p.m. Friday, he said.

A municipality employee uses a flashlight to inspect a sinkhole that appeared on East 15th Avenue, near Orca Street.

CRIMES & COURTS

Former Alaska man charged in cold case sexual assault from 1995

Michelle Theriault Boots
Anchorage Daily News

A former Anchorage man has been charged with sexually assaulting a teenager outside an East Anchorage restaurant in 1995.

The case is the second time in a month Alaska prosecutors have charged a cold case sex crime based on the results of an effort to reexamine long-untested DNA evidence.

Ronald Wade Fischer, 51, was indicted by an Anchorage grand jury last week on a single charge of sexual assault in the first degree, the Alaska Department of Law said in a statement Thursday.

An indictment in the cases gives few details about the alleged crime. The victim, a 17-year-old girl, was walking on a sidewalk near the former Royal Fork Buffet restaurant on Northway Drive before the alleged assault, which happened in February 1995, said Department of Law spokeswoman Patty Sullivan.

"Mr. Fischer was a stranger to her," she said.

Police investigated at the time and took DNA evidence from the victim, but failed to identify a suspect, the department said. The case went cold for decades.

In 2020, the kit was unearthed thanks to a legislatively-funded push to test a backlog of thousands of evidence kits held by local law enforcement agencies around the state. Fischer's DNA matched, the department said.

In a similar case charged in February, an Anchorage grand jury indicted 52-year-old Lawrence Andrew Lekanoff on charges he'd abused children at a park in Anchorage in 1994. Lekanoff was also identified by the effort to process untested sexual assault kits, the Department of Law said at the time.

The statewide cold case prosecutor has charged four people based on evidence from the project testing kits from local police department agencies, Sullivan said.

"Additional cases have been charged across the state by other prosecutors," she said.

Public records show that Fischer lived in Anchorage in the 1990s but later moved Outside.

Fischer will be extradited to Alaska from Ohio, Sullivan said.

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ANCHORAGE ELECTIONS

Updated election results show no changes to leaders in Assembly, School Board races

Anchorage Daily News

Updated results posted Thursday in the Anchorage municipal election showed no significant changes, with all but one Assembly candidate aligned with the current majority maintaining significant leads.

Two Anchorage School Board incumbents are also far ahead of their challengers. And with the exception of Proposition 13, voters appear set to approve all bonds and ballot measures.

By Thursday, election officials had counted 41,020 ballots, representing 17.4% of registered voters. That's an additional 7,711 ballots over Wednesday's results. The election center had received and sorted about 58,000 ballot envelopes by Thursday, and officials were still working to sort more. More ballots will trickle in by mail and be counted in the coming days.

In the West Anchorage Assembly race, Anna Brawley had 58.1% of the vote, reflecting a more than 20-point lead over her next closest opponent, Brian Flynn, who had 37.8% of the vote. In South Anchorage, Zac Johnson maintained his lead with more than 52% of the vote, while Bronson-endorsed opponent Rachel Ries had 44% of the vote.

Incumbent and Assembly Vice Chair Christopher Constant is winning the North Anchorage race with 64.9% of the vote, reflecting a 42-point lead over his closest challenger. Midtown incumbent Assembly member Felix Rivera also has a strong lead with 56.1% of the vote over opponent Travis Szanto, who had 43.9% of the vote.

In the two East Anchorage races, Assembly-aligned candidates also held their wide leads. George Martinez on Wednesday had 56.3% of the vote, a more than 12-point lead over Spencer Moore. Karen Bronga had almost 60% of the vote, while opponent Leigh Sloan had just over 40%.

The Eagle River/Chugiak race is the only Assembly race where a conservative, Scott Myers, is leading. He has 57% of the vote so far.

In the Anchorage School Board races, incumbents Dave Donley and Andy Holleman also held significant leads over their challengers. Donley had 57.2% of the vote in his race against Irene Boll, while Holleman had 55.1% of the vote in his race against Mark Anthony Cox.

Nearly all of the city's bonds and ballot measures, including the school bond, appeared to be passing in results posted Thursday, with the exception of Proposition 13. That proposition would change how the city holds special elections if an Assembly member or mayor leaves office before their term ends.

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WORSHIP SERVICES

Worship Directory

Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
"The Light of Reason, the Warmth of Community"
Sunday 9 a.m.: Virtual Forum—Zoom Only
Joclyn Reilly, Postpartum Support Int'l
"Perinatal Mental Health 101
Advocacy, Awareness, and Education"
Sun 11 am: In-person and Zoom Worship
"Rethinking, Reimagining, Recreating"
Rev. Lise Adams Sherry, Barb Clark
Join us on Zoom by going to anchorageuuf.org and clicking on the link under Sunday @ Zoom, or Facebook.com/anchorageuuu. In-person events at 2824 E.18th Ave. Everyone welcome.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church
Anchorage, Alaska
Find us at
Lake Otis Pkwy & Tudor Rd,
at www.GodsView.org,
on Facebook @stmarysak
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where all are welcome.
REALLY. EVERYONE.
All are welcome!
Livestreaming worship Sundays
at 10 am at www.GodsView.org

ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Holy Week Worship Schedule
Maundy Thursday – Thursday, April 6th
Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar, 7:00pm
Good Friday – Friday, April 7th
Stations of the Cross, 5:30pm
Good Friday Liturgy, 6:00pm
Easter Sunday – Sunday, April 9th
Solemn High Eucharist, 10:30am
EASTER
545 West 8th Ave
(907) 279-3924
http://allsaintsalaska.org

To list your church services in this worship directory:
Call Ryan Estrada at 257-4270 or email to restrada@adn.com
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