

Inside Today

Borough, trails commission ponder commercial motor activity on trails • A8

District enrollment down almost 600 students

By Anna Lionas

Enrollment is down by almost 600 students in the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District this year compared to last as recorded according to a preliminary tally from the district's count period.

This is a 5% decline in enrollment over the past year and marks a 23% decline over the past 20 years. The count period determines the funding the district receives from the state, a majority share of their overall budget.

Each student receives an amount from the state, based on a per student funding formula which incorporates other factors that vary by child. The district's Senior Research Analyst Ellis Ott gave a breakdown of where students were

coming and going and possible reasons for the decline. Ott said 2,533 students left the district between last year and this current year, 29.8% of that number graduated and 15.1% transferred to a homeschool/correspon-

dence program out of the district. The biggest contributing factor is 1,029 students, or 58%, that moved out of the state of Alaska with their families. Other factors were moves within the state, unaccounted for drop

outs and transfers to private schools in the borough. The district gained 1,944 students in the same time period, mostly entering the district though pre-school and

ENROLLMENT » A5

GOOD MORNING



The weather

Low clouds

High today 21

Low tonight 11

Sunrise: 8:58 a.m.

Sunset: 4:08 p.m.

WEATHER » A3

...

Aurora forecast

Active aurora activity forecasted. If skies are clear, active auroral displays may be visible overhead from Utqiagvik to Anchorage and Juneau, and may be visible low on the horizon from King Salmon and Ketchikan.

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>

...

UAF men's basketball win season opener vs. Pacific Union, 92-59 • Page B1

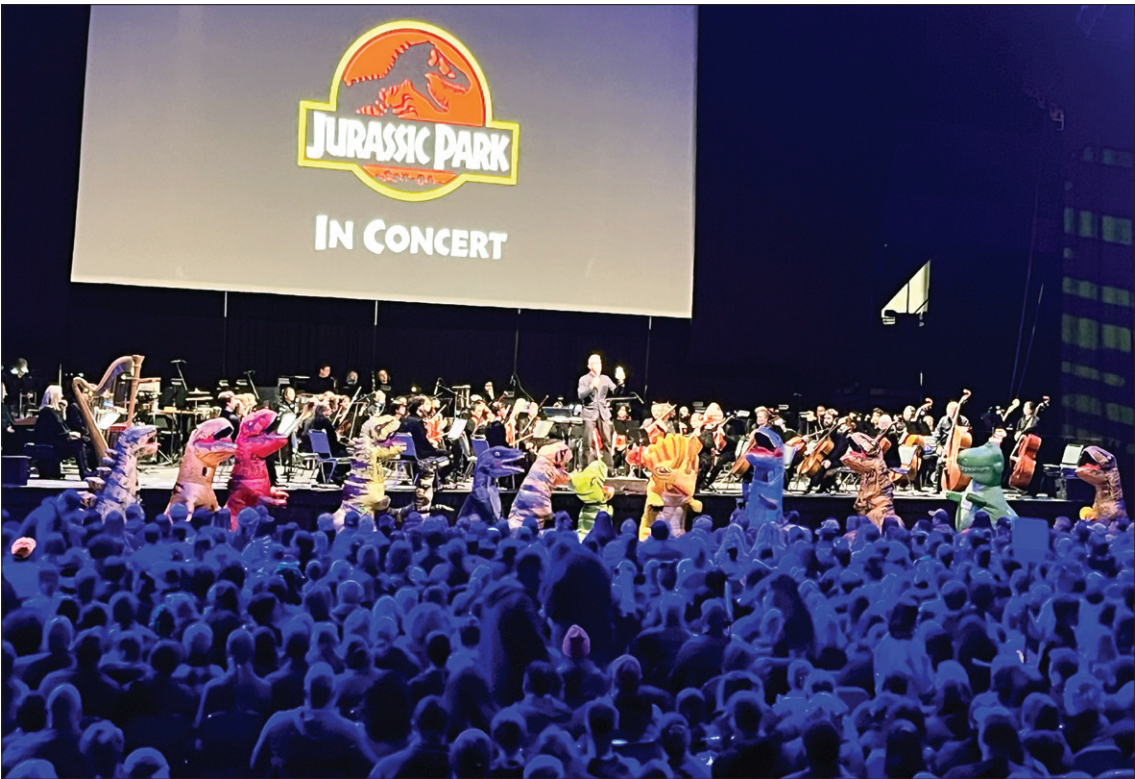
...

SOURDOUGH JACK:

"Nothing's gonna Tricera-top that Dino-mite performance!"



SYMPHONY UNEARTHS DINOSAUR MANIA



JACK BARNWELL/NEWS-MINER

Fairbanks Dinosaurs made the Jurassic Park Concert a special evening.

'Jurassic Park' thrills thousands



Kris Capps
COMMUNITY EDITOR
kcapps@newsminer.com

The question on the lips of everyone who attended the Fairbanks Symphony Orchestra's spectacular "Jurassic Park" Concert last weekend is this: Will they do something similar again? The answer is a resounding "Yes." The next movie and accompanying soundtrack hasn't been selected yet, but Executive Director Daniel Ponickly said, "There will be a next time. Oh yeah. Absolutely."



JACK BARNWELL/NEWS-MINER

Audience members were thrilled by the dinosaurs — even this creepy one.

SYMPHONY » A2

A number of Fairbanks events to honor veterans

Staff report

Several events are set to honor U.S. military veterans in the Fairbanks North Star Borough next Tuesday as Alaska and the nation commemorate Veterans Day.

UAF student veterans celebration

The University of Alaska Fairbanks Student Veterans of America will host a ceremony honoring and celebrating student veterans and military-connected families at the Rasmuson Library, Room 403. "The Student Veterans of America (SVA) at UAF is committed to supporting all military-connected students, and I hope to demonstrate that commitment throughout this event," stated Sean Wise, the UAF SVA chapter president. "It's a celebration of veterans, allowing them to relax and truly feel appreciated for their

service. I am fully committed to uplifting and honoring our veteran community here at UAF and across the country." The event starts at 10 a.m., with resources for student veterans available, including financial aid, academic advisors, the Student Success Center, and representatives from the UAF Department of Military and Veterans Services. At 11:11 a.m., Wise will kick off the ceremony with recognition of veterans on campus. From 11:30 a.m. to noon, lunch will be served. The event wraps up at 3 p.m.

Festival Fairbanks ceremony canceled

The annual Veterans Day ceremony hosted by Festival Fairbanks at the Westmark Hotel has been cancelled due to the ongoing government shutdown. In a news release, Fes-



JACK BARNWELL/NEWS-MINER

A joint Fort Wainwright and Eielson Air Force Base color guard parade the flags at the start of a Veterans Day ceremony in 2024.

tival Fairbanks Executive Director Julie Jones said while the ceremony could have gone forward, it would have been greatly diminished. "It is important to acknowledge that the overall atmosphere of formality and significance may be diminished without the active participation of top-level post commanders and a united military honor guard,"

Jones said. "Please know that the board of directors and staff of Festival Fairbanks regret having to cancel this cherished tradition. We encourage all community members to take time to honor those who are currently serving and have served." Jones encouraged attendance at events held by local Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legions, as well as the

Pioneer Home.

Armistice Day ceremony

The Alaska Peace Center, Veterans for Peace and Fairbanks Peace Choir will hold an Armistice Day ceremony beginning at 10:45 a.m. at Veterans Memorial Park, 700 Cushman St. The event

VETERANS » A6