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# The Week in News

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UNIVERSITY  
of ALASKA  
SOUTHEAST

WHALESONG



# State and Local Headlines

- Coeur Alaska, Inc, owner of Juneau's Kensington gold mine, has donated \$30,000 for scholarships to UAS students enrolled in the Environmental Science, Marine Biology, or Environmental Resources programs. The funds will provide a minimum award of \$3,000, with preference given to full-time Juneau or Southeast residents who maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher.



# State and Local Headlines

- University of Alaska Anchorage Chancellor Sean Parnell will retire this summer after four years in the role. Parnell, 62, also served as Alaska governor and lieutenant governor and represented Anchorage in the state Senate. In a message to the UAA community, he said he was retiring to pursue research and writing and spend more time with his family. UA President Pat Pitney says his replacement will be chosen in the coming months.



# State and Local Headlines

- Denali, the tallest mountain in America, has been renamed Mt. McKinley, at least on paper. The official action came from the Department of the Interior on Jan. 25, four days after President Trump signed an executive order that also changed the Gulf of Mexico to the Gulf of America. The change will not be immediate on some documents and websites. In a recent Alaska Survey Research poll of 1,816 Alaska adults, 54% opposed the change, 26% supported the change, and 20% had no opinion.



# State and Local Headlines

- The 34th Alaska State Legislature gaveled in on Jan. 21 in Juneau. Energy and education are the Senate majority caucus's top goals for the session. On Monday, the House Education Committee will take up HB 69, permanently increasing the Base Student Allocation to school districts. The committee will take testimony on HB 69 on Wednesday. Sitka Nonaffiliated Rep. Rebecca Himschoot introduced the bill.



# State and Local Headlines

- The Aleut Community of St. Paul Island has signed an agreement with the federal government to jointly manage the water surrounding the island. John Melovidov, Tribal Council President, said the National Marine Fisheries Service partnership is a step toward environmental stewardship in a dynamically changing marine ecosystem that acknowledges the Unangax̂ people's connection to the region.



# Sources

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- <https://www.ktoo.org/>
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