



Seldovia Gazette

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Seldovia, AK

54 °F / 12 °C

Light Rain
at 3:53 PM



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Thursday, July 28, 2005

Just another day in paradise

Vol. 1, No. 8, July 28, 2005

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2 Cents Worth

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Spotlight

▶ [Seldovia welcomes a new family - the Blodgetts!](#)

This past week has seen some painful days in Seldovia. Please keep these families in your prayers .



Our deepest sympathies to Ronda and Paul Haynes and their families and friends in the passing of their daughter Brooke Haynes



Our deepest sympathies to Sharon and Darwin Lewis, Robbie Jones and their families and friends in the passing of their grandson Andrew Jones

Marketplace

>> Summer Special <<



2 nights at Seaport Cottages + Round trip on Smokey Bay!
Only \$275. Call for details 907-234-7483

Support the Seldovia Sea Otter Booster Club
Help keep sports and academic travel programs alive for our school!



Seldovia Boat Slips for Rent
The Seldovia harbor has 32 foot and 42 foot slips for rent. Call for details:
Harbor Master (907) 234-7886
City Office (907) 234-7643

Top Stories

Comprehensive plan completed *by Damara Burnett*

Council praises committee for completing draft, asks for public meeting to be set

After many volunteers, years of sifting through data, and countless hours spent organizing and formalizing the citizenry's goals for the city, the Seldovia Planning & Zoning Committee has completed its draft of the long-awaited Comprehensive Plan. The document contains everything from Seldovia's "vision" to the demographics of the region to the city's "economic resources" and development plans. According to city officials, it is a necessary report in order to secure funding for future projects in Seldovia.

On Wednesday, July 27th, Paulie Carluccio, a member of the committee, presented the City Council with a first draft of the plan. Kudos were voiced by the Council to Carluccio and the various P&Z volunteers, such as Mark Massion and Bobbi Sweatt, who have worked on the Comprehensive Plan over the years.

"I know the work that went into this," said City Manager Kurt Reynertson.



"It's a very important document and will enable us to go forward on a number of projects."

Reynertson asked the Council for passage of the plan by mid-August so potential "fall-out" money from the Denali Commission might be secured for the Tank-Farm Project.

Carluccio noted that there are some errors and omissions in the draft which need revision, but said the document is mostly finished. Following a request by Councilman Steve Lewis, Carluccio said P&Z could formally approve the draft at their next meeting and then hold a town meeting the following week to receive any final suggestions from the community.

"This is supposed to be the plan of the citizens of this city," Lewis said. "It needs to be out for public review."

A copy of the draft Comprehensive Plan as presented at the City Council meeting can be downloaded with the following links. (Note: these files require a free [Adobe Acrobat Reader](#) in order to read or print the pdf file)

- ▶ [Comprehensive Plan Public Review Draft, July 27, 2005 \(pdf\)](#) **NEW!**
- ▶ [Part 2 - Index](#)
- ▶ [Amended FY05 Seldovia City Budget 7-8-2005 \(pdf\)](#)
- ▶ [Comprehensive Plan Public Review Draft, July 27, 2005 \(pdf\)](#)
- ▶ [Comprehensive Plan Index, July 27, 2005 \(pdf\)](#)

A P&Z special meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 1st, 2005 in order to review the draft Comprehensive Plan. Public comments will be accepted at the P&Z meeting. Another public hearing for final adoption of the Comprehensive Plan is scheduled for August 10th, 2005 - time and location to be announced.

In other council news...

by Damara Burnett

City questions terms of State Trooper contract

The City Council refrained from accepting a Department of Public Safety (DPS) renewal contract for a State Trooper position in Seldovia until certain terms of the contract could be clarified. The decision came following a lengthy discussion from the Council regarding language in the agreement which was different from previous contracts. At issue was whether regular patrols outside the city limits were being sufficiently reimbursed by the DPS. The contract allows for a total of \$16,175 to be paid to the City for public safety services performed by City of Seldovia Chief of Police, Andy Anderson.

"That's way too low to make calls out-the-road," said Mayor Dick Wyland. "We need help if they want [State Trooper services] out there . . . small communities can't take it anymore."

"There are limitations," Councilman Walter McInnes added, "and the limitations are what we can pay."

McInnes noted that in the past, discussions on the issue came back to the fact that neither DPS nor the City had the funds necessary for frequent patrols outside of the city limits.

School

▶ [Former graduate accepts SBE teaching position \(repeat\)](#)

Notices

▶ [Comprehensive Plan Public Review Draft July 27, 2005 \(pdf\)](#) **NEW!**

▶ [Part 2 - Index](#)

▶ [Amended FY05 Seldovia City Budget 7-8-2005 \(pdf\)](#)

▶ [Boys and Girls Club Newsletter April-May](#)

▶ [Boys and Girls Club July 2005 Calendar](#)

▶ [Harbor Survey Priority Results \(pdf\)](#)

Corrections

▶ [None this week . . . that's good!](#)



PDF files require a special "Reader" in order to view pdf files. Click the Adobe button above to get a FREE pdf reader!

"Number One, actions out-the-road should be reported," McInnes stated, "so we could have some record of how much time was being spent" patrolling outside the city limits. He requested the Council not sign the contract until a number of issues were cleared up.

One of those issues, according to Councilman Steve Lewis, concerns clarification of marine "search and rescue" performed by the City, since the City has no marine search and rescue training or vessel.

Following the discussion, City Manager Kurt Reynertson was instructed to go back to Lt. Dan Lowden with the Alaska State Troopers and share the council's concerns regarding the contract.

Alaska Marine Highway contract receives approval

The council unanimously accepted the Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS) contract to provide ferry service in Seldovia. The one-year contract between the City of Seldovia and the State of Alaska sets the fees the city will be paid for ferry ticketing, commissions related to ticket sales, line handlers, dock charges and utility expenses. City Manager Kurt Reynertson noted the overall increased revenue from the new contract is approximately 5%.

"2nd run" of salmon may come to slough

Mayor Dick Wyland received support from the council to write a letter to the Alaska Department of Fish & Game to begin the process of stocking the Seldovia Slough with Silver Salmon smolt for an August salmon run. Mayor Wyland said \$25,000 was received from Senator Gary Stevens and House Representative Paul Seaton for this endeavor.

Councilman Walter McInnes offered his thanks to Stevens and Seaton for the funds. "Usually things slow down in August," McInnes said, "it would be a good draw card . . . for keeping tourists coming."

City thanks Webbers for service

The council unanimously passed Resolution 06-02, which formally expressed gratitude to Mike and Mary Webber for their community service coordinating the Annual Seldovia Volunteer Fire & EMS 4th of July Pancake Breakfast.

Council listens to public testimony regarding library

Savannah Lewis spoke to the council on Wednesday evening asking members to consider the value of public libraries and not remove library services from Seldovia. She said the library has over 12,000 volumes of literature, along with a children's collection, and receives close to 200 patron visits per week.

"The library provides the only free public [Internet] access in Seldovia," Lewis said. "I'm here to ask each member of the council . . . not to act to remove library services from the community."

Want to be a city official?

by Damara Burnett

Council elections on the horizon

On Monday, August 15th, citizens with an inkling for politics and public service can declare their candidacy for any of four council positions open in the City of Seldovia. The four positions include: one (1) three-year term Mayor, two (2) three-year Council members, and one (1) one-year term Council member. Candidates for the positions will be voted for by city residents in the October 4th, 2005, General Election.

Mayor Dick Wyland has not yet stated his plans for reelection. Steve Lewis, who has been on the City Council since 2001, and Walter McInnes, who has held his post for over six years, are the current councilmen who have their three-year term seats up for reelection. Peggy Boscacci has temporarily held the one-year council position after former Council member Karen Graupe resigned from her post earlier this year.

According to city code, any U.S. citizen who has resided in the city for at least 6 months and is qualified to vote can file a Declaration of Candidacy and run for an open council seat (Title 2, 2.04.010). He or she must sign a statement accepting the nomination and agree to serve if elected. Declaration forms are available at the city offices and must be filed between August 15th and September 2nd.

Fishermen extinguish wildfire near Seldovia River

by Damara Burnett



Assistant Fire Chief Steve Lewis praised the actions of Bob Moser and company for their quick response to a wildfire they found burning near the mouth of the Seldovia River on Thursday, June 21st. Moser, who was with a party of fishermen, called Lewis at approximately 6 p.m. on Thursday to report the fire after the group extinguished the blaze with water from the river.

Lewis noted it was "very fortuitous" that the men noticed the blaze and were able to put it out before it spread further. In a report he filed with the State Department of Forestry, Lewis said the actual burn was under a stand of mature spruce trees near "an obviously attractive camp site location" and "evidence of fire wood harvesting from deadfall" was apparent at the site.

At Wednesday night's council meeting, Lewis publicly offered his thanks to Bob Moser and company. "If they wouldn't have been there," Lewis said, "it would have taken off up the mountain."

Parks & Rec Committee report

by Mary Glover

On July 28th the regularly scheduled Parks & Rec Committee met at the MPR.

This is a very informal meeting and the public is invited to attend and share their ideas, opinions and suggestions with the committee. This is a brief update on the various projects' progress:

Lollipop Park

Ronene Gain and Sandy Murray are working on this project. There are plans to go ahead with the Lollipop Park according to the plans previously presented to the P&Z Committee and the City Council. It was mentioned at the meeting that the railroad ties would be used and after they are in place, they would be covered with a barrier of either raw lumber or roofing material. Sandy Murray is also awaiting a response from an outside source who may help in setting up the children's park both with equipment and personnel to do the job.

Seafarer Memorial Project

Joni Reynertson and Mary Glover are working on a site suitable for this project. A proposed site is across the street from Harbors Edge B&B. There is also a secondary site that might be a possibility. This is in the very initial planning phase and nothing is definitely planned at the moment. Reynertson and Glover are working through the initial details in the proposal phase.

Steps by the Bridge

Sandy Murray was informed by Paul Cyr, AK Fish & Game, Soldotna Office that it was still in the plans to put steps to the slough where the people fish off the bridge and then have to climb down the embankment to get their fish. The problem is that the estimate far exceeds the available funds to accomplish the project; however, this project is still an active concern.

Outside Beach access to the Otterbaun

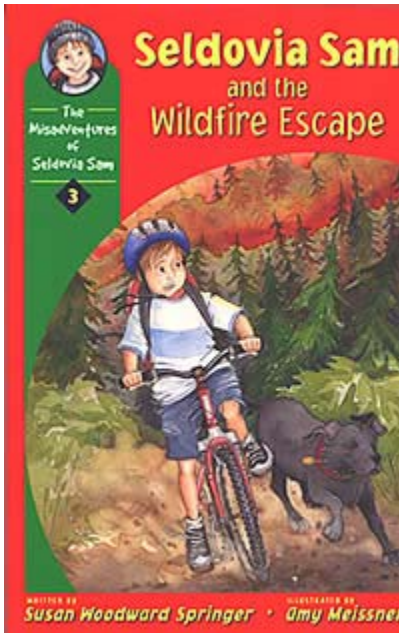
Contact has been made with the new owners if they would grant an easement to build a bridge over the stream that crosses the trail on the west end of the Otterbaun trail.

It was mentioned that the Otterbaun and Rocky Ridge Trails are being maintained by different volunteers and are in good condition.

New "Seldovia Sam" book released

by Damara Burnett

To the delight of young readers living in Alaska and Outside, Sam Peterson - the fictitious 8-year old boy in the "Seldovia Sam" series - has found new trouble brewing near Seldovia: a wildfire that threatens his home and friends. The story, written by former Seldovia resident Susan Woodward Springer and illustrated by Anchorage artist Amy Meissner, is the third in a series of books about young Sam and his "misadventures."



"Seldovia Sam and the Wildfire Escape" was released early this month and like its predecessors "Seldovia Sam and the Very Large Clam" and "Seldovia Sam and the Sea Otter Rescue," it is geared for readers ages 6-10. The books, published by Alaska Northwest Books, sell for \$6.95 and are available at local stores.

Seldovia merchant Joni Reynertson - who owns Herring Bay Mercantile, a store first established by Susan Woodward Springer - says the books are top sellers in her shop. The second book in the series, "Seldovia Sam and the Sea Otter Rescue," won the ASPCA Henry Bergh Children's Book Award. The fourth book in the series is due out in the Fall of 2005 and is titled "Seldovia Sam and the Blueberry Bear."

Springer, who lived in Seldovia from 1985 to 2002, also wrote "Seldovia, Alaska: An Historical Portrait of Life in Herring Bay" (published by Tom and Mary Glover) while living here. She currently resides in Ketchum, Idaho.

In Memory of Lynette White *The Willard Family*



Lynette Elaine White

Chugiak, Alaska resident Lynette Elaine White, 42, died July 13, 2005 at home during the night.

Lynette was born Feb 3, 1963.

Parents are Gerald W. and Alberta G. Willard.

Lynnette was a very loving and devoted mother who dedicated her life to her family. Hobbies included stained glass art, gardening, planting and caring for flowers, and she had a love for garage sales. She collected fancy porcelain hand painted art.

She was employed over the years as a hairdresser, and worked in Auto Glass companies in Anchorage and Eagle River and resided in Alaska from 1963 until her death.

She is survived by her children Amos Simon White, Gregory Vance Parrish, Ginger Elaine Moffet, and Cheyanne Michelle Willard.

She will be dearly missed by her family and all her many friends.

A graveside service will be held in Seldovia, Alaska, July 27, 2005.

Letters of condolence for the family may be sent to Alberta Willard: P.O. Box 158 Seldovia, AK 99663.

Surviving brothers and sister: Kenneth W. Willard (Juneau, AK), Matthew A. Willard (Tacoma, WA), Michael P. Willard (Queensbury, NY) and Kathryn M. Willard (Anchorage, AK).

Tidbits . . .

Ooooff. . . that's only an 80 pounder on the scale, but it's a 282 pounder on the table!!! Paul (Fantasy North) weighs about 170 lbs. . . now that's a wrestling match.



City Manager's Corner

by Kurt Reynertson

- Manufacture of fish table is progressing. Kar-a-Van has submitted an estimate to move table from Delta Junction to Seldovia. Estimate is for \$7000-\$7500 (approx \$4500 to Homer and approx \$2500 to \$3000)

from Homer to Seldovia). Delta Industrial indicated a \$9000 estimate for movement to Homer (only).

- Issues with community building and ADA compliance access need to be addressed. There are several options that are under consideration and include:
 - Build a ramp on back side of facility leading to multi-purpose room. Modify restrooms to accommodate handicapped access. Abandon elevator system. Extend roof overhang to cover ramp.
 - Build a ramp on back side of facility leading to multi-purpose room. Extend roof overhang to cover ramp. Modify elevator to eliminate downward sloping ramp on upper floor. Extend bottom floor ramp (which would have to be made steeper). This enables access to established handicapped restroom on bottom floor. Elevator would skip the stop at the stair landing located just inside the front door of the building. Modify elevator to accommodate one access elevator door located on the lift.
 - Modify elevator to eliminate downward sloping ramp on top floor. Extend ramp (making ramp steeper) on bottom floor. Elevator would stop at landing located just inside front door of facility. Necessitates having two access elevator doors located on the lift.
 - Modify elevator to eliminate downward sloping ramp on top floor. Abandon bottom floor for wheelchair access. Modify upstairs restrooms to accommodate handicapped access. **(recommended at this point in time)**
 - Install moving incline chair in existing stairwells (services top and bottom floors). Abandon elevator system.
 - Install moving incline chair to top floor only. Modify restrooms to accommodate handicapped access.
 - Modify/new installation of elevator. Probably would require modifications to roofing system.
 - Close library or move library to another (yet to be determined) facility that is handicapped accessible.
- Ferry project has been signed between BIA and SVT. Mike Beale will be coming down in the very near future in order for him and I to put a work plan together. The Steering Committee will be informed and be able to review/modify the work plan. August 1 st is the start date of the ferry project (feasibility study only at this point in time).
- Cannery Dock – have received word today that the last approval hurdle has been cleared. The Army Corps of Engineers is issuing a modified permit. I have communicated with the EDA and our city engineers and the bid package is well underway. We will not be allowed to do any work prior to September 15, and work must be completed by December 31. This does not pose a problem.
- X-Ray machine being purchased for the Seldovia Clinic is ready to ship as soon as we are ready to receive it. Coordination talks with the GE Technical Installer will begin within the next two weeks. The City must still address the issue of getting 480V, 3 phase power to the Clinic. The General Manager of HEA and I have talked and he will be assigning an engineer to this issue in the very near future (within a week).

Police Report

No report available this week

Repeats & Notices

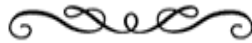
▶ *Comprehensive Plan Public Review Draft July 27, 2005*

Part 2: Comprehensive Plan Index

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