



Seldovia Gazette

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Seldovia, AK

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Thursday, Nov. 17, 2005

Just another day in paradise

Vol. 1, No. 24, November 17, 2005

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Top Stories

Local residents' home burns to the Ground

by Mary Glover

Early on November 16th at 1:45 AM dispatch call was received--- The 911 call operator only received information that the home by the cemetery was on fire and the occupants had to terminate the call and leave by the window. Congratulations and credit goes to the four firemen responders who controlled the blaze and kept it from spreading to the nearby trees. This being November, quite a few of the other trained volunteer firemen were out of town. The fire was contained at 9:15 AM.



Thanks goes out to the excellent work of the firemen, Police Chief Andy Anderson, and the behind-the-scenes/vigilant dispatchers.

The home belonged to Kurt and Janet Shepherd and was being rented by Russ Radliff and his wife, Eve Baillargeon, who have one young daughter named Isabelle. The residents managed to vacate the home without sustaining any injuries. The Shepherds' sailboat also was destroyed, but the firemen managed to save the nearby sheds.

The Radliff family has lost all their personal belongings, even the recent food brought over on the M/V Tustumena just hours earlier. Community efforts for commodity donations are being accepted at the SBE English School, the Main St. Market, and the Seldovia Bible Chapel. Cash donations are being taken at the Main St. Market and by the Seldovia Bible Chapel. Currently the family is staying at the O'Leary's B&B above the Sweet-n-Clean. Contact Sunni Hilts

Marketplace



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Christmas Time Shopping
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Seaport Cottages
Open all year!
Special weekly & monthly rates



Property for Sale by Owner!
Call for details
Mary Klinger 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

(234-7692) if you have any questions or would like to help the Radliffs. See [Poster](#)

Photos by Police Chief Andy Anderson and Tamara Blodgett.

School

▶ [Volleyball - Wrestling - Basketball & School News](#)



▶ [Halloween Carnival PhotoStory >repeat<](#)



Notices & Newsletters

▶ [Senator Gary Stevens Newsletter](#)

▶ [Comprehensive Plan Public Final August 10, 2005 \(pdf\)](#)

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

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

▶ [Boys and Girls Club Newsletter](#)

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

Corrections

▶ [None this week. . .](#)

Classified Rates

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HEA member appreciation luncheon

by Tamara Blodgett

Definitely friend, not foe ...

This annual luncheon was a great opportunity to see the “nuts and bolts” of the folks that make Homer Electric Association tick for the greater Kenai Peninsula area and beyond. Specifically, the new plant, with its problems, progression and resolutions were also addressed. A tour of the plant was also organized so the members could get a “birds-eye” view of how the plant operates. Finally, a raffle for \$25 off the next electric bill was offered to two lucky members.



Eric Clark, Manager of Operations HEA, talking with Mr. Gerry Willard



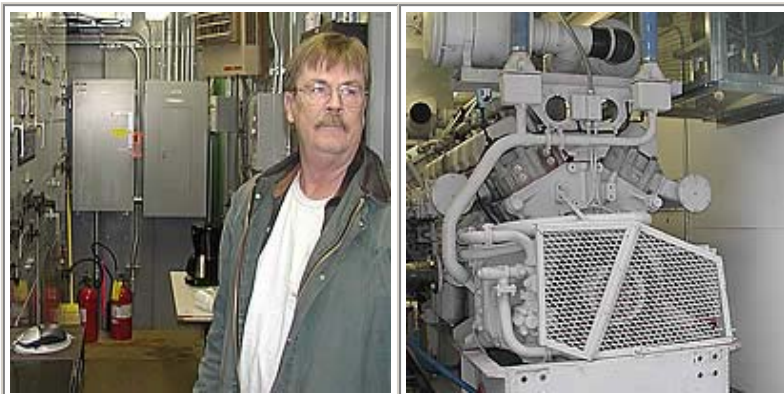
Charlie O'Hare (manager of power production and transmission HEA), Eric Clark (manager of operations HEA) and Joe Gallagher(public

relations and member services
coordinator



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have large print versions
of the other pages on this
site.

Some thought-provoking questions were asked during the question and answer forum that was informally set up by HEA to address any concerns or inquiries members of the community may have. A member who remembers when Mr. Gerry Willard was the person in charge of getting the power back on-line, questioned the issue of the power failure response time. The need for an updated system is necessary at this time and a new system was seen as a needed update for Seldovia. Brad Janorschke, HEA General Manager, began with the question and answer forum and was interested in peoples' opinions. The feasibility of coal, in regard to the Healy Plant was addressed but it was acknowledged that the cost would increase with a mix of electric and coal. HEA is looking into it, with a consultant having estimating the cost of a study at around a million dollars; bill footed by the State of Alaska. Janorschke feels strongly that HEA should explore this option in the hopes that it would save money. There will not be an economic impact to HEA Members at this time. Three reports have already been executed on the viability of using the existing Healy Plant. The 120-day feasibility study will be comprehensive and show viability, economic and the environmental impact of reopening the plant. It was said that the plants' original demise was politically driven, and if the plant were cost-effective it would make prudent sense to reopen it for the benefit of HEA.



Inside HEA Plant with Bob O'Neil

During the tour of the HEA Stand-By Generation Facility, Bob O'Neil, HEA Power Plant Operator, stated that the system would be more effective than it has since its inception. O'Neil also noted that several of the problems have happened under "his watch," and were able to be addressed and resolved at that time. He admits that there are minor things that still need to be addressed and that could take as long as spring. HEA stressed they are not interested in the "quick fix" but would rather address the issue the *right* way, for a permanent solution. He noted that Gerry Willard has been of great help in the trial and error process during the challenge presented in setting up a new system.



City Manager Kurt Reynertson and HEA General Manager Brad Janorschke



Brad Janorschke (General Manager HEA), Mayor Wyland, and Joe Gallagher (Public Relations Member Services Coordinator HEA)

Eric M. Clark, HEA Manager of Operations, would like to see this system become fully automated in the hope that power outages could be identified, isolated and fixed in a timely way. Sending out a crew is expensive, and can be dangerous. Some fixes have to wait until summer due to the small window of time that repairs are possible. The line has been brought up to a standard that will not be compromised as easily but it can be self-sustaining until a crew can safely get to some of these remote shut-off locations. In 2003-04 many areas were rewired and updated. Clark emphasized that surge protectors, close to the source, is the first course of protection against appliance and computer damage.



People enjoying the great luncheon featuring: potato and ham soup, a great, vinaigrette salad, and subway sandwiches with pop and hot coffee!

Brown Outages were addressed as a contributor to loss of appliances. A brown outage is usually a fault on the line, O’Neil said. This new system will not have this issue of low-voltage impact. O’Neil says there is a protective relay on the line and it will take a few seconds for this relay to respond, lessening or zeroing the impact of brown outages.

Janorschke conceded that the new plant’s transition was not a smooth one. Consultants were hired for their expertise. They were not as available as they needed to be. In an effort to *not* drop the ball, O’Neil was brought on board to hands-on address the challenges that came up during the transition and implementation of the new plant. Janorschke said there is still a “punch list,” and it *will* be, and will *continue* to be addressed. Janorschke’s desire for accountability was a pleasant surprise and relief.

During the tour of the plant, we were able to first-hand view the two, Mitsubishi 1200 KW generator sets, which serve the Nanwalik, Port Graham, and Seldovia areas. Either generator can handle the load, but the “lag unit” is the one that helps the “lead unit” with the initial “black start.” If the total, combined load continues for more than a specified amount of time, the lag unit

will continue to assist the lead. O'Neil led the tour and was responsible for the generator's operation. In addition, the generators were dismantled and nut by bolt reassembled and inspected for workability and safety. O'Neil feels confident with his familiarity with the new system since his initial inspection, assembly, and repair. O'Neil and Mr. Willard (a 32-year HEA veteran) spent a lot of hours rectifying things to get the operation running. There are some minor things that need to be addressed and will be as the year progresses. Currently a vacuum interrupter is in the design stage and will be installed at the 6-mile point, out-the-road in the near future. This would allow as many members to be "in-power" as possible, even the more remote points.

HEA is prioritizing its involvement and recognizes everyone wins if they address and fix the challenges in the right and rapid way. This is a win-win situation for everyone. HEA realizes it's way more expensive to do a knee-jerk repair, than to just address it from the beginning with a correct and thorough repair. HEA feels this preventative mindset is what will save everyone money and time, HEA and Seldovia alike.

City Council meeting November 16, 2005

by Tamara Blodgett

Seldovia City Council convened this past Wednesday with the Councilpersons: Mark Massion, Peggy Boscacci, Keith Gain, Tom Keesecker and Walter McInnes being present, together with Mayor Dick Wyland, City Manager Kurt Reynertson and City Clerk Rhonda Haynes. Councilman Tom Glover had an excused absence.

The meeting was as follows:

Introduction of, **Ordinance 06-04, Offering Lot 5A, Block 27, Seldovia Townsite Replat, for Public Sale**, this ordinance was introduced unanimously.

On Committee and Advisory Board Reports, the Borough is still dealing with the gravel issue (what type and greater restrictions), SOS is watching the two barges moored out in the bay, a Siska Crew was brought down for maintenance, along with an environmental boon being installed around the old cannery dock for possible environmental contingencies, none occurred and the boon has been put back in storage. Planning and Zoning Commission will have a workshop this Monday to work on zoning districts to clarify the districts and what is allowed/prohibited. Councilman Massion was part of the crew that responded to a house fire at approximately 1:50 AM. The house was a total loss, with exterior sheds being saved and no loss of life.

Old Business: Resolution 06-14, FY06 Legislative Priorities List, is the list of items being submitted for a grant application. There are 14 items on the list and we will lose the potential to receive the grant money if this list is not expedited. City Manager Kurt Reynertson has asked and made public the importance of the community input, in which there was none. The list must be submitted immediately for the success of the application. Councilman Gain moved to adopt this resolution with a second from Councilwoman Boscacci. Councilman McInnes amended line #8 on the LPL to omit the phrase applying to an ATV park. It was determined through discussion that the order in which the items on the priority list were numbered did not predicate their importance. The monetary amount was changed on lines #8 and #9 from \$500,000 to \$150,000 and from \$150,000 to \$50,000 respectively. These will affect the development of a children's park (#8) and the boardwalk around Lake Susan (#9). **Action:** Motion approved with amendments.

Ordinance 06-03, Change in Sundry Fee Schedule, this is an updated list of the monies The City charges for its services. The City does not want to haul boats out of the city. However, it was determined through Council Discussion that boat haul-out, outside the city limits, will be provided with City Manager discretion, at the rate of \$500 per hour. Non-boat Storage that includes tents will now be charged 10 cents per square foot. **Action:** This ordinance was passed with amendments.

Ordinance 06-02, Offering Sale of City Owned Lots (Lots 5 & 6, Block 10, Waterfront Resubdivision No. 1), these are the two lots by the Harbor Master Building; this ordinance addresses their individual sale with the above ordinance being divided into two questions, thereby allowing the lots to be individually addressed. **Action:** City Manager Reynertson suggested that P & Z have input and the Council needs more time on this so the ordinance has been laid on the table for future consideration.

Union Contract Update was held for the end of the meeting under executive session.

Councilman Massion was appointed for the **Ferry Steering Committee**. **Action:** This appointment was approved unanimously.

New Business: Resolution 06-12, Sole Source Award to CIAA for Fish Planting Stock, speaks to Seldovia establishing a silver salmon run. **Action:** This resolution passed unanimously.

Resolution 06-13, Support to Claim \$100 Million from the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill, is a DRAFT resolution that requests the State of Alaska and the United States Justice Department claim the \$100 million dollars due from Exxon to pay for long-term harm to our areas from its oil spill. There was an amendment made by Councilman McInnes to omit one part of the DRAFT. Comments were made by Councilman McInnes that prudence and careful watching would need to be implemented once the money came, to where and how it would be spent. Councilman Gain abstained from this resolution for conflict of interest. **Action:** This resolution was passed unanimously.

Letter of Support for the KPB Economic Development Administration Brownfield Grant Application, City Manager Reynertson stated that time is of the essence on a response letter to support our application for this grant. **Action:** Council Members unanimously support a response letter sent by Reynertson.

City Manager's Report summary:

- The dock pilings are being re-wrapped.
- A more stringent fee schedule and consequence needs to be established for "vicious" dog attacks.
- Reynertson attended the AML Conference last week and felt it was a benefit.
- The lease agreements between The City and Seldovia Fuel & Lube continue to progress.
- Reynertson would like to emphasize the need to keep vehicles and trailers off the side of city roads to expedite maintenance workers clearing the roads safely and easily.
- Steve Kroll has assumed the new position of Public Works Employee.

The *Next* City Council Meeting will convene on December 14, 2005 at 7:30 PM. The public is welcome to attend. **Meeting Adjourned: time elapsed:** 1 hour, 32 minutes, 07 seconds.

A musical concert by Kim Angelis and Josef Gault

by Tamara Blodgett

A thrill and delight to listen to...

I feel so honored to have been present for this fantastic musical presentation by famed violinist Kim Angelis and guitarist Josef Gault. Their timing with each other was impeccable; Gault follows Angleis in every way, beautifully. Especially haunting is their wonderful pieces in the minor keys that float in and out from melancholy to passionate. Kim is not afraid to entertain between pieces through speaking on her deeply held beliefs and respect for history (of peoples and their culture) coupled with her Christian faith.



Angleis was a music major at The University of California, Irvine where she studied with the best violinists from the Los Angeles Philharmonic. This is Kim's 20th year as a recording artist and has been touring for 15. Her music has been heard on network TV on PBS and NPR. In the 2000 Olympics, Angelis's music was used in the floor exercise routine of gymnast Kui Yuanyuan which was aired on NBC during prime time, giving Angleis world-wide exposure.

She and husband Josef, hail from Astoria, Oregon where they are currently restoring their 1918 Craftsman Bungalow. Josef Gault works as a part-time host at a local radio station for the program, "All Kinds of Folk." Gault is also a Technical Production Manager at Clatsop Community College. Together they have traveled extensively on tour, playing in Chili, Ancud and different areas of Asia. For more information on these terrific musicians please visit their website at www.skysong.com. Musical CD's are also available through this website.

Need a CPR class for a work requirement?

Read on . . .

On Friday, November 18th from 9 am to 5pm, Bobbie Sweat will be instructing a course titled, "Heart-Saver, First Aid and CPR." This course will meet in the EMS Training Room. Please phone Bobbie Sweat at 234.7812 for details/questions.

Tidbits . . .

Frosty the Snowman comes to Seldovia --



Photo by Tamara Blodgett

City Manager's Corner

by Kurt Reynertson

Period covering October 31-November 11

The city dock pilings are in the process of being re-wrapped. Force accounting is being used, but Davis-Bacon wages are being paid. Additional material (bands and buckles) were necessary. This has been ordered.

- I have asked our Police Chief to come up with a recommendation for new fines and punishments for dog owners that have “vicious” dogs and are unable to contain them. There have been several incidents lately where people as well as dogs have been attacked by a “vicious” dog. There is some work that needs to be done on how to define a “vicious” dog to satisfy the City codes, but I believe that we all know what a “vicious” dog is. If you have one that has this tendency, insure it is contained and is incapable of getting out. I have asked the Police Chief to come up with a fine schedule that will make it economically painful for those that do not comply. He is also working on the definitions of what a “vicious” dog is, but as I said, I believe we all know one when we see one.
- The cannery dock is down. Jim Hopkins and his crew are now working to clear the cannery site of debris. This should be completed in short order.
- I attended the AML conference last week. The conference was good, and the opportunity to network with other city managers and leaders was excellent. I had an opportunity to present to a panel of “funders” concerning the mini-grant for the cannery property (conceptual design that will support marine related industrial type facilities). The concept was very well received (which is encouraging) and discussions on follow-on work were also held. Beyond the industrial marine facility, potential plans for the cannery property may include the construction of a sheet pile dock. This will increase the amount of land available as well as allow for efficient on-loading/off-loading of product and material. Also attending the AML conference from Seldovia were Mayor Dick Wyland, Councilman Tom Glover, and Councilman Tom Keesecker.
- The lease agreements and business plan development between the City and Seldovia Fuel and Lube are progressing. The City will own the equipment, but Seldovia Fuel and Lube will retain ownership of the land the equipment is on. Maintenance and repair funds as well as depreciation funds will be a part of the lease and business plan.

Seldovia Fuel and Lube will indemnify the City relating to the operation and maintenance of the facility.

- Snow season is upon us. I will be asking all folks that park on the street to not do so. Parking on the street makes it extremely difficult for the Public Works employees to accomplish snow clearing efforts. Additionally, all cars and boat trailers in city parking lots should not take up 'residence' there. After one warning notice placed on the vehicle or trailer, they will be moved at the owner's expense and put in the City Yard. Having to maneuver around parked vehicles and trailers is inefficient and could lead to accidents. I have hired Steve Kroll as the new Public Works employee. Steve recently moved to Seldovia with his family. He and his wife have 7 children, 5 of which still live at home. Welcome to Steve to the job, and welcome to his family to Seldovia.

Seldovia Police Report *by A.W. Anderson, Chief of Police*

>>Repeat Story<<

While making rounds Police observed an airplane to be sitting on the airport apron area and the aircraft was not tied down. The wind was starting to blow with strong gusts. With the assistance of Pete Cain the Police tied the aircraft down to insure it was not damaged in the wind. Police were later contacted by the owners of the aircraft, wishing to express their heart felt appreciation for our looking out for their property.

Police responded to a 911 hang up call during early morning hours after the Police Dispatcher was unable to contact a local residence following the call. When Police arrived the family had to be awakened. It was determined the telephone connections outside of the home had gotten wet from the rain and had defaulted to the 911. The phone then rang as busy when the Dispatcher attempted to call back.

A citation was issued following a dog escaping from a local residence and attacking a neighbor's dog. Injuries to the animal attacked were so severe the dog had to be flown to Homer to the vet. This was the second type of attack within a few weeks by the same dog. The caretaker of the animal told Police the dog was going to be sent to Homer to be cared for by its owner. This incident, and other problems with vicious animals over the years, prompted the Police and City Manager to address Ordinances that would better fit the problems of vicious animal attacks. Hopefully within a short time we will have laws that will better deal with the problem.

In the early morning hours of October 30th Police responded to a Domestic Dispute after a lady called the 911 operator requesting assistance. The investigation revealed an argument between the couple had occurred after some items were damaged in the home. No physical violence had taken place and no injuries were observed. No charges or arrests were filed in the incident.

The Police have investigated two automobile accidents that occurred following the recent snow. No injuries were sustained in either accident and no citations were issued. Environmental conditions were determined to be a contributing factor in both accidents.

Approximately 1500 board feet of 1" X 4" X 20' lumber was reported stolen from the Jakolof Bay mill site sometime between 11/1 and 11/3/05. Anyone taking the lumber would have had to have an overhead rack on their truck or

would have had to be pulling a trailer. Also taken within the prior three weeks were 6 - 7 cords of firewood, which was already cut into blocks. This firewood was stolen from the same general area. Anyone having any information regarding these thefts is urged to call the Police Department.

Police were contacted and asked to deliver an emergency message to a local resident concerning a member of his family who was missing. Police delivered the message...

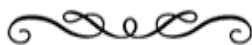
A burglary was reported in the Barabara Heights Subdivision and six bundles of insulation reportedly were taken. Entry to the residence was through an unlocked window while the family was out of town in mid October. Anyone having information is asked to contact the Police Department.

Since last report the Police have contacted owners or operators of vehicles for violations regarding parking, registration, erratic driving and speeding. Three vehicle owners were contacted and asked that their vehicles be moved for snow removal purposes, two on Jakolof Bay Road and one inside Seldovia. The Police also assisted one motorist having engine trouble. Five documents have been notarized, three security checks on vacant residences have been conducted, Police have provided transportation for 3 people and have responded to 8 requests for assistance calls.

With the coming of snow those owning snow machines are getting excited. We in the Seldovia area are very fortunate to have the 3 & 4 wheelers, as well as the snow machines, on the roadways. It is unique to our area and it is very important that we realize the dangers that accompany this privilege. The City Ordinances outline the rules for the use of these vehicles on the roadways and they are the same with regards to the vehicles being registered with the State, the 15 MPH speed limit, lights on and staying to the right hand side of the road for both ATV's and snow machines but unlike the ATV's, the *operator of a snow machine must be at least 16 years of age and possess a Class "D" operator's license*. 3 & 4 wheelers can be driven by persons 14 years of age who possess a learner's, or beginners, permit but the snow machine laws differ in this area. So be aware of the laws and apply them so we can have a fun, safe winter.

It has been brought to my attention that some of our youngsters can't seem to wait to get out on the ice on Susan Lake. It is very dangerous to go onto the lake before it has been tested for thickness by adults. Even though the weather has been cold for awhile, the ice has not been tested and could be very dangerous. The ice can be thick in one area and very thin in others and, until it is checked, we need to stay off. So get the word out and tell everyone to **"STAY OFF THE ICE"**.

Anyone having information or observations regarding illegal activity in, or around, Seldovia is asked to call the Police and report your observations. If you desire, you may remain anonymous. If you are not comfortable with reporting locally you can call the Homer Police Department with your information and inform them you wish to remain anonymous. We must work together to insure the safety of our citizens as well as their possessions. If it were your property or safety at risk you would certainly want your neighbors to get involved.



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