



Seldovia Gazette

Serving Seldovia, Alaska and Kachemak Bay southeast

Seldovia, AK

16 °F / -9 °C

Clear

at 5:53 PM



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Thursday, Nov. 24, 2005

Just another day in paradise

Vol. 1, No. 25, November 24, 2005

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Top Stories

Harbor renovation moves into Phase 2

by Tom Glover

A special City Council meeting was held on Tuesday, November 22 in order to discuss and vote on acceptance of the Phase 2 Engineering Proposal for the Seldovia Harbor renovation submitted by Michael L. Foster and Associates to the City of Seldovia. City Council members Massion, McInnes, Boscacci, Keesecker, and Glover (teleconference) were present; Councilman Keith Gain received an excused absence.

[Click here to view the complete proposal \(258k pdf file.\)](#)



The proposal consists of the following three tasks at a total cost of \$65,275:

- Design criteria development
- Preliminary 35% design
- Permitting for Federal, State, and Kenai Peninsula Borough

The proposal was reviewed, discussed and unanimously approved. Work will commence as soon as possible and all work will be completed by mid-April 2006.

Marketplace



Christmas Time Shopping

Herring Bay Mercantile
Seldovia, AK



Jenny Chissus
234-8000

Your Seldovia Connection

www.seldoviaproperty.com
RE/MAX of Homer



234-7652

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SOLD

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

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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City Dock underwater repairs continue

by Tom Glover

Underwater repairs to the main City Dock are approximately 60% completed. When completed, 500 linear feet of high density plastic sheath will have been replaced (approximately 1/2 of the pilings) and the banding on all pilings will have been replaced. It's a grueling job but Mike Geagel and his team are doing a great job.



Thanks to Mike Geagel for the photographs. (I never got a chance to ask him if the diver in the lower left photo was begging to not have to go back down again! Snowing, icy water and wind . . . what do you think?)

Seldovia EMTs attend EMS Symposium

by Mary Glover

Seldovia EMTs along with Medical Advisor for the EMS Team, Dr. Larry Reynolds, attended the 30th Annual EMS Symposium in Anchorage November 9-11, 2005.



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



Front row, left to right: Sue Hecks, Gerry Patrick. Back row, left to right: Alix Chartier, Sera Baxter, Mary Glover, Mary Jo Stanley.

The EMS Team met up with former Seldovian, Sue Hecks, and had a great reunion. For those of you reading this article, Sue Hecks is the “Mother” of the EMS Department in Seldovia who now lives in Anchor Point and is the EMS Coordinator for the Kenai Peninsula Emergency Medical Services Council, Inc. If you don’t see some of the other EMTs in our community at the Symposium, it is because they stayed in Seldovia to respond to any potential emergency.

Up until the time that I became an EMT, I did not have an appreciation of the dedication, training and devotion of time it takes to be an EMT. This is such an important part of our community and many thanks go out to our EMT Chief, Lisa O’Leary, and all the volunteers who are there if there should be an emergency. Also, I would be remiss if I did not mention the volunteer force of Dispatchers. Darlene Crawford has been carrying the “radio” for 20 years and last year she was given an award for 19 years of service! There are always two dispatchers on duty 24/7. That is a lot of man hours! Many others have dedicated many years of community service in this capacity. Then we have the volunteer Fire Department too! If you are an able-bodied Seldovian, you should consider joining either the EMT Department or the Fire Department as Seldovia is in need of more volunteers. In the event of a disaster, we need to be prepared and you can better help your family and friends if you have been trained.



Doc Reynolds (left) visiting with Exhibitor Kirk Johnson of Braun Northwest, Inc.

EMTs Skills Competition Event

The EMS Symposium in Anchorage is an annual event where all levels of first responders receive additional training from highly skilled professionals. There is also a clinical tract for physicians and other health professionals. Not only is one exposed to more information, development of skills, but the classes are

conducted by very knowledgeable individuals, who interact with the class. We are all in the business of “helping people.” It was amazing to see how many first responders have dedicated their lives to helping others and how many knowledgeable people there actually are throughout our State of Alaska.

There were two days of pre-symposium workshops where these classes were offered: Weapons of Convenience and Opportunity, Pediatric Disaster Life Support, Advanced Medical Life Support, Child Passenger Safety Seat Recertification Course, Airway Kills Lab, and Microbiology 101 for EMTs. The Clinical Tract included: Update on Acetaminophen Poisoning Management, Drug Facilitated Rape, Update in Toxic Alcohol Poisoning Management, Role of Hyperbaric Oxygen in Carbon Monoxide Poisoning, Emergency Airway Management, and Cold Water Near Drowning.

Classes offered for the Symposium on Friday and Saturday were: Motor Vehicle Crash Injury Mechanism – How to Assess Injury Patterns, Case Studies in OB Emergencies, Things Seizure Patients Wish You Knew, HIPAA, Dynamic Presentations, ASIST, Understanding Hypoglycemia, DKA, HHNKC, Geriatrics, Growing Old is Not a Disease, Pediatric Orthopedic Injury, Chest Pain, Horrible Holes, and Pediatric Assessment (there were more!). The Clinical Tract included subjects such as: GI Bleeds, Treatment and Diagnosis of Pediatric Shock, and Medical Directors Meeting.

Then there was the “Skills Competition.” This is where a team from the different EMT groups around Alaska competes in first responder skills. A scenario is given and the team is each monitored by a “judge.” The team that completes the skill steps required in the least amount of time wins. This is done by a point system. The winners of the Skills Competition were announced at the Banquet which culminated the four day event. The Banquet also honored various individuals throughout the State of Alaska for their outstanding achievements. These award recipients are listed at http://health.hss.state.ak.us/press/2005/pr101005Gov_EMS_awards.htm

I left the Symposium duly impressed with the professionalism and dedication that so many individuals exhibited, along with a deep gratitude for their dedication to the standards of medical care

Kachemak Bay Ferry in planning

A report from Mike Beal

Seldovia Native Association, Inc. has been designated as the project manager over the \$2 million US Dept. of Interior grant received by Seldovia Village Tribe. The grant is for organizing, planning and developing a daily ferry service between Homer, Seldovia, Halibut Cove and Port Graham, with consideration for Nanwalek and Jakolof Bay.

SNA advertised for Requests for Proposals for the various components to begin the planning. Mark Hickey, who has vast experience was awarded the contract for Government Relations. He will be the project liaison with the Dept. of Transportation and the Alaska Marine Highway System.

Pacific Marine Technical of Bainbridge Island, Washington was awarded the contract for community outreach, design recommendations and a financial feasibility study. The company has extensive Alaskan Ferry construction experience, having worked with Inter-Island Ferry Authority, the Ketchikan Gateway Borough Airport Ferry, and the Alaska Marine Highway System.

A Steering Committee has been formed with representation from all of the

Kachemak Bay communities and the Kenai Peninsula Borough. After the preliminary scope has been defined, the first order of business will be to reach out to the affected Kachemak Bay communities by holding public meetings. These the team will present a preliminary plan to build a daily ferry, listen to citizen concerns, and get their opinion as to what type of vessel would best fit the needs of the entire peninsula area. A draft summarization of findings would be published, and written comments will be sought on the desired ferry operational capabilities.

“Biggest concern right now” says CEO Michael Beal “is narrowly defining the needs of the ferry, which will drive the design. We would prefer to go with an aluminum vessel because of the inherent advantages of 40% better gas mileage and speeds to 30 knots, plus you don’t have to paint or scrape barnacles.”

“Every boat owner knows that maintenance costs add up quickly”, suggested CEO Beal. “A steel boat has more strength, but offers only half the speed of an aluminum vessel, and all the maintenance issues that go with steel.”

“We are also looking at alternatives to the Lockheed-Martin model, because after touring the shipyards of the Pacific Northwest, we are not longer convinced that their cutting edge technology is the best applications for Kachemak Bay. We don’t want to get stuck with a million dollar repair bill, if something goes wrong with the first vessel built in a new design.”

The Kachemak Bay Ferry team toured the Nichols Brothers Boat Builders, Dakota Creek Industries, Kvichak Marine Industries, Kitsap Catamarans, and Todd Pacific Shipyards in October. A tour of the Sitka and Ketchikan shipyards is currently being scheduled.

“We are looking for a solid builder who is renowned for their exceptional work product” explained Junior Project Manager Chance Collier. “We haven’t ruled out building in Alaska, but our goal is getting a quality vessel that will serve Seldovia for twenty years, not just procuring work for Southeast shipyards.”

In November, the team attended Florida’s Marine Log Ferries conference to hear presentations by Deputy Commissioner Robin Taylor on Reshaping Alaska’s Ferry System; Choosing the Right Vessel for the Right Route; and Loren Gerhard on Alaska’s Inter-Island Ferry Authority: It’s History, Performance & New Developments.

The City of Seldovia has yet to award the contract for a consultant to assist the City with planning and organizing a Title 29 Municipal Port Authority. The Port Authority will design a system that satisfies the needs of the Kachemak Bay communities, regional transportation markets, and will encourage economic development in small isolated rural communities.

Beal suggests there will be no need for an Environmental Impact Statement, as Seldovia can rely on a recent E.I.S. completed for the Anchorage-Mat-Su ferry project, which had a finding of no significant impact.

Seldovia’s Nuka Research & Planning Group has been contracted to complete an Environmental Assessment, and to work with the US Army Corps of Engineers, Federal Highway Admin, Alaska Dept. of Transportation & Public Facilities, US Environmental Protection Agency, Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation, and the Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game.

The Kachemak Bay Ferry team will work with community residents and archeological research services to ensure the protection of culturally significant areas and artifacts in the project area.

Mark Summer 2007 on your calendar!

This is advance notice that the summer of 2007 is the summer to “Come Home” to Seldovia. The idea of Kathy Gottlieb and Crystal Collier - to plan for a week long celebration, where people who once lived here, were born here, or even just visited here would come back and meet again for a huge reunion.

The Chamber of Commerce has selected “Coming Home” as the theme of July 4, 2007. The week prior to the Fourth of July, will be filled with class reunions, family reunions, beach parties and get-togethers. This early warning is given to you, so you might plan a trip in 2007. (Make your hotel or B&B reservations early, as Seldovia does fill up fast.)

More information on “Coming Home” will be on the web later.
www.seldovia.com and www.snai.com

Special Notices

Seldovia Fuel and Lube will be closed November 26 - 28 in order to complete inventory. Please plan your fuel needs accordingly!

Holiday shopping:

- Herring Bay Mercantile Dollar Days start November 28
 - Holiday Bazaar and Rummage Sale, Saturday Nov. 26, 11a-300p, MPR
 - Afghan raffle by Girls Volleyball Team, tickets \$5 from team members
-

Tidbits . . .

Seldovia's new conference center is just about ready for business!



City Manager's Corner

by Kurt Reynertson

A short week this time. Hope all have a Happy Thanksgiving and a safe one. Speaking of safe, it would be a good idea to review (or create) and emergency plan if your house catches on fire. The recent experience of the Radliff's

should provide all of us with some level of motivation. I know that I speak for all of Seldovia in expressing sorrow for their loss. We can be thankful that no loss of life occurred. "Things," as precious as some may be, can be replaced. Life cannot. This most recent experience also should make us all thankful for our Volunteer Fire Department. Their action helped save the surrounding buildings and trees. Good job guys.

The work on the cannery dock has finished. If you did not get a chance to take a last look at the old cannery dock it is too late now. Work is still progressing on the city dock and the re-wrapping of the piles. With the recent cold weather snap, I am very thankful that I do not have to work in the water.

The Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a Christmas Tree lighting, complete with Carroll singing this Monday (November 28) at 5:30 PM. Many of the towns merchants will remain open late to accommodate any Christmas shopping that you may want to indulge in. I believe most stores will remain open until 8:30 or 9:00 PM. It should be a good time, old fashion fun time. Please come and participate.

As many of you know, we have a new Public Works crew this winter season. They have been able to very effectively react to the latest snow falls we have experienced. There will be some and have been some "learning pains" but we have an excellent crew.

We did take a step backwards on our effort to get the Community Building elevator system working. The current elevator will need to be replaced. The last operational tests of the old elevator (after installation of the new elevator doors) failed. This is after many many trials that were all successful. There is phrase that comes to mind, but I will not repeat it in this column. I have applied for a grant to fund a new elevator, but this application seems to be in trouble also, through no fault of anything done here in Seldovia. More on this in later columns. I am still hopeful that we may be able to work this out.

Finally, Planning and Zoning Commission has been working on a number of issues concerning zoning, building requirements, and the application and enforcement of current zoning codes. You will be hearing much more on this in the near future.

Have a Happy and safe Thanksgiving.

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

No report this week - have a safe holiday!

