



Seldovia Gazette

Serving Seldovia, Alaska and Kachemak Bay southeast

Seldovia, AK

42 °F / 6 °C

Overcast

at 5:53 AM



[Click for Forecast](#)

Thursday, Dec. 8, 2005

Just another day in paradise

Vol. 1, No. 26, December 1, 2005

[Calendar](#)

[Opinions](#)

[Spotlight](#)

[School](#)

[Classifieds](#)

[Archives](#)

[Seldovia.com](#)

[Gazette Services](#)

[Top Stories](#) | [City Managers Corner](#) | [Police Report](#) | [Repeats & Notices](#) | [Corrections](#) | [Click here for Large Print version of this page](#) | [Candidate Interviews](#)

Headlines

- ▶ [Christmas Tree Lighting](#)
- ▶ [SBE High School wrestler injured](#)
- ▶ [Limited gaming facilities denied certification](#)
- ▶ [Senator Gary Stevens monthly newsletter](#)
- ▶ [Mark Summer 2007 on your calendars!](#)
- ▶ [Special notices](#)
- ▶ [Tidbits . . .](#)
- ▶ [City Manager's Corner](#)
- ▶ [Seldovia Police Report](#)

Opinions



▶ [2 Cents Worth](#)

▶ [Letters to the Editor - Tamara & Dan Blodgett](#)

Spotlight

▶ [Sea Otters Rock!](#)



Top Stories

Christmas Tree Lighting

by Tamara Blodgett

A Colorful Christmas in Seldovia...

Seldovia was in for a treat this past Monday when, for the first time, a tree was chosen and lit up in celebration of the upcoming holiday season.



During a telephone interview with Ms. Peggy Keesecker, I learned that this began as her idea, later evolving into a Chamber-sponsored event. Keesecker had thought almost as soon as she moved here that it would be great to have a community tree-lighting event in Seldovia. Later, as she became acquainted with everyone and got to know the community she approached the Seldovia Chamber of Commerce (Chamber) with her idea. Soon, a direction was taken to make it a joint effort between the Chamber and the local, retail businesses in town. This gives the local businesses in Seldovia an opportunity to show what they have to offer for people during that could meet their holiday shopping needs while enjoying the ambience of the Christmas season. Most stores offered at least a 10% discount for that night with Main Street Market offering free hot chocolate and popcorn for all who visited.

Marketplace



234-7652
Serving Seldovia with your real estate needs



Christmas Time Shopping

Herring Bay Mercantile
Seldovia, AK



Jenny Chissus
234-8000

Your Seldovia Connection

www.seldoviaproperty.com
RE/MAX of Homer

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](#) **NEW!**

▶ [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

▶ [Instructions and rate sheet](#)



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



All the stores that participated were decked out to the hilt with everything looking festive, with the perfect layer of bright white snow to “garnish” the decorations.

Keesecker noted that people in the community that wished to see this idea come to fruition this year filled so many crucial jobs quickly. Hugh Smith and Tom Keesecker were in charge of using the boom truck and different equipment to string the lights. Originally, the first location of choice for the tree was to be placed on the hill near the Russian Orthodox Church. However, when unexpected, early snow came, their hand was forced and the Keeseckers and Smith scoured the city for a new locale. During their search, they came upon the perfect location in front of the medical clinic and across from the post office. Due to its location, this spot was chosen for its excellent presentation potential of the Christmas tree.



Caroling & shopping the holidays



For some, it is an exercise in patience . . .

Crystal Collier and Trinket Gallien of Seldovia Village Tribe were in charge of getting the word out through posters and they did an outstanding job, mentioned Keesecker. Another terrific help was Seldovian Honeybee Nordenson. Nordenson was in charge of compiling all the music together for the Christmas caroling. Many songs were sung, with “I want to be a Hippopotamus for Christmas” being one of the more unusual tunes! The children were tireless in their choir efforts! A big thanks goes out to Honeybee for her hard work on getting all those Christmas carols in order so there was Christmas cheer for all!

Peggy, and the others involved hope this becomes an annual event for Seldovians to enjoy every year.

SBE High School Wrestler Injured

by Tamara Blodgett



Large print version
of this page - [click here](#).
Please note that we do not
have large print versions
of the other pages on this
site.

A “wounded wing” has ended the season prematurely for one Susan B. English sophomore. Josh Blodgett is a sophomore at SBE and wrestler in the 215-weight class. During a regular wrestling practice with a fellow teammate his right shoulder was dislocated when the teammate executed a “whip-over.” Blodgett tried a counter with an escape to that move which threw the duo off-balance and the weight of both boys landed simultaneously on Blodgett’s right shoulder. At the moment of impact, Blodgett said, “the pain was very sudden, very painful, and it stayed as long as it took it to put it back in.”

Upon seeing the situation, Coach Blodgett directed a fellow wrestler phone 911 for medical assistance. An Emergency Medical Technician came upon the scene and was able to discern that the shoulder was obviously dislocated. EMT Lisa O’Leary called for back up from Doctor Lawrence Reynolds of Seldovia. Later, it was determined that general anesthesia would be necessary for a dislocation as severe as this one. Blodgett was flown that night to the emergency room in Homer where he received general anesthesia to put him to sleep, lessening the potential for a possible placement problem due to muscle spasm and other factors. The X-rays showed that Blodgett’s shoulder was a full, two and one half inches out of the socket.

When asked if he was healing up quickly, Blodgett said the progress was slower than he would have liked. His forearm is mobile but the elbow needs to stay down for an indefinite amount of time. Blodgett is pleased with the medical attention he received and was very relieved upon waking up from the procedure to have the worst of the pain over.

A teammate, having witnessed the incident described it as an everyday wrestling session that cumulated in injury based on a fall from both opponents onto the one shoulder. Coach Blodgett mentioned that the wrestlers were engaged in a forward headlock, and when the pair rotated forward they fell on the shoulder. When Coach Blodgett compared shoulders he could see that there was an inequality and at that time the phone call to 911 was made. Coach Blodgett thinks that considering the circumstances medical responsiveness was the best that could have been expected.

Blodgett is anxious to make a full recovery and expects things to proceed smoothly. He will be traveling with his teammates for Regionals this coming weekend and taking photos and camcorder coverage of the event.

Limited gaming facilities denied certification

(Anchorage) - Lieutenant Governor Loren Leman today (November 28) announced he will not certify an application for an initiative entitled, “An Act providing for limited gaming facilities by creating a new State of Alaska video lottery law,” designated 05LOTIII by the Division of Elections.

Lt. Governor Leman made the decision to deny certification based on a recommendation by the Department of Law, which determined that the application does not comply with the constitutional and statutory provisions governing use of the initiative.

Leman said he agrees with the Department of Law’s analysis that, “As drafted, this bill confers a special benefit on the narrowest class of persons: the owner, option-holder or leaseholder of a single piece of property in South Anchorage.”

To view the recommendation by the Department of Law click [here](#) . To view the Lieutenant Governor’s letter to the initiative’s sponsors click [here](#). To view

the text of the proposed initiative click [here](#).

NOTE: Initiative petitions are not “approved” or “disapproved” by the Lieutenant Governor, rather they are “certified” or “not certified.” State law specifies criteria that must be met for an initiative to be certified.

Senator Gary Stevens monthly newsletter

With the holiday season upon us, just a few weeks remain until members of the 24th Alaska Legislature return to Juneau for the 2006 session to begin deliberations on the numerous issues that will drive the session.

- The following topics are discussed in the Newsletter:
- Gas pipeline
- Governor’s Budget Will be Released Soon
- Advisory Commission on Local Government
- Public Comment Wanted on Subsistence Halibut Harvest Report
- Transportation Department STIP
- Senate Pages needed

[Click here to view the complete newsletter](#)

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

SVT organized playgroup begins on December 1 st.
The hours are: 9:00 am to noon & 100 pm to 4:30 pm.

Tidbits . . .

[Seldovia.com's HarborCam updates every 20 seconds and catches some beautiful sunsets in the winter](#)



City Manager's Corner

by Kurt Reynertson

These are the days when you know why you want to live in Seldovia. Clear, crisp days with the sun glistening off the snow covered trees and life is moving just a little bit slower than it did during the hectic days of summer. It is a time to re-energize, drink an extra cup of coffee with some friends at one of our local establishments and do what comes natural at this time of year.....talk politics at all levels and discuss the associated problems. Hopefully some realistic potential solutions are included in these talks and more importantly shared with the community leaders.

The tank farm project is proceeding. I had a conversation with the project manager today and he indicated that it is very possible that we may see some construction as soon as next fall (September 2006). The construction, while not guaranteed to start, would be in phases with the first phase being the replacement of the pipes. Even though on the surface it appears that this is strictly a Seldovia Fuel and Lube project, the project will benefit the entire community from the aspect that we will be avoiding an ecological disaster by replacing the tanks and the pipes. Some of the current tanks and pipes are over 70 years old which is well past their engineered life expectancy. This project is being done via grant money.

I will be visiting Seattle next week with the Kachemak Bay Ferry project team. We will be visiting a number of boat yards and following up on some of the preliminary findings earlier last month. A separate aspect of the project is to consider a potential Port Authority for the City. A Port Authority study will be undertaken that will answer many questions concerning the formation of an authority and to help determine if this is something the City wishes to participate in. Some of the questions that will be addressed by this study include:

1. What municipalities will be participating in the Port Authority if it is established?
2. What will be the authority's boundaries?
3. What will be the expressed purpose of the authority?
4. Which of the available powers (as specified by Alaskan Statute) will the authority exercise?
5. What will be the number, qualifications, manner of appointment or election and terms of the authority's board of directors?
6. How will the authority be administered?
7. Will the ordinance that establishes the authority make specific provisions for adding and/or removing participating municipalities?
8. How will the ordinance address possible dissolution of the authority?

9. What financial obligations will the City have to undertake if an authority is established?
10. Are their potential legal issues if a Port Authority is established that may encumber the City?

The City has contracted with Van Altvorst & Associates and Kent Miller to help complete the study. These same consultants were instrumental in establishing the Inter-island Ferry Authority down in Southeast Alaska. The study is being funded by the Kachemak Bay Ferry Project, which is administered by the Seldovia Native Association via the Seldovia Village Tribe.

The City has been turned down on our request for grant funding (Multi-Use Facility Grant) through the Denali Commission on the Community Center modifications for ADA access (fixing the elevator by replacement). The primary reason we were turned down was because the Seldovia Village Tribe also put in an application for the same grant and the Denali Commission considers the Tribe and the City as one community. The rejection letter states in part:

“...[we] received a Multi-Use Proposal form both the City and the Tribe for two different projects. The RFP included this requirement because it is important that a community decide its own priorities for projects and funding instead of the Denali Commission. For this reason neither proposal was advanced to the next review”.

Be well aware that I am trying to educate the Denali Commission that the Tribe and the City are two different entities representing two distinct areas and that they should not consider us as one community for grant funding purposes. I have pointed out to the Commission that 100% of the lands that the Tribe is calling “ Seldovia Village” are outside of the City limits. Even though the Commission’s own web site recognizes the distinction between the Tribe and the City I have not had much success in this education process yet, but I am going to keep trying. In the mean time the elevator, with the new doors, is on hold.

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

After being contacted by DOT personnel, two vehicle owners were contacted and asked to remove their vehicles from beside the roadways on Jakolof Bay Road so they would not be damaged in the snow removal efforts. One vehicle was moved and promises to move the other were made.

A two car vehicle accident was investigated following a report that a vehicle had slid out of its driveway, due to the icy conditions, and collided with a vehicle parked on the roadway at the bottom of the driveway. An investigation was completed and filed with the State of Alaska , Department of Motor Vehicles. No citations were issued in this accident.

Evidence of a four wheeler driving its front tires onto the hood of a car parked in the parking lot at the airport was observed by the Police. It is unclear at this time whether or not the vehicle sustained any damage in the incident.

A report of a local citizen hunting ducks and/or geese from airport property was taken and the person was contacted by Police. He told the Officer he was not aware that hunting was not allowed in the area. He was informed that that the airport is in the City Limits of Seldovia, that it is illegal to shoot from airport property and also that he was not authorized to enter the runway area to access the area where he was hunting. He was given a verbal warning and assured the Officer he would no longer hunt in that area.

During the early morning hours of 11/16 Police responded, as did the Fire and EMS Departments, to a house fire at ½ mile, Jakolof Bay Road . The Clint Sheppard home, which was being rented by Russ Radliff, Eve Baillargeon, and daughter Izzy, burned to the ground with the family loosing all their personal belongings that were inside. Their vehicle, which was parked beside the home, was also damaged by the fire. The Sheppard's sailboat was lost in the fire, as well.

Police found a snow shovel lying on Seldovia Street , near Main Street . If you lost a shovel and call the Police Department with a description the shovel will be returned to you.

EMT's requested Police light the Seldovia Airport so a young man who had dislocated a shoulder in wrestling practice could be taken to Homer for treatment. The strip was lighted and the medi-vac was accomplished without incident.

A report of 5 – 8 gallons of gas being stolen from the HEA pickup within the last 10 days was taken by Police. The vehicle was parked in the parking lot of Smokey Bay Airlines at the Seldovia Airport at the time of the theft.

Approximately 100 gallons of furnace oil was reportedly stolen from a hanger at the Seldovia Airport between 10/1 and 11/23/05 . Anyone having any information is asked to contact the Police Department.

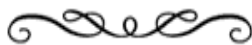
A report was taken regarding a person being cursed and threatened over the phone regarding property that was alleged to have been stolen. Investigation continues in this matter.

A report of minors being allowed to enter and remain on premises licensed for the sale of alcoholic beverages was taken. Investigation into the allegations continues.

A report of a two vehicle accident on Main Street was received and investigation into the incident resulted in a citation being issued to the person at fault for Failure to Yield to oncoming traffic. A report was filled out and filed with the State of Alaska , Department of Motor Vehicles.

Police responded to 4 requests for assistance, Notarized 1 document, supplied transportation for 2 persons, served one official document, checked on 4 vacant residences for security purposes, contacted two citizens and gave 1 verbal warning, and one written warning, for expired registrations on vehicles, requested 3 people remove their vehicles from the roadways within the City for snow removal purposes and gave one verbal warning to a motorist who was driving 32 mph in a 25 mph zone.

I feel it very important that I once again make the public aware of the law requiring you clear your vehicle windows prior to leaving your home or work. With the short days most of us are going to work and coming home from work in the dark and, with the cold, many of those walking are bundled up in dark clothing and are hard to see. It's worth the extra effort to take a few minutes and insure the ability to see clearly out of your vehicle windows. If you were involved in an accident with another vehicle, due to your vision being obscured, you would be held responsible. It would be devastating if someone were injured or killed because we didn't take the few minutes it takes to clear the windows. The citation, that "*will be written*" if you are observed with your vision obscured, will cost you \$70.00 and 2 points on your driver's license. Let's insure the safety of everyone and avoid a citation by clearing our windows before jumping behind the wheel.



Copyright © 2005 Seldovia.com, Inc. and Seldovia Gazette. All rights reserved. The Seldovia Gazette is published weekly by Seldovia.com, Inc. Contents of this publication may not be used or reproduced, in whole or in part, in any form or manner without the express written permission of Seldovia.com, Inc. [Click here for additional details.](#)