



Seldovia Gazette

Serving Seldovia, Alaska and Kachemak Bay southeast

Seldovia, AK

38 °F / 3 °C

Light Rain
at 5:53 AM



[Click for Forecast](#)

Thursday, Dec. 8, 2005

Just another day in paradise

Vol. 1, No. 27, December 8, 2005

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Top Stories

Susan B. English School wrestlers go to state!

by Tamara Blodgett

Two wrestlers advance to the state finals...

After doing quite well at Regionals, two SBE wrestlers will move forward to the state competition. Senior, Paul O'Leary and Freshman, Jordan Geagel, will be competing this weekend in this state event held in Wasilla.



Photo by Joy Smith

SBE has a six-member team this year that includes: one senior, 4 sophomores, and one freshman. One of the sophomores was lost due to injury in a pre-Thanksgiving practice, leaving only five left. Harold Haynes (sophomore) and Timmy O'Leary (sophomore) both had very tight matches at Regionals with both students qualifying for the alternate position for state. If injury or illness caused the 4th place position student (in their district) to be unable to compete at the state finals, Haynes and T. O'Leary would go to state. Haynes has decided to travel with the team for support.

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](#)



Photo by Josh Blodgett

The deciding match between Freshman Geagel and his opponent was anxious indeed. It was close, with a one-point lead going to Geagel at the end of the third round. What made this match an even tougher win for Geagel, was having him pitted against a senior. Coach Blodgett noted that he hung in there and never quit and that was the key ingredient to his success. A banner season was had for SBE's high school wrestlers. *Way to go Otters!*

Seldovia's annual Christmas lighting contest

by Mary Glover

Seldovia Chamber of Commerce Event



Once again the Seldovia Chamber of Commerce is hosting its annual Christmas Lighting Contest. Seldovians get ready and get your lights up! We all know who usually wins....let's give them some competition!

Darlene Crawford, Vice President of the Seldovia Chamber of Commerce, is (once again) organizing this event. Judging will be on **DECEMBER 21!** Thank you Darlene for all your work in making this event happen!

Many thanks also to Homer Electric Association who is donating energy credits for the residential prizes. Prizes are as follows: First Prize = \$150 energy credit; Second Prize = \$100 energy credit; and Third Prize = \$50 energy credit. In addition, the Seldovia of Commerce is going to award a prize money of \$150 to the best lighting for a business category!

WHO IS GOING TO WIN THIS YEAR?



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Volcanoes - -"Ring of Fire"

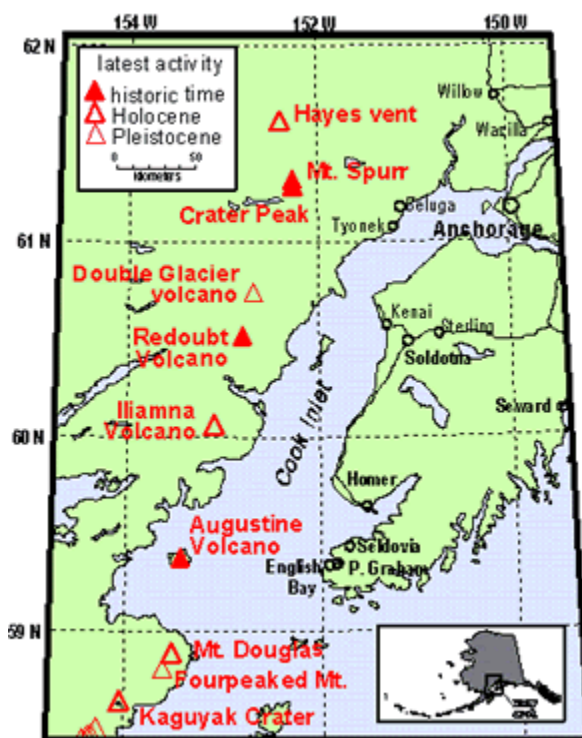
by Mary Glover

The silent, calm giants rumble

This past year, while photographing the beautiful Mt. Iliamna from Outside Beach near Seldovia, my camera caught what looked like a cloud venting off the top. This great silent giant was letting off a little steam. The scientist say that it vents from "two large inaccessible areas of fumaroles near the volcano's summit." (A fumarole is a vent in a volcano.) [website](#) Thank goodness, it doesn't bottle up and explode!

Now, St. Augustine, which is another volcano that rises out of the view in Kachemak Bay and is the mountain that is in the face of many fishing boats, was reported just this last week as calming down to "restless." This designation is assigned by the scientists at the Alaska Volcano Observatory. Now we have a live cam watching St. Augustine! This might be good news, but why put a live cam on an inactive volcano? Just go to www.avo.alaska.edu/activity/monitoring.php for an up close and personal view. The Alaska Volcano Observatory currently monitors approximately 30 Alaskan volcanoes 24/7 with their seismic sensors.

On a clear day, at Outside Beach one can view four huge mountains which are quasi-active volcanoes: (looking north and then looking north to south) Mt. Spur, Redoubt, Iliamna, and St. Augustine. Scientific reports also have reported minor earthquakes along the major tectonic plates. Go to this link for a very interesting [map of the tectonic plates](#).



Location of Mt. Spur and other Cook Inlet volcanoes (Map courtesy of Chris Nye-Alaska Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys and Alaska Volcano Observatory) [website](#)



Mt. Spur, 8/18/92 Photograph R G McGimsey, USGS [website](#)



Redoubt Volcano after the 1989 to 1990 eruptions. Photograph by C. Neal, U.S. Geological Survey, 8/13/90. USGS Digital Data Series 96-040, Neal and McGimsey. [website](#)



Mt. Iliamna looms high in the sky across Kachemak Bay. On a clear day is seen from Seldovia. Photograph by P. Keesecker 12/03/05



St. Augustine, 3/27/86 Photograph by M.E. Yount of the U.S. Geological Survey. Photo courtesy of NOAA'S National Geophysical Data Center. [website](#)

Just in case you are interested in details concerning current data on volcanoes around the world, click here for a very informative [website](#).

There are currently 3 live cams by the Alaska Volcano Observatory: Mt. Spur, St. Augustine and the Veniamin volcano. [web link](#)

There is a very good graphic of the "Ring of Fire" which is the name given to the tectonic plate that is in the Alaska Peninsula and continues throughout the Aleutian Range. Fortunately we are still labeled as "Yellow" which is a level of concern rating. [webpage](#)

Some Seldovians remember what it was like when Augustine last erupted. Darlene Crawford tells this story: "I remember when Augustine in 1986. We went to the Outside Beach, to watch the spectacle, joking about the wisdom of doing so, and remembering those people at Crescent City who had gone to the beach to see a tidal wave -- remember them?? We didn't see too much, but there were a few days when the planes couldn't fly because of the ash in the air. We got a good coating of ash, and I think it revitalized the soil, as that summer, we had the best blueberries and salmon berries. The Seldovia Village Tribe was just beginning to buy berries and sell them, and following that year there was a bumper crop. For some years thereafter there were good crops, and when the berries had a bad year, it would cross my mind that we needed Augustine to again fertilize the ground with ash. So, having a volcano erupt isn't all that bad.... Someone put a small bottle of Mt. St. Helen's ash in the SVT museum, so I put a bottle of St. Augustine's ash next to it and spilled out a little of each on a piece of paper. The St. Augustine ash that landed in Seldovia was much finer in consistence that the Mt. St. Helen's ash and was similar to talcum power. I do remember the mountain seeming very steep, and then after the eruption it was very noticeable that the dome was gone."

Life goes on and we just live in this very interesting and ever changing "Ring

of Fire." The [monitoring for early warnings](#) of eruptions is becoming ever more sophisticated. Sometimes we are at the mercy of nature!

Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting

by Tamara Blodgett

In short...

The following actions were taken at the Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting:

Approved building permit for handicap ramp at the Linwood Bar.

Recommended that Lots 5 & 6, Block 10, Waterfront Resubdivision #1 remain with a public zoning.

Recommended that Lot 1, Block 13, Waterfront Resubdivision #1 be re-platted with an appropriate portion of Peninsula Street added and that it be offered for sale.

Recommended that zoning on lots located on northwest (non-water side) of Main Street from the Crabpot Grocery to the Mad Fish (with the exception of The Clinic) be rezoned to Commercial Marine from Commercial Residential.

Next meeting scheduled for January 9, 2006.

Editorial comment: Thank you to Ronda Haynes for her assistance on this report.

The Living Will!

Joke of the Day

A man and his wife were sitting in the living room and he said to her, "Just so you know, I never want to live in a vegetative state, dependent on some machine and fluids from a bottle. If that ever happens, just pull the plug."

His wife got up, unplugged the TV and threw out all the beer....and you know the rest of the story.....(unknown author, email circulation)

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 . . .

Beautiful view of harbor from Harbor's Edge B&B



Photo by Peggy Keesecker

City Manager's Corner

by Kurt Reynertson

(no report this week)

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

(repeat story)

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.

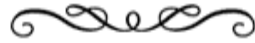
A report of minors being allowed to enter and remain on premises licensed for the sale of alcoholic beverages was taken. Investigation into the allegations continues.

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.



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