



Seldovia Gazette

Serving Seldovia, Alaska and Kachemak Bay southeast

Seldovia, AK

4 °F / -16 °C

Overcast
at 10:53 PM



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Thursday, Feb. 2, 2006

Just another day in paradise

Vol. 2, No. 5, February 2, 2006

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Opinions



▶ 2 Cents Worth

▶ Letters to the Editor - none this week

Spotlight

▶ Emily Haynes, ready for a new challenge

NEWS FLASH



Augustine volcano activity decreased to "ORANGE Concern" on Wednesday, Feb 1

[WebCam1](#)

[Seismograph](#)

[Main Page](#)

[WebCam2 at the volcano site](#)

[Ashfall](#)

Current news releases are posted daily on Seldovia.com ([click here](#))

Marketplace



Come In, Browse, Have Fun!

Herring Bay Mercantile
Seldovia, AK



Jenny Chissus
234-8000

Your Seldovia Connection

www.seldoviaproperty.com
RE/MAX of Homer



234-7652
Serving Seldovia with your real estate needs

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

Clean sweep by Sea Otters

by Joy Smith

Seldovia's basketball teams ROCK!

The girls' basketball team won their games on the 26th and 27th. The starters for the game against Anderson were Kate, Kristy, Naomi, Jen, and Stephanie, and the Otters beat Anderson 60 to 9. Then on Friday the starters for the CIA game were Stephanie, Emily, Naomi, Jen, and Kate, and the girls won 42 to 30.



The winning shot for the Seldovia boys team in their drive to glory. What a great game!



The boys' basketball team also won all of their games on the 26th and 27th. The starters for the Anderson game were Evan, Colton, Tim, Levi, and Griffin, and the guys won 56 to 20. Tim, Colton, Levi, Griffin, and Evan were the starters for the CIA game, and it was a real nail-biter with the final score being 63-62, Seldovia wins.

[Click here for PhotoStory!](#)

Chamber of Commerce announces a theme for this year's July 4th Festival

by Mary Glover

The February Chamber Meeting was held on February 2, 2006. Thanks goes to Chris Wheeler who again baked the delicious bread rolls we used for the sandwiches. Given the number of people in town, the meeting was well attended. During the meeting, we had an EMT call and we lost three of the people attending the meeting to the call. Thanks goes to these dedicated EMT personnel who are on scene when they are needed!

The Chamber had the following items on its agenda for the day:

July 4, 2006 Festival - USA Independence Day

The Chamber chose a theme for this year's 4th of July from a list submitted by Seldovians which was located at the Tide Pool and the Post Office. From all the themes submitted, eleven themes were seriously considered and from the eleven, then it was narrowed down to two choices. From the two choices then the theme, "*Children, Seldovia's Top Priority*" was the chosen winner. It was also talked about at the meeting that we should have a sports figure as our "Honored Old Crab" this year.

February 25, 2006 - Fund Raiser Dinner for the Woodcarvers Chainsaw Carving Contest

Mrs. Happy Schneider gave a presentation about the marketing that has been done by a grant funded to the SVT called the Seldovia Enterprise Expansion (SEE) Project. Emily Haynes, Jennifer Giles, Molly Chapman, and Deidre' Cameron have been working on the marketing and promotion of this event. Flyers are going out and ticket sales have started. Only 76 tickets will be sold for this steak dinner-theater night out. The Chamber members on this event's committee are: Mary Glover, Joni Reynertson, Peggy Keesecker and Happy Schneider. Theater persons are: Jenny Chissus, Paul Chissus, Curtis Liberty, Ronanda Liberty and Paul O'Leary. **[Idea-- Treat your sweetheart to a dinner theater night out by purchasing a couple of tickets now for Valentine's Day!]**

Lumberjack Steak Dinner/Theater Night
Sat. Feb. 25, 2006- 6:30 pm.
Seldovia Tribal Conference Center
\$35 per person for dinner and Mystery Play
Call SEE Project Office: 234-7859 Ext. 34
OR Mary Glover 234-7525 for more information.



School

▶ [Basketball, School News & PhotoStory](#)



Notices & Newsletters

▶ [Senator Gary Stevens December Newsletter](#)

▶ [Representative Paul Seaton January Newsletter](#)

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

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

▶ [Boys and Girls Club February 2005 Calendar](#)
NEW!

▶ [Boys and Girls Club Newsletter](#)

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

Corrections

▶ [None this week](#)

PhotoStory Archive

- ▶ **NEW!** SBE Basketball Feb 2006
- ▶ SBE Basketball Jan 2006
- ▶ SBE Christmas Play 2005
- ▶ Halloween Carnival 2005

Photo Archive

- ▶ [Click here for photo list](#)

Classified Rates

- ▶ [Instructions and rate sheet](#)



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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.

The Seldovia Visitor - The Chamber's annual paper, formerly known as the *Seldovia Summer Gazette*, is being created this month. Members who want to place an ad in this year's paper need to get their money in for both dues and the ad size. See the top of this web page for additional information and order form. At the March Chamber Meeting we will be drawing for the placement of the full page ads. The Chamber unanimously voted to hire the Anchorage Brochure Distribution Company for \$900 per year. This company will distribute papers to the Ted Stevens International Airport and to the Alaska Railroad Station on a weekly basis for the Chamber. The Chamber plans to print at least 20,000 papers this year. Last year we printed 15,000 and the need exceeded the supply.

Chamber Signs - Help is needed to repair the Chamber signs! We have several signs that people can "adopt" to restore their own sign. We would like to get at least 8 of them done by May.

Proposed Public Park - This park location is at Lot 1, Block 13 and still needs the City Council's approval for this public zoned lot to be made into a park. In the event the City Council votes that this lot can be made into a public park, then the Chamber voted unanimously to support, develop and maintain the park.

Genealogy in Seldovia

by *Tamara Blodgett*

Where is your branch on this tree?

Jan Wyland and I had a fascinating conversation about family "roots." Jan became interested in genealogy about 5-10 years ago. After retiring from her job, she felt it was time to *dig in* and find out some facts about her own family.



John and Mary Sanger and Jan Wyland at the Library working genealogy

Although Seldovia does not have a formal genealogical society, per se, a few motivated individuals have come forward to help put together an informal group who are interested in researching their individual family trees. Sandee Elvsass, along with John and Mary Sanger have played an integral part in the formation of this group. Jan also mentioned that Tom Glover was a huge help in formatting and developing a computer system for the library that was specifically suited to the tasks of genealogical research. With their combined

help, these people are now able to assist Seldovians in their ancestral search.

Help for your search is available...

An invaluable source of help in a person's quest for genealogical research is the Mormon Church. Not only are they a top-notch source for gaining detailed information about family facts, they have free downloads for pedigree charts. Jan emphasized how important it was to get pedigree charts right away. As the generations go backward, things can get convoluted and one finds themselves losing track of the facts. Having pedigree charts on the ready will negate the possibility of loss of facts due to disorganization.

Local help is becoming available...

Last week, there was a three-day program for people in Seldovia to stop by and get assistance on researching their family tree. Wyland's group wishes to facilitate with peoples' search of their family tree. Even though there are lots of sources online, certain methods of acquiring information are easier than others. That's where Wyland and her fellow genealogical researchers come in.

For a nominal fee, the Mormon Church rents out a film reader to this small group, which allows a person to look at some records that are only on film. Furthermore, Wyland says you don't have to be a member of LDS to access their records. LDS is more than willing to help those that are of other religious denominations.

Verifying authenticity matters...

Wyland also discussed quality of documentation. There are primary and secondary documentation. A primary source, for example, would be a birth certificate, with a baptismal record being a secondary source. Wyland says it is important when information is gained to substantiate its validity through the primary/secondary documentation method. A bonus is finding out information that goes beyond records. It is highly possible to find out how your ancestors lived, what they did, how they died, and even gain copies or original early photos.

Yet still other sources...

The National Archives is a tremendous source of census records, which have a great tale to tell about birth dates and household size and gender denomination. Anchorage has a National Archive that is available to the public for free.

Hidden help in your own backyard...

Sometimes these family secrets can be staring you in the face and you don't know it. Wyland stated, "There is always one person in the family that is the record-keeper." Find these people that have already done research or know a lot of valuable oral history and facts. Open that old family Bible that may have several births and deaths already listed. If possible, use the documentation method to back up what it says. Wyland emphasized to contact any older, surviving relative(s) for their rich, oral history that is just waiting to be told. Wyland went on to add that recording conversations in an informal manner is the optimal way as nothing of the conversation will be lost. Wyland wanted to

mention that a family narrative could be the next, logical step after one's search has been completed. Stories of historical merit are especially important to document. Discovering how people reacted to war, daily life, and how ancestors migrated, among a host of other details is what makes the search extra satisfying. It goes beyond knowing *when* someone lived, but *how* he or she lived.

Seldovia supported a quilt raffle...

Wyland noted that in the summer, when the population of Seldovia swells, there are a greater number of active researchers. Last summer this group made a quilt with material donated by Joyce Larson. The quilt was later raffled off in support of the establishment of a genealogical work area here in Seldovia. The monies received from the raffle furnished some of the security software for the computer and cartridges for the printer that's now in the library. Jan is grateful for the support of the community and sees this as a positive start for the program's success.

This small group is currently working with the library to set up a time for people to come and meet on a regular basis for research. Ideally, Wyland would like to see some of the youth in the community, in addition to the adult age group, develop an interest in family roots. Getting started young is a huge advantage and promotes interest in related areas.

Augustine still active

Seismic data indicate that eruptive activity continues intermittently and has changed little in character or intensity over the past few days. Thursday's satellite imagery indicates that the continuous ash plume is extending east-southeast at an altitude below 11,000 ft. Eruptive activity is characterized by low-level explosions, pyroclastic flows, and sustained production of ash. The Level of Concern was lowered to Orange on February 1 although volcano is still very active.



Augustine volcano, January 30. Photo courtesy of Game McGimsey and Alaska Volcano Observatory.

Dimond Center Hotel wins award

News Release

Dimond Center Hotel was awarded Outstanding Member Property of the Year (under 150 rooms) in the Alaska Hotel and Lodging Association Stars of the Industry Awards program on January 28, 2006. Seldovia Native Association, Inc. CEO Michael Beal accepted the honors, the first accolade awarded to the new property.

The Stars of the Industry Awards program, also known as the Academy Awards of Alaska Hospitality, recognizes star performers who have demonstrated outstanding accomplishments in Alaska's Hospitality Industry. It honors lodging employees and members that best symbolize the highest quality of service to the industry.

Additionally, Dimond Center Hotel employee Kimberly Costa was awarded Human Resources Manager of the year and Pumi Kashevarof was awarded Food & Beverage Outlets Manager of the Year.

Winners go on to compete in the American Hotel and Lodging Association's annual Stars of the Industry Awards program. National winners will be celebrated in June 2006 in Denver Colorado, during the AHLA summer conference. In 2001, three of the ten national winners were from Alaska.

Chris Cheney, Dimond Center Hotel, 770-5000

Special Notices

Home Games - High School Basketball Come out and support the kids!

Friday, February 3 - Nikolaevsk - girls 6:00pm, boys 7:30pm

Saturday, February 4 - Nikolaevsk - JV Games 11:00am & 12:30pm

Sunday, February 5 - Seldovia/Alak - girls 1:00pm, boys 2:30pm,

Alak/Mead girls 4:00pm

Monday, February 6 - Alak/Mead boys 3:30pm,

Mead/Seldovia girls 5:00pm, Mead/Seldovia boys 6:30pm

Entrance Fees: Adults - \$4, Students - \$2, Families - \$10,

Senior Citizens - Free, Pre-School Free when with an adult

Concession stand will be OPEN!

Tidbits . . .

With all that excess energy, maybe Tim O'Leary would volunteer to dig your car out too! (his phone number is 555-1212)



City Manager's Corner

by Kurt Reynertson

>> No report this week <<

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

A man reported the theft of ten gallons of gasoline from his skiff which was moored in Jakolof Bay Harbor. Someone helped themselves to five gallons of gas on two separate occasions. Both times the gasoline was housed in Jeri jugs and, on one occasion, the gas was taken from under the whaleback on the skiff.

A married couple taking a walk on Main Street were nearly struck by a vehicle which swerved across the roadway toward them. The couple had to run out of the way to avoid being hit. Due to the darkness the couple could not identify who was driving the vehicle and it continued on its way. The couple did recognize the vehicle when returning home from their walk and at that time recorded the license number. Police contacted the owner of the vehicle in question and he denied any involvement, stating he was at home at the time of the incident. He stated he did not loan his vehicle to anyone but he does not take the keys out of it so he cannot say that his vehicle was not the vehicle involved. The report was received by the Police approximately four and one half hours after the incident. In these type cases it's very important the Police get involved right away. The couple did leave a message on my home phone but I was away from my home that evening. To contact the Police in an emergency situation, such as this, you should call 911. The 911 operator has the ability to contact the Police at any time and the sooner the Police become involved the more evidence can be gathered in the case. Don't be afraid to call 911 with information. You can remain anonymous if that is your choice.

A call was received by the Police from a citizen who stated she had slid into the stop sign at the intersection of SBE School and Winifred Avenue. The lady found it impossible to stop, due to a recent light snow fall. Minimal damage was sustained to the stop sign and no damage was sustained to her vehicle. She was not injured in the incident. No action was taken by the Police and City Maintenance repaired the damage to the sign.

Someone also hit the stop sign at the intersection of Bloch Street and Shoreline Drive, breaking the post. The sign was propped up until the Maintenance Department could find the time to deal with it. The person responsible was not located.

Police received an anonymous report of an underage child riding a snow machine on the streets of Seldovia as well as back and forth to school. Parents of the child were contacted and told of the existing Municipal Code that requires a person operating a snow machine on the streets to have an operator license. To obtain an operator license a person must be 16 years of age and pass a written and driving test. A snow machine cannot be legally driven on the City streets with only a learner's permit.

A report was received that the Chilkat, the large vessel that was moored in the Seldovia Bay, had broken loose from its anchorage and had gone ashore on Schooner Beach, the beach in front of Craig Higman's residence. Police called the owner and made him aware of the problem. The United States Coast Guard was also notified, as per reporting requirements. No damage was observed and no oil is leaking from the vessel at this time. The owner is making arrangements to salvage the vessel.

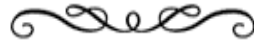
An HEA representative requested Police check for hazards from snow loads on power lines on the Rocky Road that leads to the City Landfill. A caller had reported the lines hanging very low over the roadway from the weight of the snow collected on them. HEA requested the road be closed until they could respond to the hazard if it was deemed necessary. Upon responding no hazard was found and it is believed the lines cleared themselves before Police arrived in the area. HEA was called and told no hazards could be found and the road was not closed.

Since last report the Police have delivered 1 message, fingerprinted 3 persons for employment and license related reasons, provided transportation for 3 people, Notarized 6 documents and responded to 5 calls for assistance from the public.

With all the snow and cold weather I remind drivers to take the time to clear your windshields before getting on the roadway. Visibility is poor at best in this type weather and a lot of people are walking. Let's take a little extra time and insure everyone's safety. Thanks!!!

The two Police vehicles, the Fire Truck and the Ambulance all received new, state of the art, mobile radios over the weekend. These radios, along with two hand held radios for the Police Department, are part of a grant through Homeland Security. The radios will make it possible for emergency responders to communicate all around the Kenai Peninsula in the event of a major disaster. ProComm Alaska sent two technicians to Seldovia to install the radios and they finished the installation on Sunday. We are finding the radios to meet or exceed our expectations. Along with being able to communicate in major disasters the radios were personalized by the technicians for local use and will be part of the equipment we use on a daily basis. We are very grateful to Sue Hecks, now of Anchor Point, who kept us in the loop from the beginning and kept bringing up Seldovia's Fire/EMS and Police concerns at all the meetings. We've all heard you can take the girl out of the country but you can't take the country out of the girl well maybe you can take the girl out of Seldovia but you can't take Seldovia out of the girl. Regardless, we are very

thankful for all of Sue's hard work and the time and effort she put forth in our behalf.



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