



Seldovia Gazette

Serving Seldovia, Alaska and Kachemak Bay southeast

Seldovia, AK

28 °F / -2 °C

Clear

at 9:53 PM



[Click for Forecast](#)

Thursday, March 23, 2006

Just another day in paradise

Vol. 2, No. 12, March 23, 2006

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Augustine Volcano News



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](#))

A TEST of the Tsunami Warning System will be done at 9:45 am on Wednesday March 29.

NOAA's National Weather Service and Alaska's Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, in cooperation with local emergency management offices and the Alaska Broadcasters Association, will conduct a statewide test of the tsunami warning communications system on March 29 at 9:45 a.m, Alaska Standard Time. Live tsunami warning codes, rather than a test code, will be broadcast on radio and television stations statewide. The text in the warning message will state that it is a test as opposed to an actual warning. For Seldovia this means we will, most likely, be hearing the alert siren at an unusual time and it could very well create some concern. Please be aware it is "ONLY A TEST". If there is excessive seismic activity on March 29, the test will be canceled. The test is being conducted to insure the outlying areas are receiving the warnings as soon as they are activated by the Kenai Borough Emergency Management personnel. These tests could prove to be very important in the future regarding our being alerted to a tsunami, or other major emergency, in a timely fashion. Thank you for your indulgence.

Our deepest sympathies to the family and friends of

Joan Dunn

February 19, 1933 - March 24, 2006
Funeral services will be held on March 28th in Galena, Kansas.




Top Stories

Marketplace




 **Jenny Chissus**
234-8000
Your Seldovia Connection
[www.seldoviaproperty.com](#)
RE/MAX of Homer

BEACHCOMBER Realty
234-7652
Serving Seldovia with your real estate needs

 Come In, Browse, Have Fun!
Herring Bay Mercantile
Seldovia, AK

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



Buck hooks a winner!

by Mary Glover

Local Seldovian, Buck Brown, wins big . . .

Buck and his crew, daughter, Jacquelyn Brown, and Will Brun went fishing last Sunday on the Linda De and participated in the Homer Winter King Salmon Derby.



Buck stated that he was 1 of 830 participants. The total count of fish caught for the day was 215. Buck said they fished all day (from 8 AM to 4 PM) near the 4th of July Creek and other places in Kachemak Bay. Then, around 4:00 p.m., they headed for Homer and weighed their fish in. Buck came in at 8th place with his King tipping the scales at 27.24 lbs., thus earning him the prize money of \$2,500.17. However, it was not until 10:00 PM that Buck got the big surprise, he was also the winner of a \$7,125.00 side pool bet! Congratulations to Buck and his crew!

rent. Call for details:
Harbor Master
(907) 234-7886
City Office (907) 234-7643

School

▶ [School News & Track](#)



Notices & Newsletters

▶ **NEW!** [Representative Paul Seaton March 19 Newsletter](#)

▶ **NEW!** [Senator Gary Stevens March 20 Newsletter](#)

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

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

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

▶ [Boys and Girls Club Newsletter](#)

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

Corrections

▶ [None this week](#)

Clay Johnson visits Seldovia

by Tamara Blodgett

A basketball great teaches the kids more than just basketball...

A former NBA player who hails having played with both the Seattle Super Sonics and LA Lakers recently came for a visit to Seldoiva. Mr. Clay Johnson shifted his focus post- NBA, into a pursuit that benefits others. Johnson is captain of Team Hollywood (TH) which is a celebrity-based basketball team that travels to various destinations. TH fosters positive role modeling for children outside of their home while also encouraging a healthy interest in sports.

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PhotoStory Archive

- ▶ [SBE Basketball Feb 2006](#)
- ▶ [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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Why Seldovia...?

While traveling through Washington State, Team Hollywood learned of a remote village on the extreme southern tip of the Kenai Peninsula. Intrigued by the prospect of visiting an unusual and interesting locale, team manager Pete Adams followed through with a phone call to principal Curtis Liberty at Susan B. English School. Mr. Liberty then contacted the Seldovia Village Tribe who were more than willing to comprehensively sponsor this kid-friendly event.

TH manager reflects on his Seldovia experience...

Pete Adams felt that Seldovia was a unique community in a positive way. He noted that it takes a "village to raise a child" and felt that Seldovia is literally doing just that! Adams mentioned that he saw the proof in the pudding with the attention and positive focus the adults use to support the children. Optimally, Adams would like to see the entire team revisit Seldovia in June, with the possibility of someday visiting other, neighboring villages. Mr. Adams went as far as to extend an invitation to these villages that would consider receiving a visit from Mr. Johnson. If anyone is interested in this type of positive, community contact please email all inquiries to: ada795aol.com; all emails will be answered.

Clay Johnson speaks about his time with Seldovians...

It was a pleasure and honor to interview Mr. Johnson who was humble and courteous with his time and energy. Johnson is enthusiastic about his current

career and feels he is making a positive impact on children. He enjoys the kids with their willingness to learn and enjoyment of the game. Johnson says there was excitement during the couple of weeks leading up to their arrival in Seldovia. Johnson mentioned that it was an eye-opening experience. Seeing a community as tightly knit as this one, efficiently working together for the benefit of it's children was great to see. Johnson also mentioned how much he enjoyed all the questions posed to him by the kids during his visit. He especially liked the questions he received from Mrs. Bornheimer's class (K through 3 rd). He said that there were intelligent , well-thought out questions that he enjoyed answering. Johnson felt warmly welcomed and "right at home" from the moment he arrived. Travel was long in getting here with a few plane changes along the way. He appreciated his pilot from Smokey Bay Air who was mechanic *and* pilot! Only in Alaska! Everything about the experience was unique to Mr. Johnson and hopes to return this June when TH will be playing a game in Anchorage. Johnson has never been fishing and would like to explore the surrounding area and enjoy the peace and tranquility that is an inherent part of our community. We look forward to seeing him again!

Chain Saw Carving Contest by Mary Glover

Updates on Seldovia's Memorial Day weekend event

The committee for the first Chainsaw Carving Contest in the State of Alaska has been working hard to make this event happen. The committee consists of members of the Seldovia Chamber of Commerce: Toby and Elaine Craft, Mike Webber, Mark Massion, and Tom and Mary Glover. Toby and Elaine have informed us that we have the judges (and one backup judge) and four carvers with firm commitments. Two additional carvers are likely.



Chain saw carving by Toby Craft; displayed at the Seldovia July 4 festival .

The Chainsaw Carving Contest is going to kick off on May 25 and end on May 29, Memorial Day Weekend. The M/V Tustemena will be coming to Seldovia on May 25 th and on May 28 th. *Notice to people from Homer:* This is your chance to come to Seldovia and enjoy yourself for one or more days! Did you know that we are listed in the Homer Visitor Guide for this event? Seldovia

merchants, get ready for a kick-off event for the summer season!

City Council Meeting - March 22

by Tamara Blodgett

The Seldovia City Council Meeting convened together with the following Council Members present: Peggy Boscacci, Keith Gain, Tom Glover, Tom Keesecker, Mark Massion, Walter McInnes and City Manager Kurt Reynertson in attendance. Mayor Wyland presided with City Clerk Ronda Haynes taking minutes.

Amended Agenda **Approved** with the change of a reversal of item(s) M-1 & M-2 for time line reasons.

The **Treasurer's Report** was delivered by City Manager Kurt Reynertson. The water special revenue fund expenses to date were higher than budgeted due to increased water testing, maintenance, and overtime hours.

Committee and Advisory Board Reports

The **Chamber of Commerce** is working on the 4th of July Button Contest. The contest winner will be chosen at the next meeting (first Thu. in April).

The **Arts Council** has posted on their website a complete list of artists that will be visiting Seldovia in 2006.

SOS: on March 17th, the 650 Responder Barge was taken out of storage and placed in Seldovia Harbor. It will be moved (weather permitting) the first week of April to Homer to its new owners, Alaska Clean Seas.

Comprehensive Plan Committee met Monday for a review and a workshop is scheduled for April.

17b Trails Committee made a call to BLM determine the status of their request for mediation and ~~SNA is still waiting on a response~~ BLM is still waiting for a response from SNA.

The Borough Planning and Zoning Committee is continuing to tighten up the regulations of gravel pit usage and designation. Councilman Massion encouraged anyone that has questions regarding this endeavor to contact him.

Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council has contacted the city during the Tesoro grounding. RCAC support Cook Inlet in their efforts (resources were released from the sound). In Juneau there is a major push for oil taxes going on in conjunction with that there is some effort to reinforce the funding for the environmental conservation. The 470 fund has lost value due to the elapsed time without fund implementation. Fund 470 is based on a per barrel oil tax(5 cents) that would be used for oil spill response.

New City Employee: Nick Moonin is the new Fire Administrator for the Seldovia Volunteer Fire Department.

Vista Report

The grant application to Denali Rural Access System has been submitted. The total proposed estimated budget for the City Dock Rehabilitation is \$348,350. The Review Board will meet on Friday, 3/31/2006. Lisa O'Leary will contact the Denali Commission on Friday, 4/7/2006, for a status update.

In order to retain the Vista position for the City, a Community Needs Survey had to be completed by ten individuals in the area. The criteria suggested by the survey for distribution were followed, and that survey process is complete. There will be interviews conducted in the next week, again following the guidelines laid out by the RuralCap office in Anchorage. This will complete the survey requirements to maintain the Vista position for Seldovia. The site supervisor and Vista volunteer file monthly reports and participate in biweekly teleconferences to keep up with other required tasks.

There is a local economic development forum schedules for April 11, 2006 in the multipurpose room. This will be an open invitation to all residents to attend and voice ideas for local economic development. City Council is encouraged to attend and participate. A questionnaire will be mailed to all boxholders in the near future to stir interest, and to facilitate discussion at the forum.

The on-line grant class is going well, with emphasis still on the Lake Susan Boardwalk project. Any opportunity for beautification funding for the City will be of special interest, as the surveys mentioned above brought to the forefront that many residents feel that is a priority. Thank you.

Old Business

Ordinance 06-09, Amending the Sundry Fee Schedule for KWH Electric Charges to reflect HEA's charge, to change the sundry fees on the electrical charge for the harbor and the boat storage to reflect what The City is actually being charged. The city cannot afford to subsidize the electrical per kilowatt hour cost. The new rate will reflect the average total charge per kilowatt hour over the last quarter and will be subsequently updated 4 times per year.

Action : Unanimously approved

Resolution 06-21, A Resolution in support of the Seldovia Boys' and Girls' Club, This is a grant application receivable through The City in support of the B & G Club. The Seldovia Chamber of Commerce has declared 2006's theme as, "Children; Seldovia's Top Priority." The City of Seldovia and the Boys and Girls Club are applying together for this grant . The stipulation of this grant is The City would provide a 50% match with in-kind services. An example of "in-kind" service would be a forum where Seldovia Police Chief speaks on anti-drug awareness.

Action: Unanimously approved.

Resolution 06-21, A Resolution in Support of Compiling Oral History of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill, RCAC has put forth to compile an oral history of the Exxon Valdez Spill which has never been done in the 17 years since the incident. RCAC feels that this would be a valid project and are proposing to seek a grant-matching funding. RCAC would put in \$50K and seek the difference through funding agencies. RCAC representative, Steve Lewis, asked for local support from The City Council. Lewis is anticipating RCAC will have funding in place by fall. Kodiak is one of the communities that have already passed this resolution.

Action: Unanimously approved.

See [City Manager's Report](#) below.

Meeting Adjourned : Elapsed time 43 minutes, 14 seconds.

Next regularly scheduled meeting: April 12, 2006

Rep. Paul Seaton Newsletter - March 19

Greetings from Juneau on this 70th day of the legislative session.

I am much relieved with the passage of HB 488 – Oil and Gas Tax reform out of Resources Committee. We made a number of important changes to the bill and will now be able to focus on other resource issues I am also concerned about. Last Saturday I had the sad experience of watching the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church burn to the ground just down the street from our apartment. We were very lucky that the high winds we have been experiencing for about a week did not begin until after the fire was extinguished.

I was happy to hear such nice reports about the Artic Winter Games events in Homer and wish I could have joined you for them.

We had several visitors last week, including our first intern, Jessica Coon from Seward. She was a big help to us in the office and was able to spend the week learning about the legislative process and life here in the capitol. You can read more about her experience later in the newsletter.

Also in from Seward were Amy Collman, her father Robin, and Debbie Bond. All three were here for the Boys and Girls Club Youth of the Year Award Ceremony. This was Amy's second year to be nominated and she was second runner up this year, earning her a \$1,500 scholarship to the University of Alaska. Tim Barnum from Seward also stopped in to say hello.

I had the additional pleasure of visiting with Seldovia Mayor, Dick Wyland and City Manager, Kurt Reynertson. Rick Eckert, Joe Gallagher and other HEA officials were also in, as were Susan Drathman and Mary Jane Shows as part of the Key Campaign Coalition. All of the Key Campaign members had our respect - rallying outdoors during what has been our coldest and windiest week this year.

In other news, Jim Herbert, of Seward, has been re-appointed to the Fisheries

Fund Advisory and Appeals Council. If you need to speak to someone about the Fisheries Fund issues, he is still the man to get in touch with.

Additional items covered in Rep. Seatons Newsletter:

- Jessica's Corner
- HB 415 – Recreational Land Use
- HB 418 – Mining Taxes
- State Affairs Committee
- Resources Committee
- HB 488, the Petroleum Production Tax
- Ways and Means Committee

[Click here to read the full newsletter](#)

Sen. Gary Stevens Newsletter - March 20

Hello again from the Capitol. As bone chilling, windy weather made Juneau a very cold place in recent days, deliberations on the Governor's proposal for a new Petroleum Profit Sharing Production Tax (PPT) continued. As you may know, this system will be based on a percentage of the gross value of production and, if passed, will replace the present ELF (Economic Limit Factor), which is not serving the state well in this era of high oil prices.

Both Legislative bodies continue to hear from its own consultants, representatives of oil companies and the administration about the merits of the Governor's plan. This proposal includes a 20% tax on net profits with a 20% capital investment tax credit. Producers will also get a \$73 million deduction on their taxes, can carry forward up to 20% of prior-year losses as tax credits and can use oil conservation surcharge payments as credit against the production tax.

With billions of dollars in revenue at stake for the State of Alaska, the Legislature is taking a slow and deliberate approach toward passage of the new tax structure. Before any bill comes to the floor for a vote, you can be assured it will have received a tremendous amount of scrutiny.

(You can access information about PPT on the Internet at:
www.gov.state.ak.us/oiltax)

It's always good to see familiar faces in the Capitol Building. **Among the recent visitors to Juneau are Seldovia Mayor Dick Wyland and Seldovia City Manager Kurt Reynertson**, Nicola Belisle, Pat Branson, Mike Brechan, Amy and Debbie Canavan, former Representative Cliff Davidson, Misty Ford, Bob Hatcher, Gordon Gould, Olga Malutin, Dan Rohrer, Walter Sapp, Darron Scott and Jack Walsh of Kodiak, Sharon Howerton-Clark and Mary Jane Shows of Homer, Hilda Lespron and Arthur Walters of Seward, and Steve Atwater, Superintendent of the Lake and Peninsula Borough School District.

Additional items covered in the newsletter:

- Supplemental Budget

- University Oversight Committee
- Advisory Commission on Local Government Legislation Update
- Personal Legislation Update
- PFD Application Reminder
- Senate District Visitors to the Capitol

[Click here to read the full newsletter](#)

Special Notices

Seldovia Book Fair to benefit SBE Library

Seldovia Book Fair is scheduled to take place this Saturday (March 25th) and Monday (March 27th.) The event has been organized in cooperation with the Cook Inlet Book Company as a fund raiser to help buy new books for the Susan B English School Library. Books are all new and for all ages. Cookies will also be for sale. Come join the fun and help support the school!



Saturday's Fair will be held from noon to 4:00 p.m. in the empty store next to the Post office and Monday's Fair will be held from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the SBE School Library.

For additional details, call

Joy or Sally Smith (234-7678)

or

Dianne Gruber (234-7854)

"The Seldovia Visitor"

The Seldovia Chamber of Commerce's annual newspaper is in its final countdown for the new publication this year. Last November, the Chamber voted to change the name of the paper to "The Seldovia Visitor" as the old name, "The Seldovia Summer Gazette" was "confusingly similar" to the on-line newspaper, the "Seldovia Gazette." The two are entirely different publications for two different entities. Currently, "The Seldovia Visitor" is looking for a few more articles for the paper. An article can be on just about

any subject, as long as it is connected in some way with Seldovia. It could be a story about Seldovia or someone in Seldovia (historical), or maybe about how someone perceives living in Seldovia. The article's intent should be an article interesting to both the residents of Seldovia and to visitors alike. Don't worry, if your article is not published this year, it may be held over for a future edition. Even if you do not think that you are a "writer," you may have a story that would be a good fit for the paper. I encourage everyone to try to write one. If you would like to have an article published in this paper this year, please email your submission to Mary Glover (maryg@seldovia.com) or just call 234-7525 and we will work something out.

Tidbits . . .

When Han and Bobbie cooked up a turkey dinner at Lakeside Terrace this week, Mr. Tom heard about it and showed up to express his objections!



Photo courtesy of Tracy Pilpot

City Manager's Corner

by Kurt Reynertson

The elevator project (for the Community Center) is progressing. The representative from Alaska Elevator has completed his analysis on what needs to be done and what needs to be ordered. The final estimated cost appears to be within the budget and the grant money available.

I was in Juneau for 3 days last week visiting a number of legislators to discuss the needs of Seldovia. I had the opportunity to discuss a number of issues with many State Senators and State Representatives. Five of these issues were as follows:

- I communicated the importance of the Energy Assistance for Communities for Seldovia. Recently the State Senate Finance Committee took provisions for this assistance out of the Governor's budget. I stressed to each Senator and Representative I met with that this assistance is needed by Seldovia. Each, while not committing to any particular assistance amount or form, indicated that some sort of

assistance would be there in the end.

- I talked about the absolute need for the State to support its small communities via some sort of Revenue Sharing. We discussed the impact that the elimination of Revenue Sharing has had on Seldovia. I stressed the fact that Alaska is one of only a few States that do not have some sort of Revenue Sharing and this despite the fact that the budget of Alaska is the “healthiest” in the entire nation. Each legislator indicated that they are working hard to reinstitute some sort of Revenue Sharing this session.
- I also took the opportunity to discuss the importance of our small boat harbor to each legislator and the fact that the State under funded the renovation amount Seldovia received when we took over the harbor from the State. House Bill 478 starts to address this issue as the issue is the same not only in Seldovia but also in many coastal communities. I took the opportunity to testify before the House Finance Committee in favor of House Bill 478. The testimony was well received and I believe passage of House Bill 478, or a variation of it, will happen. There is still a significant cash match that must accompany any project funded under House Bill 478 (in its present form), but this is “better than nothing”.
- I thanked the Senators and Representatives that helped us receive the grant for Silver Salmon stocking. I also asked them to consider another equal sized grant for this year. This was met with a positive outlook.
- In conjunction with HEA, I also stressed the need for State funds to continue HEA’s ability to clear trees outside of the narrow right-of-way that they have. This has been a successful program for HEA and Seldovia has benefited also through less power outages due to trees falling on power lines.

Mike Beale is unable to give the presentation tonight on the status of the Kachemak Bay Ferry due to illness. This has been rescheduled for April 12 (next council meeting).

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

A man reported the loss of approximately 125 gallons of furnace oil taken from a business on Main Street sometime between 1/25/06 and 2/16/06. Anyone having information regarding this theft is asked to contact the Police Department.

A lady ran into the Post Office with her vehicle when her foot slipped off the brake onto the gas pedal. No damage was sustained to the vehicle and only minor damage was sustained to the Post Office. No injuries occurred in the accident. The owner of the Post Office building was notified and surveyed the damage and told the Officer he didn’t wish to pursue any action. No action was taken by the Police other than contact with the driver.

A person reported a vehicle to be a traffic hazard when it was observed to be stuck in a snow bank at approximately one quarter mile, Jakolof Bay Road. The Police responded and assisted the owner in removing the vehicle from the snow bank to alleviate the hazard.

A report of man surf boarding behind a vehicle on the maintained roadways outside of the City was reported. Activity of this nature is a violation for both

the surfer and the driver of the vehicle in that it creates a hazard for those involved as well as others they encounter on the roadways. Police were unable to observe the infractions and could take no action but will do so if this type activity is observed in the future.

A report of a young adult buying liquor for the minors was received and, after some discussion, the subject was barred from taking package liquor out of the Linwood Bar and the Main Street Market Liquor Store. Both establishments have the right to refuse service to whomever they choose.

Police wrote letters of support for both the SVT and the Boy's & Girl's Club to assist them in their grant proposals. Both organizations are attempting to secure grants to assist in keeping the doors open and activities in place for our young people.

Police assisted the Alaska State Troopers in delivering Civil Papers to a local residence after they flew into Seldovia from Homer.

A sea otter that was reportedly injured was referred to SVT for disposal. The otter was sent to Anchorage where it will be examined to determine the source of the injury.

Police assisted a motorist after he locked his keys inside his vehicle.

Police assisted the City Maintenance Department in the launching of the F/V Artic Fox and the SOS 650 Responder Barge as both had been sold and are leaving Seldovia.

A report of juveniles consuming alcohol was taken and the investigation into the matter continues.

A cell phone was turned in that was found in the Harbor parking lot and the owner was located and will be picking up his phone at the Police Department. If you find lost articles, please turn them in so we can make every effort to get the item back to its owner.

A man who was conducting a survey for the US Census Department was reported to be very forceful in his approach, was rude and asked troubling questions of a lady who was home alone at the time of the contact. The man came to Seldovia by water taxi into Jakolof Bay, took a taxi to the lady's home, he conducted the interview, which lasted between five and ten minutes, took the taxi back to Jakolof Bay Harbor and left on the water taxi for Homer. The lady was very distraught when she talked to the Police and she knew she should not have let the person into her home. He told her the survey was a mandatory survey and that it would be only take a few minutes but some of the questions he asked were felt to be inappropriate for this type survey. The Police conducted an investigation and were able to locate man's supervisor, who was in the Seattle area, and she was told what had taken place and Seldovia's remote location. She was told the man used bad judgment, was aggressive in his approach and reportedly rude in his mannerism. The lady assured the Police that the survey was indeed legitimate but was not supportive of the manner in which it was handled. She was informed that the tax dollars could be put to better use with regards to the cost of travel the man incurred getting her and only for a five minute interview. She told the Police she would be talking to the man about the way he conducted the interview and his

aggressive approach. It was suggested that possibly a man should wait until someone else was present in the home of a lady alone prior to conducting the interview.

When someone comes to your door and you do not wish to talk to them, you are not required to let them in regardless of the nature of the interview. Tell them you do not wish to talk to them, close and lock the door and call 911 and ask for Police assistance.

On this occasion, even though the man was forceful and rude, nothing bad happened. Even in Seldovia you could very well be at risk. We're here to help you. Don't hesitate to call on us.

Since our last report Police have delivered 1 emergency message, responded to 4 requests for assistance, notarized 5 documents for the public, provided transportation for 2 persons and responded to 9 reports of "Dogs At Large".

It's been awhile since we put a Police Report in the Gazette but we were away from town for a time during Ann's back surgery. She is doing great and we would like to thank all of you who called, sent cards and flowers and kept us in your prayers. It means a great deal to know that we are in a community that cares about its people.

