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Seldovia Gazette

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Seldovia, AK

42 °F / 6 °C

Overcast
at 9:53 AM



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Thursday, May 18, 2006

Just another day in paradise

Vol. 2, No. 20, May 18, 2006

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Opinions

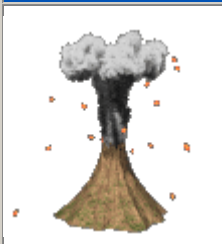


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Augustine News



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Much Ado About Nothing



[Click here for the PhotoStory](#)

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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

Top Stories

Chain Saw Carving Contest Slated for Memorial Day Weekend in Seldovia

by Mary Glover

Seven professional carvers to compete May 25-29

Seldovia's first Chainsaw Carving Contest! Come join in the fun on Memorial Day Weekend and watch seven professional carvers create their works of art. The contestants are: Toby Craft of Seldovia, Steve Curtis of Soldotna, Paul Comolli of Juneau, Jarret Dahl of Soldotna, Scott Hanson of Soldotna, Jamie Rothenbuhler of Wasilla, and Scott Thompson of Anchorage.



Carvers will be carving on May 26, 27, and 28th from 8:00 AM until 6:00

Spotlight

► [Priscilla Botero - long time Seldovian](#)



PM in tents at the old cannery site (next to Seldovia Fuel & Hardware.) Every day at 11:00 AM, there will be a "quick carve competition" where each carver creates a smaller carving that will be auctioned on Sunday, May 28th at 2:00 PM. Come enjoy a fun get-away weekend in Seldovia and watch these artists work! Click on the links below for information on transportation and lodging:

www.seldovia.com

[Seldovia Chamber of Commerce](#)

The M/V Tustumena (Alaska Marine Highway - (907) 234-7643) will be coming to Seldovia earlier in the day on Sunday, May 28 to accommodate day trips for this event. Check with the Terminal Ferry office for your ticket! The Rainbow Connection and the Discovery, tour boats, will be running and Smokey Bay Air and Homer Air will be flying.

Final Judging, Awards Ceremony and Auction will be at 2:00 PM on May 29th – Prize money for the top three winners totals \$3,500!

Schedule of Events

Friday, 26 May

- 7:30 AM - Log drawing by carvers at the carving site
- 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM - Carvers at work
- 11:00 AM to 12:15 PM - Quick Carve Competition
- 12:15 PM to 1:00 PM - Lunch for carvers on site
- 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM - Carvers at work

Saturday, 27 May

- 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM - Carvers at work
- 11:00 AM to 12:15 PM - Quick Carve Competition
- 12:15 PM to 1:00 PM - Lunch for carvers on site
- 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM - Carvers at work

Sunday, 28 May

Special Tustumena Schedule this day:

Arrive in Seldovia: 11:00 AM, depart 6:00 PM

The lunchroom will be open and serving from

noon - 1:00 PM • anyone can come aboard for lunch.

- 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM - Carvers at work
- 11:00 AM to 12:15 PM - Quick Carve Competition
- 12:15 PM to 1:00 PM - Lunch for carvers on site
- 2:00 PM Public auction of Quick Carvings - EVERYONE COME!
- 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM - Carvers at work

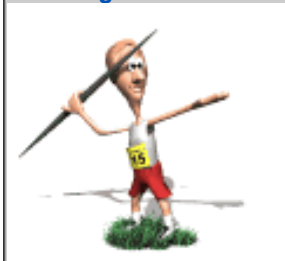
Monday, 29 May

- 8:00 AM to 1100 AM - Carvers complete their projects
- 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM – Judging of carvings
- 2:00 PM - Announcement of Awards - EVERYONE COME!
- 3:30 PM to 4:00 PM – Carving teams load up and depart

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

► [School News, wrestling & Track](#)



Notices & Newsletters

► [The Seldovia Visitor 2006, Seldovia Chamber of Commerce. Click here to download PDF... it is a large 6 megabyte file.](#)

► **NEW!** [Representative Paul Seaton May 18 Newsletter](#)

► [Senator Gary Stevens May 10 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 \(pdf\)](#)

▶ Harbor Survey Priority Results (pdf)

Corrections

▶ None this week

Archives

- ▶ [2006 Page Archive](#)
- ▶ [Seldovia Walking Map 2006 - 8-1/2 x 11 pdf](#)
- ▶ [The Seldovia Summer Visitor Newspaper 2006](#)
- ▶ [SBE Basketball February 2006](#)
- ▶ [SBE Basketball February 2006](#)
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- ▶▶ [2005 Gazette Page Archives](#)
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Photo Archive

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Classified Rates

▶ [Instructions and rate sheet](#)



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Seldovia Booster Club Auction 2006 *by Katie O'Leary*

The Seldovia Booster Club had their biggest event of the year on Saturday, May 13th, 2006. This exciting event was the annual Seldovia Booster Club Dinner and Auction. The evening started off with a delicious dinner cooked by Liza Bieri, and many other volunteers. The dinner started at 5:30 p.m. with the auction beginning about an hour later.

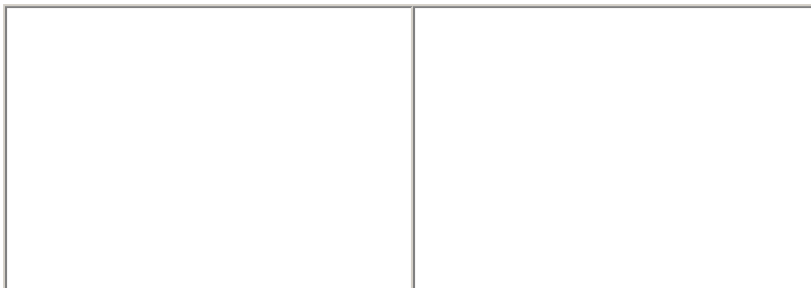


The auction was a huge success, thanks to the people who worked their hardest to make it possible. Mr. Gerry Willard volunteered his Saturday night once again as Seldovia's favorite auctioneer. As the night went on, there was only more fun in store for the many residents and visitors who attended.

The auction started off with the drawing of the Seldovia High Schoolboys' Sea Otter Basketball Team Raffle. The boy's team decided to buy new jerseys to wear this past season. One method of paying off their dept was to raffle a 06' home jersey. The winner of this raffle was a true sports fan, none other than Tom Glover.



The boy's team then decided to finish paying for the jerseys by offering themselves as laborers for auction. All the boys that played on the team in the 05-06 season participated and are going to work five hours for the highest bidder. The player that went for the most money was Tim O'Leary at \$230. The labor auction earned a total of \$1,060.



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



As the auction went on, many of the items went for more than \$100 and some even went for more than \$200. The item that auctioned for the most was a crocheted tablecloth made by Liza Bieri. She spent five years on the tablecloth and used over nine miles of thread. The tablecloth was a coveted item that was sold for \$800.



The auction went by so fast with the jokes that came from the audience but especially the humorous personality of the #1 auctioneer Gerry Willard. The auction consisted of 106 items that were actively bid on by the audience. There was also a silent auction that many of the kids that participated had great fun with.



The finale of the auction was the "treasure chest" that had one hundred silver dollars in it. Anyone that bought an item had his or her name put in a jar and at the end a name was pulled to see whom the winner was. The person who got to draw the lucky winner was Cheyanne Willard. As luck would have it the lucky winner was none other than Cheyanne!

We would like to thank every person that donated and bid on items. We appreciate your school spirit and hope to see you next year. We would also like to thank all the parents and friends of the kids in the Susan B. English School for your support and dedication to raising money for us. We thank you for setting up the annual Seldovia Sea Otter Booster Club Auction and Dinner.

We can't wait for next year's auction and dinner!

[Click here to see additional photos and story](#)

Much Ado About Nothing *was* a Tudo About Something!

by Tamara Blodgett

Susan B. English's final play of the year a hit...

SBE will go out with a bang this year after the recent, end-of-school-year play! The kids worked their hearts out on a change of venue. No drama this time, this play was all comedy.



Miss Hilts chose John Minigan's adapted Shakespeare work for high school students. In interviewing one of the directors of the play, Lisa O'Leary, she mentioned that she and Drama/English teacher Laurel Hilts opted to keep the language as it was originally written. O'Leary said how fun it was to see the "lightbulb" go on as the kids began to understand the formal way of speaking and the subtleties of its meaning. She thinks that in the future the children will be able to read other Shakespearean works and understand the sarcasm and complexities of these plays. O'Leary became involved when her interest and experience were seen as a crucial part of the success and efficiency of play production. O'Leary mentioned that she and Miss Hilts worked very well together as a team. With O'Leary being the die-hard thespian and Hilts open to the call of spontaneity. O'Leary lettered in Drama while in high school and found it really fulfilling to revisit this terrific outlet with the SBE students.

Miss Hilts had her work cut out for her with a cast of 15 students showing up 4-5 days per week for an hour and a half per day! All the cajoling, coercing, bribing and extra-crediting does not discount the fact that, in the end, all those kids would have done it all without anything. They did it for the love of performing and sense of accomplishment one gets from seeing something valuable to the end.

The ornate female costumes were hand-made by Sally and Joy Smith and they were gorgeous! Each girls' costume was tailor made for her with just the right color and authenticity. Senior, Evan Mickelson and 6th grader, Sarah O'Leary, handled stage and lighting. Miss Hilts and Lisa O'Leary were responsible for the stage design.

Some roles were combined and some other roles were gender-reversed. The

two minions of Don John were originally cast for males. There were some allowances in the adaptation for just this circumstance. O'Leary loved that the kids smoothly adapted to whatever was given them. Borachia (played by Courtney Collier) and Constanza (played by Kathleen Gruber) did very well playing the female villains(in the place of the traditional males). It was Hilts idea to have Dogberry (played by Kyle Burt) and Verges (played by Cameren Blodgett) hop and skip on stage which had the audience in tears (it doesn't sound funny in print but the 5' tall Blodgett and 6' tall Burt were hilarious viewed as a pair!).

It was a fine way to end the school year with a nod to comedy at the end. We can't wait to see what the kids have in store for us next year!

[Click here to see additional photos and story](#)

Homer Veterinary Visits Seldovia *by Tamara Blodgett*

A much-needed service pampers our pets...

Homer Veterinary Clinic came to Seldovia for an all-day clinic yesterday from 9am to 4:30pm . The turnout was high enough that HVC felt an additional clinic day could be tentatively planned for HVC to return to Seldovia in August or September.



HVC said there was a large response to their services with 41 appointments seen. Dr. Ralph Borshes has made frequent annual trips for the past several years to Seldovia to meet the needs of our community's pets. At the very least, this helps ensure that our pets have their once-per-year shot regime or well check and is a preventative measure against more serious things. The microchip identification was also offered. This allows lost pets to be easily identified in a nationwide computer system. This veterinary clinic is a great service for the community of Seldovia and we hope for its continuance.

SBE Parent Advisory Committee Meeting May 16

by Trinket Gallien

Susan B. English School, Parent Advisory Committee/Site Base Decision Making Council convened for their regular meeting May 16, 2006, 7pm in the Commons Area. Principal Liberty reported upon the Booster Club's successful annual dinner/auction. "Happy to see the community come out and support our youth." Liberty also reported that the District will allow SBE to keep soda machines on school grounds, and during the summer months the Pop Machines will be distributed through out the community for use. Staffing positions will be posted on the district website and locally this summer. Due to staffing changes a schedule for 2006/2007 school year has not been approved. With Graduation around the corner, PAC agreed that Trinket Gallien will be representing the Site Base Council this year during the commencement ceremonies. Parent Advisory Committee's next regular meeting is August 28, 2006. The public is welcome to these meetings.

Rep. Paul Seaton Newsletter - May 18 *Press Release*

I wish I was not writing "Greetings from Juneau" – but we are definitely here for at least the first two weeks of the FIRST 30 day special session. After May 23rd the Resources Committee may start holding hearings on its section of the yet-to-be-seen Stranded Gas Act amendment bills in Anchorage. Although there is not a definite schedule, we will probably be back here after the first week of June to vote on those bills. Another run at PPT may be included in the second special session. If those decisions are accomplished, a third special session could occur later in the summer or early fall, after the 45 day public comment and renegotiations and finalization of the Gas Pipeline Contract.

Rewriting the oil tax structure and a gas line project are the most important considerations in decades. The complexity of these issues requires much study before voting. It appears that I may miss the entire fishing season but Tina will be coming home soon to get the garden planted. I hope to see you soon, during breaks in the action

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

Special Notices

Susan B. English Spring Concert - Friday - 6:00PM

Seldovia songbirds sing the last note of the school year...

SBE will have a final concert with the high school band/choir ensemble Friday, May 19th at 6:00 PM. This is a great opportunity to hear some live music and enjoy and support our children. Thanks for encouragement Seldovia!

The Fourth of July is a'comin sooner than you think!!

Now is the time to consider your opportunities to sell your great food item at the Chamber FOOD booth.

If you are the first to request a certain item, you'll be the only one to carry that item. We have the forms for your use to get the DEC permit, which must be turned in NO LATER THAN JUNE 1st.

Please contact Darlene Crawford to get the permit form, let us know your menu item, (and whether you need electricity) or if you'd like a different type of booth - i.e. Sales, games, or whatever.

Phone 234-7625 days at SNA or 234-7668 evenings

Tidbits . . .

Not sure whether we should call Tim Dillon an artist or a contractor . . . what a beautiful piece of work!



Bill & Linda Greene's new home next to Inside Beach

City Manager's Corner

by Kurt Reynertson

Instead of the usual column, I thought I would share with you something that I received a while ago (source unknown). I'll admit that there are times I do not always practice the message being told, but I do try to come back to it often. I have no idea if this is a true story, or if the story simply has elements of truth in it, or if it is just a good fictional story. Regardless, the story should cause one to stop and think.

LET IT REALLY SINK IN - THEN CHOOSE.

John is the kind of guy you love to hate. He is always in a good mood and always has something positive to say. When someone would ask him how he was doing, he would reply, "If I were any better, I would be twins!"

He was a natural motivator.

If an employee was having a bad day, John was there telling the employee how to look on the positive side of the situation.

Seeing this style really made me curious, so one day I went up and asked him, "I don't get it!"

You can't be a positive person all of the time. How do you do it?"

He replied, "Each morning I wake up and say to myself, you have two choices today. You can choose to be in a good mood or ... you can choose to be in a bad mood. I choose to be in a good mood.

Each time something bad happens, I can choose to be a victim or...I can choose to learn from it. I choose to learn from it.

Every time someone comes to me complaining, I can choose to accept their complaining or... I can point out the positive side of life. I choose the positive side of life.

"Yeah, right, it's not that easy," I protested.

"Yes, it is," he said. "Life is all about choices. When you cut away all the junk, every situation is a choice. You choose how you react to situations. You choose how people affect your mood.

You choose to be in a good mood or bad mood. The bottom line: It's your choice how you live your life."

I reflected on what he said. Soon hereafter, I left the Tower Industry to start my own business. We lost touch, but I often thought about him when I made a choice about life instead of reacting to it.

Several years later, I heard that he was involved in a serious accident, falling some 60 feet from a communications tower.

After 18 hours of surgery and weeks of intensive care, he was released from the hospital with rods placed in his back.

I saw him about six months after the accident.

When I asked him how he was, he replied, "If I were any better, I'd be twins...Wanna see my scars?"

I declined to see his wounds, but I did ask him what had gone through his mind as the accident took place.

"The first thing that went through my mind was the well-being of my soon-to-be born daughter," he replied. "Then, as I lay on the ground, I remembered that I had two choices: I could choose to live or...I could choose to die. I chose to live."

"Weren't you scared? Did you lose consciousness?" I asked.

He continued, "...the paramedics were great.

They kept telling me I was going to be fine. But when they wheeled me into the ER and I saw the expressions on the faces of the doctors and nurses, I got really scared. In their eyes, I read 'he's a dead man'. I knew I needed to take action."

"What did you do?" I asked.

"Well, there was a big burly nurse shouting questions at me," said John. "She asked if I was allergic to anything.' Yes, I replied.' The doctors and nurses stopped working as they waited for my reply. I took a deep breath and yelled, 'Gravity'."

Over their laughter, I told them, "I am choosing to live. Operate on me as if I am alive, not dead."

He lived, thanks to the skill of his doctors, but also because of his amazing attitude... I learned from him that every day we have the choice to live fully.

Attitude, after all, is everything.

Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

After all today is the tomorrow you worried about yesterday.

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

>> Repeat Story <<

Police assisted EMT's in locating a pilot and then lighting the airport for a medi-vac. The Officer waited for the return of the aircraft and lighted the airport for his return, as well.

Young adults and minors were reportedly smoking marijuana in the parking lot at the Harbor. The complainant could not recognize those involved due to the darkness. They were reported to be passing a joint around among them. This report was taken the morning following the incident.

A summer resident returned to Seldovia to find approximately 120 gallons of heating fuel taken from his residence sometime during the winter. He had just filled the tank prior to leaving for the winter and no heat was kept on in the home. Anyone having any information should contact the Police Department.

2 reports of teens riding 4- wheelers and using skate boards late at night behind the school were received. During a presentation at the school with all the students present in this age group, I told them of the reports and that this activity had to stop. Both reports were received the next morning following the

incidents. It is very hard to know who is actually committing the acts when it isn't reported until the following day. Please call when it's happening. If you cannot reach us call the Homer Police Department at 235-3150 and they will contact us. We're here to serve you but you need to take some responsibility and call when the act is being committed.

The Police assisted the Maintenance Department in the launching of two boats from the boat haul out facility using City equipment.

Police assisted the Maintenance Department in the moving of the new fish cleaning table from the City Dock to the Seldovia Harbor where it will soon be permanently installed.

Police delivered an emergency message regarding a member of the recipient's family having serious medical problems out of State.

Two Alaska State Troopers came to Seldovia and gave a presentation to the students regarding Drugs, 4-Wheeler safety and making float plans and hiking plans and putting them in writing when they plan an outing. The Seldovia Police assisted in the presentation.

A letter was delivered to some summer residents who had returned to Seldovia and started a construction project without first obtaining a building permit. The subjects were not aware of the need but are now getting the application together for the permit. All construction has stopped until the permit is received.

A telephone line trap was placed on a local phone number following a complaint of the victim receiving harassing phone calls. The necessary paperwork was filled out and ACS installed the trap. In a short time, provided the calls continue, the Police will apply for a search warrant to obtain the phone number responsible for the calls. The investigation continues in this matter.

A local resident could not get to sleep because of a barking/howling dog. Police responded and found the owners were out of town but had left a caretaker for the animal. The caretaker was contacted and the matter was resolved.

A man reported the lug nuts on the front tire of his vehicle had been loosened by person or persons unknown. He was fortunate to find the problem prior to the wheel falling off or serious damage occurring to the rim. This crime is labeled "Reckless Endangerment" and a person can spend time in jail if convicted.

Two black bears were brought in for sealing. This is the first bears known to be taken this year.

A bear carcass was dumped over the embankment just north of the Cemetery by persons unknown. Investigation into this matter continues.

A coyote was hazed off the Seldovia Airport with a popper shell after it continued to cross back and forth on the strip. Coyotes and aircraft are not compatible.

Police have received one report of a black bear in town. This is a good reminder that they will be visiting us and we need to do all we can to discourage their sticking around. I know it's a broken record but don't put your garbage outside and make trips to the landfill on a more frequent basis. I would appreciate a call if a black bear is in your area or, for that matter, if you see one in town.

Since last report I have notarized 5 documents.

