



Seldovia Gazette

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Thursday, June 1, 2006

Just another day in paradise

Vol. 2, No. 22, June 1, 2006

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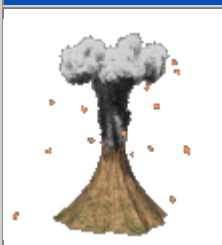
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SBE Graduation 2006



[Click here for the PhotoStory](#)

Top Stories

Susan B English Graduation 2006 *by Tamara Blodgett*

Our seniors 'make good' on completion...

Seniors at SBE graduated this last Friday, May 26th, 2006 at 6pm . There were smiles all round as this year's graduates' took to the podium. A good mix of kids wore their caps as Deidre Cameron, Emily Haynes, Joy Smith, Colton Collier, Evan Rojas-Mickelson, Paul O'Leary and Seth Suydam finalized their 12-year education that evening. Helping celebrate their special night was special guest speaker and former SBE principal Steve Jones. Humorous and familiar with Seldovia he had a great time speaking about his SBE experience. Sunni Hilts, Dave Spence, and Trinket Gallien were on hand to shake (and hug) the graduates on their way to adult life and responsibility.



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Seldovia Boat Slips for Rent
 The Seldovia harbor has 32 foot and 42 foot slips for



Graduate Deidre Cameron started off the ceremonies by delighting the audience with her impressive alto rendition of our national anthem. A heartfelt and eloquent speech was made by graduate Colton Collier whom had a unique anecdotal comment to say about each graduate

Graduate Joy Smith was valedictorian in her class with a cumulative GPA of 4.0 and will receive the University of Alaska Scholar Award . This bestows a large stipend of \$1,375.00, per semester, toward educational expenses.

Graduate Emily Haynes was Salutatorian (2nd in academic placement) and received the Presidential Gold and Presidential Scholarships that equate to \$64,000 in financial award for her education at the University of Minnesota .

Graduate Seth Suydam received, along with smaller scholarships, a combination meritorious scholarship of \$34,000 from the prestigious Colorado School of Mines which he will be attending this fall.

Not to be outdone by the seniors, the incoming class of 2010 was also graduating from 8th grade. Darin Baines, Derek Burt, Matthew Gain, Courtney Collier, Kathleen Gruber, Katrina Hecks, Jennifer Sing and Chelsea Suydam will be the new SBE Freshman Class. Each student looked very pleased to be leaving behind the secondary school and moving on to high school.

A lot of effort went into the décor with special attention paid to a creative backdrop for the stage that included all the graduates, in silhouette, performing “tasks and/or hobbies” they were known for. A rose was given to each person that held a special place in the heart of the graduate. A river of tears flowed from all the grateful adults that were able to be present for the first stepping stone of adulthood.

[Click here for PhotoStory](#)

Chainsaw Carving in Seldovia *by Tamara Blodgett*

Carving up a good time for the holiday weekend...

Carvers from Soldotna, Wasilla, Juneau and Anchorage were enticed to sublime Seldovia to provide Memorial Day artwork in the form of wood carving magic. This was a first-time, Chamber-sponsored event that was offered as something new and different for the community of Seldovia and visitors alike. The Chamber made sure the wood artists’ stay was a pleasant one with lodging, food, and transportation (from Homer) all provided. Hospitality was here!

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

School

► SBE Graduation 2006!



Notices & Newsletters

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

► [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 \(pdf\)](#)

Archives

▶ [2006 Page Archives](#)

▶ [2006 Seldovia Walking Map - 8-1/2 x 11 pdf](#)

▶ [2006 Seldovia Summer Visitor Newspaper](#)

▶ [2005 Gazette Page Archives](#)

▶ [2005 Seldovia Summer Gazette Newspaper](#)

▶ [The Seldovia Summer Gazette Newspaper 2004](#)

PhotoStory Archive

▶ [2006 CofC Chainsaw Carving Contest - May](#)

▶ [2006 SBE Graduation - May](#)

▶ [2006 SBE Spring Concert - May](#)

▶ [2006 SBE School Play - May](#)

▶ [2006 SBE Science Fair - May](#)

▶ [2006 Prom - May](#)

▶ [2006 SBE Basketball - February](#)

▶ [2006 SBE Basketball - February](#)

▶ [2006 SBE Basketball - January](#)

▶ [2005 SBE Christmas Play](#)

▶ [2005 SBE Halloween Carnival](#)

Photo Archive

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Carvers: Back row, left to right- Jarret Dahl, Toby Craft, Scott Hanson, Scott Thompson, Paul Comolli; Middle row, left to right- Elaine Craft, Sandra Bullock, Joan Thompson, Steve Curtiss, Wendy Brammeier; Front Row, left to right- Jaime Rothenbuler, Keith Hansen

The weather cooperated with fair skies and warm temperatures ranging in the low to mid 60's. This created the perfect environment for the carvers to perform their craft. There were six competitors at the chainsaw-carving event with three (full time carvers) being from the same business in Soldotna. Each carver designed and executed their wood statue for the event with a deadline of Memorial Day. The carvers' all took time out mid-swing to compete in a Quick Carve Contest. The carvers all chose at least one piece to carve in just an hour to be auctioned off at 2pm on Sunday afternoon with the proceeds going to the Seldovia Chamber of Commerce. There was some lively bidding on all sorts of different motifs. There were benches (otter, bear, salmon), otter, bear, salmon, snail, pelican, and a sailor (figurines), to name a few of the offerings. The Quick Carve Auction faired well with over \$7000 benefiting the chamber. Subsequent orders were placed for more carvings. Benches and another sailor were carved in addition to the auction offerings.



1st Place winner Scott Hanson and assistant Sandra Bullock

The Memorial Day Contest for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners for best wood statue was determined on Monday. Scott Hanson won first place for his

[over the past year](#)

Classified Rates

► [Instructions and rate sheet](#)



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Corrections

► [None this week](#)

Mermaid statue (prize of \$1500), Jarret Dahl won 2nd place for his dual Eagle Fighting Over Salmon Statue (prize of \$1000), and 3rd place winner Steve Curtis of Wasilla won with his Adult and Baby Whale Statue. The Peoples Choice award went to the 2nd place winner, Jarret Dahl for his statue (Eagles Fighting) with a prize value of \$500.00. Wood artist Scott Hanson brought in the most proceeds for his quick carve auction carvings.

The Chamber would like this to begin a new Memorial Day tradition here in Seldovia, with chainsaw carving being the kick-off for the summer season. The positive response to this event provides the confidence needed to continue this on an annual basis. Roots grow deep here in Seldovia and this could be another shoot for future years to come.

A PhotoStory of this event will be included in next week's Seldovia Gazette.

Chamber of Commerce Meeting - June 1

by Mary Glover

The Seldovia Chamber of Commerce convened for its regularly scheduled meeting on June 1st at noontime. Lunch was provided and Joni Reynertson brought a variety of delicious deserts. Thank you Joni!

The first item of business was concerning the Chainsaw Carving Contest. The event was held in Seldovia on May 25-May 29th and proved itself to be an event so successful, even beyond our wildest dreams. Seldovia, its roots in being an old logging community, proved this event to be touching the hearts of old time residents, as well as, the new daily visitors. At the meeting, many thanks were expressed by the body of members to the Chainsaw Committee: Mike & Mary Webber, Tom & Mary Glover, Toby & Elaine Craft and Joni & Kurt Reynertson. In addition, the Chamber wishes to thank the Carvers and acknowledge the Carvers' collective talent, which made this event's success possible. In the meeting, Tom Glover stated that at a special meeting of the officers and directors was held on May 31 and that a Proposed Disposition of the carvings for 2006 was discussed. The result of this meeting was presented to the members of the Chamber this date for consideration and final decision. The Proposed Disposition was adopted by the Chamber members with one amendment that next years Chainsaw Carving Contest be called the **TOBY & ELAINE INVITATIONAL CHAINSAW CARVING CONTEST**. The Proposed Disposition of the Carvings for 2006 basically stated that the carvings would remain the property of the Seldovia Chamber of Commerce and be leased for \$1 per year to each business that had possession of a carving on their premises.

Placement of the carvings was based in part on the amount of public exposure the carving would have and in part on those individuals and businesses who donated substantially to the event with either prizes, food, drinks, materials, supplies, labor or equipment. The carvings have been placed at the following locations:

Tide Pool Cafe front porch: Mermaid by Scott Hanson
Multi Purpose Room - City of Seldovia: Eagle Carving by Jarrett Dahl

SVT/SNA The Visitor Center: First Breath Whales by Steve Curtis
 Herring Bay Mercantile front porch: Dragon by Jamie Rothenbuhler
 Public Library, children reading area: HatCat by Paul Carmolli
 Seldovia Fuel & Hardware: Angel by Toby Craft (temporary location until Sea
 Farers Memorial is built)
 Harbor Master Office, outside: Fisherman by Scott Thompson

The Chamber body also elected to purchase plaques for each carving and one for the Crafts.

The Seldovia Chamber of Commerce then voted upon the nominations submitted at the Post Office by the general public. The election this year is:

	<p>Citizen of the Year: Andy Smircich (Homer Air Andy - photo, Andy is the one on the left :-))</p>
	<p>Youth of the Year: Joy Smith (Joy holds the distinction as the only youth in Seldovia to receive this award twice!)</p>
	<p>Business of the Year: The Tide Pool Cafe (Sara Nichols and Matt Gallien)</p>

CONGRATULATIONS to the above recipients for these well-earned awards!

President Mary Glover then gave a recap of the 4th of July plans being developed. She stated that we still need a young mother to watch the toddler

area for approximately 1 hour in the afternoon of the 4th. There will be an open area for toddlers to play in that will have the balls and a few things for them to do. This area needs minimal supervision.

The other area that the Chamber could use some more hands with is for more people to step forward and prepare food. This is a very good opportunity to make some money! Contact Darlene Crawford (234-7625) ASAP if you are interested as the time to file for a permit is running out! Mary Glover then reported that we are going to have Elvis Presley come sing for us! Yes, Jason Brown, from Juneau, Alaska is a talented Elvis Presley impersonator and he will be giving a concert on the 4th of July for our enjoyment. Elvis comes to Seldovia? Jason is not charging for his performance, but he will be passing the hat for his daughter, as she wants to attend the Pre-teen National Beauty Pageant. After the concert in Seldovia, Elvis and his daughter will be entertaining in Homer in connection with the Homer Chamber of Commerce's festivities. The Seldovia Chamber of Commerce then unanimously elected to have local Seldovian, Elaine Giles, as our 2006 Old Crab for the 4th of July. This is a great honor and we were overwhelmingly supportive of Elaine Giles being chosen this year for this coveted position. Kurt Reynertson then stated that both the M/V Tustumena and the M/V Kennecott were going to be in Seldovia from around July 1 to July 4th. Please call the City Offices in Seldovia to either book passage or overnight reservations for the 3rd of July. Thanks to the Marine Highway System to be especially accommodating to the needs of Seldovia during this time. Mary Glover then showed this years T-Shirt with design by Paul Chissus and stated the buttons would be picked up this week in Anchorage. The Rubber Duckie Tickets will be on sale at the various businesses in town by June 8th.

The meeting ended with Susan Mumma and Susan Zerwick giving a heads up for the upcoming Seldovia Summer Solstice Music Festival to be held June 16-17th. Sponsors for this event are still needed. Everyone is encouraged to attend. You are guaranteed a wonderful time with the absolutely outstanding performers that are coming to Seldovia!

Chamber Note: 2006 Walking Maps can be picked up at the Herring Bay Mercantile Herring Bay Mercantile is the storage location for both the 2006 Walking Map and the *Seldovia Visitor*.

Sea Tow® Comes to Seldovia by Tamara Blodgett

A niche is filled for boat safety...

Sea Tow® franchise owner Dave and Peggy Cloninger have jumped aboard a new business that serves the needs of the community of Seldovia and beyond. Sea Tow® is patterned after the Triple A program for automobiles (AAA). The annual membership fee is only \$149.00. This entitles the Sea Tow® Member to free towing, prop dis-entanglements (uncomplicated entanglements that don't involve a diver), fuel drops, covered ungroundings, and jump-starts.



Sea Tow® began their business on May 1 st and has already done 5 operation runs that include either, jump starts/ tows/ pick-ups. Cloninger has signed up and average of a member a day. The people at the headquarters for the franchise are really pleased that Cloninger's business is growing so well. Cloninger's Sea Tow® franchise is *the only one* in Alaska. There is a total count of 110 worldwide.

Cloninger stressed that it is inevitable that at one time, in the lifetime of one's time on the water that some common problem may come up. It is not *what*, it is *when*. A commercial towing agency will charge upwards of \$200 per hour, *if* you can get someone to respond to your SOS. So, the point would be that you save the money, and peace of mind to know that there will be an immediate response to a potential emergency situation by becoming a member.

This service is not for people that have "junkers." A member needs to sign and attest that their boat is in good working order, wait a mandatory 24-hour waiting period and then their free service begins. This is a service for any responsible boater out there that wishes to have that added protection that if something goes wrong they know that their lives, and those of their loved ones is protected.

The Cloninger's have also purchased the option to buy a franchise in the Seward area as well. The area they currently service boaters is in the eastern waters of Cook Inlet from Ninilchik, south to Port Graham/Point Bede, and Kachemak Bay which includes: Kasitsna Bay, Seldovia Bay, Neptune Bay, Little Tutka Bay, Tutka Bay, Jakolof Bay, Sadie Cove and Patterson Bay. Sea Tow® is a universal coverage service. Anywhere you take your boat you will be covered. If you go to a place that does not have a Sea Tow® Franchise, an equivalent tower will be found, and Sea Tow® will reimbursement that member the cost of the equivalent tower up to \$5000.00.

Captain Dave Cloninger presently owns a successful fishing business named Seldovia Fishing Adventures here in Seldovia since 1986. Wanting both businesses at top efficiency and providing top-notch service was crucial to the Cloninger's so they hired Jess Davies to run the Sea Two® Cruiser. Davies will be Cloninger's right hand man to help operate the vessel that will be used to service members. His other "right hand man," wife Peggy will assist as she always has with their busy fishing business. She is a hands-on helper in every phase of their business and will be an integral part of the team in this new venture. With all their bases covered, the Cloninger's are hoping for a home run!

Special Notices

Team Hollywood coming to Seldovia

News Release

SVT will be hosting the professional, celebrity streetball team "Team Hollywood" this Fathers Day (June 18) for a Community game. Tickets are priced at \$4.00/person or \$10.00/family.

The celebrity players will include Clay Johnson (1982 LA Lakers), Jeff "Windchill" Coffman (from the movie "Hoops"), Pretty Boy Jason Pitts (pro streetballer and actor), "DT" Dave Thornton (Native American pro streetballer), Brandon "Seldom Seen" Steward (NBA Slam Dunk Championship finalist) and Mark "Latino Heat" Ginithian (pro streetball player and actor.)

Contact Alene Hidecker at 907-234-7898, ext. 229 or Sue Russel at ext 221 for additional information. Come join the fun!

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 . . .

Owen Dicks and Ryan Johnson of the Coast Guard visited Seldovia last week to do safety inspections at Seldovia Fuel & Hardware (they passed of course)..



City Manager's Corner

by Kurt Reynertson

Hopefully everyone was either able to see the chainsaw carving competition and/or able to see the final products. I think it is safe to say that no one expected such works of art. I am not sure exactly what we expected, but what the carvers accomplished was no less than astounding. What they created was truly art. The Seldovia Chamber of Commerce will be deciding what happens to the creations very soon. Personally I cannot seem to view them enough. I am completely taken back by the detail and craftsmanship that Seldovia has been given the great privilege of owning. Each carver indicated that they were more than willing to return next year to the second annual chainsaw carving contest. I am sure with the success that was experienced this year; there will be a second contest.

Mark Massion (City Councilman) will be departing Seldovia for an extended period of time. As such his seat on Council will become open and we are currently looking for people that would want to fill his seat until the next regular scheduled elections in October. If you have an interest in serving on the Council and helping set the direction for Seldovia, please submit a letter of interest to the City Office. In order to qualify for the seat you must be a registered voter in Seldovia and have lived here for at least the past 6 months. There are several large projects the City is undertaking and with that the new Council member would be involved, helping the City set its direction.

The King Salmon smolts have arrived are currently residing in Fish Creek. The City has closed off the dam in order to facilitate imprinting and letting the smolts grow a little prior to release. In a couple of weeks we will be doing the same with our new Silver Salmon smolts.

Calcium Chloride will be put down, courtesy of George Oilveria, starting next week. The funding for the calcium chloride was obtained via a grant that the City applied for and received late last summer. As most of you know, this will help the dust problem a lot. The City Maintenance crew are working to scrape the streets this week so that the calcium chloride can be put down on a flat (as much as possible) surface.

Seldovia Police Report by *A.W. Anderson, Chief of Police***>> Repeat Story <<**

A report was taken from persons kayaking in Seldovia Bay that when they passed by the Chilkat, which is anchored across the Bay, they heard an alarm going off. After receiving the report the owner was notified by the Police.

Dogs barking all night in an area of the Barabara Heights Subdivision and keeping persons awake was reported to Police. The owner of the dogs was contacted and told of the complaint. He told the Police his dogs were keeping the bears away from his property. He was informed that bears are present near all the properties in that area but a person could not disrupt his neighbors in an attempt to keep them away. Even though unhappy that he was contacted in this regard he told the Officer he would see what he could do about the problem. No reports have since been received.

When the street sweeper was in Seldovia doing the streets the Harbor Parking Lot had numerous vehicles parked in it and the Police moved all but one of the vehicles so that area could also be cleaned.

Police were notified about an unexpended Military Ordinance that had floated onto McDonald Spit. The Explosive Ordinance Disposal Team at Ft. Richardson Army Base in Anchorage was notified and requested digital photographs be taken and sent to them. After having received the photos from the Police Department two of the EOD team came to Homer the following day and were transported to McDonald Spit by the Alaska State Troopers on the Public Safety Boat. Police met the officers when they arrived and assisted them in the destruction of the Ordinance. It was taken to the gravel pit at the top of Barabara Creek and was destroyed with C-4 explosives. The Ordinance was a phosphorus flare that was housed in a wooden box. It was dangerous in that, if ignited, it could cause serious burn injuries. When the Ordinance was destroyed the explosion was considerably louder than expected and did cause concern by many in the Barbara Heights Subdivision. We apologize for any concerns this may have caused in the area.

An Army EOD officer lost his cell phone during the transport of the flare to the gravel pit. Upon searching the areas traveled, as well as the McDonald Spit area, the officers left without finding the phone. It is a silver and black phone housed in a black leather carrier. If it is found please turn it in to the Police Department.

Police received civil papers and served them on a local resident after being requested to do so.

A complaint was taken regarding the playing of loud music by a neighbor, which the complainant found very disturbing. The person playing the music was notified of a complaint and felt the music was not as disturbing as other noises in the neighborhood, however, the music was turned down and no further complaints were received.

Two people came to the Police Department requesting fingerprinting be taken as was required by their employers.

A complaint of a dog that was tied out and was allowed to bark and howl all day was taken. The owners of the animal were told of the complaint and have made adjustments and the dog seems to no longer be a problem.

A report of an attempted entry to the SBE School was taken. A person or persons attempted to force open a window in an effort to enter the school but evidence indicates they were not successful. However, the hardware on the window was damaged and had to be replaced. Anyone having information regarding this attempted entry is asked to contact the Police Department.

A man reported the theft of approximately 25 lbs. of dog food which was taken from his shop sometime during the day on May 24th in the Barabara Heights Subdivision. The dog food was there in the morning when he fed his dog but when he was going to feed the dog that evening the food was gone. Nothing else was reportedly taken from the shop area even though numerous items of value were present. Anyone having information in this matter is asked to call the Police.

Police have notarized 6 documents, responded to 4 requests for assistance, assisted the Maintenance Department in the launching of 7 boats and one fuel float, sealed 5 black bears hunters have taken, have given two verbal warnings for persons exceeding the speed limit and one written warning for a registration violation since last report, assisted one motorist with battery problems and provided transportation for one man who was attempting to catch an airplane and was running late..

