



Seldovia Gazette

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Thursday, June 15, 2006

Just another day in paradise

Vol. 2, No. 24, June 15, 2006

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Chain Saw Carving Contest 2006



[Click here for PhotoStory \(repeat\)](#)

Top Stories

Summer Solstice Music Festival 2006 *by Mary Glover*

Don't miss it! Friday & Saturday (June 16-17)

Excitement is building! Seldovia is getting ready to receive the 2006 Summer Solstice Music Festival. The Arts Council members have decorated the stage, made lodging arrangements, doing transportation arrangements, and we are almost ready for the PERFORMERS TO ARRIVE IN SELDOVIA on June 16-17th!



Seldovians and Seldovia visitors get ready for a wonderful time this weekend! Come to the Susan B. English School for two evenings and one afternoon of great music, comedy and dance. Performances start at 6:00 PM on Friday

Marketplace



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234-8000

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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

- Long Time Seldovians

Night. In addition, we will have multiple workshops on Saturday afternoon starting at 1:00 PM. We will have a couple of spotlights from local talent, but the majority of performances will be musicians from around the state of Alaska, the Lower 48 and Canada! What is different this year and guaranteed to be tremendously entertaining is that headliner, Al Simmons, will be the Master of Ceremonies. He keeps the audience in stitches with his comedy, costumes, quick wit. Then coupled with the enormous amount of talent that is going to spill out over the night's air, we are in for a treat! "*Beautiful sounds in a beautiful place*" is ringing true again. A list of other performers are: David Francey, Bearfoot Bluegrass, Paul Gerardi, Billy Goat, Al Simmons, Ann Pence, Rick Brooks, Alex Whitmore, Tim Mason, and McCoy and Millen, Rant and Raven Morris, Seldovia Idles, Alaska Flute Circle, Dan McElrath, Al Simmons, Hopper Family Band, Mike Campbell, Lia Zito, and Homespun. We are going to have at least 20 artists in town. If music is food for the soul, then we are certainly going to be overindulged come Sunday morning!

Visit the Arts Council Web Site ([click here](#)) for more information on the artists and for the Schedule of Performances, [click here](#).

School

▶ **SBE Graduation 2006!**
 >> [Repeat Story](#) <<

**City Council Meeting - June 14** *by Tamara Blodgett*

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

Public Presentation for Items not on Agenda

Jim Van Altvorst was present to discuss the Port Authority for Seldovia. This will be a document that Council will present in the future that would provide the Port Authority in Seldovia.

Committee and Advisory Board Reports

RCAC - Nothing to report from

Planning and Zoning Committee has previously submitted Title 18 (which is the updated building and zoning codes) for Council's adoption.

SOS held an 8-hour HAZWOOPER course on May 31st. There were 7 students present, Mark Janes from SOS in addition to several employees of Seldovia Fuel and Hardware. It was also announced a skimmer will be coming in the near future.

Fish and Game - Nothing to report from

Chamber of Commerce is inviting everyone to come to the Solstice Music Festival this weekend. The Chamber is also readying for the 4th of July Holiday Festivities and will need some help putting up the tents for the events.

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

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 June 15 Special Session 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 Archives

▶ [Archive of all pages](#)

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

▶ [Seldovia Summer Visitor Newspaper](#)

2005 Archives

▶ [Archive of all pages](#)

▶ [Seldovia Summer Gazette Newspaper](#)

▶ [Seldovia Summer Gazette Newspaper 2004](#)

PhotoStory Archives

2006 PhotoStories

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

▶ [SBE Graduation - May](#)

▶ [SBE Spring Concert - May](#)

▶ [SBE School Play - May](#)

▶ [SBE Science Fair - May](#)

▶ [Prom - May](#)

▶ [SBE Basketball - Feb.](#)

▶ [SBE Basketball - Feb.](#)

▶ [SBE Basketball - Jan.](#)

2005 PhotoStories

▶ [SBE Christmas Play](#)

▶ [SBE Halloween Carnival](#)

Photo Archive

▶ [Click here to view all photos from the Gazette over the past year](#)

School Board Member Sunni Hilts mentioned that the Borough has agreed to fund Seldovia to the "cap." This is the first time in recent years that Hilts thinks we may be able to reinstate some of our programs. She mentioned this was a great show of support. It will complete the greater goal of making the children our 'top priority' in the state *and* Seldovia.

Parks and Recreation plans to have a workday on June 24th for Lollypop Park . On subsequent Saturdays the public is welcome and invited to offer their labor towards the eventual completion of the park.

17B Trails Committee has ongoing correspondence continuing.

Old Business

Ordinance 06-10, Title 18 Amendments

These are the new building and zoning codes for Seldovia that have been updated and introduced to Council.

There is great interest in preserving Seldovia's intrinsic coastal nature now and for the future so Seldovia can be enjoyed indefinitely. Building heights were discussed in detail for just this reason. The Council was divided on the issue of height.

A member of the Public, Tim Dillon, objects to the building height restriction changing from the present 35' to the proposed 32' with a maximum of 2 and ½ stories.

Councilman McInnes does not want to see anything higher than 32' on Main Street and the surrounding waterfront. He thinks 35' could be a concession that potentially be made in less conspicuous areas of Seldovia that would not stand out in amongst structures of lesser height.

Councilman Keesecker mentioned that he does not think that the three feet makes an appreciable difference. Councilwoman Boscacci wishes to see the restriction remain the same.

Action: Approved 4-2. No votes were Boscacci and Keesecker.

Ordinance 06-13, Appropriating Funds for the Major Maintenance and Repair Fund

Action: Approved unanimously.

New Business

Bid for Generator at Multi-Purpose Room

This is a bid that has been presented to Council for their express approval. The generator will be funded through a grant. The function of this generator will be to provide heat, lights and communication for power outages that occur and would support the EMS and Fire Services during future outages.

Action: Approved unanimously.

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.

Corrections

► [None this week](#)

Resolution 06-24, Acceptance of Grant for Bulk Facility Grant

This addresses Phase 1 for the replacement of the pipes (with future replacement of all fuel-related equipment). This is a proposal to accept the grant from the Denali Commission in the amount of one million dollars to begin this replacement.

A member from the public wished to know if the tank replacement was in the best location and was assured by a member on the council that a good amount of engineer and design money was spent on determining the best location for the purpose at hand.

Another member of the public Gladys (Happy) Schneider felt that the Fuel Station (Seldovia Fuel and Hardware) were getting something from the City and should be giving something back (such as lower fuel costs). The Mayor (and the City Manager) responded that the City was not giving anything to SF&H, rather, the Council would simply be giving permission to the Denali Commission to accept this grant for the replacement of the fuel tanks and related equipment.

Mayor Wyland added that the 75+ year old tanks are in dyer need of replacement and we either accept the grant as is or forget it.

Councilman Massion indicated that these grants are not typical and we should accept it especially considering the safety ramifications from continued use of equipment that is antiquated.

City Manager Reynertson made an illustration in which he said if the private enterprise needed to pay, say, 3 million dollars for fuel equipment reconstruction that private enterprise would have to pass that on to the consumer. With acceptance of this grant, monies that would be passed on to the consumer would be at a much-reduced level. Monies that *do* get passed on would be related to money set aside for future upkeep and maintenance of the replaced fuel equipment.

Councilman Gain commented that negotiations should be made between the City and Seldovia Fuel and Hardware for the City's part in facilitating this grant. City Manager Reynertson responded that he and Dan Blodgett (SF&H owner) were currently negotiating and continue to do so.

Action: Approved unanimously.

Resolution 06-25, A Resolution Declaring Children Seldovia's Top Priority

School Board Member Sunni Hilts gave a brief presentation on this resolution. Her emphasis was that a viable community is primarily dependent on the 'health' of the children in the community. Grocery stores and medical clinics do not support themselves without families with children. Focusing on our children is a win-win for all. Some things that are good for the older age group do not always benefit everyone. Hilts emphasized that something that benefits children always benefits all. Hilts mentioned that Seldovia would be one of the

first communities to pass this resolution and couldn't we support this vital step toward public acknowledgement of our most precious treasure (?).

Laurel Hilts communicated to Council that her class drafted letters to each Council Member addressing the Resolution and provided those to Council Members for their perusal.

Action: Strong Council support approved this resolution unanimously.

Land Usage of Main Ct. and Adjoining Land

Councilman McInnes would like to see this small parcel of land that is owned by the City used as a public park with a pathway from Main Street to the water's bank edge. Currently, this area is blocked off by large boulders and is not being utilized at all.

Councilman Gain and Massion concur with McInnes and would like to see some of it segregated for parking for the boardwalk residents as well. Gain believes it would be used if properly marked, as the boardwalk is a major tourist draw.

A member of the public, Mary Glover thinks the best use of this land is to make it a parking lot. She would like to see that the future of that parcel be preserved for the boardwalk's residents permanent parking. Another member of the public, Happy Schneider addressed the question of who would maintain the proposed public area as a parking area or park or both.

Councilwoman Boscacci expressed that the wording needed to express a desire for its immediate usability but with further investigation into its zoning and designation with a possible survey to solidify its dimensions.

This has already been seen and approved by P&Z as a public-use park area and brought before Council for adoption as such.

Action: Approved unanimously.

Appointment of Seldovia's Representative to the Borough Planning Commission

This is the replacement seat available upon Councilman Massion's resignation. This seat has been filled by P&Z Chairwoman Carluccio.

Action: Approved unanimously.

Council Member Massion's Resignation

Councilman Massion's last official duty will be carried out on June 28th. An interim council member will be elected to serve on Council until the coming election this October 2006. Three members from the Public have expressed interest in filling this seat during this interim.

Action: Councilman Massion's resignation has been accepted unanimously from the Council.

City Manager's Report - see below

Manager, Council and Mayor Comments Concerning Items Not on the Agenda

The Council and Mayor thanked Councilman Massion for his faithfulness on City Council. Councilman Massion thanked the Council for their mutual time spent together and the things he has learned from each individual during his tenure.

Next Regular Meeting is June 28th,2006 .

Adjourned : Time elapsed, 1 hour, 36 minutes and 43 seconds.

SeldoviaGazette.com Celebrates 1st Anniversary

by Tom Glover

June 9th marked the first anniversary of the Seldovia Gazette weekly online newspaper. For those of you who don't know, Tom and Mary Glover of Seldovia own both SeldoviaGazette.com and Seldovia.com. The Gazette editors and reporters include Tamara Blodgett, Charity Winters (Spotlight Reporter), and Katie O'Leary (School Reporter.) Last years School Reporter was Joy Smith. A special thanks goes to this dedicated group of reporters for their help in making this newspaper what it is today. We would also like to thank the dozens of other people who have provided photographs and stories all through the year.



Tom & Mary Glover



Tamara Blodgett



Charity Winters



Katie O'Leary



Joy Smith

Over the past year, the Seldovia Gazette readership has grown to almost 1,000 unique visitors per week. Based on emails we have received from some of those readers, we can tell you they consist of families and friends of Seldovians, people who used to live in Seldovia, Federal, State and Borough politicians and government workers, transportation providers who service Seldovia, people who have never been to Seldovia but can't wait to come visit this special corner of Alaska described as "just another day in Paradise" and people who just love watching life in a small Alaskan bush community.

Our goals for SeldoviaGazette.com and Seldovia.com have not changed. We believe our town deserves a strong, unbiased newspaper that will keep the public informed by presenting both sides of an issue in a non-editorialized fashion and presenting an accurate reflection of life in Seldovia. We look forward to serving our beautiful and unique community in the coming year.

Wood Carving Final Locations

by Mary Glover

The Seldovia Chamber of Commerce presents to the public the resting places of the carvings that were the result of the 1 st Chainsaw Carving Contest in Seldovia on May 25-29, 2006. Below are pictures at the location where the carvings were placed. The carvings remain the property of the Seldovia Chamber of Commerce at the various locations. Placement of the carvings was based in part on the amount of public exposure the carvings would have and in

part on those individuals and businesses within Seldovia who substantially donated to the event with prizes, food, materials, labor or equipment. Another consideration was the location of a protected environment for each carving.

Angel – by Toby & Elaine Craft located outside Seldovia Fuel & Hardware
Cat Hat – by Paul Comolli located in the Library Hall

Dragon – by Jamie Rothenbuhler and Keith Hansen located outside Herring Bay Mercantile

Eagle – by Jarrett Dahl located inside the Multipurpose Room
Fisherman – by Scott & Joan Thompson located outside the Harbor Master Building

Mermaid – by Scott Hanson & Sandy Bullock located outside the Tide Pool Restaurant

Whale – by Steven Curtiss and Wendy Brammeier located inside the Seldovia Village Tribe Visitor Center



The Mermaid is located on the front porch of the Tide Pool Restaurant



The Twin Eagles is located in the Community Building Multi Purpose Room



First Breath Whales is located in the Museum at the SVT Visitors Center



The Hat Cat is located in the corridor next to the Public Library entry door



The Fisherman is located in front of (the harbor side) of the Harbormaster Building



The Dragon is located on the front porch of Herring Bay Mercantile



The Angel is located at the covered side door entrance of Seldovia Fuel and Lube



The artists and assistants who performed these miraculous feats of carving!

We again would like to thank each of the carvers and their assistants for all their outstanding work and contribution to Seldovia. In addition, the Seldovia Chamber of Commerce would like to thank the greater contributors: Seldovia Fuel & Hardware; Seldovia Native Association and the Seldovia Village Tribe; City of Seldovia; Homer Electric Association; Electricz Outlet (Homer); Tide Pool Restaurant; Herring Bay Mercantile; Laid Back in Seldovia; Alaska Dancing Eagles; Alaskan Grace; Alaska Treetops Lodge; Dimond Center Hotel; Seldovia Harbor Inn; Seldovia.com, Inc.; Seldovia Fishing Adventures; Mad Fish Restaurant; Smokey Bay Air; AMHS; and Beachcomber Realty. Noted individuals deserve mentioning are: Gordon Giles, Steve Kroll, Rod Hilts, Gerry Willard, Dale Beasley, Jim Hopkins, Mike Williams, Jenny Chissus, Rick Alexa, Mike and Mary Webber, Tom and Mary Glover, Toby and Elaine Craft, and Kurt and Joni Reynertson. Without the cooperation of these and a few more behind the scene persons, we could not have pulled of this event. What a great time it was!

SeaTow® Rescues Halibut Boat *News Release*





The Sea-Tow® Cook Inlet is in full operation and already proving its worth in more ways than just the incident reported here. On 6/15/06 at 1:00 AM Sea-Tow® responded to an emergency call out for a commercial fishing boat based out of Ninilchik. The boat had a full load of halibut and it was homeward bound to the Homer fish dock when they lost power in Kachemak Bay. By regulations the fish had to be ready to unload by 10:00 AM or the cargo would not be allowed to process for market. Sea-Tow® got them to port by 9:00 AM! Congratulations are in order to Captain Jeff Davies and Captain Dave Cloninger for their rescue effort!



Rep. Paul Seaton Newsletter - Special Session End

News Release

The special session fell apart late in the night, just before adjournment, after long days of waiting around for conference committee negotiations to make progress on the Petroleum Profits Tax (PPT). In the end the House had 13 yes and a combined 25 no votes from members who thought the tax bill was too high and had voted against the original, and those who thought it was too low. I was in the later camp. The conference committee reduced the progressivity tax rate from the House number which created an equal share at a price of about \$166 per barrel to a rate that did not reach the equal share until about \$204. The base tax rate would also have been lowered from the House 23.5%

to 22.8%, closer than ½ way to the Senates 22.5%. Although lots of numbers had been thrown around about the addition money the State would have made, those were all calculated on oil at the historic high price of \$70 per barrel. This net profit tax is price and cost sensitive and would generate less than the present ELF below about \$35 per barrel. The bill had a retroactive date of April 1, 2006 but contained a provision that no additional tax was due above that calculated under the old ELF tax for 10 months. No interest was to accumulate on the unpaid amount so it is not lost by delay. If we are able to arrive at a solution in the next several months I believe the April 1, 2006 effective date will remain in place. Many other provisions had been corrected in the House version, which were not controversial.

As I have said before, I believe continuing the special session without a break from the regular session was a mistake as everyone started out extremely tired and without a chance to reorganize their business and family life. I think this showed in the frustration that accumulated over the last 30 days and contributed to the impasse. It is my impression that we will probably be called back by the Governor to deal with these important issues in another special session in July, but it could be after the primary elections in August instead.

[Click here to read the complete newsletter \(pdf\)](#)

Special Notices

Team Hollywood coming to Seldovia

News Release

Sunday evening 6:00pm, SBE Gym - come join the fun!

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 . . .

Those beauties below are the first fish Adam has ever caught! If you haven't fished salmon in the Seldovia Slough . . . your life is incomplete.



Photo courtesy of Sunni Hilts

City Manager's Corner

by Kurt Reynertson

Managers Report for the period covering May 20- June 14

- HEA has started the installation of 3-phase power to the clinic. GE is scheduled to come next week to install the X-Ray machine. The City crew will install the uni-strut that is necessary for the X-Ray installation. Liberty Electric will be completing their work also next week. If all goes well, by the end of next week the clinic will have a new functional X-Ray machine.
- The procurement packages for those items the city will be directly purchasing for the Small Boat Harbor project have been advertised. We have been receiving responses. Material costs have increased dramatically from the engineers estimates from just 6 weeks ago. We should act (open and accept bids) quickly in order to secure pricing. Antidotal observations lead me to believe that the numbers of bids are not what we had hoped for. Steel and copper are two main purchase items that has risen dramatically in price over the past couple of months. Currently it is very difficult to get anyone to commit to a copper contract that is valid for more than 1 or 2 days.
- The Silvers have been received and have been let out of Fish Creek.

Hopefully we will see them back next year.

- We will be cleaning the water tank where city water is stored this July via divers who specialize in this type of work. This will be the first time (I believe) that the tank will have been cleaned since installation. At least we cannot find records of it being cleaned prior to this.
- The engineering work and grant paperwork for the new bulk fuel tanks and lines are progressing nicely. Construction on the new bulk fuel lines should commence this fall.
- Soon the pressure washer located at the boat house will be operational with tokens that can be purchased at the Harbor Master or the City office.
- The Port Authority enabling ordinance is in the final stages of completion. I expect to have a final copy ready for introduction by the first council meeting in July. This will give us ample opportunity for several public hearings, a final reading, and a vote by council prior to bringing it to the public in the October elections.

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

>> No Report this week<<

