



Seldovia Gazette

Serving Seldovia, Alaska and Kachemak Bay southeast

Seldovia, AK

51 °F / 11 °C

Clear

at 8:53 PM



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Thursday, Sep. 7, 2006

Just another day in paradise

Vol. 2, No. 36, September 7, 2006

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▶ Special notices . . .

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Opinions



▶ 2 Cents Worth

▶ Letters to the Editor - None this week

▶ Forum - none currently

Spotlight

▶ Three years and still going strong: Tim Winters

Augustine News

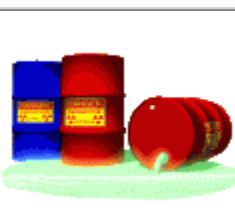


- [AVO Site](#)
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Aleutian's Tasty Trip July 25



[Click here for PhotoStory Part 2](#)



Don't forget the Hazmat Barge on Friday, Sept 8, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

See Special Notices below for details - [Click here](#)

Top Stories

Tank Farm Renovation Phase 2 is Funded!

by Tom Glover

Tanks and lines to be replaced by next Summer

Great news this week! The City received notice that the Denali Commission, through the Alaska Energy Authority (AEA), has fully funded all of the Seldovia Bulk Fuel Facility and fuel line replacement project. Erection of scaffolding started at the City Dock on Monday.

Marketplace



Come In, Browse, Have Fun!

Herring Bay Mercantile
Seldovia, AK



Jenny Chissus
234-8000

Your Seldovia Connection

www.seldoviaproperty.com
RE/MAX of Homer



Support the Seldovia Sea Otter Booster Club
Help keep sports and academic travel programs alive for our school!



Seldovia Boat Slips for Rent
The Seldovia harbor has 32 foot and 42 foot slips for rent. Call for details:
Harbor Master (907) 234-7886
City Office (907) 234-7643



Scaffolding is currently being installed

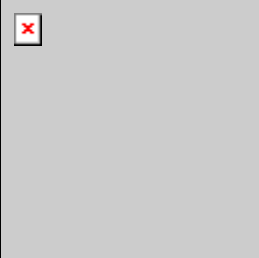
Phase 1, which just started, involves replacement of all fuel lines from the City Dock to Seldovia Fuel & Hardware, replacement of dispensers and replacement of the lines to the tank farm. Estimated completion date of Phase 1 is December 31, 2006. Phase 2 will commence after the first of the year and should be completed by summer. Phase 2 primarily includes replacement of all gas, diesel, and heating oil tanks at their existing site.

Contact people for the various entities involved in this project are as follows:

Organization	Contact Person(s)
City of Seldovia	Kurt Reynertson (City Manager) and Ronda Haynes (City Clerk)
Seldovia Fuel & Hardware	Dan Blodgett (Owner)
CE2 Engineers, Inc	Bob Zeitler (On-site Superintendent) , Brian Aklin (Construction Manager)
AEA	Ron Brown (Project Manager)

School

▶ [Susan B English School by school reporter Katie O'Leary - Click here](#)



Notices & Newsletters

▶ [The Seldovia Visitor 2006, Seldovia Chamber of Commerce. Click here to download PDF \(6mb\)](#)

▶ [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 \(pdf\)](#)
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- ▶ [Seldovia Summer Visitor Newspaper](#)
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- ▶ [Aleutian's Tusty Trip - July 25 - Part 2](#)
- ▶ [Aleutian's Tusty Trip - July 25 - Part 1](#)
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- ▶ [SBE Graduation - May](#)
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Fuel lines to be replaced from the City Office to Seldovia Fuel & Hardware

On behalf of AEA, CE2 Engineers, Inc. is advertising for people who are interested in working on the project. The following positions are available:

Labor Category	Approximate Hourly Wage
Welder Helper	\$18.00 - \$22.00
Heavy Equipment Operator	\$25.00 - \$27.00
General Laborers	\$16.00 - \$18.00

The work is expected to start September 11, 2006 and last for approximately 3 months. Individual workers may be utilized in more than one labor category over the course of construction. Crews will generally work 6 ten-hour days per week. Time and a half will be paid for hours over 8 per day and over 40 per week. Candidates with previous trade experience are preferred. Employment applications can be acquired at the City of Seldovia Office or directly from CE2's Site Superintendent, Bob Zeitler.

A more detailed report about this project will be provided in the Seldovia Gazette in next weeks edition. Notices will also be posted weekly on Seldovia.com and SeldoviaGazette.com concerning construction progress and traffic issues.

One final note: The Project Managers have assured us that there will be no shutdown of supplies gasoline or #1 or #2 Diesel to the town. There may be logistical issues concerning fueling of some boats at the City Dock, but fuel will be available throughout the winter.

Classified Rates

► [Instructions and rate sheet](#)



PDF files require a special "Reader" in order to view pdf files. [Click the Adobe button above to get a FREE pdf reader!](#)



[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](#)

Seldovia Welcomes New Boys & Girls Club Unit Director

by Tamara Blodgett

Local favorite Laurel Hilts continues her work with children...

A new season brings us a fresh face for the new Unit Director Position at the Seldovia Boys and Girls Club. Congratulations are in order for locally raised Laurel Hilts for her recent appointment to this position. Laurel is a familiar face for Seldovians both recent and past. Laurel was raised in Seldovia since the age of five and graduated from Susan B. English School . After college, Hilts worked for a year student teaching, then five, subsequent years teaching in Yakutat, Alaska , followed by an additional year at SBE. Miss Hilts has been quite active in the community with church involvement (she is an accomplished pianist) along with a huge volunteer commitment during her tenure at SBE. There is not enough space to list the extent of her volunteerism. Hilts "fit" as Unit Director will be a smooth one, with the transition from school teacher to Boys and Girls Club UD a natural.



Hilts began her position at B&G Club this past August 25 th. Along with Club Member Time, her duties will include: staffing, organizing/fundraising for events, scheduling a monthly calendar of events, purchase ordering, time sheet copulation, <cleaning! > attending Chamber of Commerce Meetings (and other civic organizations), and last, but not least, time with the Members (kids). She has a busy schedule with office hours of 8:30 – 12:30 each day with a prep time of 2:30 in anticipation of the Club Member Time of 3:15 to 6 p.m. daily Monday –Friday. Currently, Hilts has been busy acquiring the staff necessary to make the B&G Club "tick." Hilts needs two, part-time Club Staff, one, Junior Staff (who typically is high-school aged) and two, part-time staff to work at the B&G's Club sponsored Power Hour.

The B&G Club is active, with six Clubs in the Kenai Peninsula area. Hilts likens this scenario to the local school district. The B&G Club Headquarters is like the Kenai Peninsula Borough (headquartered in Soldotna) and the Seldovia B&G Club is like SBE. The Seldovia "franchise" Club, as you will,

deals directly with its Headquarters where all regulations and governing functions are determined. This hierarchy maintains the structure and organization so crucial to the smooth functioning of the Clubs as a whole; each Club has a focus. Hilts mentioned that the Nikiski Club's focus is on academics. Hilts has this base covered with the successful Power Hour (an academic based, after- school tutorial program that assists children with the completion of their studies). Hilts focus is providing a non-parental role in childrens' lives that will have a positive impact. She hopes this secondary adult role (mentoring) will both enhance and assist in the development of the childrens' character.

There has already been a lot of interest in the volunteer capacity. Hilts has two seniors at SBE that plan to help out during Power Hour, in addition to the two staff members. Several community members have also communicated their interest in volunteering to help at Club in whatever capacity is needed.

Hilts has 100% enrollment from the SBE school system in addition to a handful of home-schooled students. She is also pleased to mention that there is a seasonal Membership as well. The Seldovia B&G Club has historically seen a nice increase in Membership during the summer months, as well as the school breaks at Christmas Time and Easter Holidays. Hilts will be contacting any children that are not currently enrolled with an invitation for membership.

Yearly and other revenue comes from a few different sources. Cook Inlet Housing Authority is an entity that funds the B&G Club annually. B&G also receive funding from the Title 5 Grant that is a 3-year grant. Seldovia Village Tribe has also pledged its future support for the Club's sustainability. It is important to note that the Club has a Native Membership that exceeds 40%. SVT is interested in possibly providing future staffing as the need arises. Hilts emphasized that a great partnership has been ongoing with SVT, and sees the continuation of that. SVT has been using the facility for various programs during the summer months and is currently sponsoring a Teen Night each Friday. This type of collaboration is typical of what you see from SVT and the greater Seldovia community.

Hilts looks toward the inception of a Resource Committee. The RC will divide duties and source these duties amongst pro-active members who wish to seek funding to augment and help meet the B&G Club Budget in Seldovia. Those interested would contribute their time and efforts for the continued viability of the Club. Hilts recognizes the power of the local community's interest in volunteer hours, time and money as an integral part of the continuation of our program and is engaged in encouraging this.

After speaking with Miss Hilts about the juggling of time both business and personal, she conveyed that she squeezes in daily chores such as housekeeping and supper management in between her office and member hours and it's not always easy. Hilts has one daughter in addition to two, foster children she is busy raising and like all single parents, is not immune to the special challenges of this role or the parental role. Being a parent is a great advantage to the Unit Director Position. I asked Hilts how she felt about her new position and she commented, "I think it is going to be a lot of fun, I am excited about it. I like the potential of continuing to be involved with the kids I was able to develop a rapport with last year; kids I really felt wanted to do things that would stretch and challenge them. " We look forward to her involvement too. Stewardship such as this is priceless.

Chamber of Commerce Meeting - Sept. 7

by Mary Glover

The Seldovia Chamber of Commerce held its regularly scheduled monthly meeting on September 7th. Even though the meeting was sparsely attended, we had a great time and covered quite a few topics of discussion. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and the Treasurer's report was presented.

Some of the high points of the meeting were:

The Chamber voted unanimously to change the By-laws to a September 1 to October 31 year for membership. Member dues will be due by October 31st. Because the member year 2006-2007 has three less months this year, the dues increase will not be noticed until the 2007-2008 term. Dues will be \$56.25 for a business and \$67.50 for a couple. The dues are due by October 31, 2006. Chamber Treasurer, Peggy Keesecker, will be sending out Membership renewal notices this month.

Joni Reynertson stated that a reprint of the historical Chamber cookbook has been ordered and should be received any day now. Joni also stated that she is taking recipes now and anyone desiring to submit a recipe and be in the new book is welcome to do so. Just mail or hand-deliver your favorite recipes to Joni. (PO Box 271, Seldovia, AK 99663) The final deadline is December 1 st, but Joni would appreciate the recipes before the deadline. Anyone who has lived in Seldovia or currently lives in Seldovia may submit a recipe. The theme of this cookbook is "Coming Home" and will feature a historical Seldovia.

The Chamber voted to sell the extra Fourth of July T-Shirts in the local stores for \$5 each.

President Glover presented the organizational/events plan for the 2006-2007 term. The members present were in favor of hosting another FAM Trip this year and a fund raising dinner in the late winter/early spring. Glover stated that she would like to see the Informational Signs restored this year and placed within the community by next May so that they could be listed on the Walking Map together with the location of each of the Chainsaw Carvings. This would create an interesting walking tour within our city.

There was brief discussion about the new ad that is going to be placed in the Milepost. Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, it was voted to spend \$891 for a 5" x 3" ad in the Milepost.

Peggy Keesecker expressed her concerns that she recently had guests in town and they wanted to spend money, but the restaurants were closed and the gift shops were closed. This happened this past Wednesday. Discussion evolved that perhaps the businesses could partner with each other so that they knew they needed to be open. One shop owner stated that if she had known, she would have opened. Peggy stated that many Alaskans travel in the month of September after the "tourist season" is unofficially over. It was discussed that we need to have more communication between the businesses to solve this problem. Later on in the meeting Tom Glover challenged the members present to provide www.seldovia.com and the Seldovia Gazette with information. He

stated these websites are the vehicles available to the entire community to facilitate events and show the openings or closing. www.Seldovia.com gets 1,500 unique visitors per day and the Seldovia Gazette get 1,500 unique visitors each week. This is a amazing number of hits to our town. Tom Glover stated it was up to the people to keep the website and the on-line paper informed as to what was happening. For example, if a convention is coming to town, www.seldovia.com should be notified so that the businesses would know they needed to be open.

Sunni Hilts made an announcement about the Booster Club and that they are now selling banners as a fund raiser. Banners can be purchased for \$150, \$250 and \$500. These banners help fund the sports program at the school.

Rosanna McInnes, the new Marketing Director for the Seldovia Village Tribal Conference Center, spoke about the two conventions that are coming to Seldovia and announced that the grant funded SEE Project would be attending the Kenai Peninsula Tourism and Marketing Council's conference on September 21-22. Those planning to attend representing Seldovia will be Rosanna McInnes, two of the students in the SEE Project, Chamber President Mary Glover and the Bridgekeeper Inn's owner, Valerie Morin. Valerie Morin will be hosting a chocolate fountain on behalf of Seldovia. The purpose of this delegation is to promote and preserve Seldovia's presence in the Kenai Peninsula with regard to tourism.

Laurel Hilts, new Director for the Seldovia Boys & Girls Club, announced that the B&G Club was having a potluck dinner tomorrow night at the Clubhouse to honor former Director, Paul Chissus. She also gave an update on the Club and encouraged everyone to attend the potluck.

P&Z Special Meeting, Sept. 5 *by Tamara Blodgett*

The P&Z Special Meeting convened together with the following members present: Dan Blodgett, Chair Paulie Carluccio, Jenny Chissus, and Jim Hopkins. Bobbi Sweat had an excused absence.

Consideration of Site Plans

Request for building setback variance, Gerald Stranik, Lot 14, Blk5, 1771 Seldovia Townsite Survey.

This is regarding access to the Boardwalk. The owner of this lot attended this meeting and presented his thoughts on the submittal of this variance. Stranik is requesting the same traditional connection to the Boardwalk to:

- Provide safe ingress and egress for two vehicles.
- Continue the traditional use of the lower Boardwalk that provides function and aesthetic.

Several letters of support were received in response to the notification letter sent out by the City. In addition, two members of the Public, Hazel Brown and Susan Mumma, who live within the 300 ft. notification radius, lent their support for the Straniks' request for a variance as well as a right to construct.

Action: Motion to recommend to City Manager Reynertson that Gerry Stranik be granted a right to construct over the city's 10 ft. easement, a 40' wide access to lot 14, Blk. 5, 1771 Seldovia Townsite Survey.

Vote on the Request for Variance had to be delayed because one of the commission members had to abstain due to a conflict and variances require 4 affirmative votes for approval. It will be reconsidered at the September 18th Special Meeting.

Gerald Stranik, Building Permit, Lot 14, Block 5, 1771 Seldovia Townsite Survey.

The Straniks' are requesting a permit for a 48' x 48' creosote pylon dock with a house built on it.

Action: Motion to approve the building permit submitted by Gerry Stranik for Lot 14, Blk 5, 1771 Seldovia Townsite Survey lot 29 Tideland Survey #29, subject to variance approval.

Seabright Surveying, Request for replat of lots 2-A and 2B, Block 39 East Addition

This is a boundary line adjustment. Two members of the commission abstained from the discussion and vote. These remaining commissioners discussed the replat and requested the setbacks and easements are added to the plat before resubmission.

Action: None. This request will be addressed upon re-submittal at the next meeting on the 18th of September.

Seabright Surveying, Request for replat of Tract C, U,S, Survey No. 1770

This is a request for subdivision of one lot into 5 lots. Two members of the commission abstained from the discussion and vote. This request for replat will need to be resubmitted. Some of the items discussed include a need for a waiver for parking, how they intend to handle the sewer and water since it is presently one system, show easements on plat and access to properties. In addition the question arose as to whether a Homeowners Association would be needed to care for the Common Areas.

Action: None. Recommend that this be placed on the agenda for the September 18th Special Meeting as a re-submittal if all of the above criterion can be addressed.

The next meeting is set for September 18, 2006 at 7 PM .

Lest We Forget - September 11, 2001

Remember those who lost their lives . . .



We don't know the name of the photographer . . .

Special Notices

KPB Hazmat Barge in Seldovia on September 8

The Hazmat Barge only comes to Seldovia ONCE A YEAR!

This year they will be in Seldovia at the small boat harbor ramp on Friday, September 8, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Please call the Kenai Peninsula Borough at 262-9667 for more information.

Used oil, batteries, antifreeze, paint, chemicals, and other hazardous wastes. No explosives or radioactive wastes accepted. There is no fee for homeowners and small waste volumes from businesses. Businesses with more than 10 batteries and two 55-gal. drums will have to pay for management of any additional waste.

Boys & Girls Potluck for Paul Chissus

A community potluck will be held in honor of past Seldovia Boys & Girls Club Unit Director Paul Chissus for his years of service to the club and our community. Everyone is welcome! Friday, September 8, 6:00 pm at the Boys & Girls Club.

The Seldovia Boys and Girls Club is currently in the staff hiring stage. Until the staffing is secured and all employee paperwork processed, the Club will be unable to open. ([See Jobs, Classifieds](#)) The Clubhouse hours will be posted as soon as it is possible. However, Power Hour will open effective September 5, Monday - Thursday, after school until 5 p.m.

For More Information Contact: Laurel Hilts at:
 Laurel Hilts * Seldovia Unit Director * P.O. Box 14 * Seldovia, Alaska 99663
 Phone (907) 234-7577 * Fax (907) 234-2004
 Email Address: lhilts @positiveplaceforkids.com

2006 Election Calendar

Elections in Alaska are just around the corner and the following are some of the deadlines:

Date	Activity
October 3	Seldovia Municipal Election
October 8	Deadline for voters to register for the General Election
November 7	General Election Day, Polls 7am-8pm

- [Click here to view a more detailed summary calendar](#)
- [Click here for complete information from the Alaska Division of Elections](#)

Tidbits . . .

Driving down from Anchorage last week, we caught this relatively insane individual wind surfing in 40 knot winds near the head of Turnigan Arm. Ah, to be young and foolish again . . .



City Manager's Corner

by Kurt Reynertson

>> *No report this week* <<

Seldovia Police Report

by A.W. Anderson, Chief of Police

>> *Repeat Story* <<

A clamp, that secures two pieces of wood together, was stolen from the old cannery property when it was stored with other building materials at that location. Anyone having information is asked to contact the Police Department.

A motorist was locked out of her vehicle with it running in the area of 7 mile, Jakolof Bay Road. The Police responded and were able to gain access to the vehicle.

A teenager was warned about excessive speed on a 4-wheeler following his being clocked at 28 MPH in the City. The speed limit is 15 MPH in the City for all ATV's.

Police were called to assist a motorist who had locked their keys in a vehicle which had to board the ferry. A locksmith had been called and was making arrangements to come to Seldovia and unlock the vehicle when the Police arrived and succeeded in opening the door.

A dead black bear, which had floated onto the rocks in the area of Dock Street across from the City Office building, was removed and disposed of by City Maintenance and Police personnel. It was not determined how the animal died.

A teenager was stopped and warned when he was observed in excess of the speed limit on Jakolof Bay Road with his 4-wheeler. The speed limit is 25 MPH for the first mile and then is 35 MPH. The Police suggest the 4-wheelers not exceed 25 MPH on any of the roadways outside the City as a safety factor. If control were lost and a collision did occur the operator's life would certainly be in jeopardy. Drive slower and have control of the machine.

Warnings were given to riders of 4-wheelers who were observed accessing the trail between the Outside Beach Park and the RV Park. The road is posted for foot traffic only and unauthorized motor vehicles accessing the trail are in violation. A citation would result in a \$160.00 fine and 2 points being assessed to the operator's driver's license. A rather expensive shortcut, wouldn't you agree?

A report of explosions in an area outside of the City was reported and the investigation revealed a man was testing his black powder cannon, which he had built. The noise could be heard for miles. Upon contact by Police the tests were suspended.

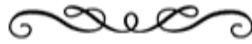
A Mountain Bike, orange and silver in color, with no kick stand, a black seat and a spring attachment for a rear shock under the seat, was reported taken from the area of Main Street and Dock Street around noon on Saturday, 8/26. Anyone having information in this matter is asked to contact the Police at 234-7640.

After receiving reports of a dog running at large and nearly being run over because it would not move out of the roadway, Police contacted the owner and asked that he keep the dog contained.

Since last report the Police have Notarized 8 documents, Sealed 5 black bears, responded to a citizen's request for assistance, delivered one emergency message and have received numerous complaints about black bears on porches, in yards and sightings both inside and outside the City. One bear was shot when it attempted to gain entry to a residence through the screen door and another was shot when it was tearing into the green house that was attached to a residence. More and more we are being told the bears are not afraid of people. If we can be notified and can locate the problem bear we can discourage its presence and/or return to the area. If a bear is a threat we will put it down to avoid future contacts with our citizens. Call 911 or 234-7640 to contact the Police when the bear is sighted. We will respond and attempt to discourage the bear's presence or its return. We cannot do much if told the next day or at a later time.

I have been told that there are some people who feel the Police are not doing their job with respect to some of the recent crimes that have occurred in our area and that you feel it is do to relationships between myself and those involved. Let me assure you, I will not hesitate to charge anyone who is involved in a felony crime in our community. If I had the evidence to charge those involved it would have already taken place. Hearsay and conjecture does not convict a person in a Court of Law. It takes physical evidence. I have received a lot of good information from many different sources but those bringing the information forward wish to remain anonymous and not get further involved in the cases. I have to honor that anonymity, even if it means I can't charge in the case. There is considerably more to solving a case than knowing who was involved. I in no way wish to mitigate the importance of the

information that is brought forward, as it is good information, I only wish to explain that with only that information we cannot prosecute those responsible for the crimes. It was suggested that the Alaska State Troopers should be brought in to investigate the case due to the relationships between myself and those involved. I certainly welcome any and all assistance but it doesn't change the need of physical evidence to prosecute a case. I do resent the implication that I would fail to prosecute a case due to relationships. I'm sure anyone making such a statement is either new in town or has a dislike for me personally. I have repeatedly had to prosecute persons related to me and others I called friend. To say otherwise is absurd.



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