



Seldovia Gazette

Serving Seldovia, Alaska and Kachemak Bay southeast

Seldovia, AK

15 °F / -9 °C

Clear

at 9:53 AM



[Click for Forecast](#)

Thursday, Feb. 15, 2007

Just another day in paradise

Vol. 3, No. 7, February 15, 2007

- [Local News](#)
- [Calendar](#)
- [Opinions](#)
- [Spotlight](#)
- [School](#)
- [Classifieds](#)
- [Archives](#)
- [Seldovia.com](#)
- [Gazette Services](#)

[Corrections](#) | [Recent Page and Photo Archive](#) | [This page in Large Print](#) |

Headlines

- ▶ [The Principal Search Begins](#)
- ▶ [Nightmare on Vista Street, Part 1](#)
- ▶ [City Council Meeting - February 14](#)
- ▶ [Chamber of Commerce Meeting - February 15](#)
- ▶ [Washington's Birthday Celebrated](#)
- ▶ [Registration Deadline for April 3 Special Election](#)
- ▶ [Sen. Gary Stevens Newsletter - Feb. 12](#)
- ▶ [Rep. Paul Seaton Newsletter - Feb. 12](#)
- ▶ [Booster Club Raffle](#)
- ▶ [Special notices . . . - Boys & Girls Club](#)
- ▶ [Tidbits . . .](#)
- ▶ [City Manager's Corner](#)
- ▶ [Seldovia Police Report](#)

Opinions



- ▶ [Letters to the Editor - None this week](#)
- ▶ [Forum - None currently](#)



Top Stories

The Principal Search Begins

by Tamara Blodgett

A huge show of interest for our next administrator...

Roughly 10% of the community appeared for the PAC meeting last night in what became an intense discussion of what our community's unique needs for a future administrator will be.



Not an everyday Joe or Joan...

It is no surprise that there was a large diversity of the populace that assembled to discuss what some of those highest priorities for the next principal/teacher position would be. A unique community calls for a unique individual.

Marketplace



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

Spotlight

▶ [Dustin Baines - Ready for College](#)



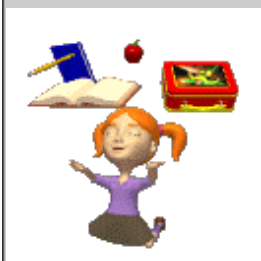
Children whom attended spoke most eloquently about their needs as students. One 6th grader had made a list of over ten items that he felt were the most important qualities the future principal/teacher should possess. Not the least of which were 'terrific communicator' and someone that *likes* children. A junior at SBE spoke of the burn out that comes with the rapid turnover rate of administrators. He also mentioned *communication* as the key component of student body cooperation and interaction with whatever new hire that's chosen.

Kenai Borough Superintendent Donna Peterson, PhD speaks up...

In a telephonic conference, Peterson outlined the Protocol for Selection of a Site Administrator. This selection process will involve the community, with Peterson looking for individual, student body and PAC input for administrative selection. She would like the hiring of the principal/teacher to be a communicative collaboration between her and our community based on Seldovia's special needs as a small & rural Alaskan town. Norma Holmgaard, the General Programs & Small School Director was in attendance. She brings with her 25+ year's experience with small school culture that will help expedite the process of brainstorming community ideas into a concise list of needs and/or questions the community can submit to help in the selection process. Both Peterson & Holmgaard want the process to be successful with the new hire being a good fit for Susan B. English. Peterson also encouraged our group to speak to those that we may already know that would be good for this position. There may be someone just right which would make the entire selection pool more competitive. The climate has changed so much with hire just in the last 5 years. Five years ago, Peterson was seeing application submittal in the 40 number range, with 4-5 internal transfers. Now, those application submittals are in the 5-6 range. The greater the pool, the better the selection process.

School

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



Top priorities for Seldovia...

The overall consensus of the group assembled was the need for a person who will be a frequent and clear communicator. The staff and student body is only responsive to standards that they are actually aware of. People want someone that is children-driven, community oriented and focused on being a great educator. Other priorities that were not on the top of the list, but also important were someone that is familiar or experienced with life in a rural, Alaskan community. It was said that Seldovia is beautiful in May and June when some new hires have visited, but the reality is, the winters here are long and a new person would have to consider that in their decision making process. Someone familiar with those realities would be better able to make an educated choice. Another fact is that we have seen a great turnover rate with 7 administrators in the last decade. It may be wise to go the extra mile with even the consideration of applicants' hobbies being viewed as part of the process. For example, a person that fishes may find his or her heaven here. Conversely, a golfer may be in for some down time; *work where you play*.

KPBSD is cutting back...

It is very likely that teaching positions will be cut for the next school year. That would mean we would have 2.5 teachers *excluding* the .5 of the principal/teacher position. Currently, SBE has 3.5 *including* the principal/teacher position. At this time there does not appear to be Carl Perkins Grant monies for the next year. This would mean vocational tech. classes would not be available. SBE currently has a successful VT class that has been

Notices & Newsletters

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

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

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

▶ [Boys and Girls Club Calendar](#)

Page Archives
2007 Archives
▶ Archive of all pages
▶ ...
▶ ...
2007 PhotoStories
▶ ...
▶ ...
▶ ...
2006 Archives
▶ Archive of all pages
▶ Seldovia Walking Map - 8-1/2 x 11 pdf
▶ Seldovia Summer Visitor Newspaper
2006 PhotoStories
▶ SBE Play - December
▶ Halloween Carnival
▶ Aleutian's Tusty Trip - July 25 - Part 3
▶ Aleutian's Tusty Trip - July 25 - Part 2
▶ Aleutian's Tusty Trip - July 25 - Part 1
▶ July 4 Festival
▶ Summer Solstice Music Festival - June
▶ 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 Archives
▶ Archive of all pages
▶ Seldovia Summer Gazette Newspaper
▶ Seldovia Summer Gazette Newspaper 2004

well received.

Put in your two cents worth...

Dr. Peterson is looking for community input. She will give top priority to PAC, with parents with students and student body a close second. She feels community data will help steer her in the best selection process for our school. Peterson is not as concerned with our input being this, "perfect, letter format" submission. Rather, she is looking for genuine feelings and ideas formatted in a casual way that is real and easy to understand. Ideas are also helpful formatted as questions for the applicant. If you live in the community of Seldovia and feel we have the same vested interest in our mutual children's educational future, please email Dr. Peterson with your priorities for a candidate for principal/teacher that are important to you. Peterson stressed that she receives a lot of submissions, and it is amazing how many are alike. We all want the same outcome for our kids; *success!* Her email is dpeterson@kpbsd.k12.ak.us. She will not be able to respond to submittals, thank you.

Nightmare on Vista Street, Part 1 *by Tom Glover*

Is the new Microsoft Vista Operating System for you?

On January 30, 2007, Microsoft launched its new "Vista" Operating System and Windows XP has retired into the sunset. I've been reading about the new OS for months and reviews have ranged from "Praise the Lord, it's finally here." to "Hold onto you hats, Armageddon is just around the corner." If you are contemplating buying a new computer or upgrading your old computer to Vista, please read on . . .

The good news . . .

Vista has hundreds of new features, including an updated graphical user interface, new media creating tools, completely redesigned networking, audio, print, and display sub-systems, beefed up security and new visual style called Windows Aero. It has fast searching features and easy-to-use mini programs called gadgets.

The bad news . . .

I just spent two days trying to work out the Vista problems in a brand new HP Laptop computer purchased by Mike Miller (we did a Gazette Spotlight on Mike on January 25 – [click here to read it - pdf](#)). Here's a brief look at some of the problems I encountered:

1. As with any "new" graphical user interface, it takes some getting used to. After struggling with not being able to find anything I was looking for, I opted to change the interface to the "Classic" view, which basically makes everything look like the normal Windows 2000 setup. There are still lots of new and very unintuitive menus and options, but at least I could navigate to the basic areas I needed to use.
2. The computer was somewhat sluggish at first due to the dozens of programs

2005 PhotoStories

▶ [SBE Christmas Play](#)

▶ [SBE Halloween Carnival](#)

Photo Archives

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

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

▶ [Spotlight - Mike Miller January 25, 2007](#)

Mother's name is Gladys Miller. Mike also does not have a brother. See [Archives for 2007- Mike Miller](#) for corrected story.

that automatically ran when the computer started. Plan on at least an hour to turn off all the junk and uninstall all the trial versions of software. Also make sure you do the Windows Updates (why would anyone expect a brand new computer to have a current version of Windows installed??). When you're done with all of that, you need to empty the recycle bin, clear the Internet Explorer cache and defrag the hard drive.

3. Now to install the new software Mike purchased when he bought the computer. Mike bought a good antivirus program (Kaspersky Internet Security), Quicken 2007, and a name brand wireless card and software [*can't remember the name...sorry*]. NONE of them would install in Vista. The Kaspersky website did have a download to correct the problem but the other two had nothing. In fact, the wireless card website said they planned to fix the problem someday. Of the 12 diagnostics and configuration programs I use regularly, only 3 would run in Vista. Don't count on any of your current versions of software installing under Vista. In 25 years of working on PC's, this is the absolute worst compatibility jungle I have ever seen. We use about 30 programs regularly on our computers and I would estimate the cost of upgrading all of those programs to Vista compatible on *one* computer would be at least \$5000!

4. Being the clever computer tech that I am, I told Mike that a simple solution in his case might be to just buy a copy of Windows XP, do an image backup of the Vista drive, delete all of the Vista OS from the drive and do a clean install of Windows XP. Then, at some later date when all the dust settles from the compatibility issues we could delete the XP drive and restore the Vista files. Sounds complicated but it's not really that difficult, especially for a clever computer tech...right?

Wrong ... First, the program I use to do image backups would not run under Vista so I had to buy an upgraded version of the program (only a hundred bucks or so). So I'm now ready to backup the drive to an external USB hard drive ... a good and very inexpensive way to do backups today. You can purchase a 250 gig external drive for less than \$70 on sale. Well, surprise, surprise ... Vista would not recognize two out of the three, relatively new, name brand USB drives that I use! It recognized the Western Digital; it would not recognize the Citoh or Mad Dog drives.

I backed up the Vista drive and now it's time to install Windows XP. We're home free ... right?

Wrong ... when I tried to install Windows XP, it could not even see the hard drive in the laptop. The laptop is a brand new, beautifully made, fast, clean, very functional HP dv6265us. So I figure they must use special drivers for XP and I can download them off the HP.com website. Wrong again ... there were virtually NO drivers available for XP and definitely none for the SATA hard drive, the built in camera, the built in chip reader, and on and on. XP could not be installed on a new HP laptop.

5. Well folks, I'm not feeling so clever today. Two days of work and I'm no closer to a solution than when I started. My recommendations to Mike were to keep the computer (it really is a beautiful piece of hardware), return the software that would not install if possible, work with Vista in the Classic mode (Mike was already a little familiar with that mode), wait until new versions of the software he needs are released, and do not ever install a piece of software that does not say "Vista Certified" on the box.

The bottom line . . .

If you are going to buy a new computer today, it will almost certainly come with Vista installed. Almost every store I have checked only has Vista machines. We did buy a Sony laptop two weeks ago from BestBuyBusinessOnline.com and were able to still get it with Windows XP Pro and I am told that Costco still has some XP systems. Those days are rapidly coming to an end, so if you want a Windows XP system, you need to act quickly.

If you want to upgrade to Vista, I strongly advise you to check out the Microsoft Vista website, which has tons on information and tells you about the upgrading requirement. [Click here to go to that site.](#)

Microsoft has released four versions of Vista — Home Basic, Home Premium, Business, Enterprise and Ultimate. The problem? Low-end computers running XP may have serious problems running even Home Basic — and forget about the others. Some reviews indicate that “Ultimate” is appropriately named because only a super high end PC is acceptable. Microsoft does provide a free utility program that will tell you if your computer is fit for Vista. [Click here to download the program.](#)

Vista Armageddon may not be just around the corner, but it's got some serious issues to resolve over the next year in order to be usable for most people. My rule of thumb has always been to NEVER buy a new operating system until it had been out for one full year — I think I'll stick to that rule.

Oh, by the way . . . Microsoft has already announced that Vista will only be around until 2009, when they plan to replace it with a new OS! **Oh goody, then we can all go through this mess again in just 2 years!!!**

One final note from your friendly Seldovian geek who works on many of the computers in town: If you have Vista problems or software/hardware compatibility problems, don't call me, call the people where you bought the items or call the manufacturers. I will not be working on Vista systems for at least a year . . .

City Council Meeting - February 14

by Tamara Blodgett

The Seldovia City Council convened together to include the following members present: Tom Glover, Walter McInnes, Allison Miller, and Gerry Patrick. Councilmen Keith Gain and Tom Keesecker had excused absences. Mayor Dick Wyland presided with City Manager Kurt Reynertson in attendance and City Clerk Ronda Haynes taking minutes.

Committee and Advisory Board Reports

Susan Mumma updated council on her efforts to get a grant together by March 1st to procure funding for future Arts' activities. She also asked to move the Seldovia **Arts Council** from her residence to the lower floor of the Fire Hall Building. City Manager Reynertson thought that could definitely be done, with more exposure for events and tourism accessibility having a positive impact

for the Arts Council. Reynertson mentioned the space would need to be shared with Chamber but felt that was feasible.

SOS annual election potluck will be held shortly (TBA).

Chamber of Commerce Meeting will be today at noon with Mike Beal updating the community on the progress of the ferry project. *[Mr. Beal did not give this update at the Chamber of Commerce meeting as he had not yet received approval from his Board.]*

Old Business

AIDEA Tank Farm Grant Modification

This is an increase from the original \$2,500,000 cost for the tank replacement. This increase will be \$454,865; bringing the total price of the project to \$2,967,900. Note that this does not require any funding from the City.

Action: Passed unanimously.

Harbor Update

Harbor Renovation Update February 14, 2007 , by Tom Glover, City Council Harbor Committee.

1. Renovation construction continues and Daily Reports are submitted by the subcontractors to Jay-Brant's office and are subsequently sent to the Seldovia City Manager for review.

2. Steve Stanish currently manages the **Jay Brant** crew while Time Dillon is out-of- town. Work's been completed on the interior pile collars with work started on the exterior pile collars. Exterior pile collar replacements should be completed by months' end

The gangway float and billets for the rest of the harbor arrived on the ferry. Assembly of the gangway float will begin on approximately February 19.

The specifications for special corner bumpers for protection of boats and stalls were approved with installation in stalls.

3. **Puffin Electric Crew** continues to work on lighting and pulling wire. The entire Puffin Crew is off work the week of Feb 12-16.

4. **Jim Hopkins** pile driving crew has arrived and will start driving on Thursday, February 15th. He plans on working 10-12 hrs. each day for a period of 12 days to complete the job.

5. Further examination of the float framing along the main and marginal float system has revealed that most of the framing *is* in good condition. The "soft" wood problem as reported in last months' summary may only be a problem in the marginal float area where the Independence ties up.

6. Effective Thursday, February 15th, access to the harbor and docks is being restricted for the next 2-4 wks. *It is imperative that there is no pedestrian traffic, to include dog walking.* If you *do* have to enter the dock area and would need to enter the construction zone, please let the construction people escort you through the work zone. Stay away from the pile drive sites.

7. Continued efforts with value engineering techniques by both the City and the contractors are enhancing the Seldovia Harbor renovation at no additional cost to the City. Cooperation like this will give Seldovia the best possible 'bang for our buck' on the Harbor Project.

New Business

Planning Commission Appointments

Mayor Wyland has re-nominated Paulie Carluccio as P&Z Chair. The Council moved to accept Mayor Wyland's recommendation. There is still one more slot available on the P&Z Commission.

Action: Passed unanimously.

City Manager's Report see below

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

Mayor Wyland gave a full update on the last two weeks of traveling for his mayoral duties. He has met with Senator Tom Wagner and was introduced to the finance committee. It looks very good for Seldovia to receive revenue sharing in the amount of \$46-48,000 to a maximum of \$129,000.

Wyland added that he thinks Seldovia needs to get a structure built on the Old Cannery Site before an enterprise or grant entity would look at funding money. For example, a business such as a value-added plant that would process gray cod, black cod, halibut, crab and then ship it out of said plant. Transportation has been sighted as the biggest challenge to an area like Seldovia. Frequent ferry travel is crucial to the continued commerce of the area, which would include an industrial venture on the Old Cannery Site. Wyland went on to emphasize that it is necessary that we maintain the transportation that we have, no less, or this community faces becoming a retiree and summer tourism destination and nothing more.

Council Comments

Council welcomed Councilwoman Patrick back from her medical leave. Councilwoman Miller encouraged everyone to attend the "Coming Home" meeting set for early March that deals with the week long Independence Day Celebration. Councilman McInnes appreciated the Mayor's travels for Seldovia along with Reynertson's training received and information gained through that endeavor. Wyland appreciated the audience showing up and the Arts Councils efforts.

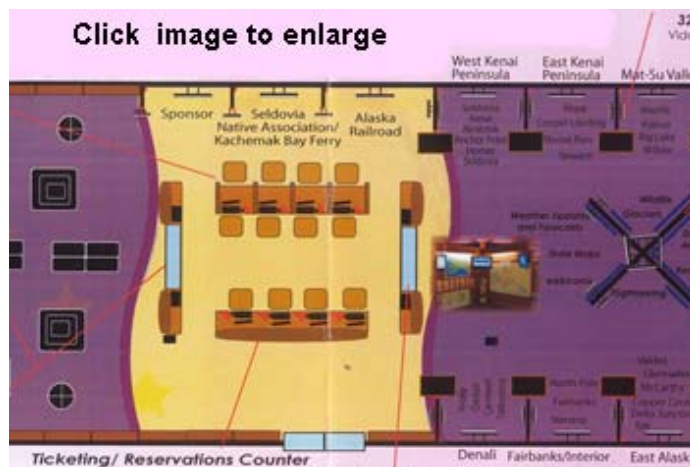
Next Meeting: February 28th

Adjournment: Time elapsed, 29 minutes and 28 seconds.

Chamber of Commerce Meeting - February 15

by Mary Glover

Today, Thursday's open meeting of the Seldovia Chamber of Commerce, was held at the Multi-purpose Room (MPR) with a nice potluck lunch. Guest speaker Mike Beal and Michelle Gruber gave a presentation inviting the Chamber and its members to participate in a new venture. Mike stated he was confronted with the opportunity to purchase an exhibition area at the Alaska Visitor Center in Anchorage. This Visitor Center is a year around facility with a professional bookings/reservations counter which can take reservations (commission based) for participating Seldovian businesses. They can "package" a trip for people including transportation, lodging and activities. There are three large display screens, the middle screen and prime location is the one Mike Beal purchased for \$15,000 with funds from the Seldovia Native Association/Kachemak Bay Ferry. In addition to this screen, a 24 hour live monitor will view showing life in and around Seldovia, the proposed ferry, and the beautiful sites we all know so well. The new Alaska Visitor Center opened in April 2006 and it is conveniently located in the heart of the Anchorage tourism district and provides services for over 88,000 travelers during the three major months of summer and each "shoulder month" of April and September. It also has a Statewide Information Section, Art Gallery, Theater Room & Gallery, Gift & Travel Store Counter, State Visitors Information Section and the Itineraries & Logistics Planning Section. The Visitors Center is located at 733 W. 4th Avenue, Suite 100, Anchorage, Alaska.



After Mike Beal's presentation, the group attending engaged in some very thoughtful and interesting discussion. In summation: 1) Seldovia needs more places for people to eat! 2) Seldovia needs a shower and laundry facility. 3) Seldovia needs people who are willing to work and do a good job. 4) Seldovia is moving ahead and there is a spirit of "working together" to achieve a common goal. It was pointed out that it is good to bring the tourists here, but it also is equally important to be able to take care of them once they are here.

Tatiana Gruber on behalf of the Senior Class, came to the meeting and sold raffle tickets. The seniors are raising money for the High School Senior's Close-Up Trip to Washington DC. She told us that the seniors were planning

on touring the White House, among other places in Washington.

The next Seldovia Chamber of Commerce meeting will be held on March 1 at the MPR.

Washington's Birthday Celebrated

by Tamara Blodgett

The father of our country...

As Monday rolls toward us, we are reminded of the first president of our infantile nation. George Washington was our president but was also a farmer, soldier and slave-owner. He served in the Revolutionary War as Commander and Chief in the Continental Army and understood issues of the day as a leader and a community member. His actual birthday is February 22. However, legislation from 1968 changed this birth date-based holiday into a third Monday-of-the-month observance.

Nearly a century of celebration...

In the late 1870's, Senator Steven Wallace Dorsey proposed celebrating Washington's Birthday. President Rutherford Hayes signed it into law on January 31st, 1879. It was later implemented in 1880 and became a federally mandated holiday in 1885 where it remained so until 1971. Before 1971, it was one of 9 holidays celebrated on the federal level. Now, it is taken on a state by state basis with Alaska not in observance. Many states do have holidays that are uniquely theirs. Alaska Day is celebrated each Oct. 18th for the anniversary of transfer of the state from Russian to United States Ownership. Seward's Day is observed each March 27 in celebration of the anniversary of the purchase of Alaska from Russia.

Change is not always good...

This change from Washington's actual birthday was put forth as a benefit for the working class. Legislatures saw it as a way to keep mid-week momentum in full swing without interruption while allowing families three days in a row to be together. However, there was a more commercial motivation to this change that soon became apparent. This change was not good for the non-federal employees, who had enjoyed the holiday whenever it fell, each February 22nd. Once legislation was passed confining the holiday to the third Monday, there was no reason for individual states to adopt it. After all, businesses across the country saw the benefit of part of the population off of work with time to buy merchandise. In turn, this forced the blue-collar population to work this holiday to sell the merchandise. Effectively, they lost their holiday to commerce. Other holidays have seen the disturbance of their original meanings with Columbus Day and Veteran's Day seeing similar commerce-based enterprise.

"President's Day" is not official...

According to the United States Code, section 6103 (a) of title 5, the official title of this holiday is, "Washington's Birthday." This does not keep a dozen states from using, "President's Day" as their moniker. Furthermore, a couple

more states have tried to give somewhat equal billing to President Abraham Lincoln. A fine president in his own right, but without any rights to this holiday designated for honoring our first president. Why, when the initial Monday holiday legislation was running rampant in 1968, the idea for the fourth Monday of February being used as an option for Washington's Birthday was not considered is puzzlement (?). Currently, Washington's Birthday will never fall on the third Monday of February. One can see on a perpetual calendar that if the 4th Monday had been used, President Washington's Birthday would have occasionally fallen on that date. Having learned from the confused mess it has become, Martin Luther King Day was wisely established on the second Monday, where his birthday will occasionally fall and his subsequent memory may be more easily remembered. He is the only other Holiday celebrant that shares a birthday-based holiday.

History lost...

The holiday's origin has been all but lost. There is a resurgence of interest in re-substituting the naming of Washington's Birthday for President's Day where it has been incorrectly named, but this will take a while to catch on. The state of California makes an effort to introduce annual lessons about Washington the Friday before the holiday to educate students on the history of the holiday. When is the last time you saw a "Washington's Birthday Sale," versus a "President's Day Sale?" Ultimately, it is the future generations of children that will not know why they get a three day weekend off (if their state observes it) other than it's a holiday for some reason. The whole purpose for the inception of the holiday was to remember the significance of our new nation's first president whose likeness has been on everything from currency to statues and continues to be such an important part of the original fabric of this great country.

Registration Deadline for the April 3 Special Election

News Release

The Division of Elections reminds you that Sunday, March 4, 2007 is the last day to register to vote [*first time voters*] or update your current voter registration [*address changes, etc*] for the statewide Special Election on April 3, 2007 .

On April 3, 2007 , Alaskans will vote on the following question:

“Shall the legislature adopt a proposed amendment to the state constitution to be considered by the voters at the 2008 general election that would prohibit the state, or a municipality or other subdivision of the state, from providing employment benefits to same-sex partners of public employees and to same sex partners of public employee retirees? YES or NO”

Sen. Gary Stevens Newsletter - February 12

Greetings from Juneau . It's been nearly four weeks since the start of the Legislative session. Much of that time has been spent getting overviews on department operations from various commissioners and division directors.

With a new governor and several new members of the administration, these overviews are giving lawmakers a better idea of the Governor's goals and objectives for this year.

Still to come are deliberations on both the operating and capital budgets. As you may know, the Governor is proposing \$150 million in cuts to the operating budget and a very lean capital budget. With the Governor also proposing to reinstate funding for the Longevity Bonus, provide funding for school districts and municipalities to pay for spiraling increases in the teachers and public employees' retirement systems, and meet rising fuel costs, meeting the Governor's budget goal will be challenging.

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

Rep. Paul Seaton Newsletter - February 12

Greetings from Juneau on this 28th day of the 25th Legislature. It has been a busy week. We will have the "Trails" bill, HB 25, which many of you supported, on the House floor this Monday morning and I look forward to getting it to the Senate for consideration. On Saturday morning I followed the subcommittee on ethics legislation reform and with, finally, a bright and clear day, we were able to enjoy a very nice hike to the Mendenhall Glacier in the afternoon. We have been joined for a few days by Tina's sister who came over from Sitka where her husband received his new Coast Guard station.

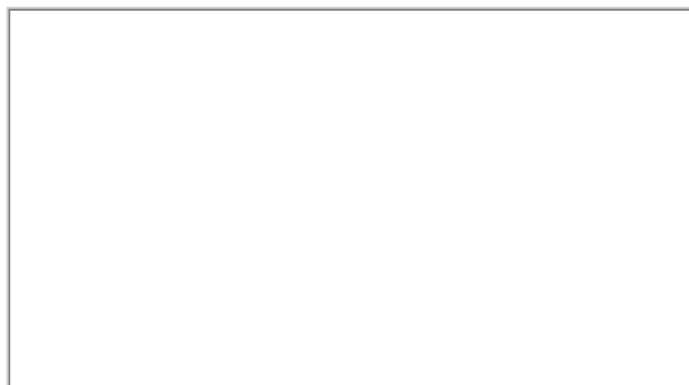
This week I was pleased to welcome and visit with the following constituents: Meshauna Powe, Widfrid Roedl, Mark Bhiel and Karen Simpson all of Homer.

For the past week we have been having problems with our voice mail system. It has been fixed, however, if you left a message and received no call back, please try again.

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




Booster Club Raffle - March 9 Drawing

Support your local Booster Club!



Sea Otter Booster Club Raffle

You can win this parka!


**1 ticket for \$5
or 3 for \$10**

Buy your ticket today from any Seldovia Sea Otter team member or Booster Club member:

Enotha Estess R/C Chissem Theo O'Leary Giffen Beach Tyler Tucker Lena Westmark Oren Kroll Jordan Grogan Owen Jensen David Hunt Matthew Clark	Thibet Giffen Kadir Golan Ezra Nichols Laurel Peltz Maria Patrick	Naama Giffen Jennifer Golan Tamara Golan Stephanie Lewis Kristy Giffen Kaito O'Leary Jennifer King Courtney Collier Kathryn Shields Chelsea Stephen
--	---	--

The parka was made by The Parka Lady, Sharon Lewis.

The winning raffle ticket will be drawn during the Region Championship Game in Homer, March 9th.
Call Susan B. English School for more information - (907) 234-7616.



Special Notices

Boys & Girls Club Update

You may have thought that at tonight's basketball games, you would be seeing the Sea Otters play the Wolverines, but did you know that you could also catch the Ligers versus the Cougars? That's right. The Seldovia Boys & Girls Club's Youth Basketball players will be playing a mini-game during the ladies game this evening, so be sure to attend to catch all of the great action, cheering on your current and future varsity Otters. While you are at the game, check out artwork our Club members have put together for the team and to show that they have got spirit.

The Boys & Girls Club's SMART Moves program got off to a great start this week, with daily lessons plus dodge ball practice. Those SMART Moves members in grades 3rd – 5th will get to travel to Kenai to play dodge ball in a Spring Break tournament with members from all of the seven Boys & Girls Clubs on the Kenai Peninsula . Thanks go to Mark Janes for coming in and helping the kids to learn the new rules - Mark's not too bad at the game himself.

Next Tuesday at the Clubhouse, we will have Jan Wyland come up to help the kids build family trees from 4-6 p.m. We will make a tree of our immediate family members only, with each child ending up with a nice piece of art to take home. Community members are also invited to participate. Call the Boys & Girls Club at 234-7577 if you would like more information.

- Power Hour: Mondays - Thursdays from 3:15 - 5:15 p.m.

- Pottery: Mondays from 3:15 - 5:00 p.m.
- Clubhouse: Mondays - Fridays from 3:15 - 6:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
- Teen Open Gym: Tuesdays from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
- Teen Night by SVT Prevention Program: Fridays 9:00 p.m. - midnight

Any questions, contact: Laurel A. Hiltz, Unit Director Seldovia
234-7577 office; 234-2004 fax & kid phone during Clubhouse hours
lhiltz@positiveplaceforkids.com

Tidbits . . .

Mayor Wyland and his wife Jan were guests of Governor Palin and the February 12th Governors Ball.



City Manager's Corner

by Kurt Reynertson

Work on the harbor continues and will be entering a new phase very soon (within days) that includes driving the new piling. During this time the City is asking everyone to stay off the docks unless escorted by the general contractor.

Casual observers will not be allowed on the dock at all. You are welcome to view the progress from shore, out of the way of the workers, material and equipment. This requirement is for your own safety as well as the workers safety.

The work on the tank farm is getting ready to start up again. The general contractors doing the work on the tank farm arrived back in town for a reconnaissance of the work area. Work is anticipated to start up again around the 1st of March.

Work on the water leak study, which is the first step towards replacing a lot of our water and sewer lines is still in the engineering phase, but will hopefully be completed by spring/summer. The next step will be to request funding for construction (replacement) of water lines. The way the funding cycle works I do not expect this work to commence until spring of 2008. Part of the leak study will be to replace several valves on our current water system, so you will

see some work this year encompassing digging up old valves and replacing with new.

I have received many questions concerning the Husky II over the two years that I have been city manager. Most of the questions have centered on “when will it be gone?” The city has been and is still interested in having the Husky II depart the harbor, mainly because the boat is too big for our harbor and has caused (and will continue to cause) undue strain on the harbor. Some of you probably have different reasons as to why the Husky II should leave, but the official reason is that it is just too large for our harbor. The Husky II has been sold to an outfit that operates out of Hawaii. This sale was finalized back during December. The new owners had planned to move the boat then, but due to weather and availability of personnel they had to postpone the move. The new owners and the city have been in contact and they have assured us that they want the boat out of the harbor just as much as we do and it will be moving within the next couple of months (waiting for better weather and boat mechanics). They will be sailing the boat over to Hawaii just as soon as they can.

For those that were following the possible platting and potential sale of a tideland lot between Lot 29 and Lot 30 (Seldovia Townsite) please note that the city council has decided to **NOT** plat and sell this lot. This lot is a view lot on the old boardwalk.

Work on the renovation of the Harbor Master Building (work necessitated because of the boiler malfunctioning) will be started soon. The reasons for the delays have been associated with insurance filings and coordination. Work will be completed before summer.

Seldovia Police Report

by A.W. Anderson, Chief of Police

>> Repeat Story <<

A report of a barge floating around in Seldovia Bay resulted in the Police contacting the United States Coast Guard (USCG). The barge went ashore on the beach just to the Southwest of the Chilkat, which is anchored across the Bay. The owner was contacted by the USCG and they contacted Hopkins Bros. Construction, who retrieved the barge and it is now tied to the City Dock and no longer a hazard.

A property owner contacted the Police Department and requested Police contact persons who were skiing across their property and ask that they find another route. The owner expressed concerns about liabilities as well as possibly a conflict between dogs that accompany the skiers and those of the owners. The subjects were contacted and agreed to find an alternate route and stated they would go around the property if the owner would identify the properties boundaries. The skiers stated they did not wish to be a problem and would be open to discussing the situation with the owner. A message was left asking that the owner contact the Police but, to date, no contact has been made.

A citizen report of a vehicle driving erratically on the airport runway and spinning around on the taxiway at the Airport resulted in a man being arrested and charged with DUI, Reckless Endangerment, Operating a Vehicle with No Insurance and Operating a Vehicle with Expired Registration. Arraignment on the charges was set for February 13th at 9:00 a.m.

A citizen called the Homer Police Department to report vehicles revving their engines behind the SBE School at 2:30 a.m. and the Homer Police passed the information on to the Seldovia Police Department who made it a matter of record.

A citizen contacted the Police Department informing the Police that persons who were unwelcome at their residence have been told that further visits will be treated as a trespass. Any person has the right to ban others from their property if they so choose. The visiting party has to be made aware that they are not welcome on the property and that they will be facing criminal charges if they return to the property. In this case the Officer was told the warnings have been given to the unwanted visitors.

A student came to the Police Department with a parent and reported rocks were kicked at her and she had been pushed by another student when she was walking home. Police responded and, because it happened prior to leaving school property, the principal was brought into the matter as well. Investigation revealed the male student was aggressive toward the girl but did not push her. The matter was handled informally with a meeting with the parent, the student involved and the principle. Following the investigation the victim and her parents were contacted and told of the actions taken and the victim was told to only report the actual happenings to the Police and not to add statements that make it seem more intense than it is. It is against the law to make a false report or to make statements that are false in a report. Hopefully both students have gained by this experience.

Police assisted EMT's in a medi-vac by lighting the airstrip for the departure and return of the airplane during the late night hours. Flares are used to light the airstrip as no other lighting is in place at the airport.

A local contractor is missing a 15' pair of heavy duty jumper cables. The cables are gray in color, with the standard red and black clamps, and were taken from the back of his vehicle. He stated he feels someone borrowed the cables and has forgotten to return them. He has needed them on different occasions and is hopeful they will be returned as soon as possible.

The parent of a 2 year old girl requested Police assistance after the child hit the electric door locks on the vehicle, after the door swung shut by accident. The Police responded and were able to open the door and free the child without further incident.

A man reported teenagers were again revving their engines behind the SBE School at 8:45 p.m. on the evening prior to the report. The information was logged and is now a matter of record.

Police observed a vehicle to be parked in a parking lot and further observed expired registration on the license plate. A records check was done after which a written notice of expiration was left with the vehicle.

Police checked a local residence after a citizen called requesting they do so. All was found to be fine at the home.

In our last report we told of a sighting by a local citizen of a person who they believed was shown on the Fox TV program, "Line Up". The Secret Service was informed of the report and, upon checking the identity of the suspect, found the lady to be different from the fugitive outlined on the program. The

agent told the Police that many people with warrants, who are shown on these type programs, are apprehended following a citizen report and he encourages people to always report sightings when they feel they recognize a suspect. As in this case, a simple identification revealed it was not the lady they were seeking but it very well could have been. If you see someone matching the description of someone you have observed, and have reason to believe they are wanted, please contact your nearest Police authority. We will see that the person is contacted.

Since last report 8 documents have been notarized, transportation was provided for one lady, a lady was fingerprinted for employment purposes and Police responded to two requests for assistance.

