



Seldovia Gazette

Serving Seldovia, Alaska and Kachemak Bay southeast

Seldovia, AK

11 °F / -12 °C

Clear

at 9:53 PM



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Thursday, March 8, 2007

Just another day in paradise

Vol. 3, No. 10, March 8, 2007

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Opinions



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Spotlight

- ▶ [Naomi Gallien - Off to the Big City!](#)

PhotoStory: Sea Otters last home game of the season



Top Stories

SOS Annual Election 2007

by Tamara Blodgett

Another perfect potluck...

Thanks goes to secretary/treasurer Sharon Bond for all her help in organizing the great potluck that commemorated the annual Seldovia Oil Spill Response Board Member Elections.

There was a good showing of the community at the event with a great variety of foods. Weather has really affected choices on dishes and most were hot. With temperature in the single digits (negative degrees felt due to wind chill), the warm foods were welcome! A wonderful diversity of hot dishes was served which included lasagna, chili, two kinds of soups and homemade bread to name a few.

Marketplace



Jenny Chissus
234-8000

Your Seldovia Connection

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RE/MAX of Homer



Come In,
Browse,
Have Fun!

Herring Bay Mercantile
Seldovia, AK

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

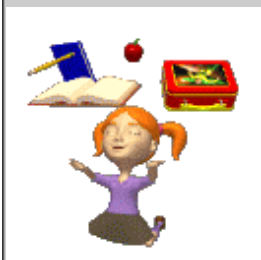


Seldovia Boat Slips for Rent
The Seldovia harbor has 32 foot and 42 foot slips for rent. Call for details:
Harbor Master
(907) 234-7886
City Office (907) 234-7643



School

▶ [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 \(6mb\)](#)

▶ [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

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2007 PhotoStories



The evening began with the potluck at 6PM , followed by current president, Sera Baxter recapping the year's events for the SOS Team. This year was a "light one" by her admission, with a barge being sold and miscellaneous small agenda items attended to. However, with her re-election as president for the new term, Baxter emphasized there are more things to accomplish and seemed happy to have opportunity to finish things started.

Board members re-elected...

The following board members were unanimously re-elected for the new term and are as follows: president Sera Baxter, secretary/treasurer Sharon Bond, Mike Opheim, Josh Patrick and Walt Sonen. The community appreciates this dedicated bunch that is here to serve our community in case of disaster. With that in mind, HAZWOPPER Training will be offered in the near future and there is a sign-up sheet at the post office for all those interested.

Nobody goes away empty handed...

As with last year, there was a door prize hand out to those that submitted their names into the drawing. The "drawing announcer" was 3rd grader Aidan Philpot. Among some of the prizes handed out were: two wonderful watercolor prints depicting trout by local artist Sherry Hingley, Log furniture by local Wayne Flint, a socket wrench set, a bakeware set, and wind chimes, just to name a few of the items. Local businesses and artists generously donated these items. Thanks for the community support and don't miss next year's event!

Close Up Basket a Boon!

by Tamara Blodgett

Washington DC group gets "close up" to funds...

Congratulations to the winner(s) of the Washington DC gift basket goes to the Ronda Haynes Family. The goal for the Close Up Group was \$1,000, with a net of \$1249.00! This fantastic trip to our nation's capital is made possible by

▶ [SBE Last Home Basketball Game of the Season](#)

▶ ...

▶ ...

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](#)

2005 PhotoStories

▶ [SBE Christmas Play](#)

▶ [SBE Halloween Carnival](#)

the community's kind donations. The gift basket items were generously donated by local businesses in the community that support our kids. This may be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for these kids, who look forward to visiting historic sights with a possible White House Tour.

The group will also be participating in spring bake sales at the school along with the annual Susan B. English fundraiser to help support the travel and related expenses of the trip in May. Thanks for the support Seldovia!

Daylight Savings Time Falls Early

by *Tamara Blodgett*

We'll be "springing forward" sooner than later...

Oh joy! Daylight Savings Time is upon us already and none of us can wait to set our clocks back and lose that hour! This year, we will set our screamers back 3-week's earlier than before. This is part of a grand plan to save energy consumption.

Does the light bulb burn less brightly...?

The Energy Policy Act of 2005 signed by President George Bush is meant to save energy. Supporters of this policy claim that it will save the equivalent of 10,000 barrels of oil per day. The U.S. Department of Energy statistics backs this claim from the early 70's when there was a huge fossil fuel shortage. Taking advantage of the sun's natural light by fiddling with the clocks twice a year makes superficial sense. We are giving up some sun in the morning to gain it in the evening. However, consider this, that it can be argued that giving up morning sun can be hazardous to drivers and/or a child walking to school while it's still dark. Additional light in the evenings may actually generate more fuel consumption as light allows for more activity. In an independent study of traffic accidents throughout Canada during the early 1990's, Stanley Coren of the University of British Columbia found an 8% spike in traffic accidents on the Mondays after the clocks were moved ahead. This seems to support the impaired sleep theory coupled with darkness compromising vision. Others may simply be in a hurry because they simply looked at an inaccurate clock in the house.

What is the best time to "spring ahead" and "fall back" ...?

Farmer's Almanac proposes a more natural "Daylight Savings Time." One that would cooperate with what is known as "civil twilight." The definition of this is, "That interval prior to sunrise or just after sunset in which enough sky illumination still exists to carry on normal work out-of-doors." The average civil twilight for the mean national latitude of 40 degrees North generally starts about a half-hour before sunrise and ends about a half-hour after sunset. If the average person begins their workday by arising at 6AM the civil twilight would coincide with this with the added benefit of natural illumination being a visual prompt for waking. Full daylight would be a half-hour later, negating the aforementioned commute/pedestrian issue. The best time to implement this system of DST would be April 7th. Unfortunately, with this new system, DST can arrive as early as March 8th in future years (beginning with 2009). In early fall, clocks should be set back in the second week of September, with the optimum first week a conflict due to the Labor Day Holiday Weekend. The

Photo Archives

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

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

► [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.

current DST transition when "falling back" is an abrupt one. People traveling home will be in daylight on Friday, then in darkness the following Monday night. With the proposed DST, people would be allowed a smoother transition in mid-September. Please visit www.farmersalmanac.com to post your online vote for what DST you prefer, and don't forget to set back your clock!

HEA Power Sales Agreement in Place

News Release

Homer Electric Association (HEA) and Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA) have announced a Power Sales Agreement under which the utility will purchase power from the Healy Clean Coal Plant (HCCP). HCCP is a 50-megawatt coal-fired power plant located in Healy, Alaska near the Usibelli coal mine. The plant is owned by AIDEA.

HEA became involved in the HCCP project when AIDEA, in December 2004, invited all Railbelt utilities to submit statements of interest in restarting and operating the plant. Only HEA responded with a statement of interest. Since that time, HEA and AIDEA have been actively working to put in place the necessary contractual and legal framework to begin restart operations.

The Power Sales Agreement is a major step in getting the plant, which has been idle for nearly a decade, restarted.

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

Sen. Gary Stevens Newsletter - March 5

Hello again from Juneau where several cold, blustery days have not slowed the work of the Legislature and its various committees. Early March has also brought us Governor Palin's budget amendments and introduction of her Alaska Gasline Inducement Act (AGIA). Both topics will receive extensive debate in the coming weeks. I hope you will have the time to follow these crucial discussions on Gavel-to-Gavel, and share your thoughts to the various committees.

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

Rep. Paul Seaton Newsletter - March

Greetings from Juneau on this 49th day of the first session of the 25th Legislature. The bitter blizzards and storms have finally abated and we are having light snow interspersed with moments of sunshine. – Whoops, they're baaack! It's a snow day in Juneau - good thing we live close enough to walk.

We now have both the Governor's budget amendments and the new Alaska Gasline Inducement Act which will absorb a lot of legislative attention. I am in hopes that it will not completely halt progress on the bills I have sponsored.

In the next several weeks we will hopefully be able to address both PERS/TRS unfunded liability and new approaches to a municipal revenue sharing/community dividend program. The performance of Wall Street has definitely made everyone aware of the instability of all funding that is based on performance at any single moment.

On Saturday I spent much of the morning with the State Affairs Committee in the development of their consolidated ethics/campaign finance bill. I offered a rewrite of the blind trust provisions available to executive branch members, to be sure such a trust would be truly blind to avoid any chance of ethical conflict. The committee adopted the reform measure and incorporated it into the final bill they passed out to the Judiciary Committee.

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

Booster Club Raffle - March 9 Drawing

Support your local Booster Club!

Don't miss your last opportunity to buy a ticket for your chance to win the beautiful winter parka the Booster Club is raffling off. The parka will go to Homer next Wednesday and people attending the Region II Tournament will have a chance to buy tickets as well. The more you buy now, the greater the possibility the parka will return to Seldovia. All of the basketball players have tickets; get one today! The raffle will take place during the championship games Friday night, March 9th; you need not be present to win. That means all of you folks reading this around the state, nation and world, we'll mail it to you if you win... Call Sandy at the Susan B. English School for more information (907-234-7616).



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:

Ernesta Estess	Thibet Giffen	Nicolas Giffen
B/C Chisone	Kathy Gibe	Jennifer Gibe
Tina O'Leary	Bera Nichols	Tatiana Gindor
Giffen Smith	Laurel Hills	Stephanie Lewis
Tyler Tucker	Maria Patrick	Kristy Giffen
Lena West-Stratton		Katie O'Leary
Orin Kroll		Jennifer King
Jordan Grogan		Courtney Collier
Dawn Jensen		Kaycee Harlan
Derek Hunt		Chelsea Stephen
Matthew Clark		

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.



BACK VIEW

Special Notices

Boys & Girls Club Update

Kids can enjoy their day off from school by hanging out at the Club on Friday, March 9th. We'll be open all afternoon, from 1-6 p.m.

- 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. Hilts, Unit Director Seldovia 234-7577 office; 234-2004 fax & kid phone during Clubhouse hours lhilts@positiveplaceforkids.com

Tidbits . . .

No one ever said EMT training was easy . . . hope that's not a tourniquet she's trying to adjust!



City Manager's Corner

by Kurt Reynertson

The contractors doing the work on the tank farm are now back in town and working. Anyone interested in submitting an application should contact the supervisor of the job or go to Seldovia Fuel and Lube.

We were successful in obtaining a VISTA grant writer position, sponsored by RuralCAP that will start up in April of this year. The person chosen for the position was Dorothy (Janette) Flint. She will receive training in Provo, Utah in April before coming on board for the city. This is a one year position that may be renewed on a year over year basis for three years. Congratulations to Janette and we are all looking forward to her starting in April.

The city is still moving forward and is still in discussions with an individual that wants to start a business on one of the old cannery lots. The potential business has been discussed at workshops and council meetings, with the owner. The city is currently working with our attorneys concerning a lease of one of the old cannery lots for this business. Once the lease has been reviewed by all parties, it will be taken to council for final disposition. This has been a slow process complicated by the fact that the owner of the proposed business is Outside (but plans to move to Seldovia on a full-time basis).

Contractors that will be renovating the Harbor Master building (made necessary by the accident that occurred over the winter) should be starting their work within the month. Repairs are estimated to take approximately a week to 10 days.

Seldovia Police Report

by A.W. Anderson, Chief of Police

Since last report the Police have received two complaints about dogs running at large within the City. Both owners were contacted and told of the violations.

A report of a man pulling two youngsters on a sled behind a 4-wheeler was received. The man was contacted and told of the act being a violation and he apologized and told the Officer he would not repeat the offense.

Civil papers were served on a local man after they were received from the office of a District Attorney in the lower 48.

A minor reported he had been assaulted by an adult. The case was investigated and forwarded to the District Attorney's Office for review. The DA will determine, through the facts of the case, if Assault charges will be brought against the adult involved.

Four subpoenas were served on local citizens requiring their presence at an upcoming jury trial to be held in Homer Court regarding a DUI, Reckless Endangerment and Operating a Motor Vehicle Without Insurance wherein a local man was charged. If a change of plea is not received the trial will begin on April 11, 2007 at 9:00 a.m. in Homer Court.

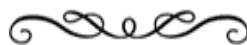
Caretaker of a local residence, that is vacant during the winter, reported the front door had been forced open sometime since the 24th of February. The investigation revealed the front door had been forced open and damage was sustained to the door frame and the molding around the door. Further investigation revealed the shop, adjacent to the residence, had also been entered after a window was broken out. It is undetermined at this time what, if anything, was taken but the owner of the property has been notified and will be traveling to Seldovia in the near future to determine what is missing. It's sad to say that we have people in our area that will stoop to this type activity. I do not doubt the same parties are responsible for other thefts and burglaries we have experienced over the winter. If you see something suspicious don't keep it to yourself. Call the Police and report it. It could lead to our being able to stop a lot of this type activity in our area.

A man reported his vehicle had been damaged when someone hit it while it was parked at the Lakeside Terrace sometime during the night of March 1 st. The vehicle sustained minimal damage but if the person responsible reported it nothing would come of it but the cost of repair. If a person doesn't report it they then can be charged with Leaving the Scene of a Damage Only Accident and this is a criminal charge.

The Police have been doing security checks on residences in the area due to the burglaries that have been occurring. If you have friends who have winter homes here and these homes are not being checked on a regular basis, you should go by and check to see if they have been forcibly entered. If you do see something suspicious please do not go any further into the home. Call the Police so we can gather any evidence that may have been left by the intruders.

An 8 HP Yamaha Outboard Trolling Motor, an electric Scotty brand downrigger and a manual Scotty brand downrigger were taken from a skiff moored at the Jakolof Harbor sometime during the last two weeks of February. The mounts for the downriggers were also taken. This is a theft totaling over \$3000.00 worth of merchandise. Anyone having any information is asked to contact the Seldovia Police Department.

Since last report the Police have notarized 8 documents and responded to 2 requests for assistance.



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