



Seldovia Gazette

Serving Seldovia, Alaska and Kachemak Bay southeast

Seldovia, AK

48 °F / 9 °C

Clear

at 6:53 PM



[Click for Forecast](#)

Thursday, May 17, 2007

Just another day in paradise

Vol. 3, No. 20, May 17, 2007

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Spotlight

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PhotoStory
Seldovia Lodge
Burns to the Ground
April 29, 2007

Craft Invitational

Chain Saw Carving Contest

Don't miss it! May 24-28, 2007

[Click here to see the Chamber of Commerce summer events calendar & event details](#)

1:00 - 3:00 Quilt Show 5/27-28 Sponsored by the Seldovia Chamber of Commerce-

at the new location on Main St. (next door to the Post Office) Come in and view quilts made by Seldovians and the Worldwide Postcard Quilt Exhibit (approx. 212 small quilts) [Click here for Community Calendar](#)



Top Stories

Seldovia City Manager, a Changing of the Guard

by Tom & Mary Glover

This week marks the end of Kurt Reynertson's two year term as Seldovia City Manager. The position of City Manager is a difficult one in small communities and we would like to personally thank Mr. Reynertson for the outstanding job he did for this community. Kurt and his wife, Joni, own Herring Bay Mercantile in Seldovia and he will be focusing his effort on their store this summer.

Marketplace



Jenny Chissus
234-8000

Your Seldovia Connection

www.seldoviaproperty.com
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

NEW! ▶ [The Seldovia Visitor 2007, 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](#)

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

NEW! ▶ [Seldovia Summer Visitor Newspaper 2007](#)

2007 PhotoStories



Kurt Reynertson

In a special meeting of the Seldovia City Council on May 15, 2007, the City Council unanimously voted to offer a contract to Eric Mollberg for the position of Seldovia City Manager. On acceptance of the contract, SeldoviaGazette.com will run a full story on Mr. Mollberg.



Eric Mollberg

Close Up in Washington DC

by Katie O'Leary

The six students who attended the Close Up trip in Washington D.C. returned on Sunday. They had a terrific time and met many new friends. The girls had a great time (especially since they went shopping)! The students saw many national memorials, met important government officials and got a tour of the White House. Stay tuned for next week's full story on their adventures!

▶ Seldovia Lodge Fire
▶ SBE Prom "Casino Royale 007"
▶ 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
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
Photo Archives



Seldovia Village CDP Community Plan

by Tamara Blodgett

A public meeting to promote controlled growth...

According to Seldovia Village Tribe, the purpose of this meeting was for citizens of Seldovia Village Census Designated Place, outside city limits, to voice their input of ideas about a Community Plan.

Seldovia Village Tribe invited mediator Bob Gorman from the University of Alaska to facilitate a discussion and interactive dialogue with the participating public. SVT felt a need to meet to provide a forum for ideas and input based on growth in the area. Whereas a need for a Community Plan needed for governmental guidance (State, Borough and Local) and to reference needs and priorities when seeking grants (for infrastructure such as facilities, roads, etc.).

Growth to accommodate the future...

SVT mailed a letter that spoke to this meeting and touched on the future needs of the community. Those projected needs seemed foremost in their collective minds. A large out-of-city-limits section of land named, "Seldovia Village CDP," is the land that is in question. In a four-part introduction scenario they wished to address the following concerns: Land Use, Community Facilities and Utilities, Transportation, and Future Actions/Needs. In speaking with SVT CEO Crystal Collier, she adamantly affirmed that this was *not* a "annexation", or tax situation of any kind. Rather, it was a way to promote growth for the future with designations and services that were satisfactory for the current property owners of this community. Collier felt that if we were proactive now, choices could be made that was agreed upon as a whole with forethought for the present *and* the future.

Mixed community input...

It was obvious from the start that the SVT mailer with accompanying survey had been misconstrued by members of the public. There was some heated comments, followed by clarification from both the speaker and SVT representative(s). However, by the end of the meeting, it became apparent that the meeting's purpose was to elicit public dialogue for the needs of the community that live 'out-the-road.' Collier emphasized that it is critical that property owners that received a survey to fill it out. SVT wants to compile a list

[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

[None this week](#)

of what property owners would like to see happen in this area for the future. Members of the public seemed to almost universally agree on maintaining their sense of privacy, rural-ness and lack of taxation now and in the future. Dissenting comments ranged from fear over services being offered ultimately being paid by federal dollars (taxation in some form) to people not wishing to have any "governance" on their person or property. These comments were countered with people wishing to see property designated very specifically through zoning procedure for the future. A few comments addressed the real need for affordable property and housing for families wishing to move here or come home to where they grew up. There is a real lack of housing of any kind, especially affordable housing. People wishing to live in the City may be out-of-luck. This leaves the large Seldovia Village area, commonly referred to as "out-the-road."

Where do we go from here...?

The collective body of the public determined that a subsequent meeting would be in order. It was decided that the next meeting would be tentatively scheduled for late September. This gives the public time to fill out the survey and contemplate the thoughts presented at the forum. Being proactive and giving voice to our concerns and needs in this community is paramount to our future. Watch for an early autumn meeting and attend it to discuss our future and what part SVT will have in it.

Sea Tow Sets Sail with a New Captain

by Tamara Blodgett

Julie Allison comes 'on board'...

Our local Sea Tow business in Seldovia has a new captain to 'man' the ship of owner Dave Cloninger's 26-foot Catamaran boat. You cannot miss this canary yellow rescue vessel as she makes her way out to sea to assist other vessels in distress. Ms. Allison will be the responder to vessels in trouble with the experience and confidence to get the job done.



Just what the doctor ordered...

This opportunity was just what new captain Julie Allison had in mind. After 10 years of accumulative time on the sea with the last three years co-tendering out of Homer aboard "Lady Blackie," it seemed like the timing was perfect to try a new adventure in Seldovia. Alaska born and raised and hailing out of Juneau, this young woman has her 100- ton license and is very close to acquiring her 200- ton. Years of experience on the water which range from tour boats to tendering, Julie was ripe for change.

Owner's Dave and Peggy Cloninger had a chance meeting with a mutual acquaintance of Ms. Allison's that thought they could help each other out. The Cloninger's were so struck with how perfect she was for the job that the day after the interview they phoned her to say; " You're hired!" When asked how she was transitioning to life in a small town she commented that she enjoys getting to know people and the friendly waves as greetings from the locals. However, since arriving on May 1st, Allison has been non-stop training. Having just finished a 10-day captain's course, taught by Sea Tow Captain Stew Winterson of Florida, which was successfully completed, she has barely had time to catch her breath! Winterson commented that she was a natural with a "soft touch" on the throttle with equal finesse at the helm. Her apparent familiarity and experience were no small help on learning the maneuvers of docking and towing a variety of boats that are the main requirements of this job.



Practice makes perfect...

Two boats were used locally here to make the training possible. The Cloninger's were very grateful to the owners of the Norseman and also to Jim and Laurel Wright for the use of their vessel. These vessels were used in the physical part of the training and testing requirements for Allison's course completion. She is now finished and ready to begin! Captaining and the sea are not the extent of her skills! She is also an ETT, is dive certified and has her 40-hour HAZWOPER training complete. A versatile gal on the go! Welcome to Seldovia!

Seldovia's Coming Home 2007 *by Laurel Hilts*

Haven't made your summer plans yet? Might be thinking about swinging through Seldovia? Then come on home! The entire community of Seldovia would like to extend an invitation for you to attend "Seldovia's Coming Home 2007," scheduled for July 1st through the 8th.

 Coming Home

From cookouts at the beach to fish derbies to not-so-ready-for-primetime talent shows, we're throwing out the welcome mat to any and all that has ever lived in Seldovia. Whether you were just here for a year or most of your life, we'd love to have you join us for a fun-filled week of activities, centered around our special Fourth of July celebration. There's nothing better than lining Main Street to watch the parade go by a couple of times. Or how about the canoe jousting in the bay?

On a special note, if you attended or worked at any of Seldovia's schools over the years, we'd like to invite you to our All-School Reunion, scheduled for the evening of July 3rd. This reunion will include dinner, photos and videos, stories, special music, and lots of good visiting. After the reunion, there will be a sock hop in town, so bring your dancing shoes.

If you would like more information on the special events scheduled for "Seldovia's Coming Home 2007," please visit this website: cominghome2007.com. Once there, you can learn about the various activities scheduled for the week, plus sign in to let us know you are coming. Please be sure to read up on the all-school reunion and pass on your address and others so we can get more specific information out there.

We look forward to seeing you in town this summer as you join everyone else who is Coming Home. See you soon!

SEE Trip to Fairbanks

by Stephanie Lewis

On May 3rd, the Seldovia Village Tribe's SEE project and staff of the Alaska Tribal Cache took a trip to Fairbanks to attend a specialty foods seminar, featuring keynote speaker Stephen Hall author of the book *FromKitchen to Market*. The seminar consisted of many small business entrepreneurs coming together to network, advise, and obtain the knowledge necessary to increase business growth or to turn visions into reality. The seminar was very beneficial to the Alaska Tribal Cache. The staff learned many new things that will help the Alaska Tribal Cache grow and acquire more jobs for Seldovia residents.



On May 4th before the seminar began, the SEE project and staff of the Alaska Tribal Cache learned how to make lollipops with food specialist from UAF Kristy Long and her assistant Kamolluck Trateng at the UAF test kitchen. The lollipops are delicious and made with 100% berry juice ATC plans on introducing them to their line of products in 2008. There will be sugar-free versions available.



After the wonderful time in the kitchen making and tasting lollipops the staff attended a private meeting with Stephen Hall himself. He advised them on how to better their business. After the meeting with Stephen Hall they had the chance to tour The Riverboat Discovery one of the biggest tourist destinations in Fairbanks that will be carrying ATC products. Later that afternoon they all attended the seminar. It started with a speaker from Fairbanks who operates a web company. He helps businesses with their websites and how to correctly promote your business online. After a talk from Stephen Hall, the group broke out into several different round table discussions about various topics related to business such as customer loyalty, presence and packaging, Public Safety awareness, product development, and many others. The next day the seminar started at 8:30 AM and lasted until 6:00 PM. Everyone had the chance to taste other company's products and promote our own company and network with people.

The seminar was a big step into ATC's new direction. ATC will soon be making some changes adding new products, taking out some old ones, and recreating a new look. Overall the seminar was very exciting and a great learning experience for all. Special thanks to all those who made it happen and to all the professional speakers.

Thank You DOT!

This week, DOT brought over their street sweeper for the annual clean up of the winter gravel and silt mess on our paved roads! Thank you, thank you, thank you.



Sen. Gary Stevens Newsletter - May 17

District R fares well as the gavel falls on the first session of the 25th Alaska legislature.

Juneau—The gavel fell on the first session of the 25th Alaska Legislature late last (Wednesday) night making. Lawmakers passed legislation allowing the Governor to take another step forward with a natural gas pipeline, increased funding for public education and agreed to work on rewriting the education funding formula that has disadvantaged rural school districts for so long, provided significant revenue for Alaska's communities, and reformed Alaska's ethics statutes.

Senate Republicans and Democrats came together to form the Bipartisan Working Group. District R Senator Gary Stevens (R-Kodiak) said the group agreed to put aside party politics and focus on public policy instead.

"This year, all of us in the Working Group agreed to focus our efforts on eight key issues," Senator Stevens said. "During the last four months, we approved significant legislation addressing all eight of our goals."

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

HEA Rate Increase Approved *News Release*

The Regulatory Commission of Alaska (RCA) has approved a 4.59 percent increase to Homer Electric Association's base rate. The increase will raise the rate by approximately a half cent per kilowatt hour, from 12 cents to 12.6 cents.

The new rate, which went into effect on May 7, will result in an increase of approximately \$3.32 a month for the average HEA residential member using 600 kilowatt hour per month.

[Click here to read the complete news release](#)

Special Notices

Invitation by Class of 2007

If you would like to post on the web this, please do. Class of 2007 would like to invite the community to their Graduation Reception on May 24th at the SVT Convention Center following the graduation ceremony. Finger foods, salads, desserts are welcome. Class of 2007 Graduates: Dustin Baines, Kyle Burt, Molly Chapman, Naomi Gallien, Jennifer Giles, Tatiana Gruber, Stephanie Lewis, Rachel Payton

Boys & Girls Club Update

The Boys & Girls Club started classes for SMART Moves in February and last week the program ended with a special trip for four very active participants. Fifth graders Leslie P. and Chaela O. and sixth graders Devon H. and Adam O. completed the four-month program by attending daily after-school sessions and performing community service in order to earn enough points to travel. Their reward was an all-expense paid trip to Anchorage as an incentive component of the City of Seldovia 's Title V grant for delinquency prevention.



The group traveled last Thursday and spent the night in the Dimond Center Hotel, courtesy of the Seldovia Native Association. The next morning, they got up and went downtown to the Imaginarium where they got to explore and learn fascinating things about science. From petting starfish to creating giant bubbles, the time flew by quickly. For lunch, they ate at the Fifth Avenue Mall food court and then did some window shopping before heading out to the H2Oasis water park for an afternoon of fun swimming. The day wasn't over yet, though. After drying off and spiffing up, the group headed to the KTUU Channel 2 station for a tour of the facility and a chance to watch the 6 o'clock news live. Highlights of the tour included: being on television in the background while reporter Steve MacDonald spoke live from the news room, hanging out with meteorologist Jackie Purcell by her weather desk, and sitting on the sidelines in the studio while the anchors Maria Downey and Jason Moore broadcast the news. The visit was topped off with an invitation from Purcell to stand in front of the blue screen later to practice reporting the weather. All of the news staff were kind to the kids and answered their questions and even told them a few behind-the-scenes facts, including the fact that Jason Moore is a prankster and his quiet jokes are often the reason anchors can't stop laughing during their broadcast!



By this time, the kids (and chaperones) were pretty worn out, so everyone enjoyed a nice dinner at Red Robin and then went back to watch a funny movie in the hotel. It was then time for bed in order to get up and go for it again the next morning. Saturday dawned bright and sunny, and the group headed to the Alaska Zoo to see the animals. The kids particularly enjoyed the tigers and the brown and black bears, and even the smelly musk oxen didn't sway them from seeing all the sights. After visiting the zoo, the group took a much needed break before heading down the highway toward home.

It was a well-deserved trip for four very hard-working Club members, but their SMART Moves involvement is not quite done. During the month of June, these four kids will be creating a movie for the Boys & Girls Club that highlights many of the key facts they learned in the program. They will be recruiting other SMART Moves participants to be in the film, as well. There will be a community viewing once the film is done, so be watching for more information.

In addition to these four kids, there were thirteen other regular participants in SMART Moves this year. The Boys & Girls Club will be celebrating their involvement with a campout on the ball field on Wednesday, June 6th (the May calendar said it would be tonight – but this writer thinks it's still too cold!). Letters are going home to the parents and guardians of these members with more specifics.

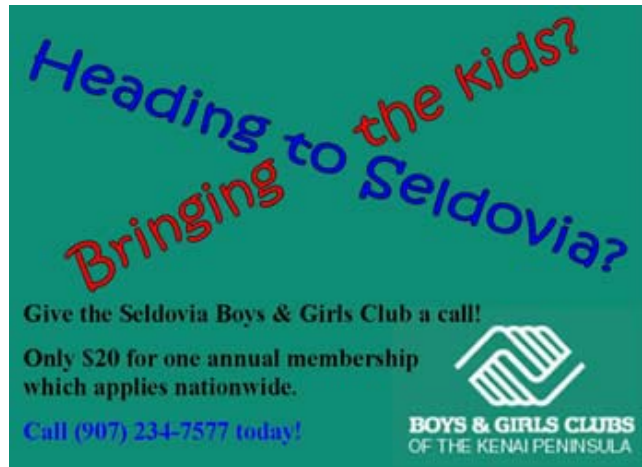
It is our hope that the things Seldovia's kids learned in this program about making healthy life choices will continue with them and not be forgotten.

Please note that the Club will be closed for annual training from May 21 – May 28. We will reopen on Tuesday, May 29 with our new summer hours. The Clubhouse will be open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 1-6 p.m. Pottery will still run on Mondays from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. and Teen Open Gym will happen on Tuesday nights from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Teens can come to the Club one extra time with the addition of a Teen Club night on Saturdays from 9:00 – 11:00 p.m., and of course they can still attend the Seldovia Village Tribe's Teen Night on Fridays from 9:00 – midnight.

Regular Club Schedule

- Pottery: Mondays from 3:15 - 5:00 p.m.
- Clubhouse: Tuesdays - Saturdays from 1:00 - 6:00 p.m.
- Teen Open Gym: Tuesdays from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

- Teen Club night: Saturdays 9:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.
- Teen Night by SVT Prevention Program: Fridays 9:00 p.m. - midnight



Heading to the kids?
Bringing to Seldovia?

Give the Seldovia Boys & Girls Club a call!
Only \$20 for one annual membership
which applies nationwide.
Call (907) 234-7577 today!

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF THE KENAI PENINSULA

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

Tidbits . . .

The Homer Veterinary Clinic set up shop for Seldovians this week . . . some of the patients were not thrilled with the visit!





City Manager's Corner

by Kurt Reynertson

This will be my last city manager report. Ronda Haynes is now the acting city manager until the new manager takes over. As some may already know, Eric Mollberg has been offered the position. The contract has been forwarded to Eric for his review and acceptance.

It has been a privilege to be Seldovia's city manager for these last two years. My wife and I plan to stay in Seldovia and focus on operating our business. The last two years have seen a lot of progress. The community center got a new roof as well as a new elevator; the clinic got a new X-Ray machine; the Harbor Master Building has been renovated; the harbor has had a significant upgrade; the water storage tank has been thoroughly cleaned; engineering design work has begun on our water and sewer system, which will be followed by water and sewer line replacement; some private development was made possible through the sale of city lots; the old cannery dock has been torn down and the city dock piles have been re-wrapped; the boat haul out trailer has been rebuilt; a new tank farm and fuel line project is well on its way to being completed; a pressure washer system has been installed at the boat house; and we will be receiving a sizable grant for our city dock for renovations. This work has been a combined effort between city employees, city council, and the citizens of Seldovia. Everyone should pat themselves on the back for pulling together to get this work accomplished.

Finally, I want to thank all of those that have kept my family, and particularly my mother, in their prayers.

Seldovia Police Report

by A.W. Anderson, Seldovia PD

>> **No Report this week** <<

