



# Seldovia Gazette

Serving Seldovia, Alaska and Kachemak Bay southeast

Seldovia, AK

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Thursday, July 26, 2007

Just another day in paradise

Vol. 3, No. 30, July 26, 2007

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## Opinions



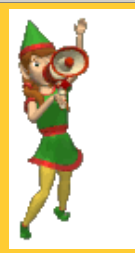
- ▶ [Letters to the Editor - Susan Mumma](#)
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## Spotlight

- ▶ [Howard & Carol Davis Come to Town!](#)



**PhotoStory**  
Coming Home Week &  
July 4, 2007 Festival  
July 1-8, 2007



**City of Seldovia Job Openings**  
(click job description to view descriptions)

1. [Facilities Maintenance \(pdf\)](#)
2. [Fire Administrative Assistant \(pdf\)](#)

## Top Stories

### Cell Phone Service Comes to Seldovia!

Although details are still sketchy, it appears that as of last Thursday, Seldovia has cell phone service. Sort of . . .

ACS is sending a spokesman to Seldovia for next weeks Chamber of Commerce meeting in the MultiPurpose Room, Thursday, August 2, at noon. The Gazette will continue to compile information about this new service and hopefully a full story will be included in next weeks edition. ACS representatives will also be available at Main Street Market on August 1 and August 2 to answer questions and help people with phone problems, and will be able to sign up people for phone service, cell phone service, and Lifeline phones for people who need help.

### Retiree Rod Hilts Perseveres by Tamara Blodgett

*No grass growing under this retiree's feet...*

In a candid interview, Mr. Rod Hilts spoke about his past duties as Alaska Tribal Cache Manager that eventually led to his just-vacated position as Seldovia Village Tribe Grant Writer. Hilts first career as elementary History teacher in Seldovia with summers based out of Kotzebue , AK running a joint

## Marketplace



**Jenny Chissus**  
234-8000  
Your Seldovia Connection

[www.seldoviaproperty.com](http://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!



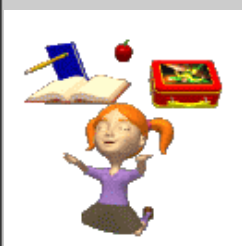
**Seldovia Boat Slips for Rent**  
The Seldovia harbor has 32 foot and 42 foot slips for rent. Call for details:  
**Harbor Master**  
(907) 234-7886  
City Office (907) 234-7643



family restaurant combined with commercial fishing kept him busy throughout the early nineties. The second phase of his career for SVT encompassed the start-up and management of the jelly/jam production line for ATC. After this trail of work leveled out with a few grants written that directly suited the needs of what is now the ATC, Hiltz gradually worked into a grant writing position in other capacities. This position began as a 3-month trial period that blossomed into a full time workload. Grant writing is often misunderstood and Hiltz clarified that federal money is pre-allocated (for specific uses) to a certain extent and grant writing is the *process* of obtaining that money through the proper channels. As of June 15th, everything has been wrapped up with a large, breakfast bash held in honor of Rod.

**School**

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



**Notices & Newsletters**

▶ [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](#)

**Archives**

**2007 Archives**

▶ [Archive of all pages](#)

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

▶ [Seldovia Summer Visitor Newspaper 2007](#)

**2007 PhotoStories**

**NEW!** ▶ [July 4 Festival](#)

▶ [Craft Invitational Chainsaw Carving Contest - May](#)

▶ [SBE Graduation - May](#)



Rod Hiltz and his wife Sunni

*A burning desire to catalog family roots...*

Hiltz is a hard worker and enjoyed the structure of his full time job and waking each morning with a spring in his step. However, the call to his golden year fulfillment to organize, catalog and distribute his vast collection of antique family memorabilia was too much to do as just a hobby. So Hiltz made the tough decision to leave behind a fulfilling job and explore something he longed to accomplish while there was still time for he and others to enjoy it. In addition to this pursuit, Hiltz is actively writing a historically based romantic western novel. The novel's setting runs from Texas to Montana and takes place in the 1860's. A plan for developing an adjacent parcel to his current home is in the works along with the finalization of the renovation of his current home wrapping up. If this were not enough on Hiltz's plate, he has been helping remodel his daughter's home and is currently raising his college and high school aged grandsons.

*More time for a sweet love...*

Rod's college sweetheart, Edith-Helen Hiltz (Sunni) is more than the silver lining in the proverbial cloud. Mrs. Hiltz is quite engaged in her (and Rod's) involvement in the local Seldovia Bible Chapel. Quite musically endowed, husband and wife team up together and sing and play piano/keyboard (respectively) each Sunday for worship service. An occasional duet is not unheard of and welcome. Rod and Sunni have always embraced the church as the cornerstone of their life. The entire family has a musical background and it is put to good use during church and other venues. Sunni is an active member on the Kenai Peninsula School Board. With these obligations and their respective schedules so tight, it will be a delight for the pair to have the freedom to travel together and enjoy the new schedule.

<a href="#">▶ Seldovia Lodge Fire</a>
<a href="#">▶ SBE Prom - "Casino Royale 007"</a>
<a href="#">▶ SBE Last Home Basketball Game of the Season</a>
<b>2006 Archives</b>
<a href="#">▶ Archive of all pages</a>
<a href="#">▶ Seldovia Walking Map - 8-1/2 x 11 pdf</a>
<a href="#">▶ Seldovia Summer Visitor Newspaper 2006</a>
<b>2006 PhotoStories</b>
<a href="#">▶ SBE Play - December</a>
<a href="#">▶ Halloween Carnival</a>
<a href="#">▶ Aleutian's Tusty Trip - July 25 - Part 3</a>
<a href="#">▶ Aleutian's Tusty Trip - July 25 - Part 2</a>
<a href="#">▶ Aleutian's Tusty Trip - July 25 - Part 1</a>
<a href="#">▶ July 4 Festival</a>
<a href="#">▶ Summer Solstice Music Festival - June</a>
<a href="#">▶ CofC Chainsaw Carving Contest - May</a>
<a href="#">▶ SBE Graduation - May</a>
<a href="#">▶ SBE Spring Concert - May</a>
<a href="#">▶ SBE School Play - May</a>
<a href="#">▶ SBE Science Fair - May</a>
<a href="#">▶ Prom - May</a>
<a href="#">▶ SBE Basketball - Feb.</a>
<a href="#">▶ SBE Basketball - Feb.</a>
<a href="#">▶ SBE Basketball - Jan.</a>
<b>2005 Archives</b>
<a href="#">▶ Archive of all pages</a>
<a href="#">▶ Seldovia Summer Gazette Newspaper</a>
<a href="#">▶ Seldovia Summer Gazette Newspaper 2004</a>
<b>2005 PhotoStories</b>
<a href="#">▶ SBE Christmas Play</a>
<a href="#">▶ SBE Halloween Carnival</a>
<b>Photo Archives</b>
<a href="#">▶ Click here to view all</a>

*My unique pleasure...*

In all the interviews I have conducted, this one was the hardest to end. A fascinating conversationalist, Mr. Hilts has so many things that are interesting to listen to, comprehend and learn that it is hard to say "when!" It was my distinct pleasure to interview this humble and well-educated man that is so dear to the community. We wish you well Rod!

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## City Council Meeting July 25 by Tamara Blodgett

The Seldovia City Council convened together to include the following members present: Keith Gain, Tom Glover, Walter McInnes, Allison Miller and Gerry Patrick. Mayor Dick Wyland presided with acting City Manager/Clerk Ronda Haynes taking minutes.

### Treasurer's Report

Some interest income was inadvertently omitted that will be included at a later date in the amount of approximately \$20K.

### Proclamations

#### *Arts Council, Susan Mumma*

This is a proclamation honoring the diligent volunteer work efforts of Seldovia Arts Council Chairwoman Susan Mumma.

### Public Presentations for Items not on Agenda

#### *Public input on the recently approved port fee*

Several members of the Public spoke about the recently approved \$1 port fee assessed for each passenger that departs from the tour boats that service Seldovia. *Mary Glover*, President of the Seldovia Chamber of Commerce, spoke on behalf of the officers and directors of the Chamber of Commerce against the port fee. The Chamber's position is: "...this fee is seriously detrimental to the health of the commercial enterprises of this community." A petition is being circulated in support of recinding the port fee.

*Phil Pachulski* spoke against the port fee. *Walt Sonen* spoke in favor of the port fee citing the need to have monetary capacity to support continued renovation and maintenance on the harbor.

*Valerie Morin* emphasized that cost-prohibitive part (collection and accounting) of such a burden for the tour boats would negate the benefit of the fee.

*Darlene Crawford* grew up in Seward and compared the head tax assessed there with the one proposed for Seldovia. Furthermore, Seward's tax is assessed on everyone, not just tour boats.

*Mike Webber* clarified that Seward procured a loan through a head tax (\$3.50) on anyone that paid for transportation into the south end of the harbor. This is a temporary head tax that allows Seward to buy bonds to renovate the harbor, which in theory would be discontinued once the renovation was complete. Webber added that the proposed head tax (in Seldovia), once collected would definitely need to be allocated for a very specific purpose for the harbor with a long range plan already laid out for just that purpose.

[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

[▶ None this week](#)

*Kurt Reynertson* spoke against the head tax from the perspective of fairness. He feels the community would be better served devising a specific plan for raising money for the harbor that does not include effectively penalizing the tour boats.

Finally, *Tim Dillon*, the originator of the port fee, meant for this "head tax" to have a positive impact on the City's finances, not a negative against any one entity. It was not his intent to "hurt" any of the businesses in Seldovia. His main desire is to bring revenue into the City; in turn making it more cost-effective to reside here year round.

### Committee & Advisory Board Reports

SOS, Arts Council and Fish & Game have nothing to report at this time. Chamber of Commerce will have their regularly scheduled meeting on August 2nd held in the Multi Purpose room at noon. An ACS guest speaker will explain our latest leap into the 21st century with the installation of our new, temporary cell phone tower on the 19th. Planning & Zoning Committee Meeting will be held on Friday, September 7th (due to Labor Day Weekend Holiday conflict).

### Old Business

#### Appointment of Council Member to Fill Vacant Seat

There is currently a vacancy on the Council after the resignation of Tom Keesecker. Individuals interested in this position for Council review must submit a letter of interest.

*Action:* None.

#### Cannery Feasibility Study Approval

The Council was reminded of the need to review the current feasibility study. Mayor Wyland indicated another work session would be needed for this review and the Council consensus concurred. This workshop was determined to take place within the next week.

*Action:* None.

#### Kachemak Bay Ferry (MCINNES) This is an executive session item.

*Action:* None.

**Next Meeting:** August 8, 2007

**Adjournment:** Time elapsed: 28 minutes & 11 seconds

### Important: Comment Deadline on Vessel Discharge Permits is Close

*News Release*

NPDES EPA Vessel Discharge Permits *may be* required for **ALL** vessels – comment deadline August 6, 2007.

EPA is seeking information as it considers how to develop a water permit program for pollutant discharges incidental to the normal operation of

commercial vessels and recreational boats.

Vessel owners or operators whose discharges previously have been exempt from Clean Water Act requirements will require a permit beginning Sept. 30, 2008 . Regulated discharges may include ballast water, bilge water, deck runoff, and gray water. Approximately 143,000 commercial vessels and potentially more than 13 million state-registered recreational boats and more than 25 different types of vessel discharges could be affected.

#### **On the Web - (Click each link below for the document)**

- [EPA is seeking public comments and data to help the agency develop the permitting framework](#)

- [EPA Press release](#)

- [EPA website fed Reg notice June 21](#)

- [Fact sheet on district court ruling](#)

- **Marine Exchange of Alaska**

"...Although the Government is appealing, this court ruling has great potential for causing a monumental train wreck and nightmare for anyone who operates any kind of watercraft from a 950 foot containership to a 14 ft outboard..."

*This notice if from United Fishermen of Alaska  
Compiled by Elaine Riot*

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## **Sen. Gary Stevens Interim Newsletter**

It has been a busy month or so since the last Interim Report. During that time, the Legislature has held a special session, the Joint Legislative Education Task Force has met, and I've had the opportunity to meet with several constituents to discuss a variety of concerns.

This month, I was honored to participate in the Kodiak 4th of July parade. Thanks to Joe Stevens of the Kodiak Military History Museum for the ride in the World War II Jeep, and to the American Legion Post 17 for allowing me to participate in their ceremony.

*Newsletter topics:*

- **Senior Benefits Program**
- **Joint Legislative Education Funding Task Force Update**
- **Alaska Marine Highway System**
- **Young Athletes Back in Action**

[Click here to read full Newsletter](#)

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## **Special Notices . . .**

### ***Crazy Crow Concert Friday Night, July 27***

There is still room at the Crazy Crow Concert of Peter Cooper who is coming

all the way from Nashville to play in our area. We will have wonderful desserts and fun and listen to music in a comfortable intimate setting and I promise... *no politics!!!*

"Peter Cooper looks at the world with an artist's eye and a human heart and soul. His songs are the work of an original, creative imagination, alive with humor and heartbreak and irony and intelligence, with truth and beauty in the details. Deep stuff. And they get better every time you listen to them." -Kris Kristofferson

Peter Cooper the same guy who writes about music for the Nashville Tennessean and who appears as a talking head on CNN, CMT, MSNBC, the BBC, the Biography Channel and other outlets. He's also a touring singer-songwriter and instrumentalist who has played on *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*, *The Late Show with David Letterman* and *Prairie Home Companion*. His songs have been praised by the New York Times, Mojo, No Depression, USA Today, the Los Angeles Times and the Wall Street Journal. Cooper has opened numerous tour dates for Todd Snider (and collaborated with Snider, singing harmonies, playing bass and co-writing a song on Snider's brilliant "The Devil You Know" album) and worked in the studio with Emmylou Harris, Nanci Griffith, Lloyd Green, Ricky Skaggs and other luminaries. He recently produced Snider's forthcoming odds 'n' sods album, Peace, Love and Anarchy.

This is lucky to chance to hear Peter.. the fee of \$15 covers his travel to Seldovia.. and the desserts and then the rest goes to the artist...so the more folks we have the better.

Starts at 7:30 at the Seldovia Rowing Club on the Old Boardwalk..  
Come..if you can let me know ahead I will make more desserts...call 234-7614

*Susan at Crazy Crow Productions*

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### ***Boys & Girls Club Update***

Hello, folks! We're in Week 2 of our summer lunch program at the Boys & Girls Club. Here's what we've got on the menu for the kids this week:

- Tuesday Ham & Cheese Sandwich with carrots, applesauce and milk
- Wednesday Spaghetti & Garlic Bread with cooked broccoli, bananas (hopefully!) and milk
- Thursday Egg Salad Sandwich with fresh cucumbers, peaches and milk
- Friday Cheese/Ham & Ritz Cracker Stackers, with carrots, yogurt and milk
- Saturday Chef's Choice – leftovers day!

Lunch runs from 1-1:30 p.m. each day. All kids ages 6-18 are welcome. Need not be a member to participate!

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  
hilts@positiveplaceforkids.com

**Tidbits . . .**

The troops from Lake Side Terrace really know how to spend a lazy summer afternoon . . . a picnic at Red Mountain!

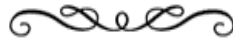


**City Manager's Corner**

>> **No Reports will be available until a new City Manager is hired** <<

**Seldovia Police Report** by A. W. Anderson, Seldovia PD

>> **No Report this Week** <<



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