



Seldovia Gazette

Serving Seldovia, Alaska and Kachemak Bay southeast

Seldovia, AK

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Thursday, Aug. 23, 2007

Just another day in paradise

Vol. 3, No. 34, August 23, 2007

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Opinions



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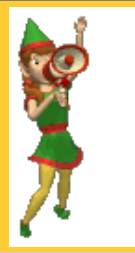
- None currently

Spotlight

▶ [Rochelle Marie Purpura Joins the Gazette Team](#)



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

Kasitsna Bay Lab Open House

by Darlene Crawford and Kris Holderied

Under warm gray skies on Thursday August 17th, the Kasitsna Bay Laboratory welcomed one hundred and fifty guests, to join in the celebration of the completion of the Laboratory's multi-million dollar major renovation project. The event also celebrated the 200th anniversary of the oldest part of NOAA, the Survey of the Coast, which was started in 1807 by President Thomas Jefferson to provide nautical charts for American waters.

The Rainbow Connection brought friends from Homer, Seldovians drove out the road, and a landing craft full of kids arrived from McDonald Spit. Staff from NOAA offices statewide were in attendance and available to discuss a wide variety of NOAA products and services, including weather and climate forecasting, navigation services, and fisheries and coastal management.

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 Rochelle Purpura & 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

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

▶ [Seldovia Summer Visitor Newspaper 2007](#)

2007 PhotoStories

▶ [July 4 Festival](#)

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

▶ [SBE Graduation - May](#)

▶ [Seldovia Lodge Fire](#)

▶ [SBE Prom - "Casino Royale 007"](#)

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

2006 Archives



Kris Holderied (left) and Dr. David Christie (right)
Photo courtesy of Darlene Crawford

Kris Holderied and Dr. David Christie, co-directors of the Kasitsna Bay Laboratory for NOAA and the University of Alaska Fairbanks, greeted guests and emceed the gathering. They also provided information on research and education efforts at the Laboratory and in Kachemak Bay.



Don Kashevaroff (left) and Mayor Dick Wyland (right)
Photo courtesy of Darlene Crawford

Seldovia Mayor Dick Wyland welcomed those present, and Seldovia Village Tribe President Don Kashevaroff welcomed everyone and spoke of the Tribe's desire to care for the environment, and their wish to work jointly with the Lab for these purposes.

Within NOAA, the Kasitsna Bay Laboratory is now a field laboratory within the science office of the National Ocean Service, known as the National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science or NCCOS. NCCOS has five separate science centers and the Laboratory falls under the Center for Coastal Fisheries and Habitat Research (CCFHR) in Beaufort, North Carolina. Dr. Alicia Jarboe, Deputy Director of NCCOS, and Dr. David Johnson, Director of CCFHR, both attended the open house.

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- [▶ Seldovia Summer Visitor Newspaper 2006](#)
- 2006 PhotoStories**
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Photo Archives

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

Classified Rates

[▶ Instructions and rate sheet](#)



David Johnson. Photo courtesy of Darlene Crawford

David Johnson spoke to the crowd about the five year renovation project and expressed appreciation to the local communities for their past and continuing support for the Laboratory's research and education activities.



Dr. Ray Highsmith. Photo courtesy of Darlene Crawford

Dr. Ray Highsmith spoke about the earlier history of the Kasitsna Bay Laboratory and described it before the renovation, with just a few small buildings. Ray taught at the Laboratory for 20 years and served as the UAF Director for the laboratory until his retirement in 2004. He is currently the Director of the National Institute of Undersea Science and Technology in Mississippi. He cut the "ribbon" (Bull kelp, in this case) to celebrate the completion of the facility renovation and was honored by having the new wet laboratory building named for him.



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Corrections

None this week



Kelp cutting ceremony. Photo courtesy of Laurie Blair



Russell H. Geagel Lab building.
Photo courtesy of Darlene Crawford

The renovated dry laboratory building is now named for Russ Geagel, who was the facility manager at the Laboratory for twenty years, first with NOAA and then with UAF. Mike Geagel, Russ' son, is currently the NOAA Facility Manager, and he and his wife, Connie, have been running the facility since 1995.

A third building in the complex is named for Evan Haynes, who was the lead researcher at the Laboratory for many years when it was part of NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service.

In commemoration of the event, Dick Wyland, Don Kashevaroff and Ray Highsmith were presented with ceremonial brass disks, which are the same as those used as survey marks. NOAA maintains a network of precisely located, permanently marked, in-the-ground survey marks to provide exact locations and elevations on the surface of the Earth. This kind of positional information provides the foundation for many human activities, such as finding where you are or where you are going, establishing property boundaries, for scientific and engineering applications such as constructing buildings and bridges, and to ensure the safe passage of ships. Since 1807, NOAA and its predecessor agencies have placed hundreds of thousands of these permanent survey marks or monuments throughout the United States. The Laboratory has a survey mark located in front of the new bunkhouse building.

It was a great celebration. Activities included fish painting for kids of all ages, tours of the facility, and a chance to build your own remotely operated vehicle (a water "robot") and then test it off the dock. Some creative robot designers even had their vehicles doing somersaults in the water. A great lunch for all was sponsored by I.M. Systems Group.



Attendance at the open house and ceremony was great!
Photo courtesy of Tom George

Information was provided on scientific research and education efforts in Kachemak Bay , including work at the Laboratory, by UAF and by the Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve.

Having a Laboratory of this caliber within eight miles of Seldovia should be a boon to all. They have educational classes and different research projects which could prove valuable to our citizenry. There are new dormitories, and the chance to work both in wet and dry laboratories as well as the surrounding waters. The Laboratory works with partners to host classes for school kids, as well as undergraduate and graduate students and is looking to increase educational opportunities for students from Seldovia and the other local communities. Students would take advantage of the proximity of this great resource, and utilize the opportunity to gain knowledge about our marine environment.



Kids had a great time too!

Photos courtesy of Kurt Byers

Thank you to the community for coming out to make this a successful event and a big thank you to the Kasitsna Bay Laboratory staff and crew for inviting us all out to help them celebrate!

City Council Meeting August 22 *by Tamara Blodgett*

The Seldovia City Council convened together to include the following members present: Tom Glover (Tele-conference), Walter McInnes, Allison Miller, and Gerry Patrick (Tele-conference). Keith Gain had an excused absence. Mayor Dick Wyland presided with City Clerk Ronda Haynes taking minutes and new City Manager Howard Davis in attendance.

Ordinance Introduction

Ordinance 08-03, Updating Title 17 Building Code Requirements

Action: Introduction postponed.

Old Business

Appointment of Council Member to Fill Vacant Seat

One letter of interest was received from Happy Schneider.

Action: None.

Cannery Feasibility Study and Business Plan

Michael L. Foster has submitted a letter to the City regarding two overdue payments. These payments reference monies owed for a final draft of the conceptual design for a building on the 'old cannery property.' The last draft received from MLF was a preliminary draft for conceptual designs (this draft that was received made several futuristic references to the "final" draft). To date, the City is not in receipt of the final draft. Barring receipt of this final draft, the City's stance of monetary obligation would be negated until such a time that the final draft was received and MLF's contractual commitment was resolved.

It was the consensus of the Council to direct the City Manager to send his compiled list of specific line items, which illustrate those things that contradict the erroneous billing.

Action: A certified, return receipt letter would be mailed immediately to include the above items.

Cannery Property Development

As per the workshop this past Saturday, many possibilities were discussed with an interested party(s) from France. Time is running short to submit a building of choice for this lot(s), which would take advantage of an available grant for building such a structure.

Mayor Wyland emphasized the need to move on this and asked that anyone interested from the Public speaks out and helps with whatever specific knowledge that would help in the selection process of the structure.

A member of the Public, *myself*, said that my husband, Dan Blodgett, had extensively "priced out" steel buildings (the building of choice), and knew the costs down to the "nut and bolt." Furthermore, it was my opinion that he would help, having done quite a bit of recent legwork in this area.

Action: None.

Ordinance 08-01, amending the Sundry Fees to Add an Annual Day Use Fee

Council was not familiar enough with this ordinance to go forward at this time. It was decided to postpone until the next regular meeting on September 12th.

Action: None.

Ordinance 08-02, establishing a Port Authority and placing on Ballot

This is exactly the same ordinance that was put on the ballot last year with one exception, all transport refers to ferry's. This effectively makes the port authority less "broad," and more specific.

This ordinance will appear on this year's ballot with the following terminology:

" Shall the City of Seldovia, in accordance with the Alaska Municipal Port Authority Act (AS 29.35.730), create a municipal port authority to be known as the Seldovia Port Authority having the purposes, powers, and other attributes of a local ferry system as set forth in Ordinance No. 08-02 of the City of Seldovia?"

A member of the Public, *Paul Pachulski*, wished to know if Jakolof Bay area would be included in the future port authority (?). The response from Haynes was that a vote of the people would be needed to add ports to the authority. Further, Haynes felt that a notification in simplified terms, prior to election, would greatly clarify 'port authority' and what it means for Seldovia. Council was in agreement.

Action: Adopt Ordinance 08-01 for October 2nd ballot.

New Business

Resolution 08-01, Election Judges Selection, Regular Municipal Election, October 2, 2007

It was the consensus of the Council that the list of judges that follows be approved:

Paulette Bokenko- Judge
Savannah Lewis- Chairwoman/Judge
Chris Oliveira- Alternate Judge
Mary Webber- Judge

Action: Approved unanimously.

Resolution 08-02, Notice of Election

The City Council vacant seat, propositions and referendums will all be voted on at this election, to include the new version of port authority for Seldovia.

Action: Approved unanimously.

Seldovia Area Ferry Service (possible executive session)

There will be a special meeting (executive session) on Tue. the 28th @ 7:30PM to discuss this subject at length when a full Council can be in attendance.

Seldovia Native Association CEO, Michael Beal, will be traveling to Seldovia to give an extensive presentation on the 19th of September.

Informational Items Not Requiring Actions

Vista grant writer, Jeanette Flint, has asked that she may work from her home in Anchor Point, as it is no longer cost-effective to reside here. She is willing to travel to Seldovia for periodical work-related visits.

The Council felt that a probationary period was prudent. Council is pleased that Ms. Flint was making the effort to continue the position while facing a challenge.

Action: Unanimous Council Consent for Ms. Flint's request predicated on probationary period.

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

Councilman Glover wished to publicly thank City Clerk Ronda Haynes, and Assistant City Clerk Mary Klinger for their hard work in the two months <plus> that the City Manager position was open. The remaining Council body echoed Glover's sentiments.

Next Meeting September 12, 2007 .
Adjournment: Time elapsed: app. 59 minutes.

Special Notices . . .

Boys & Girls Club Update

People have already started dropping off items, both big and small, for our Boys & Girls Club yard sale. If you have any items that you would like to donate (items you feel others will actually want to buy!), feel free to bring them by the Clubhouse. Proceeds from the sale will help us provide continuing activities for the youth of Seldovia.

Our regular schedule starts back up on Monday, August 27th, with the Clubhouse open Monday – Friday from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. Pottery will run on Mondays from 3:30 – 5:30 p.m., with Teen Open Gym on Tuesday nights from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

School is off and running, but please note that Power Hour will not be starting until Tuesday, September 4th, due to staff scheduling conflicts. Once started, Power Hour will start immediately after school and run until 5:15 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays.

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

Tidbits . . .

Combat fishing in Seldovia gets interesting sometimes . . .



City Manager's Corner

by Howard Davis

City Managers Report (period covering August 13 through August 22)

I have been reviewing the following:

- * The three presentations for the update of our water and sewer system, especially the one from CRW.
- * The 2006 short version of the plan to form the Seldovia Port Authority.
- * The plans for the Marine Industrial Site.

Other areas covered:

* I am requesting the City Councils support in hiring Mavis Owens in a temporary part time position for Records Management. I believe there are funds available due to the City Manager position being open June 1st through August 13th as well as the open maintenance position since the first week of July. Mavis knowledge of the filing system will help to relieve the burden currently on the City Offices.

* We received a letter from Michael L. Foster regarding payment of two past due invoices one dated May 29, 2007 for the sum of \$9,000.00 and the other July 12, 2007 for the sum of \$3,000.00. Mr. Foster was adamant about immediate payment in full by August 17, 2007 or it would be turned over to his attorney for collection. I believe that we can prove that the Plans submitted by MLFA are indeed DRAFT Plans and we will be taking action to notify MLF of your position on this matter.

* There was a meeting between Michael Adams with Pacific Marine Technical Services (PMTS), Dick Wyland and Howard Davis on Friday August 17, 2007. Michael is a consultant for SVT and wanted to leave a copy of the first draft for the High-speed Ferry with us. The meeting lasted from approximately 4:45 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. There is a presentation of this draft in Homer on September 18 and here in Seldovia on September 19.

* Researched Steel Building Manufacturers and contacted two requesting quotes. Other manufacturers were reviewed and found to be unsatisfactory due to their Quonset hut designs.

* I met briefly with Ron Brown, Project Manager for AIDEA and he tells me

that the project is going well and that we should see some fuel pumping into the new tanks around mid September.

* Ron Brown has also agreed to send one of his mechanics over to perform maintenance on our equipment that they have been using throughout the construction of the new tank farm.

* A Memo was sent with the pay checks to all City Union Workers as a reminder that no overtime is to be worked without prior approval by the City Manager or his designated representative.

* One application for the position of "Fire Administrator" and several applications for the position of "Maintenance/Equipment Operator/Public Works" have been received. A decision will be made this week.

* Jeanette Flint, our VISTA Grant Writer has requested that she be able to work from her home in Anchor Point. She has checked with her supervisor and according to the VISTA rules it is admissible for her to work out of her home as long as we do not have a problem with it. It is my opinion that this is an acceptable working relationship. The reason she has made this request is because a recent rent increase has placed her in a negative cash flow situation and they own land in Anchor Point. She stated that if it were necessary for her to attend a meeting she would gladly fly over and also that a trial period would be acceptable.

* I have made it a point to get out, when possible, to meet as many of the City Employees and Business Owners as possible, there are still a few to go. I believe it is important to meet with everyone and let them know who I am and what I am about, my expectations, my style. It is equally important that I begin to learn what they are about and their expectations, ideas and concerns.

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

>> Repeat Story <<

The following is activity that occurred, or was reported, since the last report on 8/2/07.

Further investigation into a roll over accident in the Jakolof Bay area resulted in a man being charged with "Negligent Driving", "Failure to Report an Accident" and "Driving Without a License". Arraignment will be in the Homer Court on 8/21/07 at 0900 hours.

A speeding 4-wheeler was stopped and a verbal warning was given.

A man shot a bear that was in his van. The "Defense of Life or Property" (DLP) paperwork was given to the man and will be forwarded to the Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game. (ADFG)

A bear was reported to enter an entryway to a residence and consume the fresh fruit that was stored in that location.

Police were called to the Landfill on two separate occasions when bears were reluctant to leave the area.

A bear was reportedly on the porch of a local residence in the East Addition.

A citizen's fingerprints were rolled at her request, for employment purposes.

Police were notified of a Civil Dispute regarding property matters and will only respond to keep the peace, if needed.

A person was reportedly putting feed out for bears. Investigation revealed halibut had been discarded on the roadway in front of the Suspect's home. It was gathered as evidence and the matter was referred to the Alaska Bureau of Wildlife Enforcement. (ABWE)

The door to a vacant shop was reported open and investigation revealed no forced entry. The wind is thought to have blown the door open.

Following a concerned citizen's report Police did a security check on a local vacant residence. No signs of forced entry were found.

A property owner requested vehicles parked on the roadway across from his property be removed so the roadway could be brought back to its original position. A letter was sent to the owner's of the vehicles and requests made for their removal. Reluctance to remove the vehicles will result in further actions by the Police.

A concerned citizen reported an open door to a residence in the Barabara Heights Subdivision. An investigation revealed the door had been left open by mistake by the owner.

Police responded and unlocked a vehicle that was running with the keys locked inside.

Police located the doctor following a request by relatives after an 11 year old boy received a laceration to his leg.

In excess of \$200 was reportedly lost on Wednesday, 8/8/07, and it was housed in a manila envelope. If found please call the Police Department.

Money was found in the SBE School area. If you can identify the amount you lost, call the Police.

A cell phone was found in the SBE School area and, upon its being turned in to the Police, the owner was located and the phone was returned.

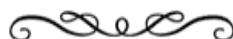
A black bear that entered a residence on three separate occasions was shot and killed by the occupant. DLP paperwork was filled out and the bear skull and hide was sent to ADFG.

The keys were locked in a vehicle that was blocking the gas pumps. Police responded and were successful in opening the door to the vehicle.

Sometime since the last of June a boat in the boat harbor was forcibly entered and a number of items were taken including a weapon and ammunition.

A resident of the Barabara Heights Subdivision reported wood stolen from her property within the last two weeks. A chainsaw was reportedly used to cut up the wood prior to its being removed from the property.

Since last report Police have Notarized 8 documents and responded to 3 requests for assistance.





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