



Seldovia Gazette

Serving Seldovia, Alaska and Kachemak Bay southeast

Seldovia, AK

43 °F / 6 °C

Overcast
at 8:10 PM



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Thursday, Nov. 1, 2007

Just another day in paradise

Vol. 3, No. 44, November 1, 2007

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Opinions



- ▶ Letters to the Editor
- None this week
- ▶ Forum
- None currently

Spotlight

- ▶ Sharon Schamp, L.M.T. - Seldovia gets a massage expert!

SBE Sea Otters Sports Updates



Don't miss the sports updates on the school page this week!

Volleyball,
Wrestling and
Basketball



Don't forget to turn you clock BACK 1 hour on Sunday mourning, November 4. The Daylight Saving Time dates are different starting this year: it is now the 1st Sunday in November to turn back and the 2nd Sunday in March to turn forward.

Top Stories

Halloween Seldovia Style

Goblins, ghosts, Power Rangers and hippies stalked the streets of Seldovia Thursday night and bagged plunder and goodies by the pound . . . the dentists of Alaska will be rejoicing in the morning!



Although weather was pretty nasty at times, the turnout was great . . . we had over 50 kids show up at our home between 600pm and 900pm.

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 reporters Katie O'Leary and Rochelle Purpura - 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



Seldovia Bible Chapel sponsored a Harvest Party early in the evening where the kids enjoyed games and good eats.



Seldovia's Webcam Network Gets a New Addition

by Tom Glover

Thanks to Corky and Carole Myers of the [Alaska TreeTops Lodge](#), Seldovia has a new webcam and it's a beauty. The camera is pointing northwest, off the back

- [▶ Halloween Carnival](#)
- [▶ July 4 Festival](#)
- [▶ Craft Invitational Chainsaw Carving Contest - May](#)
- [▶ SBE Graduation - May](#)
- [▶ Seldovia Lodge Fire](#)
- [▶ SBE Prom - "Casino Royale 007"](#)
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- [▶ 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](#)
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- [▶ SBE Christmas Play](#)

deck of their lodge, and captures a scenic view of Elephant Rock, Hoen's Lagoon, Naskowhak Point, the mouth of Seldovia Bay, and Mt. Iliamna (across Cook Inlet). Mt. Iliamna is not visible in the sample photo below due to clouds.



Seldovia Bay webcam at the Myers Alaska TreeTops Lodge
 Click image to view full size. Click image to view an annotated sample photo; [click here to view the live image.](#)

The camera is a new generation NetCam XL 1.3 megapixel with auto-iris and produces a beautiful 1280x960 pixel image (if you have your monitor set to 800x600, that's 1.6 times the width of your screen.) The image is updated every 20 seconds and the auto-iris allows the camera to shoot good pictures in relatively low light.



Alaska TreeTops Lodge, Seldovia, Alaska

The AirportCam, which has been off-line for over a year, will finally be back in service next week if the new installation goes as planned. A big thank you to Kevin and Valerie Morin of the [Bridgekeeper's Inn B&B](#) for providing the camera and Joe and Carla Fleckenstein for allowing us to place the camera in a much better location than before and at a much higher elevation. The image will be much larger than the prior camera and update every 20 seconds.

We are also pleased to report that we have discovered three nice webcams in the Homer area. Two of the webcams have a good view of the Homer Spit and the third location (which is actually a set of 8 smaller cameras) covers Argus beach, just west of the Homer Spit. The better of the two Spit cameras is run by Hallo Bay and produces an image that is good enough to identify when the ferry is at the Homer Terminal (see the sample image below).

Homer Webcams

[▶ 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!**


CLICK

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](#)

[\(Click image to view sample image\)](#)
[\(Click text link to view live image\)](#)

		
Spit Camera 1	Spit Camera 2	Argus Beach

Links to all six Seldovia webcams and the three Homer webcams can always be easily reached on Seldovia.com in the area just below the Sneak Peeks. [Click here to see the location on Seldovia.com](#)

Chamber of Commerce Meeting November 1

by Mary Glover



The Seldovia Chamber of Commerce met for its monthly meeting today at the Tide Pool Cafe. The meeting was chaired by Chamber President Darlene Crawford. Sharon Schamp was invited to attend as a guest and she was welcomed by the group. The business of the day included:

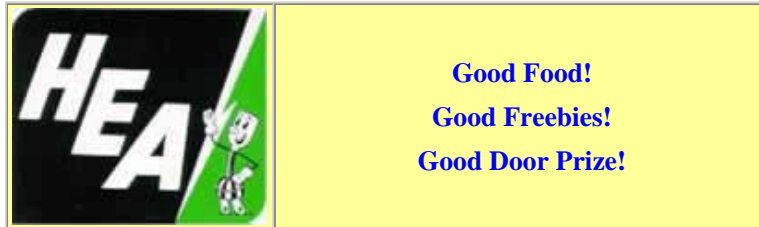
- Approval of display ad for The Milepost, 60th anniversary edition in 2008.
- Mail was received from the Homer Chamber thanking the Seldovia Chamber for the FAM Trip which they greatly enjoyed on September 30th. The Homer B&B Association also sent a letter of thanks along with a \$50 donation to the Seldovia Chamber for their appreciation for the FAM Trip.
- Chamber body decided to postpone printing a new cookbook until the supply of the existing Seldovia Chamber Cookbook has been depleted. Joni Reynertson will continue to collect recipes as about 200 more are needed. (If anyone would like one of these older cookbooks, they sell for \$15.99 and you can get one at Herring Bay Mercantile, Main Street Market, Alaska Tribal Cache or Yesterday's.) This older cookbook has many recipes from many great cooks who are no longer in Seldovia and many of the recipes are not found in other cookbooks.
- Discussion and action to make a framed picture showing Seldovia Chamber member status for all the members in 2008. Mary Glover and Joni Reynertson will be working on this project.

- Decision to hold the Christmas Lighting Contest and fund the business category with a prize of \$150. HEA will donate \$300 credit on HEA bill to the winner of residential Christmas display.
- Discussion about decorating and fixing the lights on the Christmas tree outside the Medical Clinic in preparation for the Christmas season.
- Decision not to have a monthly meeting in December. The Chamber may plan a Christmas party or caroling time which will be announced at a later date.
- Announcement by President Darlene Crawford: Businesses will receive from the federal government a survey of economic census forms in December. Response time is February 12, 2008. Purpose: "To understand the American economy and tell us how we are changing as a nation."

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned before 1:00 PM.

HEA Member Appreciation Luncheon

by Tamara Blodgett



HEA "appreciates" it's members with food, updates and more...

Thirty-six people from the community showed up for the annual Homer Electric Association Member Appreciation Luncheon. Joe Gallagher, HEA Public Relations Coordinator, was happy to see the turnout, which is a good indicator of public interest in utilities. With a more pro-active and aware public, the luncheon and the innovative ideas discussed could not have come at a better time. HEA conducted a recent three hundred-member phone survey in which random members were selected. The main gist of the survey was the willingness of members to pay more money for alternative energy sources such as solar, wind and geothermal. HEA is actively exploring the possibility of sources that are non-traditional. The possibility of using renewable energy would be more costly, especially in the short term. Undaunted by a cost that could be up to 10% more than current rates, three out of four members were willing to give it a try.



HEA personnel, left to right: George Nathan (HEA pilot), Brian Hirsch (HEA Board), Don Seelinger (HEA Board), Dick Wyland (Mayor of Seldovia, not HEA), Bob Day (Power Production supervisor), Gerry Willard (HEA in Seldovia), Don Smith (Director of Distribution Engineering and Operations), David Carey (HEA President), Brad Janorschke (HEA General Manager), Sandra Ghormley (Manager of member services), Joe Gallagher (HEA Public Relations), Melissa Carlin (staff journalist)

Willing but frugally supportive...

However, cost *does* matter, as the survey proved. Although members were willing to pay that 10% more, support stalled with a higher rate increase. Members also wish to make strides on their own to save money on their current electric bills with seventy-five percent ranking that as “very important.” Florescent bulbs were given out by HEA as incentive to change out incandescent, a big “energy sucker.” As HEA Board President and Soldotna Mayor Dave Carey said, “The number one goal for HEA is to provide the most reliable, least expensive electricity to members.” With that in mind, there is a fine balance between beginning to utilize renewables while making it cost effective enough for the membership. Carey said that HEA is committed to developing a plan that supports this goal.

HEA invests money in its remote locales...

Over the last couple of years, HEA has been steadily upgrading its services in remote regions like Seldovia, providing more reliable service. Lines, staff and facilities have seen improvements, which Carey says shows in the steady expediential increase in service quality. HEA’s commitment to the bush cannot be disputed either. When a power outage occurred around last Christmas a helicopter was brought in where line workers rappelled out of the chopper to repair fallen lines and restore power! Usually, restoring power is not so extreme, but good to know that when they going gets tough, HEA comes through.

What is electricity’s future...?

HEA’s contract with Chugach Electrical Association is set to expire in the year 2013. Although that seems like a long time away, in reality, it is just around the corner as utilities go. Currently, HEA buys its power from Chugach. HEA is entertaining other options for the future. It is certainly feasible for HEA to renegotiate for a new contract with Chugach at that time or become it’s own power plant provider thereby eliminating the “middle man.” HEA may also be interested in investing in power plants that use coal to minimize rate increases. With this contract’s impending expiration in 2013, HEA continues to anticipate the need for change, possible augmentation or transfer to renewables, as it’s

overall strategy in offering inexpensive electricity for its members.

Congratulations to Rod Hiltz, who won the door prize with a fifty-dollar credit towards his electric bill!

City Council Special Meeting November 1

by Tamara Blodgett

The Seldovia City Council convened together to include the following members present: John Carluccio, Keith Gain, Tom Glover, Walter McInnes, Allison Miller and Gerry Patrick. City Manager Howard Davis was in attendance with Mayor Dick Wyland presiding and Assistant City Clerk Mary Klinger taking minutes.

Old Business

Council members Gain and Miller were sworn in before Council for their newly elected term.

New Business

Appointing the Board of Directors for the Port Authority

Through Council discussion it was determined that appointing Board members for Port Authority was a priority for the meeting. The intent to nominate had been posted pursuant to Ordinance 08-02, Section 10, item 1, at the last regular meeting as well as posting for this special meeting. Acting on that criterion, Mayor Wyland nominated four council members as follows: Carluccio, Gain, McInnes and Patrick. A member of the Public, *Tim Dillon* was also nominated.

Council felt Dillon's appointment to the board was beneficial due to his interest in the Port Authority coupled with his construction expertise. A motion was made to appoint the five nominated individuals.

Action: Approved unanimously.

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

Mayor Wyland welcomed newly elected Council members to their new appointments on the Port Authority. Wyland congratulated Council members' Gain and Miller on their new terms on Council.

Next Regular Meeting: November 14, 2007

Adjournment: Time elapsed approximately 30 minutes.

Rep. Paul Seaton Newsletter October

Greetings from Juneau! The first week of the special session we were again in education mode; trying to understand the way the net Petroleum Production Tax (PPT) has performed. Sunday evening the House Oil and Gas committee passed out a version of the Governor's bill which modifies some of the original provisions and leaves other provisions out. The intent is to allow further

committees to address those provisions in the limited time each committee has during the special session. I am sure the tax rates and deductions will be addressed in the House Resources Committee, of which I am a member.

[Click here to read the complete Newsletter](#)

Sen. Gary Stevens Interim Report October

Greetings from Juneau, where the Legislature is deeply immersed in the Special Session to consider the Governor's proposed Alaska's Clear and Equitable Share (ACES) legislation. As you may know, this legislation is intended to replace the Petroleum Production Tax (PPT) enacted last year.

ACES is billed as a hybrid of a gross and net tax system. It includes a minimum 10 percent tax based on gross receipts for the North Slope's legacy fields, and a 25 percent net tax to encourage new development and reinvestment in existing infrastructure. ACES will also allow for tax credits on future work. It restricts capital expense deductions to scheduled maintenance and implements strong audit and information sharing provisions.

As the ACES bill works its way through Senate and House committees, we are getting the perspectives of the administration, which seeks to raise the state's tax rate, oil companies, which are asking us to leave the current system in place, and several members of the public, who are testifying both for and against ACES.

It's still too early to predict ACES' future, and with nearly weeks to go in the Special Session, anything is possible. Hopefully, any legislation we pass will maximize Alaska's share of the oil wealth, while encouraging future development our resources.

Thanks to all who have contacted me regarding this critical issue. Your input is always welcome.

[Click here to read the complete Newsletter](#)

Special Notices . . .

Boys & Girls Club Update

It is time for our annual membership drive. All Boys & Girls Club parents are asked to fill out new membership forms for 2008 as soon as possible once you receive the forms in the mail. Get your forms in before the end of the month and your family will be entered in a drawing to win a party at the Boys & Girls Club. You pick the date; we'll provide the place and the fun. Membership is only \$20 per child and at the Seldovia Boys & Girls Club members can participate in approximately 1,800 hours of programming a year, with an average of more than 100 programs or activities a month, including Clubhouse, Pottery, Teen Open Gym, Power Hour, SMART Moves, I Can Problem Solve, Karate, and Music Lessons.

The Clubhouse is also available for community members, organizations and businesses to use throughout the year. The Seldovia Village Tribe's Prevention Program runs a Teen Movie Night weekly, and the Chamber of Commerce has

held meetings in the Clubhouse as well. Your business is invited to contact Unit Director Laurel Hilts to arrange for meetings or events utilizing both the facility and all of the fun things inside. Community members can also use the building for birthday parties, family and friends events, and more.

Did you know that our computers are also available for the community and folks traveling through town? During the summer, we are visited by people from out of the area looking for a stopping spot to use the computer and connect with people back home. The Kachemak Bay Campus of UAA is also currently using our computers for students testing for their GED's. If there is a way that the Boys & Girls Club can help you or your business, please let us know.

Program Highlight: Dede Higman faithfully runs the Club's Pottery Program. Each Monday afternoon, members make their way to the school's shop building to work on their pieces of art. Dede sells the clay for only \$1 a pound, and the Boys & Girls Club provides the glazes, while the Susan B. English School provides the facility use. Each week, many new creations come out of the building and make their way in to homes around the community, or get sent off as presents wherever the mail takes them. Dede also runs a Wednesday night adult pottery time, but invites kids to come if they have a project they are working on that has a pressing need to be done. Club member Amanda G. recently showed a piece of her pottery at the Pratt Museum in Homer in a show featuring Seldovia artists. Many thanks to Dede Higman for all her work making great things happen for Seldovia's children.

Clubhouse Hours: Mondays – Fridays from 3-6 p.m.
 Power Hour: Mondays – Thursdays from 3:15 – 5:15 p.m.
 Pottery: Mondays from 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.
 Teen Open Gym: Tuesdays from 7-9 p.m.

Karate Classes:

Beginners – Tuesdays & Thursdays from 5-6:30 p.m.
 or Wednesdays & Fridays from 6:30-7:30 p.m.
 Intermediate – Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays from 5-6:30 p.m. **Music**

Lessons:

Bass Guitar - Saturdays at 11:30 a.m.
 Electric Guitar – Saturdays at 12:00 p.m.
 Acoustic Guitar – Saturdays at 12:30 p.m.
 Drums – Saturdays from 1:00 – 6:00 p.m.

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

Tidbits . . .

If you missed the concert on Tuesday night . . . you missed a great one! The Throat Singers from Tuva, Russia entertained an enthusiastic Seldovian crowd with some of the most unusual music we've ever heard. Last concert for the season folks, see you next year . . . the Seldovia Arts Council would like to thank everyone for their support this year!



City Manager's Corner

by Howard Davis

>> Repeat Story <<

City Manager's Report 10/09/07 to 10/24/07

DOT: Howard and Manfred met with Carl High and George Oliveira to discuss state and city rolls in road maintenance. Points of discussion follow:

1. State will sand city streets for this winter only. City will need to locate a sanding unit (pickup truck type about \$3,000) for 2008/2009 and on.
2. City will assist in stockpiling winter sand and gravel during summer for up to 120 hours.
3. New DOT building is planned for 2008. If this schedule holds the city will need to pump their sewage until the water and sewer lines are run to the airport.
4. City will assist in the cleaning of the storm drains every 3 years

beginning 2008.

5. DOT presently has no funding to supply calcium chloride.
6. State will assist the city in any way they can i.e., equipment use, DPW training, equipment procurement, operator assistance, etc.

Denali Commission: Contact was made with Mike McKinnon to clarify use of \$454,000 Grant funding. Final confirmation is planned for 10/29/07.

AIDEA/AEA: Contacted Ron Brown he is sending a mechanic to service and repair our equipment (Backhoe and Loader) as soon as we can get him a list of parts, fluids and filters together for each unit.

Jerry Willard Complaint: Regarding a broken cement pad on his property and the possible movement or covering of his property corner markers has been passed on to Ron Brown who will be looking into Mr. Willard's complaints.

Alaska Training/Technical Assistance Center: Is offering a reimbursement program for Small Water System Operator Training. (See through down packet).

Small Boat harbor Pilings: Contact has been made with Richards Pipe who have supplied information indicating that they were the organization who cut, welded and sealed the joints on the pilings in question. On going conversation is taking place as to what steps will be taken and by who to correct our problem. Photos of some of the pilings have been emailed to Steve Richards for review and comment.

Waterfront Marine Industrial Center: The draft drawing for the new downsized (cannery lot) city building (funded by EDA) has been sent to Arctic Structures, Steel Master and Rockford Steel Buildings for cost estimates more in line with the \$500,000 max grant available to the city.

Husky II: Payment of past-due mooring fees and removal from the Small Boat Harbor is progressing.

1. Phone Number, email and address for Larry Poffenroth have been obtained.
2. The Harbor Master will be instructed to pursue derelict vessel declaration, as soon as she returns from vacation, if Mr. Poffenroth does not follow through with his commitments to the city as well as remove the vessel from our waters.
3. A report to John P. Backus, US Coast Guard, has been sent informing them of the Husky II current condition and owner's latest information.
4. We need to locate someone qualified to determine if the Husky II is properly tied up. If it is not properly tied up and we can show that it is a danger to our docks and other ships in our harbor, the US Coast Guard may be able to remove it.

Abandoned Vehicles: Discussions with Carl High and George Oliveira produced their plan to remove abandoned vehicles from the airport long term parking area by utilizing the Kenai Borough's program of seizing and crushing abandoned vehicles having them crushed and sold to a scrap metal company. It was suggested that the City could also utilize this program to clean up our streets and lots.

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

The following report covers Police related activities from October 18th through

October 31st.

- Police investigated the death of Todd Jackson after he was found deceased in his home on October 18th. Our condolences to Todd's family and friends. He will be missed by all of us.
- A verbal warning was given to a teenager after evidence of his driving his 4-wheeler erratically on Jakolof Bay Road was observed.
- A man reported his vehicle had received damage to the rear tail light assembly while it was parked at the Seldovia Airport. Observations led the complainant to believe it was vandalism.
- A man reported the theft of approximately 200 gallons of furnace oil which constitutes a theft in excess of \$500.00. Any theft in excess of \$500.00 is charged under Felony Theft Statutes.
- A suspicious person was observed in the area of a residence on Jakolof Bay Road. Police checked the residence and found no evidence of forced entry or any damage to the property.
- Police responded to assist the EMT's on a call and attempted to locate the Doctor. After he could not be located the patient was flown to Homer to the South Peninsula Hospital.
- A man called reporting a dog that was running at large was hanging out in their area and chasing their dog. They asked that the owner be notified and be asked to keep his dog up. The Police contacted the owner and told him of the problem.
- Police assisted in the moving of one boat from the boat haul out facility to private property and assisted in removing another boat from the water and onto blocking in the boat storage yard.
- A large bear has been terrorizing the community and has been the subject of numerous phone calls and responses by the Police. We are continuing to respond to the calls but on most occasions the bear has gone by the time Police arrive. The bear has an injured right front leg and could possibly be a threat. It has been determined the bear will be put down when it can be done safely. Please continue to call and notify the Police with any sightings.

[Editors Note: Andy Anderson notified us late Thursday that the bear did have to be put down late Thursday. He had a bad infection on the bottom of his right foot and the hair on his leg was falling off because of it. Seldovia PD will be sending the bear to the Fish & Game to see if they can determine anything.]

- Police were called to a roll over accident on Jakolof Bay Road when a vehicle traveling toward town had rolled over onto its top after the operator lost control following his rounding a corner. The driver was complaining of nausea and a head ache and was transported to the doctor's office by the Police where he was treated and released. Citations for "Basic Speed" and "Failure to Wear a Seatbelt" were issued. The vehicle, with the assistance of the Department of Transportation, was turned back on its wheels and transported to a residence where it was no longer a traffic hazard. An accident report was filed with the State of Alaska. (A Basic Speed violation is defined as traveling too fast for road conditions regardless of the posted speed limit.)
- An oyster farmer in Jakolof Bay reported the theft of oysters and gear from his farm. He has repeatedly lost product but this is the first time he has found his gear missing. The theft is reportedly in excess of \$500.00 which makes this a Felony Theft. The complainant asked that anyone in the area that observes suspicious activity on or around the farms report it to the Police at their earliest convenience.
- Police contacted a local resident who was sleeping in his vehicle after having had an argument with his wife. The man had driven out of town to a secluded area. He admitted to having consumed alcohol but passed the tests administered by the Police reference Driving Under the Influence. Due to his having consumed alcohol he was given a ride back

into town so he would not continue to drive after he had been drinking. No further action taken by the Police.

- The Police received a Subpoena from the Alaska State Troopers and served it on a man employed locally.
- Police investigated a second roll over accident on Jakolof Bay Road after the driver of the vehicle reported it the morning following the accident. The driver and passenger were both injured in the accident. The driver injured his ankle while the passenger received trauma to her head, right hand and left forearm. Citations were given to the driver for “Basic Speed” and “Failure to Wear a Seatbelt” and to the passenger for “Failure to Wear a Seatbelt”. The vehicle rolled completely over coming back to rest on its wheels and off the roadway so no traffic hazard existed.
- Since last report the Police have Notarized 9 documents and responded to 3 calls for assistance.

Bear calls continue to come in and to date a bear has been in three buildings, one being a garage and two times inside a cabin. Please continue to report any sightings as soon as possible to the Police. **Call 911 if a threat exists. If you need to contact the Seldovia Police and it is not an immediate emergency please call the Homer Police Dispatch at 235-3150.** Homer Dispatch can locate the Seldovia Police in a number of different ways and most probably faster than the caller can.

