



Seldovia Gazette

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Thursday, Nov. 22, 2007

Just another day in paradise

Vol. 3, No. 47, November 22, 2007

- Local News
- Calendar
- Opinions
- Spotlight
- School
- Classifieds
- Archives
- Seldovia.com
- Gazette Services

[Corrections](#) | [Recent Page and Photo Archive](#) | [This page in Large Print](#) |

Headlines

- ▶ [Modernized Thanksgiving](#)
- ▶ [Holiday Safety Tips](#)
- ▶ [Special notices . . . - Boys & Girls Club](#)
- ▶ [Tidbits . . .](#)
- ▶ [City Manager's Corner](#)
- ▶ [Seldovia Police Report](#)

Opinions



- ▶ [Letters to the Editor - None this week](#)
- ▶ [Forum - None currently](#)

Spotlight

School

- ▶ [Susan B English School by school reporters Katie O'Leary and Rochelle Purpura - Click here](#)



PhotoStory
Halloween Carnival 2007
[Click here to view](#)

Top Stories

Modernized Thanksgiving

by Tamara Blodgett

A reason to be even more thankful...

In thinking about what to be thankful for this Thanksgiving holiday an immediate answer would have to be food. The first Thanksgiving in 1621 followed the first shared plenty between the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag Indians, descendants of the Iroquois. After a year of starvation and a huge hunting/gathering learning curve, the Pilgrims were able to realize the "fruits" of their labors(dried berries would have been available). Some traditional things were offered on this unique menu such as turkey and potatoes but other choices were simply not available. A sampling of our can't-live-without items that were not available for the feast in 1621 were: Ham (pigs were most likely not transported on the Mayflower), sweet potatoes (not yet introduced to the New England population), Corn on the cob (Indian corn was available and used in cornmeal), Popcorn (half-popped), cranberry sauce (sugar unavailable) and pumpkin pie (although a "pudding" of sorts would have been offered and <sin! > without pastry of whipped cream!). Obviously, as Thanksgiving evolved, food items became more widely available and were introduced over time that have now become tradition. Can anyone get through Thanksgiving without Pumpkin pie?

An "improved" tradition...

To be sure Abraham Lincoln probably never envisioned Thanksgiving blossoming into what it's become when declaring it a national holiday in 1863. Sporadic observance had preceded his declaration. In 1777, thirteen colonies celebrated together for the first time. This was a one- time event, which happened again when George Washington declared it a National Day in 1789. Lincoln chose Thanksgiving's celebration for the last Thursday of the month (depending on the calendar that would sometimes be the fifth Thursday). It is conjectured that the original holiday was celebrated in early October. However, in 1939, President Franklin Roosevelt moved the holiday to the fourth Thursday of the month to extend the Christmas shopping season. In this respect, Thanksgiving is a "new" holiday with old roots.

Marketplace



Jenny Chissus
234-8000

Your Seldovia Connection

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Kachemak Bay Online Mall

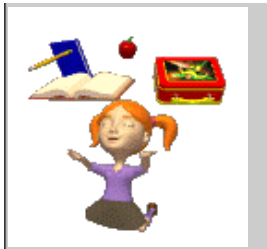


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 Help keep sports and academic travel programs alive for our school!



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



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

▶ [Halloween Carnival](#)

▶ [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

▶ [Archive of all pages](#)

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

▶ [Seldovia Summer Visitor Newspaper 2006](#)

Tradition carries on with 280 million turkeys sold for Thanksgiving (the word "turkey" used to mean any wild fowl, but now only means this type of bird) with twenty percent of all cranberries being consumed on Thanksgiving. While fifty percent of Americans place their stuffing inside the bird, another forty million enjoy green bean casseroles. To say nothing of the Pecan, Apple and Pumpkin pies now typically served on the laden holiday table. A far cry from an era when an adopted Wampanoag Indian named Squanto almost single-handedly saved the Pilgrims from starvation to the following year's enjoyment of the first feast. The preceding year saw new Pilgrims continuing to arrive, rations of only five kernels of corn were given to each person per day. At the celebrated feast the next year, with ample bounty, that same meal was given for the first course, in remembrance. Being thankful is simplistic, food, hearth and home, the perfect elements of Thanksgiving.

Special Notices . . .

Boys & Girls Club Update

Don't forget that Sevea offers art classes on Thursday afternoons from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. at the Clubhouse to all members. This month, she is teaching a unit on drawing dinosaurs. Last week it was the Parasaurolophus and the Velociraptor, this week it will be the Pteranodon and the Segnosaurus – yes, extra bonus points if you can pronounce any of those names. Be looking for upcoming information of a National Fine Arts Competition for the Boys & Girls Club of America. Those art skills will come in handy.

Did you know that SVT's Play Group preschoolers visit the Clubhouse on Wednesday afternoons from 2:00 – 3:00 for a chance to be a "big kid?" The children play with the toys in the Club, spend time drawing or doing a craft, and have a little snack before heading on their way.

We greatly appreciate the continued support of the Seldovia Village Tribe in all our programming. Thanks for being there for Seldovia's kids.

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
lilts@positiveplaceforkids.com

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

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

Classified Rates

▶ [Instructions and rate sheet](#)



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Tidbits . . .

We have much to be thankful for . . .

Turkey

City Manager's Corner

by Howard Davis

No Report this week

Seldovia Police Report

by A.W. Anderson, Seldovia PD

HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

It's the holiday season again and some of us will be traveling out of Seldovia and shopping in the larger stores and malls. You may be sending your children to visit relatives over the holidays. There are a number of things we should consider during these visits and shopping trips. Many times we overlook some very important measures that should be taken.

When shopping in the large stores or malls with our children it is important to consider the following safety tips:

- Require the children to stay with you at all times when shopping.
 - The children should always check with you, or the person in charge, before going anywhere.
- Accompany and supervise the children in public facilities and accompany them to the restroom.
 - Many pedophiles lurk around restrooms and in public facilities awaiting opportunities to approach a child.
- Have a plan in place in case you do become separated, including a pre-designated spot to meet.
 - Have the older children meet you at a pre-designated spot at a given time.
 - If younger children get separated they should seek out help within the store. Tell them to contact a uniformed Officer, Security Officer, a salesperson with a nametag, the person at an information booth or a mother with children. Make the shopping

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have large print versions
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site.

Corrections

▶ [None this week](#)

trip an opportunity for your children to practice “safe shopping” skills.

- Tell the child never to leave the store for any reason without you and that includes going to the car.

NEVER

- Never dress children in clothes that display their first or last names.
 - This could prompt unwelcome attention from people looking for an opportunity to start a conversation with your child.
- Never leave children in toy stores or public facilities expecting supervision from store personnel.
 - This includes video game rooms, theaters or playgrounds.
- Never go shopping or attend a public event if you feel you’re going to be distracted. Make other arrangements for child care ahead of time.
- Never allow younger children to shop on their own even to purchase surprise gifts for friends or family members.
 - Perhaps an older sibling or family friend could accompany them.
- Never drop off older children at a mall or public place without agreeing on a clear plan for picking them up, including where, what time, and what to do in case of a change in plans and always leave a contact number with them where you can be reached. A good practice is to have them take a friend or sibling with them to the mall, theater or game room.

If your child is traveling on an airplane alone during this holiday season we urge you to take certain precautions to insure your child has a pleasant experience. Appropriate planning with the airline from start to finish is the best “in-flight insurance” to avoid an unpleasant travel experience for your children.

To assist you in this process, it helps to know that there are some consistencies among domestic air carriers. For instance, “unaccompanied minor” is the term airlines use to refer to children younger than 18 years of age who are not traveling with an adult. All airlines require a child to be 5 years of age or older to travel unaccompanied by an adult. If the flight is not a direct flight the airlines will not allow a child under 8 years old to fly unaccompanied. For a fee the airlines will see that a child is accompanied to a connecting flight if it is not a direct flight. Most airlines allow children 12 years of age or older to fly unaccompanied.

The following rules will help make the flying experience for your child safer and more fun for years to come.

- When you make reservations for your child, specify that the child will be traveling alone.
- Whenever possible, book a direct flight or route. Avoid booking the last flight of the day.
 - Ask for a written copy of the airline’s policies and procedures for children traveling alone, and review them with your child.
- Plan to visit the airport prior to departure.
 - Let your child know what to expect, so the experience will not be so intimidating. Take a tour of the gate area, introduce the child to some of the people working for the airline and explain the basics of the flying experience. Make sure your child knows to follow all the rules and cabin procedures explained by the flight attendant.
- Inquire as to in flight meals to insure your child will enjoy the food. Also pack a healthy, “non-messy” snack for the trip.
- Try to reserve a bulkhead seat so your child can better relax and airline

personnel can more easily check on him or her.

- Remain with your child at the gate until the plane departs, in case there is a delay or cancellation.
 - Your child will be a lot more comfortable while waiting with you present. If a cancellation would occur you would be there to make alternative arrangements.
- Make sure children travel with proper identification and contact information for parents or guardians.
- Always have a back-up plan for the person or people meeting the child at his/her destination, in case they are delayed.
 - Make those persons meeting the child aware of the airlines requirement that they show proof of identity with photo identification and insure your child knows who is meeting him or her and does not leave with anyone else regardless of their explanations.
- Encourage children not to become too friendly with other passengers or to reveal any personal information.
 - Caution your child not to reveal any personal information about him/her to other passengers.
- Dress your child comfortably in layered clothing so he/she may adjust to various cabin temperatures. A change of clothing is also a good idea. Also give your child some spending money, including coins, in case of an emergency and they have to use the pay phone.
- Your child should have a carry-on piece of luggage or a backpack to hold essentials such as identification, medications, reading materials and games. Children may use hand-held video games when instructed by the airline personnel that it is safe to do so, and if the game is not noisy and intrusive to other passengers. The medications and identification should be put in an envelope inside the child's backpack or luggage.
- Make sure your child knows the in-flight attendants are the "helping adults" to seek out when they are in need of assistance. If they feel uncomfortable, need to make a restroom visit or feel confused by anything or anyone. Make them aware of the call button and how to use it and not to hesitate to call on a flight attendant.

It is sad that we live in a world where our children are not safe but by taking some precautionary steps we can minimize the threats that are out there. Remember our children have grown up in Seldovia and have been able to come and go as they please without fear of being harmed. I wish it was that way everywhere but sadly it is not. These suggestions and tips are not to make you paranoid but to hopefully insure your kids are safe over the holidays. Utilize these tips throughout the year and keep our children safe. Be safe, pre-plan and enjoy your Holidays.

We wish you "Safe and Happy Holidays" from the Seldovia Police Department

