



Seldovia Gazette

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Seldovia, AK

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Thursday, March 27, 2008

Just another day in paradise

Vol. 4, No. 13, March 27, 2008

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Opinions



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Spotlight



PhotoStory - [Click here](#)
[State Basketball Tourney](#)
 March 20-22, 2008

Top Stories

Sea Otters Take 5th at State Basketball Meet

by Katie O'Leary

The boys took 5th at state out of 8 teams in the tourney. There are 37, 2A boys' teams in the state of Alaska. Our boys' are in the top 15% of the state in 2A division. Congratulations!

[Click here for a PhotoStory](#)

Boys & Girls Club to Close for Summer

by Laurel Hilts

Celebration Mixed With Concern over Pending B&G Closure

[Click here to read this important report](#)

City Council Meeting March 26 *by Tamara Blodgett*

The Seldovia City Council convened together to include the following members present: John Carluccio, Keith Gain, Tom Glover, Walter McInnes and Allison Miller. Councilwoman Gerry Patrick had an excused absence. Mayor Dick Wyland presided and City Clerk Ronda Haynes took minutes.

Public Presentation for Items not on Agenda

Ms. Savannah Lewis wished to inform the Public that wireless Internet service is now available at the library and it is also available to the City during meetings

Marketplace

Jenny Chissus
234-8000
 Your Seldovia Connection
www.seldoviaproperty.com
 RE/MAX of Homer

Kachemak Bay Online Mall



Specializing in
 unique gifts
 made by local
 artists.

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

▶ [Krystal Waterbury - Return to Seldovia](#)



that are held in the Multi Purpose Room.

Committee and Advisory Board Reports

Planning and Zoning Commission for the Borough will be coming to Seldovia to do a class on Plats. Council members are welcome to attend.

Local *P&Z* have nothing to report at this time.

SOS reports that barge have been moved out of Seldovia Bay and will not return until next year. There will be a potluck and annual Board of Directors meeting on Thursday evening in the Multipurpose Room. Everyone is welcome.

School

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



Old Business

Senior Meals Program (WYLAND)

The state has agreed to fund appliances for the remodel on the existing kitchen in the Multipurpose Room for the purpose of a Senior Meals Program (but not cabinetry or flooring). Pricing on equipment continues to become available and kitchen redesign is underway.

Action: None, information only.

Planning Commission Appointments

Mayor Wyland has recommended two persons for the appointment(s) of Planning and Zoning Commission terms, Bobbi Sweat (reappointment) and Shirley Hurley.

Action: Unanimous acceptance of both applicants.

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](#)

New Business

Census Resolution 08-16

It was determined through hand tally that there are 282 residents in Seldovia at the present time.

Action: Unanimous adoption of census results.

Homer Electric Resolution 08-15

This resolution asks for support from Seldovia for HEA's request for state funding to replace 30-year old electrical cable that is aging and in danger of compromise due to felling of beetle-kill Spruce Trees.

Action: Unanimous support.

VSW Design Update (65% draft)

More Council discussion is needed and a workshop is scheduled for Monday at 1PM .

Action: None, information only.

City Manager's Report, see below

Archives

2008 Archives

▶ [Archive of all pages](#)

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

▶ [Seldovia Summer Visitor Newspaper 2008 \(Coming in May\)](#)

2008 PhotoStories

▶ [Basketball tournament State - March](#)

▶ [Basketball tournament](#)

in Seldovia - February
▶
2007 Archives
▶ Archive of all pages
▶ Seldovia Walking Map - 8-1/2 x 11 pdf
▶ Seldovia Summer Visitor Newspaper 2007
2007 PhotoStories
▶ Christmas Play
▶ 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
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

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

Savannah Lewis announced election dates as follows: August 26, October 7 and November 4, 2008 and asked that the City make sure there were no construction obstacles or issues in the MultiPurpose Room during those times.

Next Meeting: April 10, 2008 .

Adjournment: Time elapsed app. one hour.

AMHS Poll Shows Strong Support

News Release by Alaska Transportation Priorities Project

New Statewide Poll Shows Overwhelming Support for the State Ferry System

Anchorage, AK – Alaskans across the state showed overwhelming support for the ferry system in a recent statewide poll question. Eighty-five percent of those polled said the state should continue funding the Alaska Marine Highway System, which currently serves 30 communities in Southeast, Southcentral, and Southwest Alaska. Support for the ferry system ranged from 67% in Fairbanks to 82% in Anchorage to 95% in Southeast Alaska, with only Fairbanks under 81%. The statewide poll, which covered several unconnected topics, questioned 401 Alaskan households with at least one voter. The poll has a margin of error +/- 4.9%.

The ferry poll results were announced at Southeast Conference's Mid-Session Summit in Juneau today.

"The Alaska Marine Highway system is an integral part of our Alaskan transportation network. With more coastline than all other states put together, our ferry system is a critical travel mode," said Representative Beth Kerttula of Juneau.

"These poll results show widespread and deep support throughout the state and across the political spectrum for funding the ferry system," said Lois Epstein, Director of the Alaska Transportation Priorities Project, a non-profit, public interest organization promoting sensible transportation systems in Alaska.

"Alaska's ferry system is important to the state's military personnel," stated Cathy Spence, Relocation Specialist for Fort Richardson near Anchorage. "Ferries allow military personnel to relocate with their vehicles and personal items at any time of year and provide military members with a "once in a lifetime" view of Alaska's coastal communities and surrounding scenery."

To put ferry costs into context, poll respondents were given the latest Alaska Department of Transportation figures on annual ferry and road costs before the poll question. The poll, conducted by Hays Research Group (www.haysresearch.com), was taken on March 10-12; results from the ferry question are available at <http://www.aktransportation.org/press-releases/march-26th-2008>. The Alaska Transportation Priorities Project funded the ferry poll question, while others funded the rest of the poll.

The attached 3-page report entitled "Questions and Answers on the Hays Research Group March 10-12, 2008 Statewide Opinion Counts Survey's Alaska Ferry Poll Question" includes more detailed information about the poll and its

- [▶ 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](#)



PDF files require a special "Reader" in order to view pdf files. Click the Adobe button above to get a FREE pdf reader!

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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](#)

ferry question. The wording of the ferry poll question and the response summary follow:

Poll Question: *The state's ferry system requires approximately \$70 million per year from the state to balance revenues and operating costs, plus needed upgrades will cost approximately \$60 million each year through 2030. The state plans to spend around \$1.05 billion each year through 2030 on roads, or eight times as much annually as it will spend on ferries. Do you think the state should continue providing ferry service to 30 communities in Southeast, Southwest, and Southcentral Alaska?*

Yes, continue 340/401	85%
No, stop 40/401	10%
Don't Know / Refused 21/401	5%

[Click here to read details of the Poll \(pdf\)](#)

Kachemak Firewise *by Tamara Blodgett*

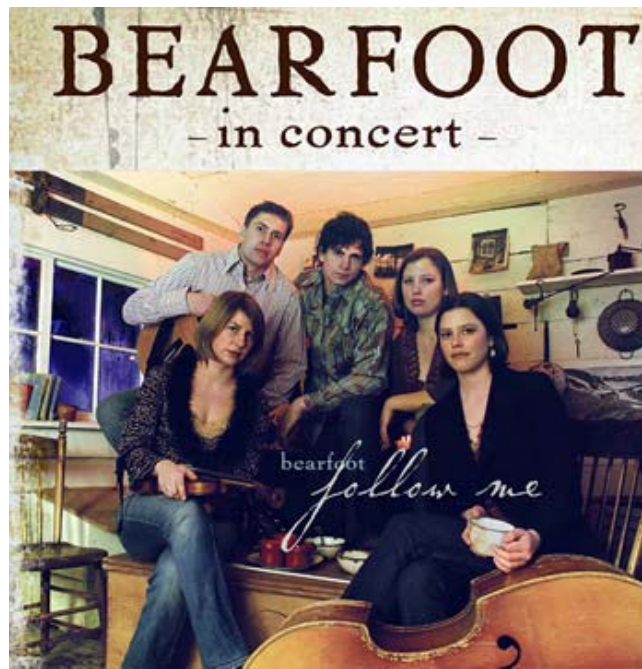
Get "smart" on fire prevention...

Learn how to defend hearth and home with preventative measures for your property. Recent wildfires on the Kenai Peninsula require heightened attention to future fire danger.

Show up to hear thirty-year veteran Alaskan Wildland firefighter Terry Anderson speak and facilitate the implementation of a Seldovia Community Wildfire Protection Plan to be completed by the end of summer. The meeting will be held at the Seldovia Conference Center at 6PM on Tuesday, April 8 th. Two, follow-up meetings are planned for June and August. Educate yourself on how to protect our community from fire *before* it happens; be proactive

Bearfoot Concert on March 29th

Don't miss the concert next week by Alaska's own Bearfoot, national touring musicians who have already been here in Seldovia one time and "brought the house down" with their performance. Bearfoot will also hold music workshops in the afternoon, 4:00 PM, on March 29th at SBE School. Concert time starts at 7:30 pm.



Seldovians, it is time to break-out of your house and enjoy the beginning of spring with fun activities and great entertainment! Bearfoot is brought to you by the Seldovia Arts Council, and grants from WESTAF and ALASKA STATE COUNCIL on the Arts.

Craft Bazaar March 29th



[Click here to view full size pdf](#)

Bark Beetles & Berries!

by Courtney Flint

Research with Seldovians

Two research projects are underway involving Seldovia residents. Dr. Courtney

Flint from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is continuing a study of community response to bark beetles that began in 2003. A survey is likely to arrive in your mailbox very soon. Please take time to fill out the survey so that we can learn how attitudes are changing over time about forests, bark beetles, and fire risks. Dr. Flint will report back on the findings later this year. Five other Kenai Peninsula communities are also involved (Homer, Anchor Point, Ninilchik, Moose Pass and Cooper Landing).

Another research effort underway involves one of Seldovia's most prized resources – berries! Dr. Courtney Flint (UIUC), Dr. Mary Ann Lila (UIUC), and Dr. Ilya Raskin (Rutgers University) are studying the health effects and community uses of wild berries and the potential impacts of climate change. This project is in collaboration with the Seldovia Village Tribe as well as Tim Winters and Damara Burnett and students from the Susan B. English School. High school students and other community members will have opportunities to be involved with field research with the berries and interviews with community members about their use of berries. If you are interested in participating in community interviews with school students, watch for future notices! This project is funded by the Environmental Protection Agency and will last for 3 years. Two other Alaska communities involved are Akutan and Point Hope. Drs. Flint, Lila, and Raskin will be in Seldovia late July and a community event will be scheduled.

If you have any questions about these projects, don't hesitate to contact Courtney Flint at cflint@uiuc.edu or 217-244-1840.

B&G Club Recycling for Bucks *by Laurel Hiltz*

At the Boys & Girls Club, some of our members have been saving pop can tabs and bringing them in to the Clubhouse to be donated for charity. Just recently, B&G staffer Chris Oliveira took a couple of bags full of thousands of the tabs up to Anchorage to pass on to her daughter who makes sure they get delivered and the scrap metal is recycled and money is given for its value.





We have a few families that are participating in this at their homes. Maybe you could, too. Each person remembers to save their pop tabs in a container at home; if you have kids in the house, there's a great counting opportunity because you could have the children count up the tabs before they bring them to the Clubhouse.

Sen. Gary Stevens Press Release SCR 15

(Juneau) Senate Concurrent Resolution 15 (SCR 15), legislation from District R-Senator Gary Stevens (R-Kodiak) to create a standing Senate Committee on Education, passed the House of Representatives today (Tuesday, March 25, 2008). SCR 15 is part of a package of legislation recommended by the Joint Legislative Education Funding Task Force, which met during the 2007 Interim to take a comprehensive look at the numerous issues facing Alaska 's school districts. Senator Stevens, who currently chairs the Senate Special Committee on Education, also served on the task force. He says having a standing Education Committee makes sense for Alaska .

"SCR 15 takes responsibility for the many education issues we deal with in the Capitol each year, such as reviews of the education funding formula, education policy matters and oversight of the University of Alaska , from the very busy Health, Education and Social Services Committee and places them under the purview of the Education Committee," Senator Stevens explained. "Given the enormous importance of these issues to Alaska 's education system, I think this is the right step for the Legislature to take to ensure these matters are given the time and consideration they warrant."

With passage of SCR 15, the standing Education Committee will go into effect at the start of the 2009 Legislative Session.

Meanwhile, Senator Stevens' SB 59 is on its way to the governor for a signature after winning passage in the House on Wednesday, March 19th. The bill gives Alaska 's numerous nonprofit agencies authority to promote their raffles on broadcast outlets around the state. Currently, this ability is limited to print media. Senator Stevens sponsored the bill on behalf of the Alaska Broadcasters Association and received broad support from nonprofit organizations around the state.

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

Rep. Paul Seaton Newsletter - March 24

Greetings from Juneau on this 70th day of the Legislative session.

We are enjoying a warming trend that makes it feel like real spring – except for this morning’s snow that reminds us it is still March.

Things are very busy here with approach of the end of the 90 day session. However, this weekend schedule and Friday’s floor session were cancelled, corresponding with the Easter holiday. Tina and I traveled to California to join with my family in celebration of my Dad’s 99 th birthday. He is active in the community, church, takes care of the yard work and still drives both in town and on the freeway. We are traveling back to Juneau on Monday after a great reunion with our California extended family and our son, Rand, who joined us from college in Reno Nevada .

HB294 – Marine Transportation Advisory Board.

HB 294 was heard and held last Tuesday in the House Transportation Committee. HB 294 attempts to address some of the systemic problems in the management of the Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS) by giving the Marine Transportation Advisory Board (MTAB) more of a say in how AMHS is run. A new version of HB 294 was heard in House Transportation last week. It has the board recommend three candidates for the Governor to choose from for the AMHS Division Director position. Involving the board in the selection process will provide a comprehensive review of candidates and give the board more of a stake in the process. HB 294 will be heard next in the House Transportation committee Tuesday at 1pm .

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

Special Notices . . .

Boys & Girls Club Update . . .

by Laurel Hilts

Celebration Mixed With Concern over Pending B&G Closure

Guitars are tuned, voices are humming, and dinner is cooking in preparation for tonight’s Seldovia Boys & Girls Club Dinner and Music Jam. Starting at 6:00 p.m., this event is being held in the Susan B. English School Ottertorium (otherwise known as the cafeteria and Head Start rooms). We will be serving a spaghetti dinner with garlic bread and salad, followed by a potluck dessert. The evening’s entertainment will feature live music from four Seldovia bands: “Hullabaloo” (a percussion group featuring students in 3rd-6th grade), “Brainless” (a rock band featuring students in 4th-7th grade, “Outpost” (a high school rock band), and “Stickey Wicket” (an all-adult rock band, featuring our music instructor - Rob Rurka, and Deidre Cameron on vocals). Songs range from rock ‘n’ roll to country, and all points in between.



Nathan S. prepares to rock the house

The purpose of the dinner and concert is to highlight the programs the Seldovia Boys & Girls Club has been able to offer our children. It is also a time to bring awareness to the greater community of the Club's current financial situation. Our Club has been primarily funded by grants since opening in 1998. Our current 2008 budget is \$116,000.00, which provides regular Clubhouse hours, in addition to our Pottery program, Power Hour, special events, and facility use for other agencies to provide services for our children and community.

Since 2004, we have received funding from the Cook Inlet Housing Authority in the amount of \$60,000.00. That grant dissolved in December, but our administrative staff in Kenai was able to get a temporary grant to fill that gap until the end of this fiscal year, but only in the amount of \$50,000.00, which will leave the Club with a \$10,000.00 deficit going in to Fiscal Year 2009. Any donations received at tonight's dinner will help to cut away at that deficit.

In the meantime, we have a grant of \$45,000.00 from the State of Alaska that will continue for one more fiscal year. Effective July first, the only guaranteed money we will have for our entire 2009 budget is that \$45,000.00. With that in mind, the Board of the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Kenai Peninsula has recommended closing our facility for the summer, with hopes of reopening in the fall with the community's support. Our Club resource development committee will be working to create a viable operating budget with the programs and services that are the priorities of our community and our youth.

We all know that Seldovia has many organizations and activities that solicit money and that we often "bake cakes, donate them, and then buy them right back," because we know that it is worth it. Though this will be a challenge for the Club, we must protect its foundation, one built upon an estimated \$1.2 million in funding allocated from many sources, including grants, corporations, foundations, local businesses, individuals, volunteerism and in-kind support collected over the past ten years. The Club is certainly an investment that needs to be protected by our community. It is definitely a positive place that through the years has provided a safe, nurturing environment for our youth. We believe it is absolutely one of Seldovia's greatest investments. Please come be part of the solution.

A community meeting will be held at the Boys & Girls Club on Thursday, April 10th, 6:00 p.m. to look for potential solutions and to review our FY09 draft budget. In the meantime, we hope to see you at the dinner tonight. Enjoy the show.

If you have any questions about activities going on, give Seldovia Boys & Girls Club Unit Director Laurel Hilts at call at 234-7577.

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 . ***THIS IS NOW TEEN CLUB TIME UNTIL BASKETBALL SEASON IS OVER***

Karate Classes:

Kids Class – Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:00 – 5:45 p.m.

Adult Class – Mondays and Wednesday from 5:45 – 7:00 p.m .

Intermediate – Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Music Lessons:

Acoustic Guitar – Saturdays at 11:30 p.m .

Electric Guitar – Saturdays at 12:00 p.m .

Bass Guitar - Saturdays at 5:00 p.m .

Drums – Saturdays from 12:30-5:00 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

Tidbits . . .

It's that time of year when Augustine Volcano swallows the sun at the end of the day . . . and by the way, that 5.2 earthquake you felt on Thursday afternoon at 3:08 pm wasn't too far from Augustine !



City Manager's Corner

by Howard Davis

Managers Report (02-27-08 to 03/26/08)

- **Census Recount:** Some residents have questioned what is going on? Walter McInnes is conducting a recount of the City's year-round population in order to insure the City receives its fair share of revenue sharing funds.

- **Denali Commission, Small Boat Harbor Grant:** The Requests For Proposals (RFP) are being drafted for Construction Management.
- **Husky II:** In a conversation with Mr. Poffenroth, 3/20/08, he was informed that since his plan for removal has not come forth as he promised and since there has been no effort to meet his moorage responsibilities the City has no other choice but to pursue other avenues to remedy this situation.
- **VSW/CRW:** Pete Bellezza (CRW Engineer) and Lee Olsen (CRW Construction Manager) were in town on 3/11/08 to review the Phase 1 sites, look over options on available equipment and met with the City Manager and DPW employees. CRW will be sending employment application packages soon, when they arrive their availability will be posted around town and announced in the Gazette.

We are now waiting for DEC to give us approval to begin acquiring Water Test Lab equipment.

- **EPA Grant:** No indication has come from the State Legislature as to whether the City's request for matching funds has been approved in the up coming budget.
- **Waterfront Marine Industrial Center :** The draft of the Lot Lease is well on its way to completion and should be off to the attorney very soon for finalization.
- **Senior Meals:** Pricing on equipment is coming in. Redesign of kitchen layout is underway.
- **DPW News:** The loader is in need of repair. To ensure that the loader is ready to launch boats it will be out of service from 3/21/08 through 4/07/08 depending on weather conditions.
- **Welcome Sign Contest**
 - The deadline for design submittal has been moved from 3/31/08 to 4/04/08.
 - The contest is open to all individuals, no matter where they live.
 - Design submittals can be dropped of at the City Offices from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Seldovia Police Report

by A.W. Anderson, Seldovia PD

>> No Report this Week <<

