



# Seldovia Gazette

Serving Seldovia, Alaska and Kachemak Bay southeast

Seldovia, AK

36 °F / 2 °C

Overcast  
at 2:53 PM



[Click for Forecast](#)

Thursday, March 26, 2009

Just another day in paradise

Vol. 5, No. 6, March 26, 2009

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## Opinions



Our deepest sympathies  
to the family and friends of

Eric Nordenson

## Top Stories

### Redoubt Advisory Pops Again by AVO

A large eruption of Redoubt volcano occurred at 09:24 AKDT (17:24 UTC) this morning. National Weather Service reports the cloud height to be at least 65,000 ft above sea level and pilot reports indicated a plume height of 60,000 ft. Since this event, a few smaller events have occurred but these did not generate plumes above about 20,000 feet.



The eruption at 9:24 AKDT also produced a lahar in the Drift River valley that was detected by seismic instruments.

An ashfall advisory was in effect until 4 PM, Thursday for the western Kenai Peninsula. High level ash (above 30,000 feet) is forecast to pass over Anchorage, but is not expected to produce ash fall. For more information

## Marketplace

Purchase a Banner Ad and get a postage stamp ad below



Come In,  
Browse,  
Have Fun!

Herring Bay  
Mercantile  
Seldovia, AK

[Click ads for more info](#)




Seldovia  
property

Serving your  
Real Estate Needs  
234-8000

[Click images below for info on each property](#)


➔ NEW Listing!



\$298.5k, beauty, city, 1/2 acre



\$75k Waterfront parcel



\$34k Sunny lot in city limits



▶ Letters to the Editor  
- Don Seelinger  
- Mark Rowland

Spotlight

▶ SBE Seniors - Kristy Gallien and Oren Kroll



School

▶ Susan B English School by school reporters Katie O'Leary and Rochelle Purpura - Click here



Notices & Newsletters

Senior Meals

Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday

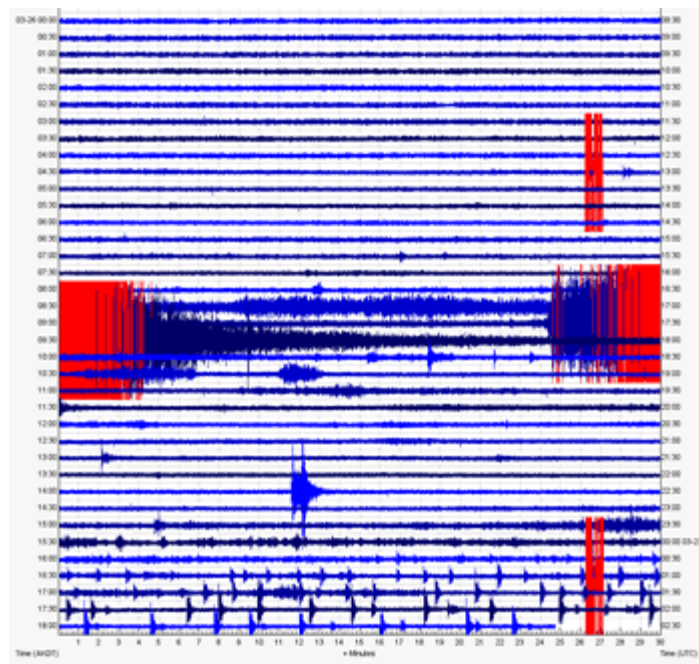
refer to the NWS Redoubt Coordination web page (<http://pafc.arh.noaa.gov/volcano.php>) for latest ash cloud information.

AVO is monitoring the situation closely, the observatory is staffed 24/7, and attempts to overfly the volcano will occur as soon as possible. More details on this mornings eruption also will be released on AVO's web page as soon as possible.

[Click here for Redoubt website](#)



Above photo from AVO website by Robert Cole, Peninsula Airways Pilot, March 26



Above image March 26 Webicorder at AVO



\$375k 134acres on the water



\$170k Little house in big woods



\$259k 5 Star home in Seldovia



\$198.5k Lakeside home in Seld.



#350k Main Street business



\$549K Business Opportunity

WebSite Favorites

- ▶ AllMyFaves
- ▶ Animal Poison Control Center
- ▶ Bubble Wrap Stress Relief
- ▶ GE Home Energy Cost Calculator

at noon in Seldovia's

MultiPurpose Room. Seniors 60 and over and spouses any age qualify, as well as, disabled persons and their caregivers. Suggested donation \$4

Guests (under 60) \$8



Seldovia Boat Slips for Rent Only 32 foot slips are available. Call for details: Harbor Master (907) 234-7886 City Office (907) 234-7643

Support the Seldovia Sea Otter Booster Club Help keep sports and academic travel programs alive for our school!

Archives

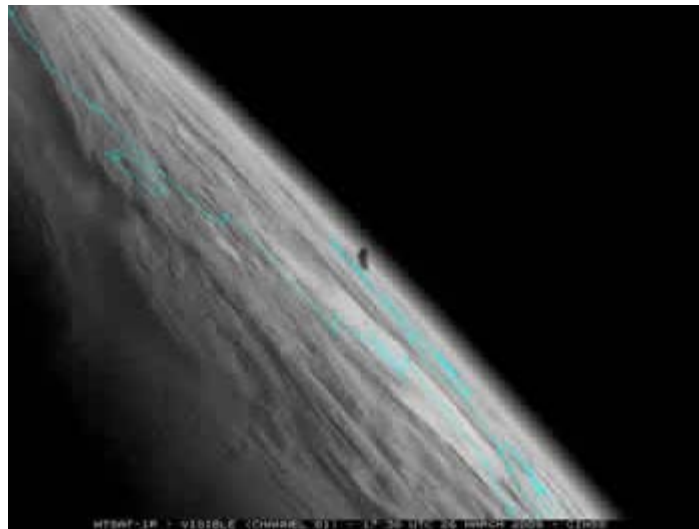
2009 Archives

- ▶ Archive of all pages
- ▶ Seldovia Walking May - 8-1/2 x 11 pdf (Coming in May)
- ▶ Seldovia Summer Visitor Newspaper 2008

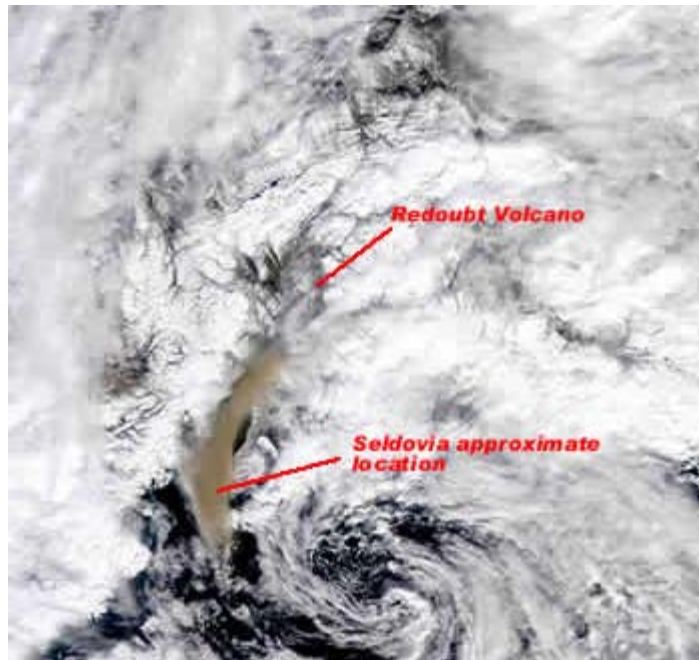
2008 Archives

- ▶ Archive of all pages
- ▶ Seldovia Walking May - 8-1/2 x 11 pdf
- ▶ Seldovia Summer Visitor Newspaper 2008

July



Above photo from AVO website, MSAT Satellite, March 26



Above photo from AVO website, satellite, March 26



The ash cloud hit Seldovia about 2:00pm, March 26 and was gone by 4:00pm

- ▶ [Glossarist](#)
- ▶ [Google Earth](#)
- ▶ [Health Square Medical Information](#)
- ▶ [Hand - Eye Coordination](#)
- ▶ [Line of Site Calculator](#)
- ▶ [Pronounce any Word in ALL Languages](#)
- ▶ [NASA Picture of the Day](#)
- ▶ [Reaction Time Test](#)
- ▶ [Shoot the Turkey Game](#)
- ▶ [Spider Walk](#)
- ▶ [Inauguration Gigapan Photo](#)

**2008 PhotoStories**

- ▶ [Halloween Carnival](#)
- ▶ [July 4 Festival](#)
- ▶ [Craft Invitational Chainsaw Carving Contest - May](#)
- ▶ [SBE Graduation](#)
- ▶ [SBE Prom April 12](#)
- ▶ [B&G Club Talent Show and Dinner March 28](#)
- ▶ [Basketball tournament State - March](#)
- ▶ [Basketball tournament in Seldovia - February](#)

**2007 Archives**

- ▶ [Archive of all pages](#)
- ▶ [Seldovia Walking May - 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 Tasty Trip - July 25 - Part 3](#)
- ▶ [Aleutian's Tasty Trip - July 25 - Part 2](#)
- ▶ [Aleutian's Tasty Trip](#)

## HEA Rate Reduction April 1

*Press Release*

Homer Electric Association rates will be reduced by more than 18 percent under terms of a filing that will be submitted next week to the Regulatory Commission of Alaska. The new rates are scheduled to go into effect for all billings starting on April 1.

The reduction is the result of a 3.946 cent decrease in the wholesale power cost rate adjustment (WPCRA), from 7.916 cents to 3.970 cents. The WPCRA is adjusted quarterly to reflect changes in the cost of power purchased from Chugach Electric Association. Homer Electric is under contract to purchase its power from Chugach Electric through 2013.

Natural gas is the fuel used to generate more than 90 percent of the power sold to Homer Electric.

The WPCRA rate, combined with HEA's base rate of 13.545 cents per kilowatt hour, sets the new overall rate at 17.515 cents per kilowatt hour; an 18.39 percent reduction from the previous rate of 21.461 cents per kilowatt hour.

The new rate will mean a monthly savings of \$24.86 for the average Homer Electric residential member using 630 kilowatt hours per month.

The reduction in the WPCRA is a reflection of the downward trend in the price of crude oil, heating oil and natural gas. A 12-month rolling average of those three commodities is used to adjust the WPCRA and until recently that average was creating additional costs for Homer Electric and its members.

"We are pleased the WPCRA has been adjusted and will result in lower rates for our members. The escalating fuel costs, which resulted in high rates this winter, created a very difficult situation for Homer Electric members. The reduction beginning April 1 will help alleviate some of the rate pressure on our members and hopefully additional reductions in the WPCRA will be seen in the third and fourth quarters of 2009." said Homer Electric General Manager Brad Janorschke.

Janorschke cautioned that the WPCRA is market driven and while the current situation now favors Homer Electric, there are no guarantees that fuel prices will remain low and the WPCRA will continue to decline.

"The problem with being almost completely dependent on natural gas for power generation is we are vulnerable to drastic fluctuations in the price of the commodity. What we saw with our rates at the end of 2008 and beginning of 2009 was driven by fuel prices. Our goal is to develop alternative generation sources that can be used as a hedge to lessen the impact of changes to natural gas prices," said Janorschke.

The new rates for Homer Electric members will go into effect starting with all billings as of April 1.

*For additional information regarding this press release, please contact Joe Gallagher at 907-283-2324.*

## Don Seelinger Runs for HEA Board



- 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



PDF files require a special "Reader" in order to view pdf files.

**Don Seelinger**  
 Serious representation for  
 serious challenges  
 -  
 District 3 Candidate  
 HEA Board

**VOTE HEA**  
 watch for your ballot March 31st



**907-399-7573**

Local Seldovian Don Seelinger is running for the Homer Electric Association Board of Directors again. [Click here to read about Don's qualifications and support letters.](#)

## City Council Meeting March 25

The Seldovia City Council convened together with the following members present: John Colberg, Tom Glover, Dean Lent, Allison Miller, Walter McInnes, and Gerry Patrick. Mayor Keith Gain presided; City Manager Tim Dillon was in attendance with City Clerk Mary Klinger taking minutes.

### Treasurer's Report

City finances are on track although the Water Fund is still a little high.

### Proclamations - none Public Presentation Prior Notice

### Cannery Property Development by Doug Drum and Michele Bieri

A presentation by Michele Bieri, et. al. was scheduled, however, the presenters were unable to get to Seldovia due to weather. The presentation will be rescheduled for the next City Council meeting.

### Committee and Advisory Board Reports

**SOS:** The Husky II boom watch continues.

### Old Business - none

### New Business

### Appointment of Keith Gain to the Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council, (RCAC)

Seldovia's representative to RCAC was Mavis Owens and since she has moved, a replacement is needed. Mayor Keith Gain volunteered to fill the slot.

*Action:* Motion of support to appoint Mayor Gain to the position with Walt Sonen as the Primary Alternate and Allison Miller as the Secondary Alternate.  
 Approved unanimously

### Michael L. Foster & Associates bill of \$11,967.34

Click the Adobe button above to get a FREE pdf reader!



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

City Manager Tim Dillon resolved the remaining questions concerning this final billing from Michael L. Foster for work completed on the Harbor Renovation Project.

*Action:* Motion to approve the final payment.  
Approved unanimously

### Seldovia Beautification Follow-up from June 25th Council Meeting

Questions have been raised concerning details of projects planned for this summer by the Chamber of Commerce and Beautification Team.

*Action:* Motions direct the City Manager to work with the groups and let them know the rules and importance of communicating with the city before work is initiated.  
Approved unanimously

### Downtown Parking Issues

Initial discussions commenced on the upcoming requirements to have ADA parking spaces at the post office. The City Manager was directed to talk to various businesses on Main Street and obtain additional information on the ADA requirements.

*Action:* No action, City Manager to work on the issues

### 2008 Audit for the City of Seldovia

The City Manager delivered a brief presentation on the completed 2008 Audit of the City of Seldovia. The document was just handed out to the Council and no action will be taken to accept the Audit until Council has had time to review the document between now and the next meeting.

*Action:* No Action

### Informational Items Not Requiring Action - none

**City Manager's Report** , see below.

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

Several councilmen thanked members of the audience for attending

**Next Regular Meeting** April 8, 2009

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### SOS Husky II Watch - A Peek Inside . . .

The Seldovia Oil Spill Response Team and Mereidi Liebner shot some photos of their work on the Husky II and the Hazwopper Class. Click on the links below to take a peek:



[SOS Webpage](#)



[Mereidi Liebner photos](#)

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### Husky II Update

**>> Repeat story**

Cleanup of the Husky II has been terminated. Read the report below for details. Webcam image below refreshes every 20 seconds, click on image to view full size.

Camera courtesy of Corky & Carol Myers at Alaska Treetops Lodge and camera location courtesy of Joe & Heather Miller at the Linwood Bar.



The removal of the gross contamination from the Husky II is complete. Approximately 95-99% of the petroleum contaminants have been removed and it is estimated that there is only 250 - 1,200 gallons of material left. During the course of the work, a small hole ( approximately 1"x 2") broke through the hull and was quickly sealed by workers and divers. Chadux has installed a bilge alarm that will start flashing a red light if the water level rises in the bilge. **The light is right in front of the wheelhouse - click on the photo below to see the red light location.**



**➡ If anyone sees the bilge alarm light flashing red, PLEASE call the authorities IMMEDIATELY! Call one of the numbers below:**

- City Office - 9am to 5pm weekdays - (907) 234-7643
- Harbormaster office - (907) 234-7886
- SOS - Mark Janes - (907) 299-3224
- As a last resort, if no one is available, call 911 locally

Current efforts center around keeping the vessel stable and checking it every 2 hours. SOS is watching the waterline and continues to maintain the oil boom. It is estimated that it will take at least 30 days for the government agencies to work out the most cost effective details of disposing of the boat.

The link below is for the harborcam on the Husky II:

<http://www.seldovia.com/webcam/bay.jpg>

*As we receive updates, we will post them immediately at the top of this page.*

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## Rep. Paul Seaton Newsletter

Greetings from Juneau this 63rd day of the 26th Legislative Session. Education stimulus has been the big topic the last part of this week. I have attached the following link to provide interested constituents of our best estimates of the various categories of potential funding and amounts. Go to <http://housemajority.org/seaton/index.php> then click on the heading called Stimulus Education Funding. There has been quite a bit of confusion about exactly what the Governor did. I listened closely to the press conference and want to clarify for everyone that I understand that she requested the DOT capital project money and has not made a final determination on whether to request and how much of operation money to request from the federal government. The strings attached to operation money are quite different from those for construction projects and I take the Governor at her word that she wants to have the conversation with the legislature and the public as to what strings are acceptable for Alaska . The House Education Committee has scheduled a full member subcommittee meeting for discussion of the stimulus and attached conditions for Wednesday at 8 am. This meeting will be teleconferenced and we will have the Department of Education experts with us for full dialog on the details. Our regular committee meeting has been delayed until 9 am to give us adequate time for this extremely important topic for education programs. I am quite confident that we will be able to structure the acceptance and use of the stimulus education money in ways that do not result in unacceptable 'strings' but it is much better to have this open discussion and determination now than have surprises two years from now. The meeting will be a listen only teleconference but you can submit questions or comments to me ahead of time if there is a specific detail you think we might miss. This will not be the only opportunity for discussion as I know it will be fully discussed in the Finance Committees. Again, from my conversations with the administration we are not on opposing sides but rather a full and joint understanding of all potentials needs to occur before a decision is made to request the federal funds.

Another issue is approaching that may draw public comment – the recommendation of the salary commission. The commission recommended replacing the 'out of session' per diem payment for legislators. This 'out of session' or long term per diem is \$150 per day and is available to legislators for each day they work more than four hours or go to meetings. This is considerably different for compact districts such as a neighborhood area in Anchorage and sprawling districts where meeting with constituents may involve trips of hundreds of miles. Everyone knows that legislators answer calls day and night and interact with constituents almost continuously anyway. The commission's recommendation goes into effect for 2010 unless rejected by the legislature.

The idea of a purely citizen legislature with everyone holding another full

time job when out of session is really a myth because of the necessity to be available for special sessions, meetings, conferences and interim committee field hearings. The legislative pay was originally set at \$24,012 per year back in 1991. There has been no cost of living adjustment since then. The Commission's recommendation is to substitute a basic change in salary from \$24,012 plus long term per diem to \$50,000 without the long term per diem. This is not really a cost of living adjustment but it potentially allows more citizens to serve as legislators. We may or may not have a bill on the floor to reject the change but I wanted to let everyone know that I believe the recommendation by the Commission is appropriate and would vote to uphold their recommendation.

[Click here to view entire newsletter \(pdf\)](#)

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## Sen. Gary Stevens Capitol Report

Hello from the Capitol, where less than a month remains before the 2009 session adjourns on April 19th. While various bills and resolutions continue through the legislative process, we're also focusing much of our attention on next year's operating and capital budgets, as well as the federal economic stimulus funding.

Governor Palin has rejected 31%, about \$288 million, of the stimulus funding intended for Alaska . I am concerned about the money for energy assistance, social services, and special education and Title 1 education funding that was rejected, as this is money that can do a lot of good in our state, even if the money is only available for a few years.

This past week, myself and two other members of the legislative leadership had the chance to meet with President Obama, key members of his administration and Alaska 's congressional delegation in Washington D.C. on this complex federal legislation. All we spoke to advised us to take whatever money is coming our way.

As you may know, the Legislature can vote to accept the funds the governor turns down, but ultimately it is up to the governor to certify the receipt of this funding. For some of this funding we have a short deadline of April 3rd, so we're continuing our dialog with the governor to determine the best course of action. I expect more information will emerge in the coming days.

[Click here to read the full Report](#)

### Special Notices

#### *Change in Library Hours*

For the remainder of winter, the library is discontinuing the Thursday evening opening and instead will be open on Wednesdays from noon-2:00 pm in conjunction with the Senior Meals service.

[Click here for more information on the website.](#)

#### *SOS Office Manager Position Open*

Part-time – 10-20 hours/week-\$10.00-12.00/hr. DOE  
Flexible schedule with set weekly hours.

Job description: The office manager must accept total responsibility for maintaining the office. This requires being: punctual, dependable, accountable, detail-oriented and able to work independently without

supervision.

Desired skills:

- computer literate
- bookkeeping ability – responsible for accounts payable and receivable
- payroll and associated reports
- prepare treasury reports for Board of Directors. Quickbooks knowledge helpful.
- knowledge of basic office machines
- professional attitude when relating to public
- ability to follow procedures during drills, training's and spill response
- assist trainers in gathering training materials
- monitor contracts
- writing grant applications

Other duties as they arise...

Please call the office at 234-7400 or drop by the SOS office (located in the city offices) to submit your application. Office hours are currently 9 AM-1PM. Monday-Friday.

### **Summer Music & Dance Camp for Kids**

Sitka Fine Arts Camp offers over 60 classes in visual arts, dance, theater, Alaska Native arts, writing, and music for students entering grades 6-12. [View Public Announcement](#)

2009 Camp Dates:

Middle School Session June 14-27

High School Session June 28 - July 12

Costs: The Middle School Session ( June 14-27) costs \$965 for students staying in the dorms on campus. The off campus price which students who are local or have family or friends in Sitka to stay with is \$695.

The High School Session ( June 28-July 12)

costs \$995 for on campus students and \$735 for off campus students.

Scholarships are available. Inquiries should be directed to Camp Director, Roger Schmidt. More information about camp on our website at [www.fineartscamp.org](http://www.fineartscamp.org), including a new movie that was made last summer which may give you more of an idea of what SFAC is all about.

Kenley Jackson [kenley@fineartscamp.org](mailto:kenley@fineartscamp.org)

Sitka Fine Arts Camp

(907) 747-3085

### **NO Parked Vehicles allowed on Roadway!**

#### **“PUBLIC NOTICE”**

*Winter* is here and with it comes the snow. Due to problems in the past concerning snow removal and vehicles being parked on the roadway, we are going to be enforcing “*Off Road Parking*” starting immediately. Please do not park on the streets or roadways. Those of you who do park on the streets at your homes must now make other arrangements for parking your vehicles. With enforcement comes “*Citations*” and/or “*Impounds*”, neither of which we wish to do. We will, however, do whatever necessary to insure the snow removal can take place without

any obstructions on the roadways. Thank you, in advance, for taking necessary steps to comply with this request.

A.W. Anderson  
Chief of Police

 **Boys & Girls Club Update . . .** by *Laurel Hilts*

**Seldovia Boys & Girls Club Quarterly Newsletter - [Click here . . .](#)**

The Clubhouse is open from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m.  
Pottery is open Mondays from 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.  
Power Hour is open Mondays – Thursdays from 3:15 – 5:15 p.m.  
The Seldovia Village Tribe offers Teen Night on Fridays from 9:00 – midnight.

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

**Tidbits . . .**

Redoubt Volcano dumped a bit of ash on Seldovia on Thursday ... if you hit the windshield wiper switch before hosing the ash off, you'll be replacing the windshield!



**City Manager's Corner** by *Tim Dillon, City Manager*

City Manager Report 3-11-09 to 3-25-09

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- Husky II clean up
- Hugh Smith construction bills rectified
- Denali Commission-Harbor Project Meeting
- Michael Foster & Attorney negotiations
- DEC negotiations
- Grant follow-up and administration

- Continuity of operations/planning-Dept. HS acceptance

### GOALS:

- Husky II
- Review water service billing interpretations
- Michael Foster closure
- Finalize DEC agreement
- Partnership with Chamber on beautification
- Finalize Kachemak Street easements
- Murkowski plan
- Alternative energy committee
- Jakolof Bay float review
- Electric plan for city dock
- CRW/VSW planning
- Denali Commission-harbor
- Vacation

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

### PD

The following report covers Police related incidents from March 11th through March 26, 2009. During this timeframe Chief Anderson was out of town for 10 days due to a family emergency.

- A man ordered by the Court to give weekly breath samples was given three tests since last report.
- Police conducted a welfare check on a lady who failed to answer her phone or answer her door when the called attempted to contact her. After the Police failed to get an answer to their knock on her door a pass key was used and the lady was found to be asleep on her couch.
- Papers received from the Court were served on a local resident.
- Police proctored a test for an applicant who was testing for his certification as an EMT I.
- A report of theft from a vehicle was received and is under investigation at this time.
- A lady reported her dog was accosted by another dog on the Otterbahn Trail and feared the suspect dog could harm a smaller dog or a person who might attempt to stop the attack. Police contacted the owner and told them of the liability that could become very real if the animal was responsible for an injury to another animal or a person.
- An owner was contacted following a report of their dog being at large on Fulmore Avenue. The owner stated the dog had been left at their home outside of town and must have come to town. They caught up the animal and restrained it.
- Police assisted a property owner in getting an abandoned vehicle removed off his private property. The vehicle was moved without it having to be impounded.
- A vehicle that was not licensed in the State was brought to the owner's attention and directives were given to either license or park the vehicle. The owner chose to park the vehicle.
- A man coming to Seldovia to work on the early warning system siren and loud hailer was given a ride from the airport to the school and then back to the airport when he came in on the weekend to make repairs to the system.
- A lady with the Juvenile Justice System did an inspection on the Jail

facility. The inspection is done every three years and assists the Boy's and Girl's Club in being applicable for Grand Funds.

- Due to bad weather, the lady from the Juvenile Justice System had to be taken to Jakolof Bay so she could take a boat back to Homer. Police provided transportation.
- Two ladies from South Central Foundation, coming to Seldovia to give eye tests, were given a ride to Seldovia from Jakolof Bay Harbor when they arrived on the boat and their transportation had not arrived.
- A black lab that was running all over town was identified and the owner was notified that action had to be taken to stop the violations. He told the Officer he was out of town but would deal with the matter by sending the dog out of Seldovia upon his return.

