



Seldovia Gazette

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Seldovia welcomes a new family - the Blotgetts! *by Charity Winters*



Back row, left to right: Dan, Tamara, Josh, and Joel. Front row, left to right: Levi and Cameron. The fuzz ball in Levi's arms is their loyal canine companion Gyro.

Have you noticed some new faces around town lately? Well, get used to them – the Blodgetts are here to stay! Dan and Tamara Blodgett along with their four boys, Josh (16), Joel (14), Cameron (11), and Levi (9) and their dog Gyro pulled into town last month all the way from Sedro-Wooley, WA. Come Oct. 1st, Dan and Tamara will be taking over management of the Seldovia Fuel and Lube, allowing Dan's father, Frank, to retire.

A vacation in August 2001 first brought the family to Seldovia. "As soon as the ferry rounded the bend it took our breath away," said Tamara. "We fell in love with the place." However, with no viable employment option, moving to their dream spot seemed unlikely. When the chance to take over the Fuel & Lube came up, it was still a tough decision for the family. They had lived in Sedro-Wooley for five and a half years and were very involved in the community. Dan, a certified log home builder, would have to give up his business. "I prayed for ten months about this move," Tamara said. Once the decision was made, things moved quickly. "God worked everything out...it was an uncomplicated move and seemed very natural, like it was meant to be." Even little things fell into place. Tamara was torn about having to give up her beautiful antique piano she played everyday. Turns out, Frank had one to leave for them – "So I still get my hour of piano in every day!" Tamara said.

How do they like Seldovia now that they are actually here? The whole family has really felt welcomed. They were personally contacted by the Seldovia Village Tribe who invited the boys to tribe-sponsored activities, families have brought over meals and

invited them to dinner. They are also excited about the quality of the Seldovia Boys and Girls Club. The boys have already participated in several club activities since their arrival in town.

Dan and Tamara hope to be active community members. Tamara is planning to volunteer at the school this year. Dan would like to coach wrestling. They are also interested in “personalizing” the Fuel & Lube, making it a better fit for Seldovia by offering what people need and want. That includes making the prices more comparable to Homer’s – so the Fuel & Lube can be a more practical option for shopping rather than a last resort. Tamara would like to give the store a more “cozy, homey atmosphere”; mentioning jars of peppermint sticks, homemade cookies, and hanging flower baskets. All in all, the Blodgetts are excited about being a full time presence in the community and plan on making the most of it.



And sometimes the house isn't ready when you move in . . .

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