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Nick and Heather Moonin - A Young Family for Seldovia

by Mary Glover



Across the street from the Susan B English School lives the Moonin family. They live in the house where Missy and Chip McMillian used to live. (This is the way addresses are done in Seldovia. It is like you get a history lesson when asking about a location. No old-timers use a physical address.) Oldest son Trevor told me a short time ago that the big boat in their yard was his "playhouse." He said, "Would I like to see it?" Trevor, now five, quickly scaled up the back and boarded the vessel. He was very proud of his boat and his ability to get aboard, and rightly so! Heather and Nick are the parents of two very cute little boys (Trevor and Alex) and they have chosen to raise them in Seldovia. Alex is the youngest and can tell you he is "Now three years old." (He is turning 3 on June 26th) Heather and Nick are just the type of people that Seldovia welcomes because of their youth, their energy and they have children to keep the school flourishing. Besides, they are a very nice couple.

Heather has three sisters: Mandy, Alyssa, and Allie and "a little brother, Willie." Heather's family still lives in Colorado. Nick was named after his father (Nick, Sr.) and his mother's name is Loretta Young (not the singer). Nick said his mother lived in Nanwalek for approximately 17 years. His family has lived in Seldovia, Port Graham and Nanwalek. Today Nick's father lives in Seward and "installs floors", his brother, Bubba, is an Alaskan fisherman, and his younger brother, Will, just came back from serving in the U.S. Army in Iraq. Nick himself was in the U.S. Marines. Nick told me that it was his dream since he was 6 years old to be a Marine and he made it. Nick said that not everyone is cut out to be a Marine, and I believe him. Today, brother Will is in the U.S. Army Reserves and works at Veco on the slope. Nick is employed by the Cook Inlet Housing Authority and works as a line handler for the Alaska Marine Highway System. You will see Heather's smiling face at the Seldovia Fuel and Lube store where she works as a clerk. Their boys go to the Seldovia Village Tribe's Head Start

The Moonin family moved to Seldovia from Colorado two years ago. Nick said that he remembers the day – a day etched in his memory. Before crossing the bay, he told Heather in Homer that they were coming to Seldovia. She did not know if he was teasing her or not! Anyway, when they arrived, it was a beautiful day – May 17th. Nick said it was a “great day because it was the day that Ellie Michelson was born, the day that Heather’s step-sister had a child and the day that a 250 lb. halibut was hanging on the scales in the harbor when they arrived.” What a great arrival day! However, Nick said, “Michelle Bateman gets the blame for them being here!” Heather met Michelle when she came to Colorado and they became good friends then. Then when the Moonins came to Seldovia for a visit, they just decided to stay and find jobs here.

Nick was born in Homer, Alaska, and has lived in a number of places in Alaska and in the lower 48. Heather was born in Longmont, Colorado, to Kate Reid and Chip Stephenson.

program while the parents are working. Heather also serves as a volunteer dispatcher for the Seldovia EMS and Fire Department. Nick likes to play men’s basketball when the men get together to play--- a very Seldovian thing to do!

Nick and Heather both love to fish and that is one of their favorite things to do in Seldovia. When specifically asked what they liked about Seldovia, Nick said, “fishing, berries and wildlife.” He also said he likes the “laid-back atmosphere of being on Seldovia time, which is something the outside world doesn’t understand.” Heather said it is a great place to raise kids. She said. “The environment is like a family, where everyone is willing to help if you need it.” Heather just loves living in Seldovia. One of her favorite pastimes is to walk on the beach. However, this story would not be complete without mentioning the family dog --- Grizzly Bear (a six pound black poodle)! Seldovia needs young families like the Moonins and we are so very pleased they chose Seldovia.



5 year old Trevor



(Almost) 3 year old Alex



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