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Josh Patrick - Living Large in the Place He Loves

by Tamara Blodgett



Long-time Seldovian comes full circle...

Current Seldovia Fuel & Hardware Plant Manager Josh Patrick stated, "He loves his job and he loves Seldovia." That pretty much sums up an interview with an entirely positive perspective.

Far from home but here to stay...

Josh heralds from Minnesota where he graduated in 1992. Wanderlust struck the young Patrick and he has held a myriad of positions, all of which contribute to his Jack-of-all-trades, master-of-all! From the ages of 12-15 years old Josh began his working career installing insulation. This 'messy job' then led to kitchen duties in a busy lodge restaurant. Later, at age 17-18 Josh worked maintenance at a local nursing home. Patrick commented he got "every messy job they had!" A woodworking/cabinetry apprenticeship for six months followed with a subsequent move by young Josh to Alaska at age 19.

She is current long-term employee with Seldovia Village Tribe along with her busy volunteer activities with the Booster Club. When asked what really worked in his relationship, he simply stated that he and Marcia "hit it off," and "she is his best friend." Well put! As an aside, it certainly didn't hurt that she was a great cook....

In his element with career...

Josh mentioned that we have a good crew at SF&L, which contributes to the overall morale of the company. That coupled with the variety of work the job offers has made the difference.

Josh was hired as an office manager from the start; this position was later combined with the plant manager position. He has been the plant manager for the last 5 years with the last 18 months working with current owner Dan Blodgett.

A “pearl” is found...

From 1992 through 1995 Josh worked in Pelican, Alaska . At Pelican Seafood’s, he held a position very similar to the one he currently holds but without the title. His best friend was his boss and he remembers this as a great time and good learning experience. The call of Seldovia was always there. He spent two summers with grandma and local Gerry Patrick. Those formative experiences have stayed with him his whole life. When a job opportunity at Homer Air presented itself, he jumped at the chance and worked there for 4+ years until he ended up at SF&L in June of 2000.

While working at Homer Air he met his “pearl” of a wife when she worked at an oyster farm. The two have been together over a decade and are the parents of four children. Oldest Bill, now a senior in college, Jimmy, off to college at the University of Anchorage Fairbanks , just-graduated Rachel, and youngest Stephen, a junior at Susan B. English School . Although wife, Marcia, is no longer an “oyster girl,” she is an avid fisher-woman, poker player and camper, all of which Josh and she share as common recreational hobbies.

SF&L has been family owned and operated since 1999 with SF&L owner Dan Blodgett considering Josh to be a major part of the integral success of the team.

Family an important piece to life’s puzzle...

Josh mentioned how precious his family ties were to him. He has both parents living here along with his surviving grandparent, local nursery woman/councilwoman, Gerry Patrick. His extended family has all made time for a Seldovian visit as well as friends coming to stay. Seldovia is still the place of childhood memories for Josh were he fished in the slough, rode his bike, and rode shotgun with grandpa in the grader when he worked for the state. Those special memories are not whitewashed by the present, but merely enhance the fabric of his life experience.



Josh and Marcia



Gerry Patrick



The Patricks and Opheims

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