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We'll miss you, Merrietta Beymer

by Tamara Blodgett



Missing "most things" about Seldovia but time to move on...

Where's the sugar-free whipped cream? Do you have any taco seasoning? Those were the questions I asked of Merrietta when I made by many-times-per week stops at Main Street Market. Simply put, she always had the time to answer. Working quietly in the back, she didn't shout out her dependability, but diligently went about her tasks with vigor.

for another as Cook Inlet, Mount(s) Augustine and Iliamna will be her new perspective. The grand plan also includes a lot of berry picking, vegetable growing and possibly a greenhouse in the future. Arn has a boat which they can use to come back over to Seldovia to visit when they find the time and inclination.

Merrietta will take time in the future to stay with sister

That work ethic and quiet diligence will leave a tangible void in it's place.

A school teacher turned accountant...

Merrietta first came to Seldovia in 1966 and taught school the first year that she was here. One pupil, affectionately known as "Suzie Q," will be taking over her managerial residence in the Seldovia Bayview Suites.(Now if that is not coming 'full circle,' what is?)

She taught Seldovia Native Associations former CFO's daughter, Kimberly, when she was in the fourth grade and simultaneous taught third grade, in which Suzie Q was a student. After just that year, she got a job at Main Street Market in March of 1977 and has remained there as their accountant for thirty-one years!

Looking forward to the future...

Merrietta plans to move onto the substantial chunk of land her son, Arnold "Arn" owns in Anchor Point. He and his friends have just about completed a new house just for her. She is pleased about helping to put the final touches on the residence with Arn, in addition to finishing his log cabin he is currently working on. She will be trading one good view

Margaret, only three years her junior, at her place in Oregon where more extended family and her other son, Merritt live.

Her eldest son was named after Merrietta's father, as was she. Her mother wished to name her after her dad and "feminine-ized" his name to suit her. Merritt is married to Dena and they have three children together: Kiersten (now married), fourteen year old Andrew and eight year old Peter (and Independence Day baby!).

Busy still...

Although Merrietta is happy to be moving on, she will not just rest on her laurels. After completion of the two homes on Arn's property, she plans to do some light bookkeeping from her home. Focusing mainly on getting people started with spreadsheets to initialize the process of organizing their finances. She is comfortable on both Lotus and Excel programs. When SNA took ownership of Main Street Market in 1999, they began the switch to MacIntosh, thereby necessitating the change to Excel. This new direction bridged familiarity between the two programs for Merrietta and now she is knowledgeable in both. She will take work as she needs or wants it and it <work> will no longer rule her time, as it should be. Happy to be seeing this part of her career come to it's natural end and excited about the option to chose what she wishes to do with her time. The best part of all. Thanks for always being there for our community, we'll miss you.



Merrietta and her two sons (left)

Merrietta with her family, including grandchildren (right)



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