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Welcome, Congratulations and Thank You Chaz and Mike!

photo and story by Jenny Chissus



On July 13th, 2010, another Seldovia couple will tie the knot on Outside Beach! I had a chance to sit down with Chaz, who is our school principal - Sherry Hingley's daughter to visit a bit about her move to Seldovia and their immediate plans for a wedding!

A few years ago they were looking to move to a waterfront community, and were considering Valdez, Seward and Seldovia. They went to Valdez - but there was WAY too much snow - and they never made it to Seward! Chaz and her fiance Mike came to Seldovia about a year ago for the first time from Fairbanks to visit her mom. They both absolutely loved it so much here that every chance they could - meaning "every 4 day weekend" they made the 12 hour trip from Fairbanks to revel in the beauty of the Seldovia area. Chaz says about her fiance - "He loves the outdoors more than any other human I know!" I can agree as I remember talking with her folks one day that Mike asked Chaz to drop him and the four wheeler at the base of Red Mountain - and come back to get him in 4 days - he is truly in his element in our beautiful surroundings.

Mike is a carpenter by trade and is currently working as a guide with an outfit in Fairbanks about three months out of the year - hunting for moose and sheep in the Brooks Range and bears out in the Aleutian Islands. On their 2nd to the last trip down, as they basked in the good vibes of Seldovia, Mike looked over at Chaz and said "Let's just move here!" and that was it! On February 28th, they moved to Seldovia from Fairbanks!

As the young outdoorsy couple that they are - they decided to stay out at the RV Wilderness Park, and found that the city was in need of some help creating the signs for our parks, ramps and public areas - perfect! So, as a deal in trade - Mike built the signs you see above, Chaz did the lettering and burning, and Mike routed the letters and completed the finishing sanding! The City has some amazing signs and Chaz and Mike had a place to park their trailer for the summer months or until they figure out their full time living situation! It has been exciting to see the signs going up!

You will see Chaz at the "Flube" - Seldovia Fuel and Lube - she has truly appreciated this position as this has been a great way for her to meet the community. When I brought up the upcoming nuptials Chaz's eyes lit up as she exclaimed "It is a RRRHFW" She saw the question in my eyes, and filled me in on the meaning of the acronym:

"Reduce, Reuse, Really Have Fun Wedding!" She is asking that folks wear green, and that you can't buy anything new! She and her mom made her wedding dress which was made of green and white tulle and is "just perfect"! The family is going to participate in a big way as Chaz's little brother Destin will be walking her down the aisle and her father will be marrying them! They hope the weather will cooperate and they will marry on the beach, but should the rain come down to wish them luck on the 13th of July - they have reserved the pavilion!

It is exciting to see young couples moving to town, making their way and contributing to the community in such a positive manner! When you see Mike or Chaz it would be awesome to congratulate and welcome them as well as thank them for a job well done that enhances the beauty of our Seldovia - just in time for the 4th!

Below are just two of the MANY new signs from Inside Beach to the RV Park out the road - it is amazing! Thank you to Tim Dillon and the City for making these signs a priority and having them up and on display for our Independence Day Celebrations! Personally, I'm excited to see Doug Pieren bringing his "magic" to this end of town! Thanks Doug for your beautiful gardening work all throughout Seldovia!



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