Murder, Mayhem and Mirth

By Sheryl Puckett

There's no mystery to Jen Cook's success and nothing like a good murder to pique people's interest. There's also the unlimited spontaneity, creativity and fun Jen offers her guests. You might even discover you have a hidden talent you didn't know existed but, at the least, it's an opportunity to loosen up and let your guard down.

Crime Scene Entertainment was born March 2019 when Jen Cook wanted to create a compelling and entertaining event. The Murder Mystery theatre rapidly sold out and she knew she was onto something.

Last winter Jen reached out to other local businesses in an effort to help them increase revenue during their slow season. Crime Scene Entertainment can bring the ultimate murder mystery to the Bayview or the Athol Community Center. In fact, they can offer private parties at your home or at their event center in Coeur d'Alene. According to Jen, "We have mysteries for as few as 8 people and up to hundreds. It depends on the theme chosen."

Guests show off their sleuthing skills as they piece together clues and uncover "who dunnit". During the events, you may even discover that YOU are, in fact, the murderer or victim!

The characters are given step by step instruction on how to play their character for the night, but it's up to them to show off their characters personality and expand on their objectives.

There are employed actors that help to fill spots if a guest doesn't show or to add to the environment, but the guests are the characters. It is like a real life game of Clue. These mystery events are **not** setup like a play.

Your experience is driven by improvisation. You will have time to develop your character and become familiar with the sequence of events that will take place during the party, however, there is no scripted dialogue and no rehearsed action.

Jen's mysteries are a hands on, immersive experience. All guests are given a brief description of the main characters and will be eyewitness to the murder, the investigation, the evidence presented and lastly, the solution.



If you think you've solved the crime, look at the evidence again. It's almost impossible to identify the killer early on. When you think you've figured it out you will also need to share how, when, and why they committed the crime.

Prizes are awarded at the end of every event for: Best Dressed, Best Performance, Most Money Collected, and Solving the Mystery.

Jen and her husband, Dan, have lived in Bayview three years and before that lived in Athol four years. Their two children started working events with Jen. "My family has been a huge support and help to me," says Jen.

This September, Jen signed a lease on her own place in Coeur d'Alene. She had her Grand Opening Oct 10. Upcoming plays are Dec 5, 6 p.m. *Bad Santa*, an escape murder mystery, and Dec 12, 6pm. *Homicide at the Tacky Sweater Shindig*.

Complimentary lite snacks and non-alcoholic beverages are served at all the events. There is a cash bar, as well. Some events can include a meal for an additional cost, depending on the theme.

The average price range for the mysteries is \$25 to \$75, with the latter being a couple's ticket. An occasional family event, such as the Halloween event, costs \$10 to \$15. Credit/debit cards are accepted.

"We love when guests take pictures and post to social media. We just ask that guests don't share any pictures that give away crucial details, like the victim or the murderer," says Jen.

There's one thing about Crime Scene Entertainment that is no mystery, this would be a "drop dead" fun evening. How great would it be to have our very own Bayview murder night? In the near future, once Covid is behind us, the Bayview Community Council hopes to sponsor this event.

Contact Jen Cook at (208) 369-3695 or Crime Scene Entertainment, 1701 N 4th St. Suite D. Cd'A, info@crimesceneentertainment.com



Pave Paradise (and put up a parking lot)

According to Farragut State Park Assistant Park Manager, Erin McKindree, "The department was awarded money to work on projects throughout the state. Farragut State Park received funds to create an additional parking lot for visitors that utilize the boat launch." Here is a press release stating what was received: https://parksandrecreation.idaho.gov/pressrelease/idaho-parks-and-recreation-receives-cares-act-funding-to-cover-covid-19-impacts-to-parks-sees-record-visitation/.

If you go to the park's boat launch you'll see that the work has already began. Erin goes on to say, "As you may already know, unfortunately, this summer we were required to close the boat ramp on numerous days because there was no



parking left spoiling the day for many. This will enable many more users to launch their boats and enjoy Lake Pend Oreille, turning those frowns into smiles." They are looking at approx. 50 more parking spaces going in.

What's Up At BWSD?

by Sheryl Puckett

•The information below is taken from monthly meetings and is public information. I am **not** a board member, this is my effort at reporting information.

If you think the BWSD board members are resting on their laurels, then you should Zoom the meetings since their agendas are packed full with work to do and tasks successfully achieved.

Rates: BWSD board members are correcting an old age problem on the rate inequities occurring in the district. They're starting with multifamily dwellings.

Multifamily is anything over one unit. What happened was they all were categorized "Commercial". Each unit should be paying a monthly water service charge.

Imagine a large building with fifteen apartments all owned and deeded to fifteen separate individuals. The entire building now pays a monthly water service charge of \$32.00. (\$32.00 is what all BWSD users pay for monthly water) But in this case, each owner pays \$2.13 for monthly water (\$32 divided by 15).

Pumping Tanks: Currently there is no limit to the number of yearly sewer pumping one can have, therefore the board is considering limiting the number of pumpings for both commercial and residential accounts. President Calvin Nolan states, "We are putting undo stress on our ratepayers" referring to the costs of multiple pumpings on commercial accounts. BWSD is currently responsible for tank maintenance and pump outs. It would require the creation of a new resolution and motion passed by the majority of the board members to make changes.

Contracting with Innovate Company

Innovate is generating a GIS map that will integrate with the BWSD billing system and also locate the district's ER's. A townsperson recently stated they didn't know if they had one or two ER's. Now BWSD will have current information at their fingertips to determine if a property has an ER or not. Innovate will bring the district into the 21st century. As of November 30, the district will have paid Innovate approx. \$10,000. This is money well spent.

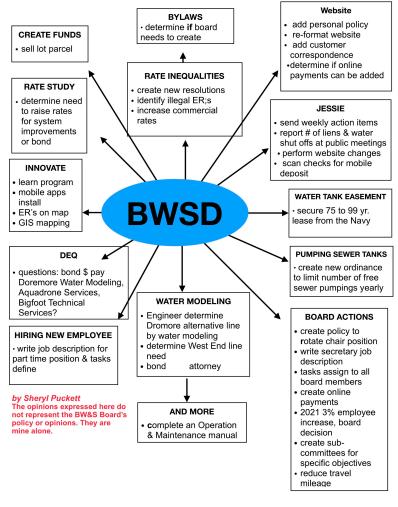
Obtaining Water Tank Easement

Our water tank is the property of the US Navy. DEQ is requiring that the district have a 75 to 99 year easement with the Navy. Unfortunately this has not happened yet. A request has been sent to the Navy's legal council but it's taking a long time to hear back. Incidentally, without this, there can be no tank rehab. The board is hot on this.

Hiring Part Time Office Employee

The Board plans to hire more help in the office, two days weekly at a rate of \$15 hourly. This equates to a yearly salary of \$12,500 but the Board budgeted for \$15,000 a year. The intent is the current secretary work on "projects" and the new employee taking over customer service, billing and general administration tasks.

• There's so much going on that I created this visual aid to keep track of it all.



WE WISH ALL A MERRY CHRISTMAS