

SHORE LINES

Bayview Community News
DECEMBER 2021

Events & Activities

Alternative Options to Holiday Gift Buying

Message from Council Chair, Ali Spahn

If you've waited until December to order your holiday gifts, you may have missed the mark since purchasing gifts through the mail will take longer, cost more, and might not arrive in time. But have no fear... there are a variety of different ways to partake in giving this holiday season. It's a wonderful opportunity to help others, share gifts and enjoy the holiday spirit. Perhaps consider an alternative gift, or one from the heart? Here are a few ideas:



The Gift of Food

The best kind of present is one that you can eat, of course. If you're not sure what to give your next-door neighbor or close friends on Christmas, whip up one of your specialties and attach a greeting card. Whether it is planning, preparing, or eating, food is a great way to gather with loved ones and share a tasty dish. People love food, so you can't go wrong with that choice!

The Gift of Time

There's nothing better than the gift of time, especially on such a busy holiday. When you give someone your time, you are giving them a portion of your life that you'll never get back. That is why the greatest gift you can give someone is your time.

You can babysit for a friend for free for several hours so your friend can go on a date night with her husband or do her own Christmas shopping. Another way is to offer your time to help on projects. Your mom would appreciate not having to break her back weeding her garden. Your wife would love the change of color, so painting that room you've been promising to do for months may be the perfect gift. And your sister would thank you for repairing the broken kitchen sink. Stacking wood, shoveling snow, a car wash or cleaning your elderly neighbor or family member's house can be a welcomed gift.

The Gift of Kindness

Kindness has been shown to increase self-esteem, empathy and compassion, and improve mood. Kindness can increase your sense of connectivity with others, which can directly impact loneliness, improve

low mood and enhance relationships in general. It also can be contagious.

You can start with your mailman, who works hard every day with it often going unnoticed. Leave them a snack and a note thanking them for all they do.



Buy a stranger coffee and then give someone who serves you a bigger tip than necessary. Servers often go under-tipped, so this could make a huge difference in their day.

I know, getting on the phone with your grandma or super chatty aunt can turn into a three-hour ordeal, and it's always something that gets pushed to the bottom of our to-do lists, sometimes to the point that it doesn't happen. Call a family member that you know would love to hear your voice, whether it be your mom, grandma, aunt, or a sibling.

And finally, while you can do kind things for others all day, you won't feel good unless you do kind things for yourself. Forgive yourself for a past mistake you made, cut off negative self-talk, and remind yourself that you're amazing and doing the best you can.

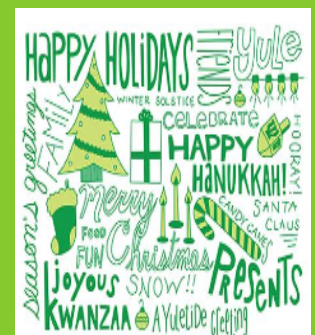
Any way you look at it, if you've fallen behind, alternative gifts may be the way to go in 2021. It's a unique way of telling friends and loved ones that they are special.

Opening Soon

A second hand clothing store called Beau Monde is opening in the old post office on Main Street in Athol. Beau Monde is not new to the area. They have two exchange clothing stores in Hayden. This is a great way to make some extra cash or get some great buys. Win, win for all.

Happy Holidays
from Your Board

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Vice Chair:	Margaret Nelson
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See our website: www.BayviewCommunityCouncil.org

A Creek Runs Through Us

by Mike Lee

Her upper reaches cascade through the forest and fen of Cape Horn and the Three Sisters only to then unceremoniously pour from a culvert after being buried by a parking lot downtown. A rare beauty, she flows through town with little fanfare, though once she quenched our thirst as the life blood of our community.



While some nurture and cherish her beauty, for the most part she is treated as nothing more than a drainage ditch through town. But walking her upper reaches, seeing her in her glory flowing through the last remnants of ancient cedars is to revisit the Garden of Eden.

Bayview Creek is host to Idaho's State Fish, the Cut Throat Trout. Though sadly their journey from Lake Pend Oreille has long since been cut short. But the fish's presence grants her the status of a Class One Stream and protects her and her shoreline from harm.

Her historic value as a source of clear fresh water for our community has been set aside as we tap the seemingly limitless aquifer that flows from Lake Pend Oreille beneath our feet. But one day we may need her again so her protection is vital to Bayview's wellbeing.

In October, I discovered wannabe prospectors with pickaxes and shovels laying waste to her bed. Their fool's errand and trespass has been duly noted and must stop. For gold has never been found along her course.

An effort was made several years ago to remedy the many challenges she faces negotiating her path through town. These include: hazardous & undersized culverts, pesticide, herbicide and fertilizer from lawns and polluted runoff from roadways.

Bayview Creek is a treasure. An unpolished stone and a natural resource easily taken for granted until she overflows her banks in periodic floods.



Oh that we might free her from her dungeon. Let her flow freely and support a spawning population of cut throat once again. Allowing her beauty to grace our downtown with a wild freedom that nurtures our lake and our spirits would be a noble gesture and grace our community.

Bayview Creek Facts:

- Bayview Creek is 6 miles long
- Highest Point: Cape Horn Peak elevation 4,519
- Outflow elevation: 2,065 when entering the lake
- Last recorded flood: Winter 1996/Spring 1997
- The creek passes directly through the center of Bayview
- It has a reproducing population of cutthroat trout and brook trout as identified in surveys by the IDEQ and by sampling conducted in the past by Gregg Mauser, a cutthroat trout specialist focused on tributaries to Lake Pend Oreille.
- Drainage Size: 2,000 to 3,000 acres

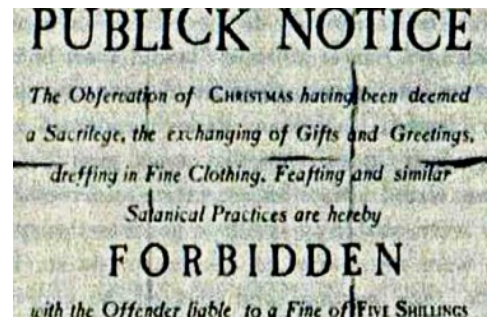
Pastor's Corner

Why the Pilgrims Hated Christmas

By Pastor Stephen Angliss

In 1659, the Pilgrims banned the celebration of "Foolstide." In those days, breaking the law of "exchanging gifts, greetings, and similar satanical practices" ran a fine worth \$8,000! But how could the Pilgrims be such scrooges? With their belt buckle hats and prayer-clasped hands, they appear more like happy Whos of Whoville, not a group of grinchers with hearts two sizes too small.

The Pilgrims' hate for Christmas came from their love for Christ. The Act of Supremacy under Queen Elizabeth I established a government-run religion that forced people to



follow a watered down form of the faith. It prioritized tradition over truth and decorations over doctrine. In rebellion, the Pilgrims lived a simple life free from rituals and religious ornamentation. This included Christmas, which back then was a government mandated holiday.

Different kinds of government mandates exist today, but the dangers of December remain the same. People confuse celebrating Christmas for celebrating Christ. Lighting candles and singing "Ave Maria" do not grant a relationship with God. Recognizing sin, repenting from sin, and receiving Christ's forgiveness on the Cross is the only way to love God the way the Pilgrims did (Eph 2:8-9).

But unlike the Pilgrims, let us match the degree of our love for Christ with our love for Christmas, and vice versa. Let us be like Ebenezer Scrooge, who began *A Christmas Carol* as a Puritan and ended it as a Christian, one who recognized that true love for God is expressed in true love for others.

The Shore Lines Wishes

All Our Readers a Very

