

SHORE LINES

Bayview Community News
JANUARY 2022

Events &
Activities

IT'S THE COUNTRY BOY

by Ali Spahn

"I grew up in a logging family in the early 80's in the Athol area. We were dirt poor. We lived in a 5TH wheel and my mom butchered deer outside on a folding table and baked everything by hand. My Dad logged and just retired after 44 years this past week," Leland



Henderson stated proudly. Logging and mining have been the economic foundation in Northern Idaho since before the 1900s. The work was tough, dangerous and the hours and days were long. Leland's father didn't want his son to go into the trade.

So, Leland searched for his own niche and found it in the restaurant business in 1994 in his early 20's in Post Falls. For five years, Leland studied under a gentleman from Paris, France, who graduated from Le Cordon Bleu Paris under the Remy Martin family which has been teaching students the culinary arts since 1895. With that training, Leland worked for 26 years as a chef. During that time, he married a local gal, Heather, and they had a son, Jericho who is now 11 years old.

After taking a break from the restaurant business for six years, Leland heard from the Pastor of Athol Baptist Church that the local Athol restaurant, **Country Boy**, was for sale. "It was the right time and the right place. We're Christians. We pray a lot and that was a big portion of it. God put the whole idea together because I was not interested in getting back in the restaurant business but this whole culture and structure and price worked out fine," explained Leland. The couple took that leap of faith and reopened the restaurant just three months ago.

Being a local boy, Leland is all about community and his employees are part of that community. "We pay our employees \$16.00 an hour and have a good culture in our business so, we don't see turnover. We want long relationships. We want to keep each staff member full time even through the winter," said Leland. He hired all the previous Country Boy staff and trained them with the expectation to do a good job. "You can't buy the type of employees we have here because you can't get the sort of raw humor. They are a great hard-working bunch of people."

Leland's biggest challenge is to stay out of the kitchen. "My job is to be in the driver's seat to drive the business and take care of the customers so we can pay our

employees more and have stability." With that said, he leaves the cooking to his kitchen staff.

Since the original business started in 1978, some sections need to be upgraded. Leland plans to slowly renovate. He wants to remodel the bathrooms in January and add a covered patio in the Spring.



Shana - Kitchen Manager
Owner - Leland Henderson,
Tamie - Front House Manager

"With new customers you have only one shot to impress somebody and capture that business. It should be a good experience when you give someone your money. For most families, when you're spending \$50 to take your family out and you have a bad experience, you've just blown something that you can do just once a month," Leland explained. He listens to his customers too. "They don't want us to change the menu too much so, currently we're taking our time on revamping any part of our menu for the spring. It's a slow process."

The pandemic hasn't really affected his business. "The area is growing at such a rapid pace, and we haven't slowed down yet. This was a mining and logging town including mill workers. Idaho people are fiercely independent because for a long time we had to make it on our own. I don't know if it's our stubbornness, but the pandemic didn't do a whole lot to our business," declared Leland.

Leland's genuine interest is to be a part of the community which includes Bayview, Sandpoint, and Spirit Lake areas. As Athol continues to grow, Leland would like to see the city council have strategic forethought regarding planning and infrastructure to maintain a healthy city. "We need to think about what we're doing to our aquifer, wildlife, and infrastructure to our roadways, so we can grow at a well-maintained pace," he said.

Leland will not turn away anyone who is in need. "It's the culture here. It's our mission. We love Jesus. We love our families. We love our community and then after that, we reach out to people who don't feel loved and practice an open-door policy. If you're hungry, we will share a warm meal. It's the Country Boy. If we're a value to the community and the customers are obviously a value to us, there's no telling what we can do," Leland stated with confidence.

Country Boy is opened 7 days a week from 7:00 am to 3:00 pm. For more information, go to: <https://www.countryboycafe.com/>

Border Dispute

On November 1, 2021 Kootenai County Judge Christensen held a hearing with Vista Bay West, Inc, the Plaintiffs, versus K & E Vista LLC, the Defendants. K & E Vista is an LLC held by Chan Kurupiah. Vista Bay West is a group of homeowners, approximately 14, some long time Bayview owners.

This information was taken from that court case which I attended via Zoom. When they say the wheels of justice moves slowly, they're not kidding. Records indicate that this has been an ongoing legal issue starting prior to January 2020.

Attorney, John Magnuson, represents the defendants and the plaintiffs are represented by Susan Weeks. The crux of the issue seems to be a boundary line dispute .

There were two things that came out of the previous mediation, which has yet to be finalized: Vista Bay would come up with a road maintenance proposal and a tentative agreement was reached regarding the boundary dispute.

Both groups have been ordered by the judge to complete meditation

If this is not resolved in mediation a court date is set for August 2022.

Idaho Open Range

Excerpts from Idaho Farm Bureau Insurance

Idaho is by law an "open range" state. In open range, livestock may roam freely. Idaho law defines open range as "lands outside of cities, villages and herd districts, upon which cattle by custom, license, lease or permit, are grazed or permitted to roam." (Idaho Code § 25-2118)

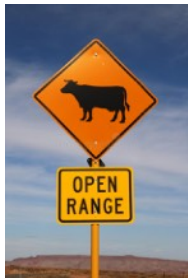
If you own property in open range, you are responsible to "fence out" livestock if you want to keep animals off of your property.

In open range, domestic animals including cows, horses and sheep, have as much right to be on the road as a car or wildlife and may be grazing on or near a road or highway.

Owners of domestic animals are not liable for damages to a vehicle when it collides with an animal in open range.

In fact, the vehicle owner may be legally responsible for paying for the dead or injured animal they hit in open range if they were negligent and caused the collision; for example: excessive speed, impaired or inattentive driving.

Ranchers or highway districts may place fences along roads to protect livestock and minimize the chances of vehicles colliding with animals in open range.



Love Your Wild Neighbors

by Mike Lee

We locals are not the only ones facing culture shock over unbridled growth. Picture the challenges wildlife face surviving on what only nature provides. The only shelter a thicket of trees which suddenly disappears replaced by concrete and asphalt.



If you are frustrated by the traffic, think of the herds of elk who for centuries traversed the Rathdrum Prairie. I saw a remnant of this group crossing "Freeway 95" early one morning near Hayden. It was shocking to imagine the new obstacle course they must run. How much longer can they make this trek?

When seasonal migration routes are crisscrossed by 4 lane highways what options do animals have? We bemoan our luck when we run them down as they follow the pathways their ancestors have taken for thousands of years.

Part of the privilege of living in the country is sharing it with our wild neighbors. Research shows that wildlife: thinks, remembers, feels pain, and experiences emotions of joy and sorrow the same as we do. They have homes, families, and participate in communities with other creatures around them. They live the most honest of lives, true to creation or they die according to the harshest rules of evolution.

With winter comes the debate over feeding wildlife. We love to see birds, but unclean feeders spread disease. The cute picture feeding a moose through your window leads to the moose becoming an aggressive panhandler and dying after being relocated. Feeding on "human food" can result in dependency, illness and other troubles.

Some species suffer and disappear when houses replace habitat? Others become overcrowded or even overpopulated and diseased without predators managing populations. All try their best to adapt to rapidly changing environments. Most fail.

There is a simple solution if you want to help wildlife. Plant trees, shrubs, flowers and herbs that allow wildlife to feed naturally and find shelter. Practice fire and wildlife prevention around buildings but preserve habitat in wild places. Wildland may not be a neat and tidy place, but it holds a special beauty. A tree farm does not a forest make. Dead and dying trees serve as home and food to a multitude of species for decades even after they fall and nurture the forests of the future.

As North Idaho continues to grow, so will wildlife conflicts. Try putting yourself in their hooves or paws. Do your best to appreciate them from a distance that does not induce stress and fear. Enjoy the great outdoors, but keep your dog on its leash. Survival in the wild is a constant challenge, especially in the winter. Like it or not, we are all animals. Please make an effort to Love Your Wild Neighbors.

*Happy 2022, Cheers for a New Beginning To All
From the Bayview Community Council Board*