

SHORE LINES People, Events & Issues

SEPTEMBER 2020

Bayview Community Council News

Ready, Aim, Fire

by Sheryl Puckett

The **Idaho Fish & Game Farragut Shooting Range (FSR)** is Bayview's backyard and becoming a major attraction.

Use at the range has increased significantly in the last several years. The range office has been upgraded and professionalized with a finished interior, Internet access, carpeting, additional lighting and electrical, parking for the disabled and a multi-camera security system.

An adjacent Hunter Education Classroom has been added and is near completion. The classroom includes a warming kitchen, restroom and ample parking for future classes, as well as a variety of community meetings.

The firearms and archery ranges have been updated and improved to better serve the public as well as the in-progress addition of a "Known Distance" Archery range for the already huge archer audience. The current 3D Archery Range can allow a dozen or more archers at one time due to the mile long forest corridor.

Each shoot house allows for approx. 12 shooters at one time while offering 4 Trap stations. According to a CDA PRESS article, "This outdoor range offers covered shooting opportunities for pistols, long guns up to 200 yards and several shotgun shooting platforms with clay pigeon launchers."

The range is policed by approximately 30 volunteer NRA Certified Range Safety Officers (RSO) and their Fish & Game Range Master, Mr. John Kunkle. "The volunteers complete an application process including a fingerprint background check. These volunteers come from a variety of backgrounds including military and police, but they all have vast experience and a passion for the shooting sports," says Kunkle.

Local Athol resident, Jim Barrett is a RSO and says, "While friendly advice and discussion of firearm and ammunition topics is often engaged with patrons, safety is number one. You could not ask to work with a better group of folks. The RSOs are gracious and engaged in their integrity and dedication to the management of the FSR and its continued improvements."



and likes performing a service for the public. Jeff says, "We don't necessarily teach people but we can do things to make sure they are shooting safely. Farragut is a very safe range, the way they have it baffled it's not possible to shoot a round off the range. I have never seen another baffled range. The Farragut Range is special in that regard."



Safety for all range use is of paramount concern. In addition to customers having to read the range rules and sign an acknowledgment, the RSOs remain mobile throughout all ranges to ensure safe handling protocols are being adhered to. Security cameras positioned in all shoot houses and about the premises also monitor activity 24/7.

Future plans include on site classes supporting outdoor education, firearms/archery safety and that which supports the mission statements and responsibilities of the IDFG. More Trap shooting and multi-distance ranges are in the proposal stages.

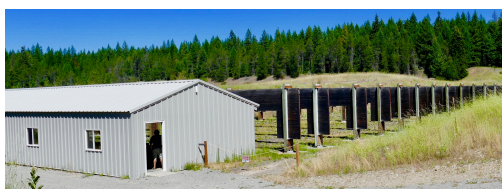
The range has not always been free from controversy. In May 2013, it re-opened after being closed six years due to a class action lawsuit brought against the State by 10 local residents. The safety procedures directly in place today, are the result of this lawsuit. The noise complaints were not deemed enforceable.



Local Bayview resident, Harvey Richman, was the attorney for the Plaintiffs. When recently asked what he thought about the current range he stated, "What they built was the result of ten years of heated and expensive litigation. They were essentially forced to do what they did. They did not do it willingly, they did not do it lovingly and they did not pay attention to many of the guidelines that were out there, but the bottom line is they did engineer a reasonable safe range, just in the wrong place."

According to Mr. Kunkle, "On weekdays, we see a few dozen shooters per day, but we are exceedingly busy on the weekends as well as on specific reservation events." Another good to know tidbit is that one can purchase on-site eye and hearing protection which is mandatory for firearm shooters.

Range access is off Perimeter Road on the East side of Farragut State Park. Currently the range is open Friday-Monday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. year round depending on (Continued)



Bayview resident, Jeff Niccoli, is another RSO who volunteers twice monthly (Continued)

weather conditions. Occasionally, a reserved event will occur during mid-week. The cost is \$5 per shooter.

Thanks go to Dean Tiewater who suggested an article on the rifle range. Also, disclaimer: I, author, was one of the plaintiffs.

Rocks Gonna Roll!

by Francie Miller

People stacking rocks has become quite the pass-time on Farragut trails. Maybe it's a type of personal or spiritual statement. So, why should we care about a practice that can be dismantled with a simple foot-push?



Because it's not entirely harmless. It can change the habitat for native plants and the creatures who live underneath. Moreover, pointless cairns change the value of the wilderness experience for others, by degrading an already beautiful landscape. Building cairns where none are needed for route finding is antithetical to Leave-No-Trace ethics.

Move a stone, and you've changed the environment to something manmade, an unwelcome reminder of humanity, something we strive to avoid as we enjoy our wild spaces.

Must you leave evidence of your need for acknowledgement? Consider checking your ego at the trailheads, and leave the earth's natural beauty alone. Her geology, as it stands, is already perfect.

Idlewilding Scenic Bay

by *The Not-So-Grumpy Old Man*

Imagine, if you will, a chorus of Kokanee in a feeding frenzy, the countless kerplunks singing across an otherwise undisturbed bay. A buzz of crickets adds to the melody.

The evening wind falling down slope singing through the tops of the trees, their trunks gently creak and groan. An osprey chortles day's end, an owl hoots, the nighthawk's sharp drone precedes the cry of a loon. Coyote howls, a deer snorts and stomps a hoof, accented by the sharp shrill cry of the pileated woodpecker and caw of raven to the setting sun.

The laughter of children frolicking on the docks echos across the bay. A flock of geese announces its departure to feed at night. 24 solemn notes mournfully cry the extinguishing of light and the end of the day. There is something sublimely healing in these sounds. Let's listen more, try to make noise less and thank those who fought for our No-Wake Zone.

Community Wide

Yard Sale

Yard Sale!

Saturday - September 12th - 8am-2pm
at the Bayview Community Center
Start Preparing Now!!!

If you have a donation, we would be happy to accept it at the Center between 7:00 & 8:30a.m. on Sat. Sept. 12th. Thank You!

There will be many yard sales throughout the community. If you would like to have **YOUR SALE** included in our community-wide map, or for more information please contact Sheryl at 208-683-2874 or Marlys at 208-683-3295.

Only \$10, & we'll advertise for you.



We are not accepting clothes this year but appreciate any other donation. There's coffee and donuts for sale 7 a.m. at the Community Center lower lot.

The Community Council is happy to sponsor this event and grateful to the vendors who willingly pay ten dollars knowing the money goes right back into the community.

If you plan to have a yard sale the same day, please consider paying the \$10 to be included on our map, instead of piggy backing on our efforts.

If you need a Sign Up form which gets your address on our map, please email: sherylpp@gmail.com

THANK YOU! FOOD BANK COLLECTORS



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TED & FAYE BARE, SIOUX TAYLOR
BOB PRINCE, MARGARET NELSON
MIKE KENDEL, Food Transporter



Sponsored by YOUR Bayview Community Council

THANK YOU Bayview for giving to the ABC Food Bank. We collected \$1,114.00 cash/checks

No September Council Meeting