

SHORE LINES

Bayview Community Council News
AUGUST 2019

Events, Issues
& People of Bayview

Living History with Mitzi

Mitzi Johnson embodies everything we imagine small town life to be. According to Mitzi "I know for a fact that I couldn't live here if it weren't for Ralph's Cafe and the Mercantile."



"The girls bring my coffee out and I don't even have to get off the golf cart. In the wintertime I call the Mercantile and give Debbie my order and she delivers my groceries. No matter what I order Debbie will find it. This town is really special and I don't want to go anywhere else."

Mitzi stories are shared by many other locals. Once you've spent time here, Bayview holds your heart, it brings you back. The most fortunate ones find a way to stay. While she's only lived here full time since 1995, between 1968 and then, Bayview was her home away from home every weekend possible. She remembers being able to pull over anywhere you wanted and camp in Farragut State Park and never see a park ranger.

We think Bayview is slow now, perhaps slightly behind the times, but in 1968 JD's only had two booths and the post office was in the back room of the Mercantile. Some may wonder how JD's came to be named. Mitzi remembers JD himself, for whom the bar is named, as a sweet, nice guy. Back then Mitzi liked to dance in JD's and said they had a great jukebox. Some things stay the same: bars are still a hangout for the young as well the young at heart.

She also noted another local meeting spot where fishermen collected. Back then fishing in Lake Pend Oreille seemed like an endless all you can eat buffet. "The fish cleaning station at the boat launch was a popular hang out, and I'll never forget when my friend, who still lives in Bayview, actually fell in under the dock and was greeted by giant swarming sucker fish feeding upon the piles of fish guts."

Fifty years later, we still look in amazement at the old boat lift shed behind the Captain's Wheel. Mitzi recalls a betting pool on when it would fall. Obviously no one collected on that bet. Some things haven't changed since 1968 although it appears that the current owner hopes to rehabilitate the structure. Only time will tell and Mitzi is amazed it's still standing.

Compared to 1968 Bayview appears to have had a facelift. "The town is cleaned up, and looks a lot better" says Mitzi.

In 1995 Mitzi and her husband bought property in Bayview, a two room Farragut cabin which later (con't)

they tore down and built a house.

These days Mitzi can be found cruising the streets of Bayview in her golf cart, occasionally stopping to enjoy a cup of coffee at Ralph's. Give her a "Hi Ho" for the last fifty years she's seen us come and go.

Calling All Cell Phones

by Sheryl Puckett

An unexpected turn of events occurred during Bayview Daze. I received an email instructing me to go to the bazaar downtown and talk to the AT&T representatives at their booth. There I met Ryan Beardslee, store manager with AT&T who informed me that his company was eager to be the first to put a cell tower in Bayview. Most surprising was how close they are to accomplishing this goal.



A few days later Ryan emailed, "We just had a tower north of the Bayview area go on air today. I do not think this will hit Bayview, but I will be conducting tests with the network team to see if we can redirect the Granite Tower to reach Bayview since it does not need to push north anymore. I have no idea if it will reach, but I will keep you updated."

Wow! The Granite Tower can be seen from Hwy 95 just north of Athol above the Kelso Lake turnoff. Looks like a straight shot into town down Perimeter Road.

Ryan went on to add, "I have driven a lot of attention to the tower in Bayview, all the way to the director's office! So everyone is talking about it."

Verizon customers would not receive any benefit from AT&T coverage. However, they have many switcher offers and you can use your existing Verizon phones on their network or take advantage of their free phone offers if you did switch over.

To their credit, during Bayview Daze AT&T had a mobile emergency service cell phone tower they brought to Bayview at the request of the Kootenai County Sheriff. The AT&T mobile cell phone tower was placed in the parking lot across from JD's Tavern. This special vehicle provided cell phone connection to all first responders working the Bayview Daze festivities.

A big thanks to AT&T for doing this and a shout out to Timberlake Fire, Kootenai County Sheriff and any other employees or volunteers who were helping keep Bayview Daze safe and fun.

It appears the race is on to provide cell service in Bayview. Verizon can you hear us? Stay tuned.

Add Some Color to Your Life

After encouraging young entrepreneurs in our area to come forward, Shore Lines has learned about another enterprising Bayview business owner, John Miller. He wants to brighten up your life with **Color Changer**.

John grew up in Athol and has family still living in the area. Like many other young people he originally left for greener pastures only to be drawn back home to the place that holds his heart. John has been living in Bayview now for six years with his fiancé, Samantha Smith.

John worked for Scenic Bay Marina for five years as lead maintenance supervisor. Now he has started back in the family business which originated with his father who taught him everything he knows about painting.

Color Changer has four employees and can paint your house, interior or exterior, your fence, garage doors, and anything else you want to brighten up. A professional painting job on the exterior of buildings requires the use of industrial grade equipment including: brushes, sprayers, ladders and scaffolding. John says "We have everything needed to ensure a quality job." He adds "Interior jobs require attention to detail; that's our specialty."

When you ask Samantha about their plans she says, "Our future goal is to continue to grow in this community as upstanding citizens and be of service to the greater Kootenai County area. We want to buy property and continue to grow our business." That's the spirit Bayview is looking for.

Rates are determined by bid depending on size of job. If you think you have something that needs a fresh coat of paint or some sprucing up, give John and Samantha an opportunity to bid your job. Contact them at: john@color-changer.com or by phone: 628-77—paint or 208-217-4255.

August Food Drive

Debbie Adinolfi is this year's food drive chair person along with guidance from former chair, Sally Newcombe. As in the past, your help is needed again. Prior to collection day we will need help distributing bags and flyers throughout the community. **Saturday, August 24, we will be going door to door collecting food in Bayview and Cape Horn 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.** Volunteers and trucks are needed to deliver the food to the Athol Food Bank on Monday, August 26. Email Debbie at: or call her at 208-683-0118.



The Noise of Summer

by the Grumpy Old Man Shaking his Fist at the World

Perhaps the most underrated quality of Bayview is our sublimely peaceful environment. Maybe that is why any disturbance can become a major irritation. The sound of silence is amazingly something we often take for granted. Until of course it is broken.

Thankfully, the miscreants are finally running out of illegal fireworks. But honestly, that behavior needs to end completely. One dry spring combined with a little stupidity and we will burn . . . again. For the third time.

Like fireworks, any motor vehicle without a proper muffler is a serious fire hazard. Not to mention, obviously and thoughtlessly "**Disturbing the Peace,**" which interestingly enough is against the law.

Let's not forget the hot rod boaters who have recently decided to turn Lake Pend Oreille into a race track. You have no right to deprive everyone else the joys of our all too short summer with your obnoxiously loud toys. Imagine how the goats feel in Echo Bay. No excuses, easy solution, mufflers!

Last but not least, your dog barking may not seem so loud to you. That's because it's barking at your neighbors! You chose to be a pet owner.

The good ol' days of "live and let live" Idaho were fine when there weren't so many of us. Times change, Bayview's quality of life is priceless. But it will take everyone to keep it that way as we continue to grow.

When a note, asking nicely, or worse, Facebook doesn't do the trick, the Kootenai County Sheriff's office will take complaints regarding **Disturbing the Peace**. Document the infraction and they may investigate, perhaps cite. Names, numbers, locations and descriptions are always helpful.

Avoiding angry confrontation is best, but doing nothing does just that. Rude is not cool. This is our home.

In the end it comes down to respect. Thank God we have peace to disturb. It's up to us to keep it. All too soon, we'll get back to normal.

In Passing

Long time Bayview resident Larry Ferguson passed on in July. He was a frequent patron of Ralph's Cafe. He always offered a friendly greeting and smile to everyone who crossed his path. Ralph's staff and regulars certainly miss his company over coffee.

Larry chose to go forward with strength, resolve and dignity in his own time. Vaya Con Dios . . . Larry

Bayview Water & Sewer water rate increase \$8.00 effective on your August bill.