



New Handy Solutions for Bayview Residents

By Ali Spahn

When that honey-do list has been sitting on your desk for months, it's time to call Mark.

Mark Thayer was born in Detroit, Michigan. As a young teenager, Mark was gifted at fixing things. "I was the kid in the neighborhood that if somebody's electric garage door opener or the garbage disposal wasn't working, you call Mark; and I would make like 5 bucks." This experience was the catalyst for Mark working in equipment and hydraulic sales. "That job provided me with an opportunity to move all over the country in states such as California, Kansas, New York and Utah, just to name a few."



Mark was in-between sales jobs while living in Salt Lake City, so he decided to dabble in home repairs as a filler and before he knew it, he had enough steady customers to work full-time. When he moved to Idaho, with over 40+ years' experience as a handyman, Mark grew his business quickly in the Coeur d'Alene and Hayden area.

Mark's forte is problem-solving and he enjoys challenges. Troubleshooting plumbing and mechanical jobs are his specialty. "Fixing an issue is like chess. You must look 5 to 6 steps ahead to keep on top of things. You work smarter, not harder," Mark said with a grin.

His favorite type of job is helping his clients with a punch list. "I enjoy a job when a couple has a list of six things to do, especially when there's an element of fixing a lawn mower or snow blower."

Mark met his future wife, Angelique Pennington, when she hired him to fix her water heater. It was a match made in heaven and in April of 2025, Anjelique and Mark married and purchased a home in Bayview. "God has led me here with the opportunity to serve the Bayview community," Mark said.

If you're in need of a handyman, you can reach Mark at **Dr. Fix It! Commercial, Residential and Mechanical** at 801-750-1180.

When The Wind Blows

Editorial by The Grumpy Old Man

Five wildfires have now scarred our priceless local scenery. A campfire, fireworks, heavy equipment and a signal flare were to blame. Typical, 90% of all wildfires are human caused. I've heard the Sunset Fire sprung from a slash pile thought long dead that reignited. Frighteningly, a common occurrence.

As witnessed, all too often, there is no stopping a wind driven fire burning through dry grass, brush, timber or even an entire community such as Athol or Bayview. We owe it to the firefighters to do more than buy them lunch and pray. Though either is appreciated. We need to try to be prepared.

Take personal responsibility. Walk around your property. Try to imagine burning embers being driven by the wind. Most likely from the southwest but any direction due to swirling gusts.

You may choose to cut back vegetation. But even then embers can find their way under unscreened decks or into vents. Well watered shrubs and trees can resist fires but be sure to clean out dead limbs and leaves. Check the entire perimeter of all buildings, fences and don't forget the roofs and gutters.

You can log the forests until the cows come home. It will only make matters worse unless you leave enough big trees to shade the ground and slow the wind. Besides, 85% of homes lost in the West are due to grass and brush fires. Being prepared for a wind driven fire is on each of us.

I hate to say it but looking around town we resemble a catastrophe waiting to happen. Please do your part to be Fire Smart. Search "Fire Smart Checklist" online. If nothing else have your insurance paid up, fire alert notices turned on, with a bug-out bag and evacuation plans ready. Fire Season lasts through late October. It's never too late, until it is.

Upcoming Town Speaker

September 30, Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. please join us at the Bayview Community Center for a free presentation on **Estate Planning, Wills, and Trusts**. This event is sponsored by the Bayview Community Council.

Speaker, **Kylee Mollette**, will explain the differences between these options, explain common mistakes that can lead to probate and share practical tips for protecting your loved ones. Coffee and cookies will be available and there will be a door raffle too. Everyone is welcome!

Cancer Screening

By Bayview's Dr. John Charyk

"Screening" in health care means testing for the presence of a disease in the absence of symptoms. This can be particularly effective with regards to cancer because early detection can result in better outcomes and greater chance of cure.

There are hundreds of different kinds of cancer, but effective screening tests exist for only a few of them. Below are screening recommendations for the 3 most common cancers in men (prostate, lung, colorectal) and women (breast, lung, colorectal). For more information, I recommend the website of the US Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) https://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/search_results?searchterm=cancer%20screening

USPSTF recommendations figure prominently in US health care policy because current law mandates that insurance companies must provide these tests to patients at no cost. However, HHS secretary RFK Jr has given indications that in the interest of government efficiency he may alter decision making processes used by the USPSTF, which could make it more difficult and costly to access these preventative services.

Breast cancer: Every other year mammography for women aged 40 to 74 years.

Lung cancer: Annual CT scan of the chest for adults aged 50 to 80 years who have smoked an average of 1 pack/day or more for 20 years.

Colorectal cancer: Adults aged 45 to 75 years should undergo screening, which can be either a stool-based test annually or colonoscopy once every 10 years.

Prostate cancer: There is a blood test (PSA) that can be used for screening and may be appropriate for some men ages 55 to 69, but there are potential harms to screening such as overtreatment and treatment complications, which may outweigh benefits of early diagnosis, so the decision to be screened for prostate cancer should be an individual one.

Grease Monkey Expands

By Sheryl Puckett

Grease Monkey in Athol is rolling out a new service this August: TIRES!

Owner **Chris Watts** explained that they had previously avoided offering tire services because other businesses were expected to move into the area. "Others were supposed to be coming to town, but they backed out or shut down so we stepped in."

The shop is currently unloading equipment, with installation and wiring completed soon. Tire services are expected to begin around August 11. Cont.

Eat Your Weeds *by Sheryl Puckett*

If you ever find yourself in Athol and stumble across a patch of tamarack trees and wildflowers, chances are you've found **Tamarac Garden**, a family run herbal business with deep roots, both literal and personal.



Michelle McAninch, the woman behind the tea and tinctures, salves, and natural skincare, didn't

plan to become an herbalist. "It all started with desperation," she says. In 2020, one of her sons became dangerously ill and the traditional medical system failed to offer the answers or care they needed. "I looked out into my yard and thought, there has to be something here."

Michelle studied what grew right under her feet. Before long, she discovered that her property was full of healing plants, "a pharmacy in the weeds." She began experimenting with teas and remedies to care for her own family. And in 2021, **Tamarac Garden** was born.

Today, Michelle, her husband Rick, and their three teenage boys run the herbal operation from their once rundown property. Their product line includes herbal teas to help with sleep, allergies and colds, all natural skincare made from edible ingredients and a variety of remedies for headaches and hives to inflammation and arthritis.

Michelle and her family forage from their land, nearby mountains and neighboring properties. Most of their ingredients are wildflowers and weeds many people overlook.

Visitors can shop onsite, request a tour, or even sign up for a class to learn how to make their own teas and remedies. Michelle has been featured in national magazines, podcast interviews, and even had an invitation to share their products at a NASCAR event.

To see what they're up to or to place an order, visit tamaracgarden.com or email: michelle@tamaracgarden.com

Con't Grease Monkey will not keep a large inventory of tires on site but has partnered with a supplier who can deliver "next day."



Customers will be able to order the tires they need, then schedule an installation date and time. In addition, the shop will now offer flat repairs and seasonal tire changeovers from winter to summer sets.

Chris also noted that Les Schwab may be eyeing a move into the area. "We found that out after we bought the equipment," he added with a smile. "But we'll be here as the little guy, small town option."

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