

Balancing The Books

by Sheryl Puckett



Wilf Hanni is the owner of **Northern Lights Bookkeeping and Income Tax**. His career path has been anything but ordinary, stretching from banking to oil and gas management before leading him to Athol, where he has built a thriving bookkeeping and tax preparation business.

After his career in banking, with ten years in accounting, he earned his Accounting Degree. Wilf relocated to Athol in 2016 and in 2022, he launched his bookkeeping business.

Today, the company operates year round with five employees. His wife, Pamela, serves as Office Manager and Scheduler after leaving a long career as a Medical Transcriptionist. Lead Bookkeeper, Stacey Cobb, brings extensive experience and a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, managing all bookkeeping and payroll accounts. Seasonal team members, Casandra Rencken and Ellie Simons, specialize in tax preparation and add even more depth to the office's expertise. Together, this team provides a comprehensive suite of services, from payroll and reconciling accounts to preparing tax returns for individuals, businesses, nonprofits, and seniors.

Accuracy is a point of pride at Northern Lights. Every entry is double-checked, reconciled to bank statements, and reviewed by a supervisor before a final report reaches the client. When questions arise, the team works directly with clients to ensure everything is correct, clear, and complete.

They also stay well informed on changing tax laws, thanks to ongoing training and their affiliation with Prestige Tax Office. Client confidentiality is treated with the utmost seriousness. All staff are bound by strict privacy standards, online transmissions are encrypted, and paper records are securely stored, then shredded and burned when no longer needed.

Wilf wants to help people save time, reduce stress and possibly lower their tax bills. "Our clients are professionals in their fields," he says. "They're best served doing what they do best, while we handle what we do best."

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Wilf enjoys attending Real Life Ministries, participating in a weekly men's group, and cheering on his favorite sports teams: the Vancouver Canucks, Toronto Blue Jays and Saskatchewan Roughriders. He has even traveled to Nepal three times on missionary outreach work. At home, he and his wife, Pamela, raise free range chickens, play competitive Scrabble and enjoy quiet evenings with a good movie.



Northern Lights Bookkeeping & Income Tax is located on Highway 54 between Spirit Lake and Athol. For appointments or questions, call 208-572-2119.

Council News

The Bayview Community Council is excited to share that we have taken steps toward obtaining 501(c)(3) nonprofit status. This designation will allow us to accept tax deductible donations. One of our primary goals in pursuing this status is to grow our annual scholarship fund and expand the opportunities we can offer.

We are grateful to Northern Lights Bookkeeping and Income Tax for their guidance and assistance in helping the Council move forward with this important effort.

A Labor of Art and Faith

If you drive 1st Street in Bayview you will notice a beautifully painted Nativity scene in Denise Fern's front yard. This art is a labor of love that took approximately five months to freehand the sketch onto the plywood.



First Denise began the project with a simple sketch on a white sheet of paper. That drawing became the foundation for what would take shape on a large 4 x 8 foot plywood. Afterwards Denise began painting it using oil based paints, a process that required patience and care.

The project is not finished. Denise plans to add two additional panels, each measuring roughly 12 inches wide and 7 feet tall. She has not yet begun that phase of the work and expects to

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Maloney & Sons



Bayview has a new handy guy in town and he brings with him a lifetime of hard work and skill.

Raised in southern Illinois, Maloney & Sons owner, Austin Maloney, describes himself as “a simple country boy” who learned early what it meant to earn a living with his hands.

Austin’s father, Kenneth Maloney, taught him the value of hard work and introduced him to the trades when he was just 10 years old. From siding and remodeling to painting houses, the two worked side by side through several family businesses. Over the years, they even flipped multiple homes from the ground up. This experience built not only skill but a sense of pride in work well done.

Today, Austin brings more than 15 years of professional experience to every project. His skill set covers just about everything a homeowner might need including:

- Home remodeling
- Roofing and repairs
- Siding, windows, and doors
- Plumbing and electrical
- Interior and exterior painting

Having recently moved to Bayview to be closer to family in Rathdrum, Austin says he quickly fell in love with the area. He says, “The quiet, cozy atmosphere reminds me of the small Illinois town where I grew up, another place where neighbors helped neighbors and a handshake meant something.”

If you’re looking for dependable, experienced, small town honest workmanship, Maloney & Sons is ready to help.

Contact: cell: 309-857-3435 or email Austin at: slams13cyber@yahoo.com

New Faces

The 2026 year begins with new officers elected in the Bayview Chamber of Commerce. Larry Pegg takes the helm as the new Chamber President with Craig Saunders as Vice, Russ Wright the Treasurer and Elizabeth Wright as Secretary. Kevin Elmore is Member At Large.



Russ & Liz Wright

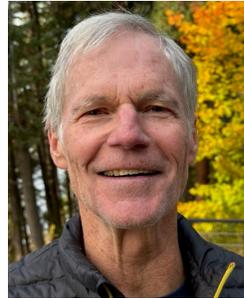


Larry Pegg

Council board members look forward to working with President Pegg and his officers as we address issues important to our community.

Mindful Meditation

by Bayview’s Dr. John Charyk



Meditation is a mental discipline that has been practiced by different cultures for over 1000 years. About 50 years ago, a secular variation of meditation emerged in the United States. Sometimes referred to as “mindfulness meditation”, this practice has grown dramatically in our country in recent decades,

and large surveys have found that as of 2022, about 60 million Americans had participated in a meditation practice.

The medical benefits of mindfulness meditation are now being studied using scientific methods such as controlled clinical trials and modern technology like MRI and PET scans. Results have shown it to be a useful treatment for a variety of medical issues including chronic pain, stress management, anxiety, depression, PTSD, insomnia, and substance use. However, most Americans that use mindfulness meditation do so simply to improve general well-being.

It’s a common misconception that meditation is about learning to “relax”. Rather, it is about improving one’s concentration, focus, and mental clarity. The intention is to improve attention and identify and set aside old habits of thinking that no longer serve you (such as preoccupation and daydreaming), thereby opening yourself to new perspectives and insights, and healthier ways of living.

There are vast numbers of resources online related to mindfulness meditation. If you are interested in an introductory class, I would recommend you look for one that follows the MBSR (Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction) curriculum, which was developed in 1979 at the University of Massachusetts medical school, and which has been rigorously evaluated and proven to be effective and reliable.

A Labor of Art and Faith cont.

complete it after winter. If you find yourself in Bayview be sure to pause as you drive by 16262 E 1st Street to admire this work of art.



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