

It Takes a Village

I want to thank the Center Board and Staff who helped us accomplish the following large tasks this year. I want to thank our unsung heroes who pitch in on a daily basics to keep our Center looking good. Even to those folks who pick something up and toss it just because it's there and because the Center belongs to us all!

- *The interior and exterior upper men's room and foyer remodel by Fix It Construction.
- *The Entrance Foyer and hallway painted by Fix It Construction.
- *With the help of the Chamber, our history, plaques and honors have been rehung in the foyer.
- *The furnace has been replaced, thank you Bob and Dean.
- *The exterior paint and exterior lights have been replaced by Josh & Family.
- *Cameras have been added to our exterior Garden and building. Thank you, Bob.
- *The north deck has been completed. By Fix It Construction.
- * A group will paint the upper main room of the Center this month...thank you so much Jenny, Tom, Ed and nameless others.
- *The Memorial Wall has been Completed. Thank you Joy & Mike.
- *Thank you to Laurie, Jackie, Lucas, and worker bees for all the hard work and transformation to our Garden.
- * My Guy Plumbing has: Flushed the Hot Water tank, kitchen sinks and faucet filters. They will replace both sinks, faucets, pull the toilets, sterilize the flooring and replace the caulking in both lower bathrooms. Also downstairs, replace the broken door handle in the women's bathroom.
- *Our Janitor, Crystal Scott and family is moving to Sandpoint. She has done an exceptional job keeping our Center sparkling. We will miss her. Our new Janitor's will be Daisy McCorkle and Victoria Mertins. They will begin October 1st.
- *Our new Decorating Coordinator is Lori Drake accompanied by Danny Drake...Wow! We have needed them. What a great job. They are not only decorating for the Center events but also the Chamber events as well. Thank you to those who have donated, participated and helped clean up after an event. We could not be successful with you.
- Please check our website to view this month's scheduled events at: bayview.community.center@gmail.com then click on the calendar.

Upcoming Events this month

- Oct 7th - Bayview Chamber Board Mtg. @ 6pm.
- Oct 13th - Community Ctr. Board Mtg. @ 10:30am.
Columbus Day.
Indigenous People Day.
- Oct 14th - Bayview Chamber Mtg. @ 7pm.
- Oct 16th - BW&S monthly meeting will take place at 3:30pm. You can attend in person at their Office or attend online. Check their website for the link.
- Oct 20th - The Timberlake Fire Commissioners meeting will be held @ 6pm at the Athol Fire Station.
- Oct 28th - BAB Mtg. @ 9am.
- Oct 29th - Bayview Water & Sewer Public Hearing @ 6pm.
- Oct 31st - Halloween.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact me at: prtonhofer@gmail.com or call (208) 683-8040
Thank you,
Pam Tonhofer, Center Manager



Bayview Bylines
The best little newspaper in Bayview

Editor: Norma Jean 208-819-6282
email: njyesca6@gmail.com

Articles provided herein are by local citizens and reflect differing views. Articles are to inform and not necessarily the views of the Editor or the Bayview Chamber of Commerce.

For more information:
www.bayviewidaho.org
Many thanks to Mike Maxson for maintaining our website.

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Mail checks to:
Bayview Chamber of Commerce
address below & above.

Bylines are published at the beginning of the month. Please submit articles no later than **October 23rd** for the November 2025 issue.
Email: njyesca6@gmail.com
Mail: Bayview Chamber of Commerce, P.O 121, Bayview, ID 83803

October '25 EVENTS
AROUND TOWN

(held at the Community Center unless noted)

Tue	10/7	6pm	Bayview Chamber Board Mtg.
Mon	10/13	10:30am	Community Ctr. Board Mtg.
Tue	10/14	7pm	Bayview Chamber Mtg.
Thu	10/16	3:30pm	BW&S Meeting Zoom and at the office. Check their website for the link.
Mon	10/20	6pm	Timberlake Fire Commish. Mtg. Athol Fire Station.
Tue	10/28	9am	BAB Mtg.
Wed	10/29	6pm	Bayview Water & Sewer Public Hearing.



Community Ongoing Events

Mon	4:00pm	Pickle Ball**
Tue	12:00pm	Mah Jong**
NEW	3:00pm	Functional Strength Cardio (FIT) **
	6:30pm	Bayview Bible Service*
Thu	12:30pm	Mah Jong**
Fri	3:00pm	Functional Strength Cardio (FIT) **
	4:00pm	Pickle Ball**
	9:30am	Tai Chi**
Sun	8:30am	Bayview Bible Service*
	10:30am	Bayview Bible Service*
	7:00pm	AA Meeting (lower)

*Please check with your Church Leader for monthly schedule changes.
** Please check with your group leader for any schedule changes.

Chamber Chatters & Chuckles

WOW, what fun and congratulations to Ted and Cathy Armstrong for finding the clue that entitled them to the \$500 Grand Prize. The first annual town wide, weekend long, Treasure Hunt was a huge success!

Special thanks goes to Pam Tonhofer for putting together a very nice basket for the finder of the Chamber rock, which was located at the Center. The rock was found, on Saturday, during the Labor Day Garage Sale.

Many thanks to Colby, Tom Barret and all of their helpers, for organizing such a fun event. Needless to say, because this “hunt” was enjoyed by so many, even more people are now looking forward to next year and hopefully events each year thereafter. Oh, what FUN!!

Kevin Elmore reported that the LPOIC (Lake Pend Oreille Idaho Club) has received a \$12,000 grant to use for next year’s spring cleaning of the lake bottom, specifically in Scenic Bay. More grants have been applied for, so hopefully more money will be forth coming in the future. Kevin also invited Fish and Game to the October meeting.

We want to thank *Mike Maxson* for his many years of dedicated service, creating and maintaining our Chamber Website. Mike tried to include all of our pertinent information, from activities to businesses. He volunteered hundreds of hours and all we can say is **THANK YOU!**

We had to say good-bye to another Chamber member. Even though Dennis Damon had been out of the limelight for the past few years, due to declining health, he still left us with many happy memories. Always ready with a joke and patrolling the kitchen, during food prep for an untold number of events including the Frogmore Stew. When he saw a need, he would offer advice, like the easiest way to cut Romaine lettuce. I don’t think I will ever be able to make a salad without thinking of Dennis! Just like I can’t cut an onion without remembering Mike Beaudry. Some people leave us with such wonderful memories!

Mary Owen is finally closing her door to hair care but now we will probably see even more of her around town. So often Mary would step out of her salon to create wonderful meals for LOU (the weekly winter *Lunch on Us* event) or the date night dinners. Maybe now we can enjoy her culinary expertise even more. They say if you want something done right, ask a busy person. Well, Mary fit that description. Always on the go, while creating amazing results regardless of what she touched. Now she will be forced to slow down a bit but I bet her grandchildren will reap the rewards of her energy!! How many little girls get zip-lines for their Barbies?

What do you get when you drop a pumpkin?
SQUASH

Make your own Ranch, Dry Onion Soup Mix and Taco Seasoning and store in small mason jars....This is sooooo much HEALTHIER than those you buy at the store!! They contain a TON of stuff that is not good for you!!

Taco Seasoning:

1/2 cup chili powder
1/4 cup onion powder
1/8 cup ground cumin
1 tablespoon garlic powder
1 tablespoon paprika
1 tablespoon sea salt
Put ingredients into a jar and shake.



Dry Onion Soup Mix:

2/3 cup dried, minced onion
3 teaspoons parsley flakes
2 teaspoons onion powder
2 teaspoons turmeric
1 teaspoon celery salt
1 teaspoon sea salt
1 teaspoon sugar
1/2 teaspoon ground pepper
Mix all ingredients in a jar, then give the jar a good shake. I'd recommend shaking the jar to mix the ingredients well before each use.
Use 4 tablespoons in a recipe in place of 1 packet of onion soup mix. Store this in a dry, cool place.

Ranch:

5 tablespoons dried minced onions
7 teaspoons parsley flakes
4 teaspoons salt
1 teaspoon garlic powder
Mix together and store in an air tight container.
For dressing: Mix 2 tablespoons dry mix with 1 cup mayonnaise and 1 cup buttermilk or sour cream.
For dip: Mix 2 tablespoons dry mix with 2 cups sour cream or Greek Yogurt.
Mix up a few hours before serving, so the flavors all blend.

Advice from the desk of Huckleberry: Love unconditionally

Dog fur soak up cry.

Your dog knows you at your best and at your worst. Tough times can be what foster the most growth. Learning to be patient with your friends (and yourself) through rough patches provides our loved ones with what they need at their weakest moments and reminds us that everyone deserves to be loved.



Bayview Daze: Honoring Event Contributors

Celebrating the Wild and Wonderful Efforts Behind Bayview Daze

Bayview Daze isn't just successful—it's a dazzling spectacle powered by a quirky team of dedicated individuals who know how to turn a simple event into the talk of the town. Their tireless hustle and good-natured spirit keep the party going year after year—sometimes with the help of coffee, sometimes with sheer willpower, and occasionally with the persuasive power of pancakes.

Uncle Sam and the Legendary Bucket Brigade

If you've ever seen the parade and wondered, "Who's that patriotic hero with a bucket and a grin?"—look no further than Uncle Sam and his Bucket Brigade. For years, Uncle Sam has strutted down Main Street, masterfully collecting donations from parade-goers blessed with pockets jangling with spare change. The Brigade was once a mighty crew, but now it's down to a dynamic duo: Uncle Sam and the one and only Jamie Berube.

Jamie Berube: Fundraising Ninja Extraordinaire

Jamie doesn't just raise money—she could probably squeeze water from a rock and convince it to buy a mini 50/50 ticket. Her fundraising skills are legendary. She has a sixth sense for finding donations at any event, and when it comes to breakfast ticket sales, she's unmatched. If you see someone charming a crowd with a stack of tickets in one hand and a pancake in the other, odds are, that's Jamie in her natural habitat.

Bob Prince and Jamie: The Chamber's Secret Weapons

Take away Bob Prince and Jamie, and the Chamber's donation game would be like a pancake breakfast without pancakes—utterly unthinkable! Their expertise keeps the Bayview Daze Fireworks fund sparkling and ensures the annual fireworks are more "ooh" and "aah" than "meh" and "hmm."

Thanks for Keeping the Fireworks Fiery!

Bob Prince and Jamie, we may not always shout our thanks from the rooftops (though maybe we should!), but you are the turbo-charged engines behind the Firework Fund. Without your energy, charm, and fundraising superpowers, Bayview Daze would be a lot less bright—quite literally. Here's to you both: may your buckets always be full and your pancakes forever fluffy!



thank you!



Restaurant Hours
Sun—Thu 11am-8pm
Fri & Sat
11am - 9pm
208-683-6504



Ever notice how every business seems to have staff meetings, as if it's a required hobby? Well, during our latest Bayview Bylines "Best Little Newsletter in Bayview" gathering (complete with too many stale donuts and not enough coffee), we all agreed our editorial team needed a new superstar. Enter Huckleberry: the only candidate with a tail, four paws, and a resumé that simply read, "Woof."

He volunteered on one condition—payment in dog bones and unlimited walks. We suspect he may unionize for belly rubs next quarter. So as you flip through upcoming issues, don't be surprised if you spot articles like "The Art of the Perfect Nap" or investigative exposés on missing tennis balls.

Join us in welcoming Huckleberry as our newest guest editor—the only one guaranteed to fetch your attention!

CHAMBER NEWS

October 14th Chamber meeting 7 pm

Speaker Ryan Hardy F & G



“Mouse-in-a-Corner”

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READER BOARD for RENT

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Application and instructions are available
on the Chamber website:

www.bayviewidaho.org



Bayview Chamber of Commerce Board Members:

President:
Vice President: Jackie Beaudry 509-998-4146
Secretary:
Treasurer: Sue Damon 208-683-8608
At Large: Larry Pegg 208-249-0538
For Chamber issues, use this email address:
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Bayview Notaries

There are times we all need a Notary

Bayview now has 4 notaries

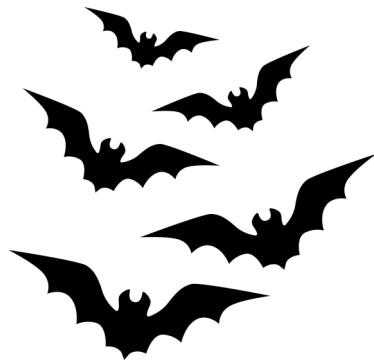
Keen Word Processing. Dorothy 208-683-2405

Nanci Walton Cisneros 406-314-1015

*Nanci's service is free for residents of Bayview

Jessie at Bayview Water & Service

Maureen Carl 509-993-4723 (new)



President - Martha Bowman - 916-591-3720
 Vice-president - Vickie Sella - 425-422-9314
 Secretary - Susan Esteph - 208-691-5177
 Treasurer - Linda Grage - 206-714-3462

Meeting 10/28 at
 9:00 am sharp!

BAB's

Women's Club

Bayview - Athol - Belmont

A local women's
 charitable organization



American Legion Auxiliary

Unit 149

In Athol

Hwy 54 between the RR tracks

Regular Meeting Oct 4th 9 am

Auxiliary Dinner Oct 25th 6:00pm

Janette Sleep, President 720-560-0961

Jan Powell, Membership Chairman 208-667-2737

Legion Phone: 208-683-2614



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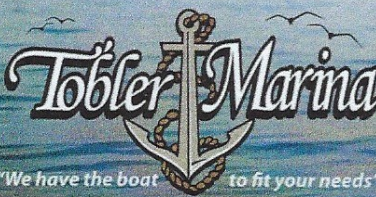
34274 Lakeside Ave

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Business Directory

Local Businesses

Bayview Community Center	208-683-8040
Bayview Post Office	208-683-2733
Bayview Water & Sewer	208-683-3948
Bitter End	208-683-2534
Great Northern Nautical	208-682-0770
Cadnum Construction	208-755-2864
Captain's Wheel	208-683-6504
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C & L	208-683-2730
Cole's Automotive & Towing	208-651-4780
Companions Animal Center	208-772-4019
Country Boys Cafe	208-683-2363
Country Clinical Massage	208-755-6301
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Farragut State Park	208-683-2425
Farragut Shooting Range	208-683-1499
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Lazy Bear Rentals	208-683-7018
Log Spirit B & B	208-683-4722
MacDonald's Resort	208-683-2211
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What Is Home Health Care?

Imagine top-notch medical care, delivered right to your living room—no waiting rooms, no mysterious hospital vending machines, and definitely no tiny gowns that tie in the back. Home Health Care offers short-term, physician-guided support to help you bounce back from illness, injury, or a hospital stay, all in the comfort of your own home. The goal? Get you back on your feet (or couch, or favorite recliner) feeling healthy, strong, and as independent as ever. Our agencies are fully Medicare-certified, which means you get skilled post-acute care from folks who know their stuff—with a side of compassion and a sprinkle of cost-effectiveness. We'll even send you home with the knowledge and tools you need to be the superhero of your own recovery journey.

A Family's Journey with Eden Home Health Care

My husband, bless his adventurous spirit (and questionable balance while dog-walking), had an accident and collected a medical tour of the region: 2.5 weeks in ICU, a bit of time in the regular hospital, and a layover at the Rehab Center in Post Falls. At first, I was skeptical about Home Health Care—would strangers really help us feel at home? But as soon as the therapists arrived, we realized we'd struck gold. Three therapists and one nurse swooped in with expertise, empathy, and just the right dose of encouragement, guiding us through our "new normal" with kindness (and not a single white coat in sight).

Kaylee, Deb, Jayme, Jennifer, and Leigh deserve gold medals for their professionalism and heart. Special applause for Deb, the speech therapist, who was more persistent than a dog with a squeaky toy—she never gave up on teaching Dean to find his voice again. Thanks to them, we went from anxious to at ease, and now we're happy, healthy, and only slightly less clumsy on dog walks.

If you're in North Idaho and need Home Health Care, take it from our family: Eden Home Health Care is the best neighbor you could ask for. They'll be there to lend a helping hand after surgery, or when life throws you a curveball (or a leash). Want to learn more? Give Eden Health of North Idaho a call at (208) 255-1640—your recovery squad awaits!



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My epic reign on the Chamber Board has come to an end. With Dean bouncing back more impressively than a rubber ball, I figured it was time to hand over my crown and retire (for now).



Ever since packing up my Colorado snow boots and moving to Athol in 2003, I've been causing minor chaos in Bayview, North Idaho. Thanks to the Chamber and the Center, I've made friends, crashed every community event I could find, and even survived Bayview Daze without getting glitter in my shoes.

Juggling duties on both the Chamber Board and the Center Board made me feel like a superhero minus the cape—but plus the coffee addiction. My journey with the Bayview Daze Parade began after Skip Wilcox vanished in a cloud of confetti. Let's be honest: the Chamber's secret sauce is volunteers who can outwork caffeinated squirrels.



When I first joined the Board, there were more background checks than at a spy agency (thanks to my mysterious past employment), but eventually, they decided I wasn't that suspicious.

Along the way, I encountered legends like Ken Saunders, Marsh Ritzheimer, Sue Damon, Jackie Beaudry, Dennis Link and others who brought their own superpowers and impressive snack contributions to our meetings.



So thanks for letting me crash the party as a Board member! Don't forget—

December is your chance to pick the next lucky soul to join the adventure. Choose wisely!

Lake Pend Orielle Yacht Club Fall Growler—1 more race!

What a day for sailing—if you like your weather unpredictable and your winds with a sense of humor! Tactical decisions were more like wild guesses; I know at least three boats (myself very much included) that heroically tacked into some promising breeze, only to realize it was just a mirage. The real spectacle? At B Mark, every boat from both fleets rounded almost at the same time. For a second, I thought we'd signed up for synchronized sailing instead of a race.

In the White Fleet, Show Faith, apparently thriving without their usual skipper, snagged first place in the first race and third in the next. Maybe the secret to victory is abandoning your skipper on the dock—and perhaps bribing the wind gods. Journey seized the top spot in race two, while the rest of the White Fleet seemed to be drawing names from a hat for finishing order. Nice to see some fresh faces at the top—keeps everyone on their toes (and guessing the results). Over in the Red Fleet, Dogsmile and Kestrel vanished into the distance in the first race, leaving Black Sheep to correct into third—possibly after checking Google Maps for the mark. In the second race, Black Sheep decided it was time for a comeback and corrected into first, while Breakaway and AMITIE finished strong enough to make sure we'd all remember their names for at least a week.

Next Sunday is the grand finale of the Fall Growler Series. Dogsmile and Black Sheep will be battling for the title, with up to four others hoping for the ultimate plot twist and a shot at third. In the White Fleet, Journey and Show Faith are throwing down for first, while Aisling tries to fend off Corrected Time. With throwouts in play, the standings are so close you'd need a magnifying glass to separate them—drama guaranteed!

For new, nervous, or just plain unlucky skippers—especially those driving the big, less agile boats—the real lesson is always have an escape plan and don't be afraid to use it. We all want that podium finish, but sometimes the universe wants you to practice humility (and maybe paint touch-ups). So when in doubt, bail out, laugh it off, and come back next week ready to do it all again!

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*****NEW TIME*****

NEW

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*Tuesday and Thursday 3 - 4

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You can work at your own pace and join at any time. Hate to say it but it's true...if you don't use it, you lose it. And hey it's fun!

Bring a mat, water, and weights if you choose to use them. There is no charge.

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How to Walk Your Human

Did you know that if you don't walk your human on a regular basis, they become 'chubby'? It is your (very important) job to save them! Insist on at least three walks a day. By presenting your leash to your human, along with some persistent barking, you will draw their attention to the fact that they need to be walked.

Allow your human to tether themselves to you, this way you're making sure they don't wander off and get lost. Walk on safe footing to avoid slips, falls or injuries: humans are clumsy and only have two legs. Your human may need a break every now and then, so be sure to take your time to sniff around. Did you know that sniffing is mental stimulation for yourself too? Win win! If you have trained your pet parent well, they will pick up after you when you go to the bathroom. Try to go twice: squatting is good for them, great exercise!

If they try to cut the walk short (which they will, humans tend to be lazy), sit in protest or pull in the other direction. Since humans have no fur, they may get hot in summer or cold in winter. Make sure they dress for the weather and keep an eye on yourself too (you may have to allow your human to put a coat on you in winter). I hate to say it, but when it's too hot or too cold to be out for a long time, you may have to allow your human to cut the walk short. You can always initiate a good ball game or some tug of war with one of your toys once you're back inside.

Positive reinforcement is important: when you get home after your walk, make sure you lick your human's face when they take their shoes off to let them know that they did a great job!

With love and slobbery kisses,
Huckleberry



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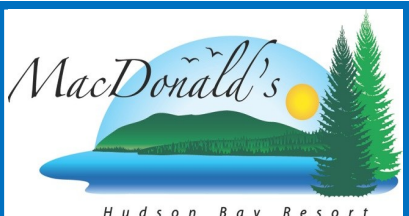
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CITIZEN LAKE RESPONSE GROUP

This group was formed due to the 2008 Thanksgiving Day deadly boat fire. If you know of a **LIFE-THREATENING EMERGENCY** on the lake, **first call 911, then** call someone on the list. While boating, monitor **CH16** and be prepared to pass on info by radio/cell phone.

MacDonald's Hudson Bay Resort (208-683-2211) will serve as the headquarters to coordinate rescue efforts. DO **NOT** call for mechanical problems or lack of gas. This group is for **LIFE-THREATENING** emergencies only.

Bayview residents with **boats in the water** can volunteer to be available to respond to Lake Emergencies. Call Chris Hansen 208-659-8091 to add your name.

Current "Good-Samaritans" are:

Chris Hansen	659-8091	Jim Woods	683-2294
Tim Meyer	683-1986		
Cam Bond	682-0770		



 **EXCEPTIONAL HOMES** by John L. Scott

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AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2025 RECAP

New Listings	Reported Pending	Active Inventory	Sold Listings
2	3	17	3

**As the leaves—and INTEREST RATES—begin to fall,
It's a season of change and opportunity for all.
Let's make the most of this golden season together!**

My hometown can be your hometown!



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Doug & Linda Landwehr

Bayview/Cape Horn Residents

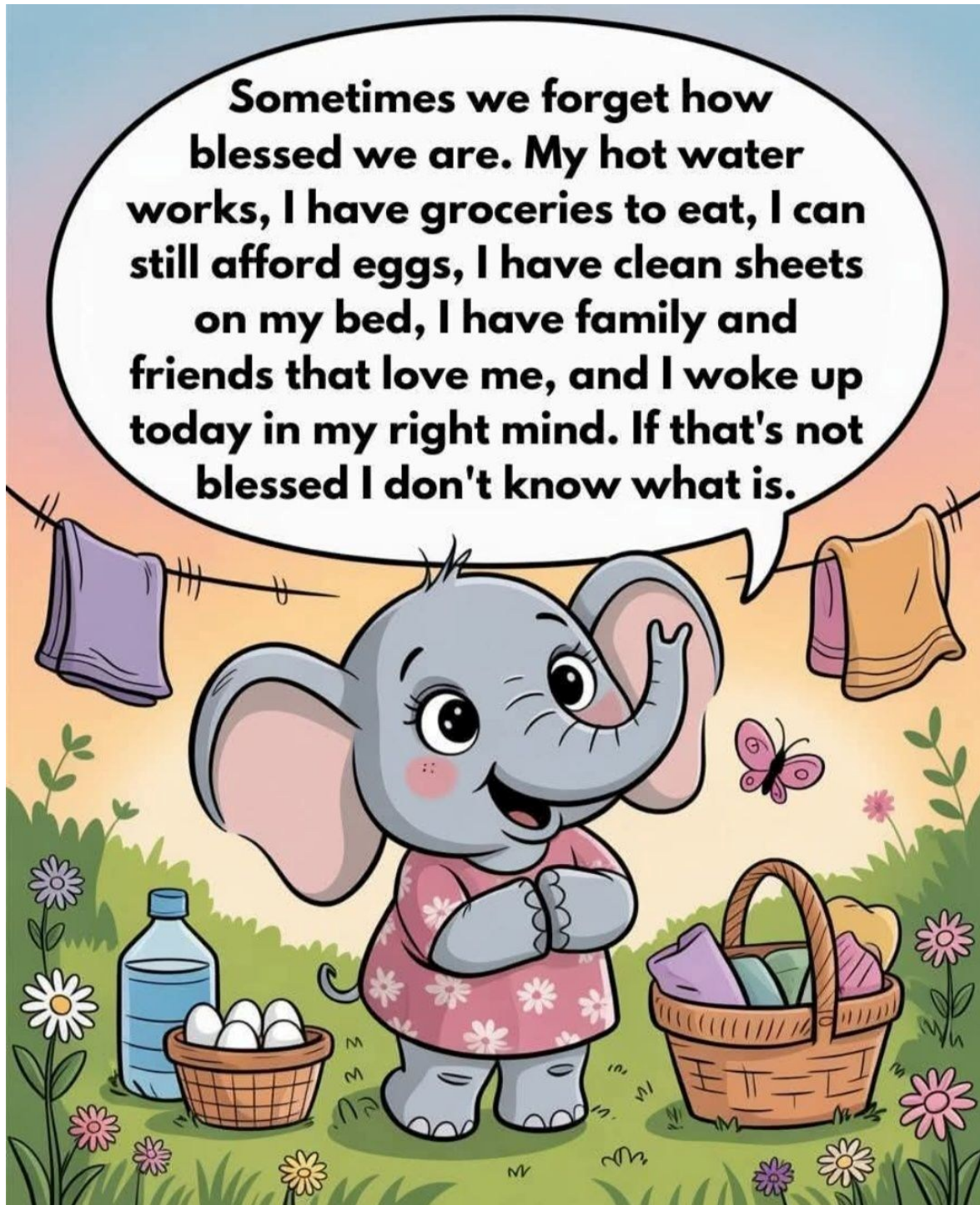
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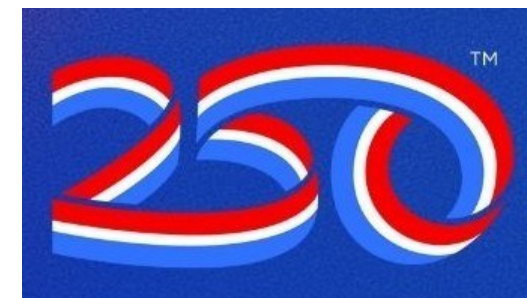
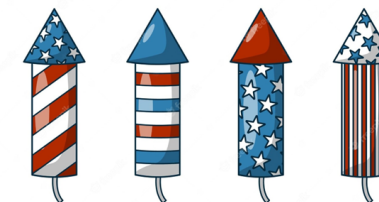
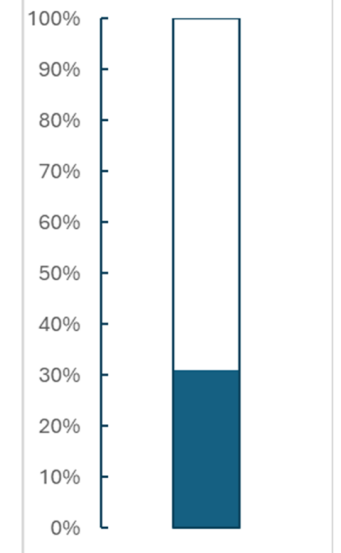
OUR Fireworks Fund is currently at \$12,268.83 or 31% of our goal for 2026.

Our goal is \$40,000. The big question now is are we going to have a Fireworks show in 2026? No donation is too small!

With everyone's help we can have the Bayview Fireworks the best in the Inland Northwest while celebrating our Nation's 250th birthday

Donation cans are located in businesses throughout Bayview, or a check can be sent to the Chamber PO Box 121, Bayview, ID 83803.

Our QR code is still active.



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Weekly grief support group

When: Wednesdays: 12:30pm-2:00pm
August 6 - October 29, 2025

Where: Athol Baptist Church
29145 N. Sylvan Rd.
Athol, ID 83801

Contact: Church Office
office@atholbaptischurch.org
208.683.2802

Register: griefshare.org/findagroup

The Children's Place Bayview Daze

A few years back, someone had the brilliant idea that children and parents needed a place to recover from the Parade sugar rush and prepare for the impending Fireworks boomfest during Bayview Daze. Enter The Children's Place—no, not the clothing store—the event! Bayview Bible Church took the reins, with Hannah Pegg bravely coordinating the chaos. We weren't sure if it would be a hit or a hot mess, but hey, why not? Next thing you know, hot dogs were sizzling, sack lunches appeared out of thin air, and games popped up all over the place outside the Community Center.

That first try? Success! As I wobbled out of the Center post-Parade, I couldn't believe the number of children giggling like they'd just discovered a candy treasure chest, while their parents looked shockingly relaxed in the Memorial Garden—maybe a little too relaxed? (Rumor has it, someone napped through a game of tag.)

Buoyed by our triumph, the Church did it again this year. The legendary Bouncy House made its triumphant return (no adults allowed, sadly) and, for the truly competitive, we added more games—because nothing says “community” like parents encouraging their kids to destroy the competition for a free ice cream cone at Ralph's. Speaking of which, the prizes were a hit, especially with the grown-ups who “helped” their kids eat the winnings.

Big thanks to Hannah, her dad (Master of Hot Dogs), and Bayview Bible Church for creating this miniature paradise. The Church even opened up extra parking so nobody had to practice their parallel parking skills under pressure.

As I always say, Bayview is US, and WE are pretty darn awesome—possibly the most awesome group of parade snackers and bouncy house jumpers the world has ever seen.

Hey Dave Bailon you did facilitate some change!



HOW WOULD WE RATE OURSELVES?

How often do we ship packages without considering some of the negative issues, if the package does not reach its intended destination? In our case, a family member had a large box - 21"x19"x11" – 8 pounds – going from Phoenix AZ to Ketchikan, AK. Not heavy but large....

After checking FedEx (\$250+) and UPS (\$200+), they opted for USPS Priority Mail. Two options, \$95 if it was delivered the middle of September or \$128 if it was delivered within a few days. The \$128 delivery was the preferred method, so that was the option selected. Now the saga:

August 28, 2025, 9:39 am - Shipping Label Created

(Package was taken to postal facility at 10:30 a.m. that same morning.)

August 29 - Accepted at USPS Origin Facility, PHOENIX, AZ 85086 7:34 pm

Arrived at USPS Regional Origin Facility, PHOENIX AZ DISTRIBUTION CENTER 8:49 pm

September 10, 2025 - Missing Mail Search Request Initiated 9:43 am

September 17 - Arrived at USPS Destination Facility KENT, WA 98035 3:35 am.

September 19 - Arrived at USPS Regional Destination Facility SEATTLE WA DISTRIBUTION CENTER 4:26 am.

September 19 - Departed USPS Regional Facility SEATTLE WA DISTRIBUTION CENTER 7:29 am

September 21 - Arrived at USPS Regional Destination Facility SEATTLE WA DISTRIBUTION CENTER 4:28 pm

September 24 - In Transit to Next Facility, Arriving Late (Really???)

A call to customer service proved to be totally unsatisfactory, since they don't tell you any more information than what you can read online, in the tracking history.

Their solution.... File a claim for the contents of the package (amount of insurance was \$100) however as a sender, we are still out the cost of the shipping. Since the arrival date is so long after the cheaper (\$95) shipping date (mid-September), a \$33 refund is not even an option.

So the choices are – wait to see if and when the package will ever arrive or file a claim for \$100 and still be out the \$128 shipping fee. The wait is on!

What was learned, as a result of this fiasco – there is a difference between Priority Mail and Priority Express Mail. How many of us thought the difference was “slow boat” and Priority?

Priority Mail is USPS's standard fast service (1-3 business days, non-guaranteed), while Priority Mail Express is its fastest, guaranteed service (1-2 business days, with a money-back guarantee) and offers Sunday/holiday delivery. Priority Mail Express is significantly more expensive but guarantees delivery by a specific date and time, whereas Priority Mail is cheaper but doesn't offer this delivery guarantee. Both services include tracking and insurance for up to \$100. Who knew there were two options - Priority and Priority Express. Hmmm. Wonder what the cost of Priority Express would have been? We are afraid to look. Maybe next time.

Look Up – Keep a Happy Heart



What has happened to everyone's happy? Someone asks a question and sarcasm abounds. Someone posts an accident or other sad event and it is surprising the number of negative or cruel comments we might read.

Personally, I always thought if someone asked a question that meant they wanted to learn something, regardless of the subject. How can any of us learn if we are presented with sarcasm? I guess we should be happy for those individuals who think they know so much that they can be flip or cruel or just plain inconsiderate when responding to others. However, there are many of us who would truly like to know the answer to various questions.

A new baby had an issue with diaper rash, so the grandmother kindly told her daughter about Desitin ointment. However the daughter ignored her mother and sought the advice of the doctor, who told her to use Desitin. Many times we need to listen with a kind ear and heed the advice of a more experienced person.

I was in a pumpkin patch, at Green Bluff, wondering how I was going to get a huge pumpkin in the wagon (turned out to be 50 pounds). I commented on a huge pumpkin in another woman's wagon and she said her five-year-old grandson told her to lay the wagon on its side, next to the squash, then lift the wagon upright. YEP, that worked. Even little people can have words of wisdom so we have to keep an open mind!

When the local newsletters come out, at the first of the month, some individual has to take it upon themselves to decide what should be available for everyone's enjoyment. Thank you very much, but for your information, I enjoy reading both publications and I know many others feel the same. If you don't enjoy both then read what you like and kindly leave the other one alone.

Sometimes when someone is trying to tell us something, it might sound like criticism, only because of the words but the tone is trying to be kind. This is when we have to “listen to the words”. If we aren't told something, good or bad, then how will we know?

How do we know if we have food stuck in our teeth, ketchup on our face or our zipper is down, if someone isn't kind enough to tell us. If we already knew things of this nature, we would have corrected the problem ourselves. The intention is to help, not to embarrass, so the best response would be “thank you”. Truthfully, a heartfelt thank you relieves any embarrassment for both parties. There's the embarrassment for the teller – should I say something or not? - And the embarrassment for the receiver – Oh my gosh, how long have I been like that and how many witnessed the problem?

When kindness comes from within, it has a way of showing on the outside of a person too. This gives everyone the happiest of hearts!