



President's Message!

Thank you everyone that came to the BBQ and Auction. I know the Fire District appreciates every dollar they receive. The Skookum community always seems to open their wallets and offer their generosity.

Next up for community events is the Big Country Breakfast. We always need volunteers in the kitchen so sign-up if you want to join the fun. I plan on flipping Pancakes so I hope to see everyone out for another great day!

John Cameron HOA Board President

Camelot Shores Owners Board Meeting:

Saturday, July 8, 9:45am

Skookum Rendezvous Owners Board Meeting:

Saturday July 8, 10am





With another Independence Day in the books, I can't help but reflect on what a great community we have here at Skookum. As I made my way around the streets I was met with friendly hellos and plenty of smiles. With the many families and friends gathering you couldn't help but appreciate all we have to celebrate during this National Holiday!

The River Front Park and Day Docks were a gathering place for all our water enthusiasts. Swimmers, kayakers, and boaters were coming and going all hours of the day. Many of us just went and hung around to enjoy the show!

The streets were active with bikers, walkers, and golf carts. As the traffic made its way around, there were often groups of neighbors just gathering and catching up on the latest news.

Starting off the actual holiday with the Flag Ceremony and Annual Fire District Fundraiser, set the tone for our most successful July 4th Yet. As a community you rose to the occasion and didn't disappoint this year! Capping off the day with the Golf Cart Parade was the perfect finale as everyone made their way onto the evening events.

Let us all continue the community spirit and generosity!

Ray Dilcox Resort Manager





Firehouse Chat with Diane Shantz!

As Summer kicks into full gear, I'm happy to finally say the Skookum Station sign is in place after an almost 12 month wait. Thanks to your support, and all the donations we collected last summer, I'd say it was worth the wait!

The Skookum Community continued to show its support at the annual 4th of July BBQ and Auction at the Lodge. Well over 100 people were in attendance and enjoyed a meal and an always entertaining auction with John Cameron.

By the end of the event, we raised \$4,000 and made a profit of \$3,400 to put towards the purchase of the Extractor Washer. With a couple of more PopUp Bake Sales scheduled, I'm confident we can raise the remaining \$1,300 needed.

I wanted to also bring to the attention to anyone who has not signed up for Lifeflight insurance to please consider it. Just last month we called for Lifeflight on an auto accident on LeClerc Road and for a heart attack victim camping at Pioneer Park.

We all like to think it won't happen to us, but in a rural County, with only a Level 5 Trauma Hospital, (the lowest level there is), the odds of being flown out for urgent, emergency care, is quite high. For the low cost of \$75 a year, which covers all family members residing in the household, it is a small amount to cover the very expensive helicopter transport you may need. You can learn more about Lifeflight at <https://www.lifeflight.org/membership/>

I'd like to remind you all that fire danger has risen to HIGH with no burning allowed. As of the writing of this article, campfires are still OK, but keep it contained within a campfire pit. Keep a clear space (at least 3ft) around the fire. Never leave a fire unattended and keep the fire under control at all times. Completely extinguish all fires before leaving an area or going to bed.

We at South Pend Oreille Fire and Rescue thank you for your continued support and are honored to serve and call Skookum our home!



Archaeology Dig Near Skookum!



From mid-May through mid-June, archaeology students from across the U.S. and Canada, under the leadership of WSU Professor Shannon Tushingham, participated in an archaeological dig at a site where Indian Creek Rd meets LeClerc Rd! You may have seen the tents and colorful fencing while driving by heading for Newport. Test core samples taken for a proposed housing project on that site revealed evidence of human habitation that led to the dig to uncover what was there. What they found was primarily the remains of ancient cooking pits dated some 5000 to 6000 years ago! Small rocks used to line the pits and charcoal deposits were the main evidence and chemical testing of the soil will be done to see if they can determine what was being cooked. The time allowed for the dig came to an end on June 15 and all that was found will be processed and analyzed at a WSU facility, ultimately to be added to the history of the humans who have lived in this area!



Cusick Community Park and Education Trail!

This park is a hidden gem, IMHO! Practically at our back door, with good parking and fabulous river views, this park deserves a look! The mile-loop education trail is boot-worn and an easy hike, in all seasons. There are tree-shaded benches available, and it's just a nice little spot to stretch your legs and see the river from a different perspective! The parking lot also serves the Cusick boat launch, which has floating docks for river access. Serviceable restrooms are adjacent to the parking lot, as is a short, paved path leading to a river lookout with bench. There is also a skateboard park for those who dare, and access to the American Legion for those so inclined! A driveway next to the fire station leads to the parking area, and the loop trailhead is through a small covered area to the north of the lot. I believe there is no cost to park or use the trail, but we always leave \$5 to show our appreciation and desire to keep the facility funded and open! Happy trails!

The Plant Man!

I was at the Newport Farmers Market recently looking for a basil plant. None were available that day but someone told me to try The Plant Man. I hadn't heard about this place before, but followed the directions and found a great place for all kinds of plants, vegetable starts, and trees! Their plants were fresh and well cared for, with reasonable prices. We are amazed that we've lived here for 6 years without knowing about this place, but figure later is better than never! Located at 332391 Hwy 2, just past Newport HS and just before Audrey's Café!

Little Known Facts...

Did you know there is a River Usk in the south of the country of Wales that runs through the town of Newport just before it empties into the Irish Sea? And that there is a town named Usk about 10 miles upstream from Newport, Wales? It's a small world, after all! We've wondered if there is any connection to the naming of our town of Usk but have yet to find anyone who knows!

It is thought that the name Usk may mean "abounding in fish" or simply "water". More interesting facts can be found here: [Usk - Wikipedia](#)

Life Flight!

Saving lives since 1978! Life Flight Network is a not-for-profit patient transport service providing helicopter, fixed-wing, and ground ambulance transport throughout Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Montana. Their mission is saving lives with industry-leading care and transport. Reasonably priced, with a good reputation, many Skookum owners are already members. For more information: [About Us - Life Flight Network](#)

Cusick Food Pantry!

We serve people in Cusick, Usk, and northern areas of 99156.

Our mission is to provide non-perishable food items, fresh produce and protein items for our clients in the 99119, 99180, and part of the 99156 zip code areas.

Mailing address: P.O. Box 126, Cusick, WA 99119 VISIT US ON FACEBOOK!!

The Cusick Community Development Association is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation.

The Cusick Food Pantry served over 300 families and 800 people during the month of May. Cash donations can be mailed to the above address and/or non-perishable food donations can be left in the cardboard box in the lodge located by the door going into the Lenora Water District office and Skookum computer room!

Kalispel Tribe of Indians Powwow 2023!

Friday 8/4 Grand Entry 7pm

Saturday 8/5 BBQ 11:30; Grand Entries 1 and 7pm

Sunday 8/6 Grand Entry 1pm

Always an interesting event! The Grand Entries are quite the show! Take LeClerc Rd N to the reservation and turn left at the big sign on Powwow Park Rd. Take water, use sunscreen!

Schweitzer Mountain Resort!

Schweitzer Mountain Resort near Sandpoint, Idaho, is not just a winter skiing mecca! There are multitudes of summer activities and events, as well! Lift rides, mountain biking, zip lines, hiking, and E-bike tours and rentals are just a sample, and don't forget the majestic views of Lake Pend Oreille! An upcoming event is the Northwest Winefest on July 15 and 16!

*There are multiple options for lodging and dining, as well! Check it out on their website at:
Summer Activities (schweitzer.com)*



It Was A Fabulous Fourth!

Editor Walt Hughes!

