



Bonner County Gardeners Association

Education ~ Community Service ~ Camaraderie

June 2011

Please contribute to The Garden Gate. Informational articles, garden tips, announcements, and digital photos are welcome. For questions or comments please email lauriebrown54@gmail.com When emailing, please put "MG" in the subject line.

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President's Note

Dear Members,

Administrative changes...done! Look for more on that later in this newsletter.

With the business about the business behind us it is now time to put energy into the mission of the organization:

- Education
- Community Service
- Camaraderie

Spring is upon us and it is time that we look to make our mark in terms of community service for 2011. Ongoing community projects such as the Healing Garden, Mickinnick Trailhead, School Gardens and Farmers Market are all areas we support. In addition we have annual events including the Home and Garden Show (which we did in April),

Garden Tour and Bonner County Fair. I would like to see us put some energy behind these projects so that at the end of 2011 when we look back to see what we have accomplished we can take pride in what we have done.

So far we are right on track!

A group of us are getting together in early June to work at the Healing Garden. The next Mickinnick Trailhead is the first and third Wednesday of the month. Some of the school gardens are winding down but some will remain in force during the summer. We kicked off our first day at the Sandpoint Farmers Market on May 28th.

We need the help of all of our members to show our commitment to home horticulture for the citizens of Bonner County. The Chairs for each of these projects are listed at the end of this newsletter. Please reach out to them to let them know which projects you are most interested in.

"Many hands make light work" – John Heywood
(Or said in another way - Large tasks become small when divided among several people.)

Finally, I want to thank the members of the association for the recognition I received at the June meeting relating to the work that has occurred to steer the organization through troubled times. The gift, a beautiful piece of yard art, given to me at the meeting came as a total surprise. It is fabulous! I am honored and very thankful.



In our new conference room - Ellie Lizotte, Jon Bair, Jay Baker, Lynn Pietz, Becky Reynolds and Mikey Haven who is presenting the gift.

As always, if you have any questions, ideas or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me.

Zoe M. Bolton, President

zbolton@gmail.com
264-1210

Lovely New Logo!

A huge kudos and resounding voice of appreciation goes to Judith Pagliasotti who developed the conceptual design for our logo and to Jay Baker who stylized it.



Freestanding Logo



Bonner County Gardeners Association

Logo with name and tagline

In addition to these two here are a couple of additional iterations in which the name of the organization is arched over the logo without the tagline and the tagline is arched over the logo without the name at the bottom. We had additional logos made so that we would have options in our toolbox.

The logo consists of three components; grass, seven-petaled flower and huckleberry leaves. Each of the components represent our tagline which is "Education ~ Community Service ~ Camaraderie". The grass seeds spread widely and represent the casting of seeds of knowledge. The flower has seven points representing our seven aspects of community service; Home Horticulture Workshop Series, Information Booths, Public Presentations, Garden Tour, School Gardens, Internal Continuing Education and Beautification Projects. Huckleberries are found in Bonner County and camaraderie frequently plays a role as groups of individuals will gather to collect the berries, enjoying the closeness of others and reaping the benefits of having had gathered the fruit.

Judith's creative design in tying the tagline to the logo was brilliant. Jay's artist skill in bringing life to the look was masterful. Again a big thank you to you both!

New Place to Call Home

Janae Dale and Gail Swan teamed up to explore options in office space for the BCGA. They discussed their findings at the May Membership Meeting where our new space was approved by the Board pending word from the County Commissioners that there was not alternate county space avail-

able to us. Once word was received mid-May that alternate space had not been located we proceeded to make our move to our new location. Our new address, telephone number, email address and website (note - the new website forwards to the old website) are as follows:

804 Airport Way
Sandpoint, ID 83864
(208)265-2070
bcgardeners@gmail.com
www.bcgardeners.org

The office complex is open to the public Monday through Friday 8am – 5pm. After hours we can get access to the office via the use of a keypad entry system. We have internet access, access to a copier, a lunch room and a meeting room. All of our monthly Membership Meetings will be held at the new location.

Mikey Haven is in the process of purchasing provisions for the office. She donated a combined answering and fax machine which is greatly appreciated. Trish Murphy generously donated some books to expand our currently thin library. The association will be purchasing some additional books in the next few weeks.

We will be using the office on an as-needed basis so there is no current schedule as to when we will be there. You are welcome to schedule a time to see it. Just ask any of the Board Members for an introduction to the location or plan on attending the July Membership Meeting to get a tour.



Mikey Haven, Ann Warwick and Janae Dale meeting in our new offices.

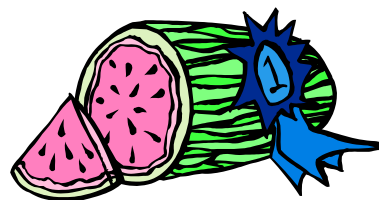
First Farmer's Market of the Season a Success!

The BCGA is committed to providing answers to home horticulture questions for the local community. One venue that this is done at is the local Farmer's Markets. For the Sandpoint market, the BCGA will have a booth set-up the last Saturday of each month for the entire season. We will also be present at the Hope Farmers Market the third week of August. Janae Dale has put together a standard group of handouts that have proven very useful in the past. She also has identified good research books that can be referenced as you are interacting with the public. Our first day at the Market was May 28th and it proved to be a very fun and rewarding experience. There were many first time gardeners with basic questions about getting started. When it got slow, which wasn't often, we got to discuss our own gardening challenges.

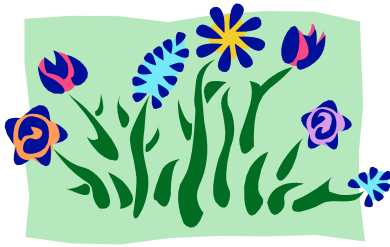
We need your help...don't be shy. Please let Janae know your interest in working the market. She can be reached at 265-2205 or dalejanae@gmail.com. If we have enough folks interesting in signing up we could expand to a semi-monthly in lieu of monthly service!

Bonner County Fair Chair

Remember last month it was reported that we were still in search of a Chair for the Bonner County Fair? Good news! Gail Locke has volunteered to head this very important event for us once again. However it would be her preference to have a co-chair to assist with the leadership load. Gail has chaired this event the past two years and comes with a lot of experience so this is your chance to assist with an important program under the guidance of a skilled leader. Please contact Gail at (650)867-6625 or gardenersdaughter@yahoo.com or Zoe Bolton at 264-1210 or zbolton@gmail.com to say yes...you would love to co-chair this event with Gail!



2011 Garden Tour Locations Announced



Penny Barton, as the chair of the Bonner County Garden Tour, has been working hard to once again bring us an excellent line-up for the show. Now it is our turn to help her by spreading the word and volunteering to help at one of the gardens. You select the garden you would like to work and the shift (9:45am – 1pm or 1pm to 4pm). Contact Penny at 265-9733 or one-cent@gotsky.com to schedule your shift. It would be great if we had two individuals working each shift. The Garden Tour will be held July 3rd.

For individuals interested in obtaining tickets they are \$10 and can be ordered online with a credit card at www.bcgardeners.org. Alternately you can swing by the BCGA office as the full time staff there is willing to sell tickets at the front desk, you can buy them at Sears or you can buy them at any of the gardens the day of the event. Children are free.

The descriptions of the gardens are as follows:

Bob VanBuren's "Jail Garden"

4001 North Boyer Avenue
Sandpoint, ID 83864

In 2007, Bob the man became Bob the Gardener. Undaunted by the fact he had never gardened before he took a vacant field and turned it into a produce factory. Bob's methods are sometimes unorthodox because Bob enjoys breaking gardening rules, electing to do his gardening his way. Bob's greatest joy in gardening is in producing enormous vegetables, which are often grand champion ribbon winners at the Bonner County Fair. He is hoping for such a ribbon with his Atlantic Giant Pumpkin this year. In four short years this garden has produced 27,437 pounds of fresh produce that was donated to both the food banks and senior centers in Sandpoint, Clark Fork and Priest River along with Kin-

derhaven and the Gospel Mission in Sandpoint. A sense of pride is felt by the inmates as they learn new skills while tenderly tending this vital-to-our-community garden.

"Ode to the Many Shades of Green"

Michael and Misty Kinney
409 Creekside Lane, Sandpoint

At first glance at Misty and Michael's three year old garden you are acutely aware of the color green, from the light lime to the deep dark green of a forest, just waiting to burst into a riot of other colors as the flowers push forth their own bounty. Generous islands of large boulders filled with shrubs, flowers and ground covers give a feeling of movement to this front garden. A very bold hop-twined arbor invites you to journey to the back yard through tall shrubs of nine bark and lilacs.

"Heavens Gate"

Evie Leucht
703 South Division Avenue, Sandpoint

A Zen-type atmosphere greets you as you stroll through Evie's sixteen year old spacious front yard. Notice the grandmother cherry tree being propped so she can continue to provide a graceful arch of shade to cool the hostas under foot. A splash of colorful flowers, takes you to the backyard where the creative use of many types of stones hosts the overflowing fountain of flowering pots. In and around are shady nooks and contrasting bright areas of sunshine which shimmer with summer shades of color.

"A Bow to Grace"

Overton Pratt and Michelle DiCagno
216 4th Street, Dover

Master Gardener Michelle's four year old garden at first glance appears small, but once you take it all in, it has all the elements of a Grand Garden as nothing has been left out. From her shady side of cool loving plants to her sun worshipers and the plants that give a feeling of relaxation nestle in the back yard along with veggies and splashes of color from many perennials. Overton is the hardscape guy who has created clever metal art in the form of gates, trellises and fence-tops-to-envy, and his recycled wood path has the look and feel of a boardwalk. In 2003 Michelle started our Associations Garden Tours.

“Avalon”

Randy and Kelly Daniels
188 Wrenco Loop Road, Sandpoint

Kelly and Randy's three year old garden is growing in all directions. The newly installed fire pit and seating area takes you one way, while vines, roses, annuals and perennials surrounding the garage and kennel take you the other. The front bed filled with hostas and bleeding hearts flirts with the bank of other cool loving plants kept company by the sounds from a water feature. A stone patio interspersed with many varieties of steppable plants is showcased behind an arbor with a charming water feature nearby. Keep a look out for the many gnomes, fairies and bears that are watching you inspect this garden.

“His and Hers Garden”

Paul and Barbara Moore
99 Lacted Shores Drive, Lacted

Master Gardener Barbara and husband Paul's vast 23 year old garden reflects both their individual passions for trees, shrubs and flowers as well as their united interests. Barbara has vignettes abounding with ever-blooming roses, perennials and rare flowers such as the Himalayan Blue Poppy. Paul's impressive collection of specimen ornamental trees, include Tricolor Beech, Katsura, Korean Mountain Ash and a Yellow Magnolia. Islands of flowers and shrubs are everywhere as well as peaceful places in which to rest and enjoy the kaleidoscope of color your eyes cannot drink in quickly enough.

It looks to be another great tour!

June Gardening To Do List

From Backyard Gardeners located at:
http://www.backyardgardener.com/Gardening_Month/zonejun01.html



Zone 3

- Set out seedlings of warm-season annuals and vegetables
- Plant summer-flowering bulbs
- Weed asparagus and strawberry beds
- Put up trellises or netting for peas, pole beans and flowering vines
- Divide and replant spring-blooming perennials after the flowers fade
- Plant container roses
- Fertilize and aerate lawns
- Plant balled-and-burlapped and container trees, shrubs and vines
- Apply sulfur to control fungus problems on apple trees, roses and grapevines
- Pinch off first flower buds on chrysanthemum and carnation plants to coax bigger blooms
- Protect cole crops (cabbage, broccoli, kale) from egg-laying cabbage white butterflies with insect barrier cloth
- After their leaves yellow and dry up, divide and transplant crowded spring bulbs

Zone 4

- Plant seedlings of warm-season annuals and vegetables
- Sow seed of fast-growing, heat-loving herbs, vegetables (basil, squash, melons) and flowers (nasturtiums, zinnias) directly in ground
- Thin out small green fruits on apple, peach and plum trees to one every 6 inches on the branch
- Dust potato plants to prevent infestations of potato beetle
- Set up trellises to support pole beans, morning glories and cucumbers
- Remove newest shoots from geranium plants to encourage fuller plants
- Plant new lawns and fertilize and aerate established lawns
- Plant container roses, shrubs and trees in well-amended soil
- Divide and transplant spring-flowering perennials that have finished blooming
- Protect cole crops (cabbage, broccoli, kale) from egg-laying cabbage white butterflies with insect-barrier cloth
- Weed asparagus and strawberry beds
- Remove new flower buds from chrysanthemums and carnations to coax bigger blooms

Zone 5

- Divide and transplant spring-flowering perennials that have finished blooming
- Harden off and plant seedlings of warm-weather vegetables and flowers
- Thin out small green fruits on apple, peach and plum trees to one every 6 inches on the branch
- Sow seeds of perennials directly into the ground
- Dust potato plants to prevent infestations of potato beetle
- Pinch newest shoots on geranium plants to encourage fuller plants
- Train your lawn to grow deep roots; Mow often, at a high setting
- Plant balled-and-burlapped and container shrubs and trees
- Feed roses as the first flower buds appear; apply fungicide to prevent powdery mildew or blackspot
- Weed asparagus and strawberry beds
- Feed young corn plants with high-nitrogen fish emulsion fertilizer
- Mulch flower and vegetable gardens to conserve water during heat waves

found at

<http://www.cals.uidaho.edu/edComm/catalog.asp?category1=Gardening&category2=Short-Season,High-Altitude Gardening>.

Happy browsing!

- Choosing and Growing Adapted Vegetable Varieties
- Gardening Strategies for Short-Season, High-Altitude Zones
- Growing Small-Fruit Crops in Short-Season Gardens
- Growing Tomatoes in Cool, Short-Season Locations
- Growing Tree Fruits in Short-Season Gardens
- Hardy Roses for Harsh Climates
- Herbaceous Ornamentals: Annuals, Perennials, and Ornamental Grasses
- Introduction to Short-Season Gardening in Idaho
- Landscaping with Native Plants
- Lawn Care in Short-Season, High-Altitude Zones
- Managing Soils in Short-Season, High-Altitude Zones
- Selecting, Planting, and Caring for Trees, Shrubs, and Vines
- Short-Season Vegetable Gardening

Online Resources



As the season heats up we commonly look for resources to help with maximizing our growing season. Many universities offer research based, regional specific information free to the public. Cornell University, University of Idaho and Washington State University are examples of universities that offer a plethora of documents covering a wide range of topics.

Janae Dale has identified the following as well as many other websites that are useful for gardening. Check out our Helpful Gardening Websites resource link on the left hand side of our website at www.bcgardeners.org.

The following documents are a few of the subjects offered by the University of Idaho. These can be

BC Gardeners at the 4th of July Parade!

The Bonner County Gardeners have a long history of participating in the Sandpoint 4th of July Parade. Historically we have followed the horses, scooping up poop, because it is such an important ingredient to the compost bin. We don't know if there will be horses in this year's parade but we do know that we will be there to once again represent the gardening passion of Bonner County.

You should all plan on meeting at the Army Surplus Store parking lot at 9am on Monday July 4th. Wear gardening clothes with hats and gloves. If you have a gardening cart bring it with plants to pull behind. This is always a spur of the moment, have a good time affair so just plan on bringing a big smile and having fun!

We will have our brand new association banner with new logo to show off to the attendees for the first time. If you have questions contact Janae Dale or Zoe Bolton per the contact info at the end of this newsletter.



Reminder to Save Plants for the Yard Sale...

The Yard Sale is in late August again this year and we would really like to promote the sale of plants. So don't be tossing those plants that you no longer want. Put them in a pot and save them for the sale. Thank you, thank you, thank you in advance!

Bonner County Gardeners Association – Membership Meeting June 1, 2011

Present: Becky Reynolds, Valle Novak, Penny Barton, Gail Locke, Zoe Bolton, Mikey Haven, Jan Wilfert, Ellie Lizotte, Richard Bower, Janae Dale, Linda Kirchmann, Ann Warwick, Jon Bair, Penny Goodman, Jay Baker, Lynn Pietz.

President Zoe Bolton called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. She welcomed all to our new office space, at 804 Airport Way; all meetings will be held in the conference room.

The May minutes were approved as read.

Treasurer's report: \$3,647.03

Committee Reports:

Continuing Education classes, Janae Dale, chair: Progress is being made toward our group touring the hydroponic tomato business in Sagle. Bonner General Hospital is collaborating with our association in the planning of a class for the public in ergonomic gardening. A discussion ensued concerning an appropriate place for such a meeting, including the hospital conference room as well as Brown House. In September, Dr. Kuhl from U. of I. will come to Sandpoint to teach a class on GMO's (Genetically Modified Organisms) for us, the Charter School, and possibly for the high school, and expects to come on a Thursday sometime in September or October. There will be expenses for his overnight stay.

Farmer's Market, Janae Dale, chair: Janae reported that Saturday was an awesome day at our booth, but had poor weather. Most questions asked were by those new to the area, and concerning what to plant, and what grows well here. She used one of the signs Howie built, and covered it with "Gardening Questions". Janae has a concern about the reference books taken to the Farmer's Market and the wear and tear that will occur with them over time. Since these books mostly belong to her, she would appreciate the group's purchasing some books to replace them, probably at a cost of around \$200.

2011 Community Project, School Gardens, Mikey Haven, chair: Mikey asked for volunteers to give a gardening talk at North Side School or Kootenai School. Anyone interested should contact her and set up a time. Jay Baker should be contacted for the Charter School. Jon Bair suggested that we use more structure in our presentations and encourage individuals to create talks on such things as composting, berries, etc.; we could give such a series of presentations to many varied groups, even beyond the schools. The discussion was positive toward this idea. Valle Novak offered a presentation that she has created, called "Plant Walks", in which

she would take children on a walk, identifying plants and telling Indian lore about them. She has plans to take children on a walk around Round Lake. Comments agreed that we would like to go on such a walk as well.

Potlucks, Ann Warwick and Becky Reynolds: Work continues toward a schedule of locations for potlucks this summer. Valle offered her place in early September. Janae suggested that we have a potluck at The Healing Garden, with Valle as host.

Garden Tour, Penny Barton, chair: Penny has arranged for 6 gardens to be visited this summer. Concern of the group is to have our logo ready to be put on tickets and signs, finding someone local to do the signs, banners, etc. This year there will be a stick-on label connected with the ticket so people can put it on their clothing and not have to keep up with it from garden to garden. We should ask businesses, including nurseries, to sell the tickets, and should have one address for checks to be mailed in for those ordered by mail.

Old Business:

Physical address: At the 804 Airport Way address, the building is open 8 – 5 Monday through Friday, and can be accessed during off hours by contacting Zoe. Our new phone has just been installed with the number 265-2070; someone will need to pick up phone messages regularly. We have our copy machine, and it is slow, but good for about 10 – 20 copies; for many copies it is better to use either the machine in the building for a fee, or the UPS store, where Mikey has negotiated a good rate.

By-laws: With a response of about 40%, and all positive votes, the by-laws have been passed.

Events Calendar: The Healing Garden Clean-up work on Saturday, May 21, was totally done by Valle; no one else came.

We discussed an organized group to carpool into Spokane to Manito Park. Zoe will send out an email for this. The iris gardens in Newport, “Newport Naturals”, will be open this year and could be another field trip. Penny Barton handed around a brochure for Sandborn Creek Creations in Priest River, who specialize in roses that can be grown even in zone 2.

The group presented a gift to Zoe for all of her dedication, hard work, and leadership throughout this difficult spring.

New Business:

New Logo: Judith and Jay created a new logo; it is to signify education, community service, and camaraderie. The group discussed the colors, the added expense of adding another color, and will continue the discussion by email.

Website updates: We reviewed the write-up and discussed those who should receive it, including the mayor and city council members, county commissioners, nurseries in town, and the news media.

Membership Outreach: We decided to welcome inactive members with a letter and copy of the press release, a list of our activities, and an invitation to the pot lucks. A suggestion was made that when we have pins made with the new logo, each member should receive one, free of charge.

Yard Sale: We do need an annual fund-raiser, and it could be the yard sale. We will need to publicize it well this year.

Handouts from U of I: Janae proposed that we purchase some; we can reproduce some if we can get them from the Plant Clinic office. We could ask for donations for donations as we give handouts at the farmers’ Market.

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Lynn Pietz, Secretary



BCMGA – 2011 Event Calendar

2011 Event Chairs and Contact Info to Volunteer			
Event	Date*	Chair(s)	Contact
Membership Meetings	Ongoing	Zoe Bolton	264-1210 or zbolton@gmail.com
Continuing Education Program	Ongoing	Janae Dale	265-2205 or dalejanae@gmail.com
Home Horticulture Series	Spring & Fall	Don Childress, Janae Dale and Gail Swan	Don – 255-7928 or dwc1rsc@televar.com ; Janae – 265-2205 or dalejanae@gmail.com , or Gail H 263-0180 C 290-4126 or gswan8274@hotmail.com
Home and Garden Show	April	Ellie Lizotte and Ann Warwick	Ellie – 264-5462 or hopeellie@aol.com ; Ann – H 263-2844 C 691-1900 or w.redguy@frontier.com
School Gardens	Spring/Summer	Mikey Haven	610-4829 or 66haven@gmail.com
Farmers Market	Spring/Summer	Janae Dale	265-2205 or dalejanae@gmail.com
Mickinnick Trailhead – meet the 1 st and 3 rd Wed of each month at 9am at the trailhead	Spring/Summer	Jan Griffiths	jan@looptravel.com , 290-1973
Healing Garden – you are welcome to show up and weed at their convenience	Spring/Summer	Valle Novak	
Potlucks	Summer	Becky Reynolds, Ann Warwick	Becky - rplace@directv.net or 264-3214; Ann – H 263-2844 C 691-1900 or w.redguy@frontier.com
Garden Tour	July	Penny Barton	H 265-9733; C 610-1493 or one-cent@gotisky.com
Bonner County Fair	Aug	Gail Lock	(650)-867-6625 or gardenersdaughter@yahoo.com
Calendar			
Event	Date*	Chair(s)	Notes
Membership Meeting	Wed 6/1	Zoe Bolton	BCGA Offices at 804 Airport Way, Sandpoint; 265-2070; 9am
Mickinnick Trailhead Clean-up	Wed 6/1	Jan Griffiths;	Mickinnick Trailhead; 9am
Healing Garden Work Party	Sun 6/5	Zoe Bolton,	Starting at noon
Healing Garden Plant Sale	Fri 6/10		Healing Garden next to the Brown House at Bonner County Hospital; 9am
The Friends of Manito Park Plant Sale	Sat 6/11		Just east of Gaiser Conservatory in Manito Park, 10am; www.friendsofmanito.org
Cedar Mountain Perennials Open House	Fri & Sat 6/10 & 6/11		Bob Wilson's nursery; 7875 E. Highway 54, Athol, ID – one mile east of Hwy 95 on Hwy 54; 9am – 3pm; www.cedarmountainperennials.com
BCGA Potluck	Sat 6/18	Becky Reynolds, Ann Warwick,	Mikey Haven's home at 230 Southview Lane Sandpoint, ID; 12pm – 2pm
BCGA Potluck	Sat 6/25	Becky Reynolds, Ann Warwick,	Penny Barton's home at 1762 West Elmira Rd, Sandpoint, ID; starts at 3:30pm
Garden Tour	Sun 7/3	Penny Barton	10am – 4pm
4 th of July Parade	Mon 7/4	Janae Dale, Zoe Bolton	9am at the Army Surplus Store parking lot
Membership Meeting	Wed 7/6	Zoe Bolton	BCGA Offices at 804 Airport Way, Sandpoint;

			265-2070; 9am
BCGA Potluck	Sun 7/17	Becky Reynolds, Ann Warwick,	Ann Warwick's home; address to be provided; starts at 3pm
BCGA Potluck	Sun 7/24	Becky Reynolds, Ann Warwick,	Bob Blair's home; address and time to be provided
BCGA Potluck	Sat 7/30	Becky Reynolds, Ann Warwick,	Toni North's home; address to be provided; starts at 3pm
Membership Meeting	Wed 8/3	Zoe Bolton	BCGA Offices at 804 Airport Way, Sandpoint; 265-2070; 9am
BCGA Potluck	Sat 8/20	Becky Reynolds, Ann Warwick,	Zoe Bolton's home at 2908 West Spring Creek Road, Hope, ID; starts at 3:30pm
Bonner County Fair	8/23-8/27	Gail Lock	Bonner County Fair Grounds
BCGA Yard Sale	Fri 8/26	Janae Dale	Alternative High School; time to be announced
Membership Meeting	Wed 9/7	Zoe Bolton	BCGA Offices at 804 Airport Way, Sandpoint; 265-2070; 9am

