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Welcome to the vibrant world of North Idaho, where every day feels like a new adventure!

Picture yourself living in a place where neighbors aren’t just neighbors – they’re your closest pals, and your kids can pedal around the block with the wind in their hair and a smile on their faces.

Now, let’s talk about the scenery – oh boy, it’s like living in a postcard! We’re talking majestic mountains, towering cedars, rivers so clear you can count the fish, and lakes where the fun never stops. Seriously, who needs a TV when you’ve got Mother Nature’s greatest hits right outside your door?

But wait, there’s more! Low crime rates? Check. Top-notch healthcare? You betcha. Arts and culture scene that’ll make your head spin (in a good way)? Absolutely. And let’s not forget about the backyard adventures – whether you’re into yoga, paddle boarding, or just taking a moment to appreciate the beauty around you, North Idaho has got you covered.

So whether you’re a newbie looking to dive headfirst into the North Idaho lifestyle or a seasoned local ready to rediscover the magic of your hometown, buckle up and get ready for the ride of your life. Because in North Idaho, the fun never stops – and neither does the adventure!

Kari Packer
Kari Packer, Regional Director
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We’re on our way!
The original inhabitants of Kootenai County were the Schitsu’umsh Tribe, meaning “those who were found here” or “the discovered people.”

Their ancestral homeland spans almost five million acres, from Montana to the east to the Spokane River Valley in present-day Washington, from close to the Canadian border to near the confluence of the Snake and Clearwater Rivers in North Idaho.

In the late 18th or early 19th century, French fur trappers dubbed the Schitsu’umsh “Coeur d’Alene,” meaning “heart of the awl,” in reference to their sharp trading skills.

At the center of this landscape is Lake Coeur d’Alene, a gem more than 26 miles long with some 135 miles of shoreline. The lake is fed primarily by the Coeur d’Alene River and St. Joe River.

For centuries, the people of the Coeur d’Alene Tribe gathered to hunt, fish, dance, play games, feast and swim in the area where the lake feeds into the Spokane River, where North Idaho College now stands. The special site was called Yap-Keehn-Um,
which means “the gathering place.” The beach there still bears that name.

The city of Rathdrum was the first to be settled, beginning in 1861 as a stagecoach stop. Post Falls was settled in 1871, according to the Idaho State Historical Society, while Camp Coeur d’Alene was established in 1878 “on a site chosen for its beauty” by General W.T. Sherman. The camp became a fort in 1879 and the town of Coeur d’Alene sprang up around it, along with Hayden, Hayden Lake and Dalton Gardens.

Kootenai County, named for the Kootenai Tribe of Idaho, was officially organized on July 9, 1881, after almost 17 years of existence.

Today, Kootenai County is the third-most populous county in Idaho and by far the largest in North Idaho, with about 183,000 residents.

Echoes of the county’s history remain in archaeological sites, historic buildings and landmarks, such as the Fort Sherman Chapel on what is now the North Idaho College Campus and the Old Kootenai County Jail in Rathdrum, built in 1892 and later restored and turned into a museum.
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ALARMS
CAMERAS
PATROL
Idaho remains one of the fastest growing states in the nation, with a population increase of 1.3%—more than 25,000 people—in 2023.

The Gem State has an estimated total population of 1.9 million. About 183,000 of those people resided in Kootenai County as of 2022, the most recent year for which data is available, an increase of about 7% over 2021.

A little more than 20% of Kootenai County’s residents are 65 and older, compared to 17% stateside. People under the age of 18 make up about 22% of the county’s population, lower than the statewide total of almost 24%.

The latest census data indicates that more than 93% of Kootenai County residents are high school graduates, while 26.7% of people over the age of 25 have a bachelor’s degree or higher.

Median home prices fell from $525,000 in late 2023 to $472,000 in early 2024. The last time prices were that low was in August 2021.

Though the area is seeing a decline in median home price, there was an overall 48% increase in the median sales price between 2020 and 2023.

Income
- Median household income (2022): $71,949
- Persons living in poverty: 10%

Health
- Disabled people under 65: 9.6%
- Persons without health insurance under 65: 9.4%

Families
- Households: 67,002
- Living in same house 1 year ago: 85.4%
- Language other than English spoken at home: 3.5%

Workers
- Percentage of population, ages 16+: 60.7%
- Female, ages 16+: 56.7%

People
- Kids under 5: 5.4%
- Under 18: 22.1%
- Adults 65+: 20.1%
- Women: 50%
- Veterans: 13,999 (2018–2022)
- Foreign born: 2.2%
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander: 0.2%
- Black or African American: 0.5%
- Asian: 1%
- American Indian or Alaska Native: 1.3%
- Multiple races: 2.9%
- Hispanic or Latino: 5.7%
- White: 94%
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Our Cities

ATHOL

Athol has a 2024 population of 755, and is currently growing at a rate of 1.62% annually. Its population has increased by 6.49% since the most recent census, which recorded a population of 709 in 2020.

The community takes pride in continuing to hold on to the neighborly mannerisms of the residents.

Athol boasts being the home to Silverwood Theme Park, one of the most well known theme parks in the country.

Silverwood is the largest theme and water park in the American Northwest on 413 acre and boasts more than 70 rides, slides, shows, and attractions.

According to statistics, the park has 120 year-round employees and ramps up to 1,600 seasonal employees. Over 800,000 people visited the park in 2021, breaking the attendance record.

Other amenities include its close proximity to Farragut State Park and other natural areas.

A Northern Pacific Railroad station was built in Athol in 1882, and settlers hoped for a vast agricultural paradise.

First known as Colton, the town was renamed Athol by a settler who came from Athol, Massachusetts.

The jack pine forest first attracted early settlers to Athol, and logging, milling, and agriculture created prosperity. By 1903 many other businesses opened to serve the community.

Like many other towns in the region, Athol holds an annual community event dubbed Athol Daze. This year’s event is slated for August 8.

They hold a number of family friendly activities during the celebration, and even take time to award the annual Citizen of the Year.

BAYVIEW

Just under 700 people call Bayview home according to recent statistics, and it is a community that has a small-town feel where neighbors help each other. The population increases through the summer months due to the many recreational opportunities.

Norma Jean Knowles, President of the Bayview Chamber of Commerce said
Bayview is situated in a perfect little corner along the southern shore of Lake Pend Oreille, making it a perfect place to recreate.

“Being right on the lake brings all kinds of water sport opportunities,” Knowles said. “People enjoy fishing, boating, water skiing, swimming and more.”

Folks who don’t want to get their feet wet can find places to enjoy camping, hiking, biking, disc golf and other landlocked activities, especially since it is right along the Selkirk Loop, a popular tourist destination.

Continued on page 16.
Bayview is also very close to Farragut State Park, one of the largest state parks Idaho has to offer. The park is named after Civil War Admiral David G. Farragut.

Ralph's Coffee House and Cafe and the Captain's Wheel Resort are places to stop to grab a bite to eat.

The Bayview Mercantile or MacDonald's Hudson Bay Resort offer keepsakes and handmade souvenirs, and are essentially staple businesses in the community.

The community center is also a centerpiece for residents and guests alike.

The community center holds multiple community events monthly and offers “something for everyone” Knowles said.

For families with kids in school, bus services connect Bayview to an elementary school in Athol, and also transports students to the Timberlake Junior and Senior High Schools in Spirit Lake.

"All these opportunities were born from a rich community history," said Knowles.

Much of that history was made possible by the lake as well.

Through the 1800s much of the region relied on trapping, hunting, trading and mining for money.

Now, tourism and local businesses run the economy.

Knowles said the community holds a big community event called Bayview Daze, and this year it will start on July 6. She said Bayview boasts the best fireworks show in the region.

CATALDO

With a population under 900, Cataldo is a small friendly town with a lot of opportunities for outdoor recreation.

Camping opportunities are prevalent along the South Fork of the Coeur d’Alene River.

The Trail of the Coeur d’Alenes goes through several wetland areas.

Guests can see wildlife along the trail, including otters, ducks, geese and beavers.

Trails will take hikers and bikers through scenic landscapes with grand views.

Fishing fans can also take advantage of the chance to catch some bass, trout, or pike.

Another area visitors and residents can visit is the Coeur d’Alene’s Old Mission State Park.

The park boasts the oldest building in Idaho, The Cataldo Mission. That building was the first mission in the Northwest, and a National Historic Landmark. The Cataldo Mission was built in 1850-1853.

The town is named for Father Joseph Cataldo, who served at the Old Mission from 1865 to 1870.

Patrick J. Whalen, the first homesteader in this area, platted the town of Cataldo.
Coeur d’Alene is a thriving, growing, lakefront community with a population of nearly 60,000. The world-famous Coeur d’Alene Resort nestled on the Lake Coeur d’Alene next to Tubbs Hill is at the center of things and hosts events throughout the year.

The downtown area is home to an array of shops, restaurants, pubs and professional offices. Sherman Avenue connects locals and tourists alike to shopping, eating, and recreational opportunities. This area is the hub of Coeur d’Alene.

The city boasts an amazing and beautiful system of parks, highlighted by McEuen Park, City Park and Atlas Waterfront Park.

The spacious Coeur d’Alene Public Library is committed to excellence in library services. Dedicated to lifelong learning, the library provides free and equal access to a full range of historical, intellectual, and cultural resources.

North Idaho College’s main campus stands where the lake feeds into the Spokane River, at the traditional gathering place for the people of the Coeur d’Alene Tribe. Further along the river is the Education Corridor.

The North Idaho Centennial Trail offers runners, walkers and cyclists spectacular views for 23 miles, extending from the Idaho/Washington State Line to Higgens Point, six miles east of Coeur d’Alene at the end of Coeur d’Alene Lake Drive.

When it comes to events, Coeur d’Alene has it all—from Ironman to the Fourth of July Parade, to the North Idaho Fair and fireworks, to Christmas displays led by the brilliant lighting of The Coeur d’Alene Resort.

Beyond downtown are residential neighborhoods, many with parks and paths. Businesses big and small lined the major city thoroughfares, U.S. 95 and Government Way.

Even as Coeur d’Alene grows, older neighborhoods, such as the Garden District near downtown, continue to anchor the city’s sense of history.

Coeur d’Alene offers the best of all worlds: top-level recreation and amenities surrounded by abundant nature and wildlife. The perfect place to raise a family or enjoy a well-earned retirement.

Continued on page 18.
The history of Dalton Gardens stretches back to the time of Fort Sherman, when Oscar F. Canfield settled in the area in 1878. The city was incorporated in 1960 and includes the area from Prairie Avenue south to Dalton Avenue and from Government Way to 17th Street. The origin of the city’s name remains unknown.

Dalton Gardens was historically known for orchards and produce. In the 1920s, decades before the city was incorporated, a packing plant was built and the electric line railroad provided freight and passenger service. After a severe freeze in October 1935 killed all the cherry trees and many of the apple and pear trees, only a few farmers managed to survive.

Today, Dalton Gardens offers a peaceful, semi-rural lifestyle with close proximity to larger municipalities. The city has a population of about 2,500 people and boasts about 140 small businesses.
HARRISON

Trail meets lake in historic Harrison, much to the delight of its summer visitors.

The tiny town of 210 is a destination for swimmers and boaters who travel from all over to enjoy the largest public dock system on Lake Coeur d’Alene.

President William Henry Harrison carved the 1-mile strip on which the town sits out of Coeur d’Alene Indian Reservation land. Harrison was first settled by the Crane family in 1890 and incorporated in 1899. It became the gateway to the Coeur d’Alene Mining District and the development of farming and timber along the St. Joe and St. Maries rivers.

The town was nearly decimated by fire in 1917 when the population was more than 1,200 people. Although most of its structures were never rebuilt, Harrison has flourished into a favorite place for locals and tourists who enjoy wine tastings, shopping, a shady city park, bird watching at the Thompson Lake Wildlife Refuge and other fun for the whole family. Harrison is also a popular base for cyclists who ride the 72-mile Trail of the Coeur d’Alenes, a paved rail-to-trail that stretches across the Idaho Panhandle.

Continued on page 20.
HAYDEN

Just over 17,400 residents call Hayden home, and the community continues to grow.

It is known as a city that is full of neighbors and helpers to residents and local groups alike.

Recreation opportunities are always close by as well. With several lakes in the vicinity, residents can enjoy boating, fishing, water skiing and other water sports as well.

Other outdoor enthusiasts can enjoy nearby hiking or biking trails.

The city also boasts six parks that encompass 57.5 acres.

The Hayden Chamber of Commerce hosts several events throughout the year for people to come out and enjoy as well.

Some of these events bring people together over food and drink, and others are set up as community markets for the whole family.

Andrea Fulks, Hayden Chamber President and CEO said these events are held to help bring people together and network.

She said it can be a good chance for new residents and businesses to network with other locals.

Fulks said many of the partnerships created in Hayden become friendships, and that keeps the neighborly feel through the community.

RATHDRUM

Another growing community that boasts a small-town feel is Rathdrum.

Executive Director Ashley Cameron said the community is growing, but is able to hang on to the neighborly atmosphere that Rathdrum was founded on.

Cameron said some of the growth can be attributed to a strong and healthy school system.

“Many of the people moving to Rathdrum do so because of the schools,” Cameron said. “I am a big believer that healthy schools make healthy businesses.”

She said those directly tie into the health and productivity of the community.

Economically, Rathdrum has a mix of small town local jobs and other more industrial settings.

She said some of the staple businesses have been there for decades.

For folks wanting to find a bite to eat, Cameron said the Westwood Brewery and Nadine’s Mexican Kitchen are both award-winning local businesses that bring their best to the table.

The urban renewal district has helped the town bring in some more industrial opportunities for employment as well.

POST FALLS

North Idaho’s River City.

The city of Post Falls is the western gateway to North Idaho. With a population of 42,610 people as of 2021, Post Falls is Idaho’s ninth-largest city and the second-largest city in North Idaho, behind Coeur d’Alene. It is nestled along the Spokane River, where boaters, fishers, sunbathers and recreators alike find plenty of space to enjoy nice weather. One of the most popular spots along the river is Q’emiln (Ka-Mee-Lin) Park, which connects to the 78-acre Post Falls Community Forest, a haven for birders, hikers and rock climbers. Other parks include the historical Treaty Rock Park and the scenic Falls Park and Black Bay Park.

Lodging accommodations range from RV campgrounds to the Red Lion Hotel Templin’s on the River. Night life varies from live music and dancing at Nashville North to smaller, boutique bars and pubs sprinkled throughout the town.

Post Falls was founded June 1, 1871 by German immigrant Frederick Post, the namesake of the falls that splash into the Spokane River.
They have several community events throughout the year, but Rathdrum Daze is the biggest event, and they hold it on the third weekend in July.

“We bring in 150 vendors and blend that with a weekend of live music,” Cameron said. “There are also a bunch of fun family friendly activities like small dog races to keep the fun going.”

Cameron said when it all adds up, Rathdrum has been and continues to be a great place for families to live, work and recreate.

Continued on page 22.
ROSE LAKE

For a quick getaway to stunning beauty and much-needed serenity, drive about 20 minutes east. There, you’ll find the exit to Highway 3 and soon, Rose Lake.

It is known for thousands of migrating tundra swans that arrive in large numbers early, starting in late February. They are amazing and beautiful.

Rose Creek and Rose Lake were named by a family who homesteaded on Cougar Creek, for their daughter Rose Brown.

The Rose Lake Post Office was established in 1905, and by 1916 the population was 500.

The town was primarily a company town for the Rose Lake Lumber Company, which was then known as the Winton Lumber Company.

Along the Coeur d’Alene River, which flows into Lake Coeur d’Alene, there are 11 small lakes.

SPIRIT LAKE

Nestled amidst the tranquil wilderness of Idaho, Spirit Lake stands as a testament to both natural beauty and captivating folklore.

Home to approximately 2,300 residents, this quaint town offers a serene escape for those seeking a blend of outdoor exploration and mystique.

Opportunities to explore Spirit Lake abound throughout the year, beckoning adventurers and nature enthusiasts alike. One of the town’s prime attractions is the Empire Trails, a sprawling network of biking trails that winds its way deep into the surrounding forest. Whether you’re a seasoned cyclist or a casual hiker, these trails offer an immersive journey through the pristine wilderness.

Spirit Lake holds a unique distinction as one of only two lakes in the world with a sealed bottom, adding an air of mystery to its already captivating allure. According to local legend, the lake’s origins are steeped in tragedy and romance, dating back to the time of the Kootenai Indians who once inhabited its shores.

Once known as “Clear Water,” the lake earned its current name, “Tesemini” or “Lake of the Spirits,” following a tale that has been passed down through generations. Legend has it that a Kootenai Chief’s daughter, Hya-Pam, and her beloved, Hasht-Eel-Ame-Hoom, were torn apart by tribal politics. Despite their forbidden love, the young couple bound themselves together with a ‘marriage chain of rushes’ and plunged into the depths of the lake, never to be seen again.

Even today, locals speak of spectral apparitions that are said to roam the lake’s tranquil waters on moonlit nights. The ghostly silhouettes of Hya-Pam and Hasht-Eel-Ame-Hoom are said to drift across the surface in a phantom canoe, a poignant reminder of love lost to the ages.

Whether you’re drawn by the allure of outdoor adventure or the mystique of ancient legends, Spirit Lake offers a truly unforgettable experience. Residents and visitors become immersed in the natural splendor and rich folklore of this enchanting town, where every corner holds a story waiting to be discovered.
WORLEY

Whirl into Worley

In the southwestern corner of Kootenai County, 28 miles south of Coeur d’Alene, travelers will find a town surrounded by wheat farms, oats, lentils, peas and bluegrass—Worley.

Worley stretches to Lake Coeur d’Alene, where intimate bay communities dot the forested shores. It is home to the Coeur d’Alene Casino Resort Hotel, one of the largest employers in the area. Its population was 255 people in 2021.

White settlers were first seen in the Worley area in the early 1900s. The first settlers were first recorded in 1907. The Coeur d’Alene Tribal Reservation officially opened to settlers in 1909, and Charles O. Worley became the first Indian Agent of the region. The name “Worley” was adopted as the new village began to grow. Worley was officially incorporated March 22, 1917.

Worley’s industries have evolved from agriculture and logging to recreation and tourism. Whatever brings visitors to Worley, they’re sure to enjoy the breathtaking views and beautiful sunsets that can be seen from the town.

Kay Rice, M.Ed, GRI, PSA
208.699.8898
Kay.Rice.Homes@gmail.com
Meet North Idaho's law enforcement agencies.

SERVE AND PROTECT
Crime is continuing to fall to record-low numbers in Coeur d’Alene.

“The way Coeur d’Alene does policing is remarkably different from a lot of other agencies in the Pacific Northwest,” said Lee White, Police Chief.

The police department has a force of 121, 98 of its officers are on patrol duty or investigations. White said, while recruiting remains a challenge, his department only has about five openings.

Part 1 crimes, which include aggravated assault, arson, burglary, rape, and robbery, fell 3.2% to 710 offenses in 2023, compared to 734 in 2022.

According to the Idaho State Police, crime in Idaho publications date to 1995 and the number of Part 1 crimes reported in 2023 was a record low for the Coeur d’Alene Police Department.

White cited three factors for the crime decline: Quick emergency response times; emphasis on community engagement, and being proactive in finding felons and “throwing their butts in jail.”

“Don’t kid yourselves,” he said. “There are people that wake up every day and look for crimes to commit.”

Continued on page 26.
White said police want the criminal element “to feel genuinely uncomfortable that when they come to Coeur d’Alene, they’re going to be caught. So they can stay over in Spokane or wherever they come from and not come here to commit crimes.”

He said police engage closely with the community by stopping at events like soccer tournaments, visiting with business owners, and in general just getting to know residents. That, in turn, encourages people to trust police and share information with them.

A downtown task force was effective at reducing crime last summer. Police recently received approval from the City Council to form an opioid task force, and this summer, for the first time, police will have a downtown e-bike patrol.

Police-initiated calls in 2023 totaled 18,886, up 3% from 2022.

“Heavily proactive enforcement has been a huge part of reducing crime,” White said. He said “intelligence-led policing” is key, as technology and analysis results in decisive action and smart decisions.

For instance, officers don’t just cruise around. Police review crime maps, look for trends to see where there is trouble. If they see an increase in burglaries in a certain neighborhood, they will deploy more resources there.

“I’m a strong believer that random patrols produce random results,” White said.

Since 2014, when White arrived to lead the Coeur d’Alene Police Department, Part 1 crimes have been reduced by 66%, while the population has risen to 58,000.

Part 2 crimes, such as driving under the influence of alcohol, juvenile problem, vandalism, assaults, drugs and child abuse totaled 3,661 in 2023, up less than 1% from 3,632 in 2022.

“We are never really fully staffed,” he said.

White said, when it comes to public notification of criminal situations, “If there is a significant danger to the community, I will always put something out.”

KOOTENAI COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE

The Kootenai County Sheriff’s Office serves all areas of the county not covered by municipal police departments, with a stated vision to protect and serve the community with professionalism, integrity and compassion.

The city of Hayden contracts with the sheriff’s office to provide law enforcement services. The agency is also responsible for operating the Kootenai County jail.

Sheriff Bob Norris said his office has a distinguished history among Idaho’s law enforcement agencies.

“We tenaciously cultivate our long history of being just and fair, as well as a good steward of the public’s time and resources,” Norris said. “Not only do we choose to work here, we also choose to live here. By doing so, our commitment to the quality of law enforcement is second to none.”

As of 2023, the sheriff’s office has partnered with the nonprofit Kootenai County Regional Air Support for regional search and rescue missions and other first responder missions. The donation-funded unit is the first of its kind in Idaho.

(208) 446-1300 • kcsheriff.com/
POST FALLS POLICE

Protectors of the River City

The Post Falls Police Department at 1717 E. Polston Ave., Post Falls, is led by Chief Greg McLean, who started working for the Post Falls Police as an animal control officer in 1989.

The mission statement of the department is, “Partnering with our community to maintain a safe and secure city while providing public safety with our values: Professionalism, fairness, pride and dedication.”

The Post Falls Police Department offers an array of services, including free house checks for people who are going out of town, code enforcement, school resource officers to keep students safe in school, the Post Falls Police Department Honor Guard Team that provides funeral honors for fallen officers or color guard flag presentations at official functions, a victim services unit and a robust animal shelter program ran by compassionate individuals.

208-773-3517

RATHDRUM POLICE

The Rathdrum Police Department, under direction of Police Chief Tomi McLean works to “enhance the safety and security of the community.”

The agency trains to stay up to date with modern techniques and methods of law enforcement, and has several divisions within the department.

The detective division works in the area to help solve major crimes by processing evidence and interviewing witnesses.

The K-9 division, formed in 2019 has two trained dogs, but only one is currently active.

Officer J.D. Allen handles four year old German Shepherd Liberty. Liberty is trained to find multiple types of...
narcotics and narcotic paraphernalia. Liberty also goes to area schools to give demonstrations to different classes.

K-9 Atara is part of the police force, but is currently recovering and inactive.

Rathdrum also has a standard patrol division, and residents and visitors will see those units out patrolling the city.

Rathdrum also has one officer that is committed to a special response team that is based in Post Falls. The highly trained team deals with high risk situations such as barricaded individuals or active shooter situations.

The department also houses a drug bin, so residents can deposit unwanted or unused prescription medications there. The program has been in place since 2012. It is a safer alternative to putting prescriptions in the trash or flushing them down drains, because drugs can end up in landfills or the city water treatment facility.
SPIRIT LAKE

The Spirit Lake Police Department serves the approximately 2,400 residents of Spirit Lake.

(208) 623-2701 • spiritlakepolice.org
COEUR d’ALENE — With 132 years of mining in the Silver Valley under its belt, Hecla Mining Company, headquartered in Coeur d'Alene, has survived the century milestone, bringing in silver, lead, and zinc from the depths of the earth.

Mike Satre is the director of governmental affairs for the company and said that its success has always been in welcoming new technology rather than sticking to the old methods.

“If you want to talk ‘made in America,’ it starts with ‘mined in America,’ and here we are,” Satre said.

Hecla’s Lucky Friday mine has been in operation for over 60 years, and based on its continued success, they have launched enterprises in Canada with the Keno Hill Mine in the Yukon and new Greens Creek mine in Admiralty Island, Alaska. Hecla’s corporate headquarters used to be based in Wallace for many years but is now located in Coeur d’Alene.

“Hecla’s corporate headquarters used to be based in Wallace for many years but is now located in Coeur d’Alene.

Multiple generations of North Idahoans have worked that and have been really proud of that legacy...The company got started in North Idaho in the Silver Valley and that was its focus for many years. In the 1900s, there were times of expansion and contraction, but we never left the North Idaho home,” Satre said.

For engineers, geologists, metallurgists, and chemists, mining perhaps hasn’t always been the industry of choice, but there is now a lot of opportunity to refine mining practices with an expanding range of scientific skills.

“What we do today is not what the mining industry did 30, 40, 50 years ago. It’s truly a modern innovative industry with broadband wireless access points in the ground and the ability to remotely access equipment,” Satre said.

In 2022, silver production increased by 24% to 4.4 million ounces for Lucky Friday Mine thanks to a new technique Hecla developed called the Underhand Closed Bench mining method.

According to internal reports, the mine in Mullan produced 3 million ounces of silver as of the end of July 2023 and was on schedule to produce 4.5 to 5 million ounces of silver before a fire broke out in August in the secondary underground escapeway.

Satre said that it was an impressive feat to see the team come together after the fire changed the company’s plans.
“We’ve been able to hit our marks as we work to recover from that situation and keep everybody employed and that’s really important. No one was hurt, no one was injured and our infrastructure wasn’t really impacted. The silver isn’t going anywhere,” Satre said.

A new technique that was developed at the Lucky Friday Mine called Underhand Closed Bench has paved the way in clearing time and resources from the mine’s progress, so prior to the fire, the mine was in great shape to meet or eke ahead of last year’s production.

“What we’ve always known with the Lucky Friday mine is that as we go deeper, we’re in a higher rock stress environment, and as we’d go deeper, there were always concerns. We would have delays as we waited for seismic activity to subside. Our traditional mining method is drilling in front of us, detonating the round and mucking, digging that out and going in and supporting it and doing the same thing again and again as we go forward,” Satre said.

With the new method, as a mine shaft is expanded, it starts from the original cut but then drills down, mines out an area, and fills it back out before mining underneath it.

“Now we drill down and we’re able to de-stress and detonate all of that rock at one time. We basically have one big blast or a series of big blasts and now what we do is come in and start digging in that rock, filling above us as we go down and we only have that one seismic event from that blasting as opposed to multiples before,” Satre said.

Underhanded Closed Bench methods minimizes the exposure of miners to the risks that traditional mining methods present and creates a faster and more productive tonnage of material from the earth.

Hecla was recognized by the Society for Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration

Continued on page 32.
Innovation award in 2022 for the practice’s safety measures and time-saving efficiency.

“We produce 40% of the domestic silver supply in this country between the silver produced in Alaska and Idaho. That’s become incredibly more important because silver is being used in renewable energy technologies,” Satre said.

A growing concern about the fate of the silver business was present in the industry in the late 90s and early 2000s when the switch from traditional film to digital media was taking place.

“One of the biggest industrial uses for silver for many decades was film and that went away, but now we have this massive demand for photovoltaic cells. That’s been pretty amazing to watch over the years,” Satre said.

Having the technology to monitor mine data without being underground has vastly improved over time as targeted broadband internet spots have changed the game and improved safety by removing exposure risks.

“We can sit here in the office and operate an underground motor from miles away and be able to increase our efficiency through the addition of technology in the amount of data that we’re able to collect and analyze in underground environments, it’s just amazing, even compared to 10, 15 years ago,” Satre said.

In order to support nonprofit institutions or educational opportunities in a way that is separate from the company’s annual profits, Hecla created the Hecla Charitable Foundation in 2007. Last year, the foundation contributed $80,000 into Idaho charities and educational opportunities, including local programs such as the Wallace City Pool, Dave Smith Memorial Christmas Fund, Shop with a Cop through the Osburn Police Department, and the Shoshone Crisis Resource Center.

Hecla is planning on continuing to press forward and embrace new ways to produce silver in its current holdings.
“We have multiple places where we have multiple generations of miners working for us. What happens is we become part of the fabric of the community wherever we operate. We’re not coming in, mining for a few years, and then going away somewhere else. We’ve been in the Silver Valley for 132 years,” Satre said.

Hecla employees in Idaho and across North America:

• Lucky Friday Mine: 380
• Coeur d’Alene headquarters: 40
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Kootenai County is home to three larger public school districts — Coeur d’Alene No. 271, Post Falls No. 273 and Lakeland Joint No. 272 — as well as the smaller Kootenai Joint School District No. 274 and the Kootenai Technical Education Campus, shared between the three larger school districts.

Coeur d’Alene School District has 11 elementary schools, three middle schools, two traditional high schools and an alternative high school throughout Coeur d’Alene, Hayden and Dalton Gardens. This district serves about 10,000 students. Info: cdaschools.org

Post Falls School District has seven elementary schools, two middle schools, a traditional high school, an alternative high school and one developmental preschool. It serves about 6,000 students. Info: pfsd.com

Lakeland Joint School District has six elementary schools, two middle schools, two traditional high schools and one alternative high school throughout Rathdrum, Athol, Spirit Lake, Garwood and Twin Lakes. This district serves more than 4,500 students. Info: sd272.org

Kootenai Joint School District in Harrison has one elementary school and one junior-senior high school. The district serves just under 200 students. Info: sd274.com

Kootenai Technical Education Campus at 6838 W. Lancaster Road, Rathdrum is a partnership between business and industry leaders, local school districts and local manufacturers. As a branch campus of local high schools, KTEC provides tuition-free industry and business grade training for 11th and 12th grades, as well as dual-enrollment credits, industrial certifications and new paths to success through applied skilled learning. Info: ktectraining.org

Although based in Plummer in Benewah County, the Plummer-Worley Joint School District No. 44 serves more than 300 students in the Plummer and Worley communities.

DIFFERENT PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS

School choice takes a number of forms in Kootenai County. More options for every learner:

- Coeur d’Alene Charter Academy, cdacharter.org
- North Idaho STEM Charter Academy, northidahostem.org
- Elevate Academy, elevate208.org/north
- Kootenai Classical Academy, kootenaiclassical.org
- Classical Christian Academy, classicalchristian.com
- Coeur du Christ Academy, coeurduchrist.org
- Holy Family Catholic School, hfcs-cda.org

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Three higher learning institutes can be found in Kootenai County.

- North Idaho College, at 1000 W. Garden Ave., is on the shores of Lake Coeur d’Alene. It is the main campus of the Coeur d’Alene Education Corridor, which also includes Lewis-Clark State College Coeur d’Alene, 901 River Ave., Coeur d’Alene, and the University of Idaho, Coeur d’Alene, 1031 N Academic Way, Coeur d’Alene. NIC also has sites at its Workforce Training Center, 525 Clearwater Loop, Post Falls, and its Parker Technical Education Center, 7064 W. Lancaster Road, Rathdrum. NIC offers more than 35 career and technical education programs. Info: nic.edu; lcsc.edu/coeurd-alene; uidaho.edu/cda
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North Idaho College and the satellite campuses of University of Idaho, Lewis-Clark State College and Boise State University provide the region with a highly skilled and trained workforce.

Idaho is seeing “relentless year-over-year job creation,” said Sam Wolkenhauer, a Post Falls-based labor economic with the Idaho Department of Labor. The state’s seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was unchanged between November and December 2023, remaining at 3.3%, while Idaho’s labor force increased by 1,616 people, bringing the total to 975,560.

In Kootenai County, the labor force grew by 4.3% between December 2022 and December 2023, bringing the total to just shy of 88,000. Meanwhile, the Idaho Department of Labor anticipates annual population and employment growth in Kootenai County at 1.6% and 1.3%.

But as the population continues to increase both locally and statewide, economists warn that such growth can be a blessing and a curse.

Throughout Idaho, an older, retired population is moving in and a younger, working population is leaving in search of higher wages and cheaper housing. Retirees are good for businesses because of their purchasing power, but they don’t contribute on the labor side, creating an imbalance between the consumption pool and labor availability.
Kootenai County’s top employers, according to the Idaho Department of Labor:

- **Kootenai Health**
  2,500–4,999 employees

- **Coeur d’Alene School District**
  1,000–2,499 employees

- **Walmart**
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- **Hagadone Hospitality**
  1,000–2,499 employees

- **Kootenai County**
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- **Post Falls School District**
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- **North Idaho College**
  500–999 employees

- **Lakeland School District**
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- **Coeur d’Alene Casino**
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- **Silverwood Theme Park**
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Local employment resources

- **Idaho Department of Labor**
  208-457-8789 • labor.idaho.gov

- **Idaho Vocational Rehabilitation**
  208-769-1441 • vr.idaho.gov

- **Idaho Workforce Development Council**
  208-488-7567 • wdc.idaho.gov

- **Coeur d’Alene Area Economic Development Corporation**
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Finding and buying a home is a tedious process across the nation, and North Idaho continues to see rapid growth which has influenced the regional housing market.

Michael Wendland, President of the Coeur d’Alene Regional Realtors, said available inventory has increased as well, but there is still a nationwide shortage.

He said the best way to prepare for buying a home in North Idaho is to connect with a real estate agent early, and work with them to develop a realistic goal driven gameplan.
As of March 27, the group shows 656 active home listings in the area. Total inventory this year is 9.2% higher than last year, and the number of sold homes dropped by 4.5% in the same span of time.

The regional realtors tracked 252 homes sold in 2023.

Wendland said the market has reached a “small plateau” this year.

Travis Potter, a realtor with Upstate Idaho Living concurred and said the market has flattened out over the last three months.

Potter said there has been some fluctuation month to month, and between February 26 and March 27, 70 listings were sold with an average sale price of $755,000. That is up over $90,000 from the previous month.

Potter said prices in the region are now comparable to prices in California.

Wendland said a lot of people have been selling property in other states, and using that to buy property in North Idaho.

“In many cases it doesn’t make sense for them to sell existing homes with a goal of buying in this region,” Wendland said.

With high prices across the region, Wendy Anderson, Branch Manager for Wallich & Volk in CDA, said potential buyers need to be educated about financial options and the local market before jumping in.

She said they have financing options available for home buyers in any market.

“People may not even realize they qualify for financing,” Anderson said. “People worried about high interest rates can utilize buy down options to alleviate some financial pressure.”

She said her company offers a program that allows buyers to buy a manufactured home on leased land with only five percent down.

Anderson said a lot of residents or people relocating are nervous or hesitant about buying because the market is intimidating.

“Just reach out and ask,” Anderson said. “We are always looking to help people better understand the process.”

Wendland said the region is no longer in a COVID market, but still a tough market for some home buyers.

“There is still a very tight market for homes under $450,000,” Wendland said. “Those listings are still getting multiple offers and the offers can be very competitive for potential buyers.”

“Home buyers can still be searching for six to 12 months,” he added.

Average listing price in Kootenai County is just under $500,000 and homes stay on the market for an average of 112 days according to statistics on the group’s website.

Wendland said more new homes will hit the market in the coming years, but a lot of that is new construction that may take several years to build out.

“It’s a long process for new subdivisions to take shape,” Wendland said. “So that inventory doesn’t act as an immediate market boost.”

People relocating to the region can also tap into the group for home buying resources.

The region has educational opportunities for people looking to buy homes, and this includes classes for first time home buyers.

Wendland said first time home buyers can also open a tax driven savings account, but that option doesn’t get utilized very often.

People using this outlet are able to put $15,000 for single filers or $30,000 for married couples aside to specifically use for a down payment.

People who successfully finish the course can also find help with closing costs.

Coeur d’Alene also has a multiple listing service outlet, and it serves multiple counties and other states when applicable.

This service covers Kootenai, Benewah, Shoshone, Bonner and Boundary counties in Idaho.
Hello North Idaho

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LIFE AS A NEW RESIDENT

Kelly Sanders

Kelly Sanders arrived in the area shortly before 2020 and has been digging into her new surroundings as she’s put down roots.

The Rathdrum resident said when it comes to hiking with the family, Tubbs Hill is always her favorite spot to stretch her legs and take in some stellar sights.

“We naturally bring people downtown to see the boardwalk and Independence Point,” Sanders said.

When her family feels like taking a day trip for some downtime, traveling to Schweitzer in Sandpoint has become an old standby.

Sanders would feel remiss if she didn’t mention time spent on the water.

“Doing a river float down the North Fork is a must,” Sanders said.

When she’s craving some retail therapy and wood-fired pizza, she heads to Hauser for good eats.

“We visit the tourist traps and Embers by the Lake,” Sanders said.
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ABOUT KOOTENAI HEALTH

Kootenai Health provides comprehensive medical services to patients in northern Idaho and the Inland Northwest.

Its main campus is located in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho and includes a 397-bed not-for-profit hospital. Saint Mary’s Health in Cottonwood, Idaho, and Clearwater Valley Health in Orofino, Idaho are also part of Kootenai Health. Kootenai Health is accredited by DNV. It also holds Magnet designation for nursing excellence, Level II Trauma Center designation, Level III NICU designation, and accreditation from the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer.

Kootenai is regionally known for its programs in cardiac care, orthopedics, neurosciences, oncology, women’s and children’s services and behavioral health. Kootenai Clinic is comprised of more than 200 physicians and advanced practitioners providing primary and specialty care in practice locations across the region. For more information, visit www.kh.org.

ABOUT HERITAGE HEALTH

Heritage Health is North Idaho’s largest provider of integrated medical, dental, and behavioral health services.

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Heritage Health, a nonprofit, has locations in Coeur d’Alene, Post Falls, Rathdrum, Kellogg and St. Maries. The organization serves more than 25,000 patients annually and helps individuals regardless of their ability to pay.

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Coeur d’Alene, ID 83814
Lakeside Holistic Health look at toxins and environmental factors as part of patient care.

(208) 758-0568

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Hayden Naturopathic Medicine offers bio-feedback testing, non-invasive endocardiographs and classic or polarity approaches to homeopathy.

(208) 518-8411

**Overland Wellness**
Providers at Overland Wellness offer Integrative naturopathic medicine with wellness-focused individualized health care options.

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CoeurCryo is a cryotherapy and rejuvenation studio concerned with patient overall health, skin care and pain relief.

(208) 449-7671

**Restore Wellness LLC**
Restore Wellness CDA offers personalized care from our functional medicine doctor native to North Idaho.

(208) 826-1293

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**Kootenai Clinic Appointment Center**

Need to find a physician and schedule an appointment?

The Appointment Center can help you:
- Determine the type of physician you need
- Find an appointment that fits your schedule
- Answer questions and what to expect at your appointment

Call the Appointment Center at **208.625.6767** or request an appointment online at: [appointmentcenter.kh.org](http://appointmentcenter.kh.org)
Community Resources

Kootenai County Assistance Resource List
208-446-1883 • kc.gov.us

Community Action Partnership
Coeur d’Alene Food Bank
208-664-8757 • Energy assistance program, water assistance, weatherization, food bank, budget classes, budget counselors.

Heart of the City Church
208-665-7808 • Rent and utilities.
Monday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Real Life Ministries
Rent/utility assistance, food pantry, walk-in only.

St. George’s Mission of Charity
208-773-8599 • Assistance for residents of Post Falls, Rathdrum and Spirit Lake. Rent/energy assistance, food vouchers. Thursday meal at St. George’s Catholic Church, 2010 N. Lucas St. 4-5:30 p.m.

St. Pius X
208-765-5108 • Food pantry.

St. Vincent de Paul Help Center
208-664-3095 • Shelters, transitional housing, clothing, furniture, utilities, rent to avoid eviction.

2-1-1 IDAHO CareLine
Dial 2-1-1 or 1-800-926-2588
211.idaho.gov/

North Country Chapel
208-773-7100

Goodwill Industries
208-667-6463

Idaho Dept. of Labor Job Service
208-457-8789

Legal Aid Services
208-667-9559
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208-446-1090 or 446-1091

Idaho Housing and Finance  
208-762-5113

Idaho Dept. of Health and Welfare  
208-769-1456

Social Security  
866-931-2523

Heritage Health  
208-620-5250

Heritage Health Dental Care  
208-620-5250

Panhandle Health District  
208-415-5100

Safe Passage  
208-664-9303

Northern Idaho Crisis Center  
208-625-4884 2195

CHIP 800-926-2588

Children’s Health Insurance Program  
Kootenai Health Behavioral Health 208-625-4800 or 800-221-5008  
(24 hr. help line)

USDA Rural Development  
208-762-4939

Kootenai Health  
208-625-4000

Social Services  
208-625-5000

Area Agency on Aging of North Idaho  
208-667-3179

Adult Protection  
(60 years of age or spouse of an eligible senior), 1-800-786-5536

Elder Help of North Idaho  
208-661-8870

Union Gospel for Women and Children  
208-665-4673

Family Promise of North Idaho  
208-777-4190

Marimn Health  
208-686-1110

North Idaho College Services  
Adult Basic Education/GED 208-665-5099  
Career & Technical Education 208-769-3448

Veteran’s Resource Center  
208-769-3281 VA education benefits.

Transportation Kootenai Health Transportation Services  
208-625-5030 Idaho City Link 877-941-RIDE (7433) idahocitylink.com

Kootenai County Public Transportation  
208-446-2255 • kcgov.us/transit-services

Meals in Kootenai County

St. Pius X Church  
208-765-5108

St. George’s Church  
208-773-4715

First Presbyterian Church  
208-667-8446

Meals on Wheels

Contact community senior centers at:  
Coeur d’Alene 208-667-4628; Post Falls 208-773-9582; Spirit Lake 208-623-6125; Rathdrum Senior Center 208-687-2028
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ATHOL CROSSING LOCATION IS 15 MILES NORTH OF COEUR D’ALENE AND 20 MILES SOUTH OF SANDPOINT
"It is our hope the new facility has created a welcoming environment for potential adopters to meet the animals," said Vicky Nelson, director of development. "It also has opened up many opportunities for CAC and the community to utilize the center for educational purposes and events."

Companions Animal Center was formerly the Kootenai Humane Society.

The 22,000-square-foot building has large kennels for dogs and cats, a bright and welcoming lobby, offices and rooms for storage, laundry and medical supplies. It also has outside areas for pets and a walking path.

Companions Animal Center has raised $6.3 million for the $8 million project on Atlas Road.

A groundbreaking was held in November 2021. Young Construction Group of Idaho, Inc., was the project’s general contractor.

The decades-old shelter on county property at the north end of Ramsey Road is expected to become part of the Coeur d’Alene Airport.

Last year, adoptions totaled 1,274.

Fundraisers like Lights of Love and its thrift store help keep up with expenses for adoptions, vaccinations and spay and neuter clinics.

"Our community can now be proud of their animal center and show the outstanding care and compassion each animal receives as they wait for their forever home," Nelson said.
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WILLIAMSHOMES.com
Post Falls Festival
Celebrate what makes Post Falls special with the Post Falls Festival in mid-July.
July 12, 13, & 14, 2024

Rathdrum Days
Enjoy all of the local attractions on display during the Rathdrum Days Parade
July 20, 2024 • The theme for 2024 is “Red, White, and Blue.”

Hayden Days
Festivities for Hayden Days include a parade, a Hayden’s Got Talent competition, and the Hayden Days car show on July 27. Children’s games, food, craft vendors and other activities are planned throughout each day.
July 27, 2024

Art on the Green
For more than five decades, Art of the Green has been a highlight of summer fun in Coeur d’Alene.
The event goes beyond music to celebrate local performing, visual and craft arts. The three-day festival is usually celebrated the first weekend in August on the North Idaho College campus. Performers, juried art shows, a beer garden and children’s performances celebrate the warm weather in the heart of the community.
August 2, 3, & 4, 2024

FARMERS MARKETS IN SPRING AND FALL
The Kootenai County Farmers’ Markets in downtown Coeur d’Alene and in Hayden are open May through October.

5th Street Farmers Markets
Wednesdays 4 p.m.–7 p.m.

Kootenai Farmers Markets
May–October
SE Corner HWY 95 & Prairie, Hayden Idaho
Saturdays from 9 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
Main Street, Riverstone CDA
Wednesdays 4 p.m.–7 p.m.

Post Fallidays Tiny Tree Festival
During the Post Fallidays Tiny Tree Festival, participants can get into the holiday spirit by perusing the tiny trees up for silent auction bidding or buy a raffle ticket for a full-size decorated super tree.

Car d’Lane
Jump back in time at Car d’Lane. Experience the Largest classic car cruise in North Idaho
June 15, 2024

Ironman 70.3 CDA
June 22, 2024

4th of July Parade and FireWorks
downtown Coeur d’Alene
Parade starts at 10 a.m. on Sherman.
Fireworks start at dusk.

Taste of Coeur d’Alene
August 2, 3, & 4, 2024

North Idaho Street Fair
August 2, 3, & 4, 2024
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208-757-6060
Downtown Coeur d’Alene offers a wealth of shopping opportunities, from interior design to clothing and gift shops. Whether you’re looking for the finishing touch for your new home’s decor or a little piece of North Idaho to share with a loved one far away, you’re likely to find it downtown.

Gather inspiration at Mix It Up Home (305 E. Sherman Ave.) and Mix It Up Gift (513 E. Sherman Ave.). Both shops are full of hand-selected, unique home decor, gifts, accessories and art that you won’t find anywhere else in Coeur d’Alene. When shopping for the person who has everything, you’ve got to mix it up.

If you’re yearning for the Emerald Isle, All Things Irish at 315 E. Sherman is the place to go. For more than 25 years, this Coeur d’Alene staple has carried a wide selection of Irish gifts and Celtic treasures, including claddagh rings, Irish hats and heraldry items, Belleek china and more.
To delight the kids in your life, and to bring out your own inner child, be sure to visit Figpickels Toy Emporium at 210 Sherman Ave. in the Resort Plaza Shops. This toy shop boasts a dazzling array of puzzles, games, plush toys and knickknacks. Expect to find classic toys and the latest gadgets.

Give the gift of self-care to yourself or someone else when you stop by Mountain Madness Soap Co. at 310 E. Sherman Ave. This shop is home to natural, handmade soap and bath products (think bath bombs, shower fizzies, body butter, lotion bars and even laundry soap), all produced in Coeur d’Alene using locally-sourced ingredients.

Lucky Monkey Trading Company at 412 E. Sherman Ave. remains a local favorite, carrying a distinctive collection of boho-chic clothing, jewelry and accessories, plus novelty gifts and indie tees designed by artists in the U.S.

Get a feel for Coeur d’Alene’s thriving art community by taking a walking tour of fine art galleries downtown, which showcase work by regional, national and international artists in a variety of mediums and styles. Info: artsandculturecda.org.
FUN IN A BUN
Coeur d’Alene has more than its share of top-tier dining, but sometimes, all you really want is a simple sandwich. No better proof of this exists than Hudson’s Hamburgers, a Sherman Avenue grill that’s been a local favorite since 1907, and, more recently, was named one of the 50 best burgers in the United States by Big 7 Travels. Call 208-664-5444 to order. Another downtown institution, Roger’s Ice Cream and Burgers, is a comparative new kid on the block, having only been founded in 1940, but Roger’s holds its own with a number of burger varieties, hand-cut fries and an array of malts, shakes and floats. With locations in Hayden, Coeur d’Alene and Post Falls, any time the fancy strikes, a Roger’s location can be found. Visit rogersicecreamburgers.com for info. Meltz Extreme Grilled Cheese, meanwhile, puts a spin on a sentimental favorite with grilled cheese concoctions ranging from simple (the archetypal “Kid Comfort” sandwich) to sublime, like the Potsticker Meltz, an elaborate Asian-inspired sandwich that was the winner of the 2013 National Grilled Cheese Invitational. Visit meltzextreme.com for more.

COMFORT FOODS
Certain restaurants feel like home, places that become familiar hangouts and family traditions. Capone’s Pub and Grill has been a North Idaho classic since 1991, serving scratch-made pizza, subs and burgers in a fun, family-friendly sports bar atmosphere. Visit caponespub.com for information about the three locations in Coeur d’Alene, Hayden and Post Falls. Tomato Street (tomatostreet.com) offers hearty Italian pastas and pizzas cooked in a wood-fired brick oven. The lively setting makes it a great gathering place for family and friends. Dockside (docksidecda.com) at The Coeur d’Alene Resort has a menu full of delicious entrees, but the restaurant is most known for its huge, delicious Gooey desserts, a favorite treat for kids of all ages. Or wake up early and settle in for a hearty homestyle breakfast at Jimmy’s Down the Street. Check out their menu at jimmysdownthestreet.com. With locations in Post Falls and Hayden, Birdie’s Pies is the place for handcrafted, down-home savory and sweet pies. It offers a charming atmosphere and rotating menu options. Dine-in and carry-out options are available. Birdie’s (birdiespies.com) makes whole pies, personal pies and bite-sized options.

WORLDLY CUISINE
Circumnavigate the globe with the cosmopolitan culinary choices found in North Idaho. In Coeur d’Alene, guests have their choice of Greek fare at the Olympia (208-666-9495), Italian at Angelo’s Ristorante (angelorsistorante.net), Latin fusion at Café Carambola (cafecarambola.com) and Vietnamese at Pho Thanh & Café (208-665-9903). Head to Post Falls for Mediterranean delights at the White House Grill (whitehousegrill.com). For those with a taste for Japanese and Asian fusion, Coeur d’Alene has Syringa in midtown (syringasushi.com), and Kaiju Sushi and Spirits on Sherman Avenue. The Godzilla roll and lavender dragon cocktail make a great pairing. See Kaiju’s Facebook page to view the menu. A newer installation, Hokkaido Ramen (hokkaido-ramen-coeur-dalene.square.site) in Coeur d’Alene offers fresh ramen bowls and appetizers. The sweet tempura shrimp drizzled in eel sauce and the kumquat lemon boba make a fantastic pairing.

COFFEE & CAKE
Few things go together better than baked goods and coffee. With several local coffee shops providing pastries, and bakeries with coffee sidelines, options abound for those craving caffeine and sugar. Downtown Coeur d’Alene has Bakery by the Lake (bakerybythelake.com), which offers appetizers, beer and wine along with pastries and coffee; the elegant, organic-focused Vault Coffee (vaultcda.com); and Panhandle Cone and Coffee (coneandcoffee.com), where handcrafted ice creams and savory coffee creations can be found. Ingredients are locally sourced and new ice cream flavors are rotated often. Try an Earl Grey honey cone or the cardamom praline swirl. Panhandle has two locations: Coeur d’Alene at 849 N. Fourth St. or Sandpoint at 216 N. First St. For details call 208-265-8996. Pastry and More, on Highway 95 and Haycraft Avenue, has baked goods that have dazzled the region for decades, including famous orange rolls and champagne cake. Incredible sculptural decorative cakes may be ordered for special events (pastryandmore.com). Union Roasters is the destination for waffles and cold brew (unionroasters.co). For fans of the delicate French macaron, Woops! Bakeshop and Gifts provides a nice reprieve after an
afternoon of shopping. Offering a wide variety of flavors, and a full selection of hot and cold drinks, the welcoming decor of the downtown Coeur d’Alene location can be found at 119 N. Fourth St. The Village Bakery, 190 W. Hayden Ave., near the Hayden Super 1 Foods store, offers an extensive menu of fresh-baked treats and other mouthwatering savory items. Visit thevillagebakerycda.com.

BUZZ ON THE RUN

If drive-through convenience is an American experience, drive-through coffee has to be distinct to the Northwest. North Idaho takes coffee seriously, so it’s no surprise a caffeine source can be found on nearly every corner.

Jitterz Espresso stands have long been a local favorite, with seven locations in Coeur d’Alene, Rathdrum, Post Falls, Hayden and Sagle. The menu includes hot and cold brew drinks, “kidz” options, iced drinks, Red Bull and Zipfizz creations, chai, Italian sodas, fresh healthy snacks and quick bites like breakfast burritos and cookies and bagel sandwiches. Visit jitterzespresso.shop for a complete menu, location details and hours.

FINE DINING

Go out in style at one of Coeur d’Alene’s more sophisticated restaurants. Satay Bistro on Fourth Street serves its eponymous satays and other chic fare (sataybistro.com). Seasons of Coeur d’Alene Fresh Grill and Bar on Second Street and Lakeside Avenue has an intimate bar and offers a variety of flavors for any appetite (seasonsofcda.com). The Cedars Floating Restaurant has upscale seafood and choice beef on its menu, along with a staggering list of libations, at a remarkable venue floating on Lake Coeur d’Alene (cedarsfloatingrestaurant.com). Lastly, luxury and an incomparable view can be had at Beverly’s, the premier restaurant at The Coeur d’Alene Resort (beverlyscda.com).

STREET EATS

Food trucks aren’t just for big cities anymore, as Coeur d’Alene and Post Falls are falling in love with mobile meals. At 3021 N. Government Way in Coeur d’Alene, Drummin Up BBQ offers delicious smoked brisket and pulled pork (208-786-2462). Just east of Fourth Street on Best Avenue in the Lake City, a cadre of food trucks has joined forces as a mobile food court. Rawdeadfish (rawdeadfish.net) slings sushi from its eye-catching aquatic-themed truck. Take a chance on the “chef’s choice” Surprise Me Roll (208-755-6829).

Chefs recommend ordering as early as possible. Best Sandwich Shack cooks up exceptional cheesesteaks (208-625-0629). And Taco Works has excellent affordable Mexican food at two Coeur d’Alene locations (208-704-2091; 208-704-8226), including the Prairie Pavilion on the border of Coeur d’Alene and Hayden at 7777 Heartland Drive, and at the newly opened Post Falls Pavilion at 3758 E. Horsehaven Ave. Also at the Post Falls Pavilion, guests will find tasty breakfast and lunch at the family-owned and operated North Spork (208-661-7185); authentic fare at Las Brasas Mexican Grill (lasbrasasmexicangrill.com); a taste of the tropics at Friendly Islands Grill (friendly-islands-grill.square.site); super subs at Grasso’s Fine Foods, which can be found on Facebook; Italian on the go at Piumartas Family Kitchen (piumartas-family-kitchen.square.site); and more! The Prairie Pavilion also has an eclectic collection of meals (and beverages) on wheels: Farmhouse Sweets and Eats (farmhousesweetsandeats.com), Northwest Taps (northwesttaps.com), Pizza Pirates (208-704-9646) and Young Shin’s Famous Korea (famouskorean.com), to name a few.

RAISE YOUR GLASS

Stop at one of the many breweries in the area and taste award-winning craft beers. Sandpoint has MickDuff’s Brewing Company (mickduffs.com), the 2013 North American Beer Awards gold medalist for its signature Irish Redhead beer. Laughing Dog Brewing (laughingdogbrewing.com) also calls Sandpoint home, with several awards of its own for IPAs and stouts. Wallace Brewing Company (wallacebrewing.com) at 610 Bank St. makes beer that pays tribute to Wallace’s colorful history. Also of note in Coeur d’Alene is Riverstone’s Bardenay (bardenay.com). The restaurant serves exceptional food, but also doubles as a distillery that allows guests the chance to drink cocktails created with liquor handcrafted on site.

TASTE THE GRAPE

If sampling the grape is more to your taste, Coeur d’Alene Cellars (cdacellars.com) is a true winery, crushing, blending and bottling the brew in-house. In addition to its creativity, the winery offers tastings, music and painting events and fine art created by local artist Sarah Gates, whose work also appears on each bottle. Visitors can drop in afternoons and early evenings Tuesday through Saturday for a full flight or individual glass.

Other restaurants and businesses such as Vine and Olive Eatery and Wine Bar (vineandolivecda.com) Coeur d’Alene serve tapas-style eats with tastings.

STAY OUT LATE

The Beacon, Crafted (where over 50 taps await) and wine bars coexist with area institutions like Cricket’s Oyster Bar and the venerable Iron Horse, as well as elegant sites like Whispers in The Coeur d’Alene Resort. Just outside of downtown Coeur d’Alene, enjoy relaxed atmospheres with alehouse Moon Time and Capone’s Pub and Grill, or rustic locations like the Backwoods Whiskey Bar on the east end of Sherman Avenue.
North Idaho College offers career pathways in arts, communications and the humanities, business administration and management, health care, manufacturing and trades, science, technology, engineering and mathematics and social science and human services.

Relax and unwind at McEuen Park. This park has a playground and splash pad for children and is located on the shore of Lake Coeur d’Alene. Groups can enjoy the waterside views or go for a leisurely stroll on the boardwalk.

Tubbs Hill is made up of 165 acres of natural park and adjacent to Lake Coeur d’Alene on the west, south and east sides. Several miles of hiking trails on the hill that provide picturesque views.

The Riverstone Concert Series offers performances Thursdays in July and August from 6-8 p.m. at no cost in the scenic Riverstone Park, Coeur d’Alene.

Timberline Adventures offer zip lining fun among scenic views of the lake, mountains, and forest surrounding the area. It is an adrenaline-pumping experience.

Many of Coeur d’Alene’s downtown establishments participate in Friday ArtWalk showcasing the creativity of local artists. Pop-up art displays, live music, gallery openings, shopping, food and drink specials are available as you walk through downtown Cd’A. Support your favorite local artist and learn about all of the fantastic local venues, makers and musicians have to offer.
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DINING & DRINKS

Located at the confluence of Lake Coeur d’Alene and the Spokane River, The Cedars Floating Restaurant focuses on fresh fish and locally sourced beef at 1514 S Marina Dr., Coeur d’Alene.

Beverly’s Restaurant at Coeur d’Alene Resort at 115 S 2nd St., Coeur d’Alene offers fine dining with a view of Coeur d’Alene Lake complete with a sommelier and an extensive dining experience.

For three decades, Satay Bistro has offered American fusion food as part of their culinary dining experience at 2501 N 4th St., Coeur d’Alene.

European-inspired small plate dining and a wine bar are the highlights of Vine and Olive Eatery on 2037 N Main St. in the Riverstone district of Coeur d’Alene.

Tony’s On the Lake was recently renovated and the dining venue offers Italian-inspired cuisine with a view of the water at 6823 E Coeur D’Alene Lake Dr., Coeur d’Alene.

REGIONAL LANDMARKS & ATTRACTIONS

Silverwood Theme Park operates seasonally from May through October with 200 acres of rides and attractions at 27843 US-95, Athol. At Boulder Beach Water Park water slides, wave pools, a lazy river and children’s water features are fun for the whole family.

Silverwood also features exciting roller coasters, entertaining attractions, a 1915 steam engine train, and children’s activities.

Lake Coeur d’Alene bestowed its nickname, the “lake city” on the community. The body of water is surrounded by abundant fish and wildlife as well as picturesque views and entertainment and fine dining experiences.

The Museum of North Idaho offers seasonal educational programming and exhibitions while collecting, preserving and interprets cultural and historical traditions in North Idaho at 15 Northwest Blvd., Coeur d’Alene.

The Jacklin Arts Cultural Center offers art exhibitions and events including musical performances. Its venue at 405 North William St., Post Falls is listed in the National Register of Historical Places and used to be known as “The Old Church.”
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JACK AND CHERIE SHINN MOVED AROUND A LOT BEFORE LANDING AT ORCHARD RIDGE SENIOR LIVING IN COEUR D’ALENE, BUT THEIR PLAN WAS ALWAYS TO MOVE BACK TO NORTH IDAHO.

The couple said in all their travels, they have never found a better place.

Cherie is originally from North Platte, Neb. Jack has roots in Otis Orchards, just over the Idaho-Washington border.

Jack’s mom lived at Orchard Ridge in her later years, and their family loved the care she received. Jack and Cherie became donors and have been supportive of Orchard Ridge’s nonprofit mission ever since. They always said that if they needed to move to an assisted living place, Orchard Ridge was where they would go. They appreciate the excellent care, the kind and friendly people and the feeling of safety. Their daughter is also relieved they are being so well taken care of.

Although the transition to assisted living can be difficult, Jack is settling in and Cherie is feeling more at home all the time thanks to the friendly staff.

The Shinns said those considering making Orchard Ridge their home must see it for themselves and talk to people who live and work there.

“It’s a good Christian place,” Cherie said. “We’re so happy to be here!”
Here are several retirement and assisted living communities in Kootenai County:

**Orchard Ridge Senior Living**
624 W Harrison Ave., Coeur d’Alene.
208-664-8119 • theorchardcda.org

**Affinity at Coeur d’Alene**
3594 N. Cederblom St., Coeur d’Alene.
208-502-2217 • affinityforliving.com

**Bestland Senior Living Community**
606 Best Ave., Coeur d’Alene.
08-665-1600 • bestlandcda.com

**Brookdale Senior Living**
205 E. Anton Ave., Coeur d’Alene.
986-668-8071 • brookdale.com

**North Star Assisted and Senior Living**
2340 W. Seltice Way, Coeur d’Alene.
208-765-5505 • stellarliving.com

**Pacifica Senior Living**
840 E. Dalton Ave., Coeur d’Alene.
208-215-3064 • pacificacoeurdalene.com

**Legends Park Assisted Living Community**
1820 N. Legends Parkway, Coeur d’Alene. 986-333-4963 • prestigecare.com

**Courtyard at Coeur d’Alene**
2100 E. Sherman Ave., Coeur d’Alene.
208-768-4761 • courtyardatcoeurdalene.com

**Creekside Inn Memory Care Community**
240 E. Kathleen Ave., Coeur d’Alene.
208-665-2444 • koelschseniorcommunities.com

**Ivy Court**
2200 Ironwood Place, Coeur d’Alene.
208-667-6486 • ivycourtskillednursing.com

**The Renaissance at Coeur d’Alene**
2772 W. Avante Loop, Coeur d’Alene.
208-758-0342 • assistedlivingcda.com

**Rose Terrace Cottages**
632 N. 21st St., Ste. C, Coeur d’Alene.
208-665-0580 • roseterracecottages.com

**The Lodge at Bristol Heights**
2220 W. Prairie Ave., Coeur d’Alene, 208-457-3403 • lodgeliving.net

**The Lodge at Fairway Forest I and 2**
989 N. Player Drive and 3991 N. Player Drive, Coeur d’Alene. 208-457-3403 • lodgeliving.net

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IS YOUR ESTATE PLAN READY FOR USE IN IDAHO?

By Robert J. Green, Esq.

People regularly move to Idaho from other states and bring with them estate planning documents created in that prior state of residence. I am often asked if these “foreign” estate planning documents are enforceable in Idaho. Generally, those documents are still valid in Idaho. However, there are some very important reasons to have estate planning documents from another state reviewed by an Idaho estate planning attorney. Let’s remind ourselves what the typical set of estate planning documents are - and then consider some of the issues concerning about out-of-state wills, trusts, and other estate planning documents.

A “Last Will and Testament” (“will”) is a document used to state what should happen to your possessions and assets when you die, as well as who should carry out those instructions you’ve left. Trusts come in many varieties, each with its own purpose. The most common type of trust used in estate planning is known as a “Revocable Living Trust.” A Revocable Living Trust is used to avoid the need for your estate to go through a court-controlled process called “Probate.”

Power of Attorney Documents typically state who your decision maker will be if you are alive, but unable to make your own decisions due to some sort of incapacity. These documents generally come in two categories – financial decision making and health care (medical) decision making. And, a “Living Will” is used to state what
medical treatments you do or do not want administered to you if you are terminally ill and your death is imminent, or you if are in what is called a “persistent vegetative state.”

 Every state has its own laws concerning wills, trust, powers of attorney, advanced directives, estate taxes, probate, and related legal matters. These laws can have substantial differences from one state to the next. There may be formal requirements that some states require (but others do not) in order for such documents to be either valid, or in order for the documents to be used without the need for court involvement. Some documents may need to be witnessed and notarized in one state, but not in others. Some states may require a single witness where other states require two. A document that does not meet your current state’s formality requirements may be technically “valid” but basically useless from a practical perspective.

 If your documents specifically quote or cite to statutes (written laws) from your old state, those quotes or citations will not correspond directly to the statutes of your new state. Similarly, your old documents likely specify in one provision or another that the document and its contents be governed by and/or interpreted under the laws of your old state. Moving out of that prior state does nothing to automatically change the governing law of your estate planning documents. That could mean that if an Idaho judge needs to interpret your documents, he or she may have to apply the laws of California (for example) instead of Idaho law – even though you live here now and likely own your property in Idaho. None of this is ideal insofar as it can cause confusion and ambiguity about the application of your documents, and in the worst cases, could mean that your true wishes are not followed.

 Your documents may also specifically refer to the disposition of assets that you no longer own. For example, do your documents specify that your child is supposed to receive the home in California or Arizona that you no longer own? Don’t presume that language will be interpreted to automatically apply to your new Idaho home. It won’t. These sorts of issues are the cause of way too many probate disputes. And if you are using a living trust to avoid probate, these issues can force your estate into expensive and protracted court proceedings – the exact opposite of the outcome for which you were likely aiming.

 Finally, if you have moved, you may no longer live near some of the people you have named in these important documents to fill important decision making roles (such as the “agent” or “attorney-in-fact” under your power of attorney documents, or the “personal representative” or “executor/executrix” under your will, or the “successor trustee” under your trust). Are those still the people that you want doing those jobs? Can they effectively do those jobs from another state? If you have a list of nominees in some order of priority in which they should be called upon to serve for you, does that order need to be revised now?

 An estate planning attorney can walk you through these and other important questions that you have probably not yet thought about. Then your attorney can help you determine what, if anything, needs attention if your planning was done in another state. My law firm is currently offering free telephonic, electronic, or in-person consultations concerning creating a new estate plan or reviewing existing estate planning documents.

 If you have questions about estate planning, probates, wills, trusts, powers of attorney, guardianships, Medicaid legal planning, or VA Benefit legal planning, contact Kootenai Law at 208-765-6555, Info@KootenaiLaw.com, or visit www.KootenaiLaw.com.

 Robert J. Green is an Elder Law, Trust, Estate, & Guardianship Attorney and the founder of Kootenai Law Group, PLLC in Coeur d’Alene. Kootenai Law Group has been voted as the “Best Law Firm” in North Idaho for each of the past seven years according to the Business Journal of North Idaho’s annual recognition of local businesses.

 This has been presented as general information and not as legal advice. Do not engage in legal decision-making without the advice of a competent attorney after discussion of your specific circumstances.
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