



# OUR TOWN

*Where the High Desert Meets the Mountains*

August 2019  
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## Librarian of the Year Awarded to Library Director LeAnn Gelskey

Mayor Fritz Haemmerle and Hailey Public Library Board of Trustees President April Macleod are pleased to announce that LeAnn Gelskey, Hailey Public Library Director, has been awarded the prestigious title of Idaho's Librarian of the Year. The award is issued each year by the Idaho Library Association Scholarship and Awards Committee. The announcement came this week from ILA Scholarship and Awards Committee Chair Rami Attebury, who stated in a correspondence to Gelskey, "The Committee received numerous well-qualified applications this year, making it a difficult decision. Your nomination emphasized the contributions you have made to the Idaho library community, and we felt that such efforts should be recognized at the state level."

Gelskey's efforts were recognized locally this past weekend during the Hailey Public Library's Centennial Bash, wherein the library board, elected officials of Hailey, staff and community celebrated the library's 100-year anniversary in a street party outside the library. The location of the celebration was designed to give the community a pop-up vision of the use and feel of a town square in that location. Gelskey's talent shone through that event, as it does in all the library work about which she is so passionate. Library Board President April Macleod says, "LeAnn so deserve this honor. She has worked to be the best."

One of Gelskey's most significant projects was the Phoenix project of a few years ago, in which the library was given a fresh, modern function and

appearance within the space of the historic Fox-Brown building. Mayor Haemmerle notes, "Libraries are a very important community asset. LeAnn shows considerable talent and tenacity in managing the Hailey Library. We are proud of her."



*Above: Sara Baldwin, LeAnn Gelskey, April Macleod. Below: April Macleod, LeAnn Gelskey.*



Gelskey has developed a well-trained staff, mentoring several employees to obtain Masters' degree training in library sciences. Gelskey herself is accredited through The American Library Association/Allied Professional Association. She was the first in the state of Idaho to receive this certification. An expert in library policy and politics, Gelskey worked with the Idaho Library Association as Co-Director and oversaw its Legislative Committee during the last legislative session.

Gelskey works with a Board, the Friends of the Hailey Public Library and most of the non-profits in the community. She is a promoter of life-long learning and community connections in any setting and through every opportunity. Friends of the Hailey Public Library President Sara Baldwin states, "This award is well deserved. LeAnn provides leadership in bringing our community the very best library services and she is devoted to our community at large. We are indeed lucky to have her." Gelskey implemented the Little Free Library book-houses around town, and has distributed books through the Hunger Coalition's summer lunch program and to prisoners in the local county jail. She launched a city-staff Souper Supper group, leading city staff and volunteers in the task of serving dinner once a month through the Souper Supper program.

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**GELSKEY (continued from previous page)**

Gelskey assisted with a large project to digitize the Mallory collection several years ago. Local historian Rob Lonning, the Hailey Historic Preservation Commission, the Mallory family and the library staff worked to digitize the Martin Mallory photos and make them available to the public through the Hailey Public Library. Rob Lonning states, "The generous gift of Martyn's photographs, made to the City of Hailey by Rose and Bill Mallory, has created a legacy that continues, to this day, to be of great interest to many of the citizens of Hailey. My personal interest in what Hailey used to look like, was initiated, in large part, by Martyn's wonderful photographs. LeAnn Gelskey continues to be an excellent custodian of the Martyn Mallory Photographic collection."

Gelskey has worked for the Hailey Public Library since 2001, when she joined the library as a part-time employee. She was soon promoted to a Youth Programs librarian position, then to co-director with Nancy Gurney, and finally to Library Director in May, 2010. The time in which Gelskey has worked for and led the Hailey Public Library has brought significant change to the role of libraries within our communities. According to City Administrator Heather Dawson, "LeAnn is an inspirational steward of thoughtful change within the Hailey Library. She balances well the traditional elements of a library with the need to modernize."

Geegee Lowe, who worked with LeAnn as library staff in the past and interfaces with her through the Friends of the Hailey Public Library says, "LeAnn has brought to the Hailey Library such amazing energy. She has created an incredible community gathering place as well as a progressive library for all ages. And it's still a great place for a good read. I so appreciate LeAnn's perseverance to make the Hailey Library an outstanding treasure for our town."

The Idaho Library Association will formerly present the award to Gelskey during its annual conference in October.

## Water Conservation

### **Want a new patio or walkway? Reserve your \$2,000 Water Smarty rebate now!**

There's still time this summer and early fall to complete your project and receive a Water Smarty grass replacement rebate. Projects must be completed with final rebate applications filed by October 1.

Residential projects can receive a 50% rebate, up to \$2,000. To get started, go to [watersmarty.org](http://watersmarty.org) for all of the program details, application forms and resource information.



*This project replaced lawn with decomposed granite to create an outdoor seating area.*



The program suits projects that plan to remove lawn and replace it with a permeable hardscape material, like crushed rock/gravel, pavers, or decomposed granite. Past projects have used these materials for extra parking, utility areas, patios, and walkways. Drought tolerant plants on a drip system can cover 25% of the project area.



## Public Works - Water Quality Report

Each year the City of Hailey creates a Consumer Water Quality Report to fully inform the public about the quality of water within the City of Hailey. The new report has been compiled from water samples taken last August, and is available on our website's homepage. Find it at [www.haileycityhall.org](http://www.haileycityhall.org)

## Hailey Public Library August Events

2019 marks the 100th anniversary of  
Hailey Public Library.

To commemorate our centennial we are celebrating all year with a new logo, parties, learning and events.

Follow us for more information:

[www.HaileyPublicLibrary.org](http://www.HaileyPublicLibrary.org)

[www.facebook.com/HaileyPublicLibrary](https://www.facebook.com/HaileyPublicLibrary)

*We're on Instagram!*

[www.instagram.com/HaileyPublicLibrary#hpl100](https://www.instagram.com/HaileyPublicLibrary#hpl100)

### This Month's Era: 1980s

**Mondays, AT A NEW TIME - NOON:** *Baby Time.*

Librarian-led activities that support strong sensory development and baby's first exploration of play. **A community nurse will be available every third Monday to give advice and support to new parents.**

**Wednesdays & Fridays at 10:30 AM:** *Story Time* is an interactive story hour made especially [for preschool aged children](#). Decades themed stories on Aug 10 & Aug 12.

**Saturdays, 4:00 PM:** *Conversational English Classes.* Want to freshen up your language skills? Join us every Saturday for casual conversations in English.

**Tuesday, August 6, 2:30 PM:** *Ice Cream Party at Hope Garden.* Meet us with the kiddos at Hope Garden to tell stories and have ice cream treats!

**Thursday, August 8, 5:30:** *Mining History of the Wood River Valley.* An engaging speaker, local mining historian Tom Blanchard will repeat a popular talk about the dozens of lead, silver and gold mines that sprang up around the valley beginning in the 1860s.

**Tuesday, August 13, 5:30 PM:** *Library Reads Book Club.* Every month, we host a book club with picks throughout the decades. This month's read is *Tell the Wolves I'm Home* by Carol Rifka Brunt.

**Wednesday, August 14, 5:30 PM:** *Friends of the Hailey Public Library Meeting.*

**Wednesday, August 14, 11:30 AM:** *Lunch in the Park.* The Hunger Coalition, Blaine County School District, Hailey Public Library and volunteers from the community are partnering to provide free, nourishing meals and crafts for children 18 and under at Kiwanis (formerly Balmoral) Park .

**Thursday, August 15, 5:30:** *Just Bees.* Tom Harned, owner of Five Bee Hives, will explore the who, what, where, when and why of raising honeybees in your backyard.

**Friday, August 16, 10:30 AM:** *Ready! For Kindergarten: Part Three of Three.* A very special story time that encourages parents to talk, sing, read and play with their child in simple ways that foster essential pre-literacy, pre-math and social-emotional skills.

**Saturday, August 17, 3:00 PM:** *1980s Vintage Family Games.* Come into the library to experience the types of games that were played in the 1980s.

**Wednesday, August 21, 5:30 PM:** *Saving the Seeds From Your Garden.* Learn how to save vegetable and flower seeds grown in your own garden. Wood River Seed Library's Manon Gaudreau will discuss the steps and techniques used to harvest, clean and store seeds.

**Wednesday, August 21, 5:30 PM:** *Board Meeting.*

**Thursday, August 29, 5:30:** *Life and Work of Ezra Pound.* Local literary expert Ted Dyer will examine the life and work of this literary giant of the early 20th century. Born in Hailey in 1885, Pound's enormous literary contributions were often overshadowed by his controversial political views.

### **Limited Library Services August 23 – 29**

Technical work to expand our Lynx consortium will effect check-out service, but won't effect programs. Items will still be available for checkout with your library card present, but no holds will be available. "My Account" and the public catalog will not be accessible. Returned items will not be checked in until after August 29.

**Pickleball**

Pickleball has been on the rise not only within our valley, but nationwide. Due to a lack of opportunity to play pickleball outdoors during the summer, the City has received requests to convert tennis at Heagle Park to accommodate the quickly growing sport of pickleball. Please go to the following link and tell us your preferred use and what you would like to see at Heagle Park: pickleball, tennis, or both! The survey will be open until mid-September.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/X7CQ5FZ>

**Kiwanis Park Celebration Sept 4**

Please join us in celebrating the new features at Kiwanis Park. This lovely park has not only been renamed (it was formerly known as Balmoral Park), it has also been improved to become a city park instead of a neighborhood park. With ample parking, the park contains a new pavilion, new play equipment, and many newly planted shade trees. Soccer fields, a basketball court, disability access and a restroom add to the quality of the park.

The donor-appreciation celebration will contain a renaming celebration and food and festivities commemorating all the donors who contributed to this \$200,000 park improvement.

**When - Wednesday September 4, 2019**

**Where - West of Balmoral Apartments  
on Laurelwood Drive, Woodside**

**Time - 6 PM to 8 PM**

**With - Food, Balloons, Families, Fun!**

**2019**

**ADOPT A PARK**

**THANK YOU!**

**2019**

**Meeting Calendar**

City Council .....	8/12/2019
City Council .....	8/26/2019
Planning & Zoning .....	8/05/2019
Planning & Zoning .....	8/19/2019
Arts & Historic Preservation...	8/09/2019
Joint Fire Board, Hailey WRFD	8/14/2019
Parks & Lands Board .....	8/28/2019
Public Library Board.....	8/21/2019
Tree Committee .....	none
Sun Valley Air Service Board...	none
Urban Renewal Agency .....	8/15/2019
* Labor Day Holiday .....	9/02/2019

*\* City Offices and Library Closed*