



# OUR TOWN

*Where the High Desert Meets the Mountains*

September 2019  
Issue No. 190

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

## Fire Chief Craig Aberbach Resigns

The City of Hailey will regretfully bid farewell to Hailey Fire Chief Craig Aberbach on September 30, 2019. Aberbach used his six years in the Wood River Valley to create strong bonds between firefighters and fire agencies. He announced his resignation recently, citing the need to live closer to his aging parents. "I've always instructed personnel to put family first," said Aberbach. "It's time for me to follow my own advice."

Aberbach immediately began building up the Hailey fire department when he arrived from Florida in November, 2013. Hose testing in freezing weather was one of his first undertakings. In 2014 he initiated the Blaine County Fire Chief's monthly meetings, and has served as chair for the past 5 years. In 2015 he encouraged Hailey to enter into a contract with Wood River Fire District, through which he was assigned the duties of WRFD Assistant Chief, adding them effortlessly to his duties as Hailey Fire Chief. He worked to standardize training and equipment in both departments, and the recruitment efforts were joined through a combined annual firefighters basic essentials training academy. He was assigned to train and implement Hailey's Emergency Operations Plan, leading the city successfully through several fire and flood events. Upon giving that assignment, Mayor Haemmerle dubbed Aberbach "a force of nature in his own right".

In 2017 Hailey and Wood River Fire District adopted a Joint Powers Agreement in an effort to functionally consolidate services under separate legal entities. Chief Aberbach worked tirelessly toward that end, establishing procedures and methods by which firefighters could serve both departments with efficiency, professionalism and pride. Response times were reduced and the enhanced cooperation has benefitted citizens of both jurisdictions.

Aberbach was successful in augmenting the fire department budgets with over \$1.4 million in grants and capital funding. Grants were obtained to purchase an EMS response service vehicle and to enhance recruitment, training and benefits for paid on call firefighters. Currently, the employees are nearing completion of their training as paramedics and one just beginning. Aberbach was successful in getting resources from the City's capital fund to replace breathing apparatus, turnout gear, hose and a new engine. A grant project is underway to upgrade and improve the Hailey Fire Station.

Aberbach continued to teach at the Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC) each year, and brought high level training to our community through his national contacts. He served on the board of the Senior Connection, worked with the Chamber to launch new events, such as the Father's Day Bash and Wicked Wednesday fundraisers which benefit the Hailey & Wood River fire departments.

## Meeting Calendar

City Council .....	9/09/2019
City Council .....	9/23/2019
Planning & Zoning .....	9/16/2019
Planning & Zoning .....	9/30/2019
Arts & Historic Preservation...	9/10/2019
Joint Fire Board, Hailey WRFD	none
Parks & Lands Board .....	9/25/2019
Public Library Board.....	9/18/2019
Tree Committee .....	9/12/2019
Sun Valley Air Service Board...	9/25/2019
Urban Renewal Agency .....	none
Labor Day Holiday .....	9/02/2019

*\* City Offices and Library Closed*

## Hailey Public Library September Events

2019 marks the 100th anniversary of the Hailey Public Library and September is packed with events.

Follow us for more information:

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

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

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

### This Month's Era: 1990s

**Mondays at 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.**

**Tuesdays & Thursdays, 3:30 – 4:30 PM: *In-beTween*.** Activities for kids 9 - 12 full of STEAM activities, games, crafts, and experiments!

**Wednesdays & Fridays at 10:30 AM: *Story Time*** is an interactive story hour made especially [for preschool aged children](#). Decades themed stories will be on the 11<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>!

**Tuesday, September 10, 5:30 PM: *Library Reads Book Club*.** Every month, we host a book club with picks throughout the decades. This month's read is *A Constellation of Vital Phenomena* by Anthony Marra.

**Wednesday, September 11, 5:30 PM: *Early Hot Springs Resorts of the Wood River Valley*.** Historian and author John W. Lundin will help participants journey back in time using historic images and sharing stories of popular hot springs resorts which drew tourists decades before Sun Valley Resort was created.

**Wednesday, September 11, 5:30 PM: *Friends of the Hailey Public Library Meeting*.**

**Saturday, September 14, 3:00 PM: *1990s Vintage Family Games*.** Come into the library to experience the types of games that were played in the 1990s.

**Wednesday, September 18, 5:30 PM: *Board Meeting*.**

**Thursday, September 26, 5:30 PM: *Julie Weston Book Reading*.** Julie Weston's debut mystery, *Moonshadows*, was a finalist in the May Sarton Literary Award. *Basque Moon*, her second mystery, won the 2017 WILLA Literary Award in Historical Fiction. Weston and her husband live in Hailey, Idaho, where they ski, write, photograph and enjoy the outdoors. Weston's presentation features history of Craters of the Moon in the 1920s, including maps, as well as contemporary photographs taken by her husband, Gerry Morrison.

## Volunteer Opportunities

**Hailey Public Library Board of Trustees** will fill a Board vacancy. Inquire at Hailey Public Library.

## Employment Opportunities

**City of Hailey Fire Chief** Administers all operations and services within Hailey's combination fire department, which consists of 4 full-time and up to 25 paid-per-call personnel. May also serve as the city's Emergency Manager. First review of applications September 18, 2019, open until filled.

**Permanent Full-Time Public Works** Full benefits available to public works employee performing street and park maintenance, including snow removal, flood control, general park and irrigation system repairs, landscape or weed maintenance, chip seal, pothole repairs and related work. Operating knowledge of hand tools and heavy equipment used within public works or the ability to learn. Must have a valid driver's license, and be able to obtain CDL within 60 days of hire. Wage DOE

**Seasonal Public Works:** Up to 6 months seasonal work performing maintenance & public works assignments on parks, streets, alleys sidewalks and facilities. Seasonal employees may be full-time or part-time. Must have valid driver's license. Wage DOE.

**Positions open until filled. City of Hailey is an EOE.**