



# OUR TOWN

*Where the High Desert Meets the Mountains*

November 2019  
Issue No. 192

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## Message from the Mayor Welcome Fire Chief Mike Baledge

I am pleased to announce that, with the help of mayor-elect Martha Burke, Hailey concluded the selection process for a new fire chief. Mike Baledge, who has served the City of Hailey as Deputy Fire Chief and Fire Marshall, was selected from among 20 highly qualified candidates solicited through a nationwide search.

Baledge comes with 24 years of fire experience, holding the important perspective of fully understanding a combination fire department which relies significantly on volunteers, or paid-per-call firefighters. As Baledge stated in an interview, “our best emergency response is with paid-per-call firefighters, because they bring with them all the expertise of their trades, as well as their emergency response training.” Baledge began his fire services career as a volunteer and moved through the ranks from a paid-per-call volunteer to Deputy Chief, holding various leadership ranks and positions along the way, including serving as an officer for 17 years. According to one Hailey firefighter, “Baledge has mentored just about every firefighter on the trucks!”

In 2002 Baledge was hired by Hailey Fire Department as full-time staff, adding to his training and emergency response duties and taking on the role of Fire Marshall, under which he performs commercial building plan reviews and inspections. These fire prevention services contribute significantly to an increase in public safety and a decrease in loss of life when a structure fire occurs.

Baledge is a State of Idaho EMT/Instructor, and trains the community in CPR through various venues. He teaches fire fighter essentials through the local firefighting academy, which begins training  
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## Hailey Boards and Commission Seats Open - Apply NOW to Serve!

In a recent resignation from a board position, a retiring commissioner wrote: “In the mid 90’s Roberta McKercher told me, ‘Volunteerism is the check you write for your citizenship.’ I took that challenge to heart and spent 19 years serving on Hailey P&Z, Hailey Parks and Land Board and the Hailey Tree Committee. I truly enjoyed serving on these Committees with some great people. I believe we did some good work and had a positive influence on the look and feel of the City of Hailey. I thank you for all of those opportunities. Roberta would have been pleased.”

Hailey has openings on several boards at this time, including the Tree Committee, the Parks & Lands Board, the Planning & Zoning Commission, the

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## Meeting Calendar

City Council .....	11/06/2019
City Council .....	11/12/2019
City Council .....	11/25/2019
Planning & Zoning .....	11/04/2019
Planning & Zoning .....	11/18/2019
Arts & Historic Preservation...	11/12/2019
Joint Fire Board, Hailey WRFD	11/13/2019
Parks & Lands Board .....	11/27/2019
Public Library Board .....	11/20/2019
Tree Committee .....	11/14/2019
Sun Valley Air Service Board...	12/04/2019
Urban Renewal Agency .....	12/05/2019
• Veteran’s Day Holiday....	11/11/2019
• Thanksgiving Day Holiday	11/28/2019
• Thanksgiving Friday Holiday	11/29/2019

*\* City Offices and Library Closed*

## Fire Chief Baledge

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new prospective firefighters every January. He holds a national wildland Type 5 Incident Command certification, and functions as engine boss and squad boss when deployed on wildland fires.

Baledge is known widely for his leadership in Fire Prevention Week, a program conducted within the schools each October that teaches basic life-safety matters to elementary school students. This year 785 young students were taught the importance of fire prevention methods, practices and tools within their homes.



The City of Hailey advertised for the fire chief position locally, statewide, and with International Fire Chiefs Association. The recruitment ad was exposed to over 8,500 prospective applicants, from which 20 applications were received. Exiting Hailey Fire Chief Craig Aberbach worked with a staff team to review the applications and identify the top five candidates. Mayor Haemmerle and mayor-elect Martha Burke interviewed three Idaho candidates.

Command transfer between resigning Chief Craig Aberbach and incoming Chief Mike Baledge occurred at the beginning of October, as it is the duty of the Deputy Chief to take on the role of acting chief in the absence of an appointed chief. We look forward to what Baledge will accomplish now that he is vested in the role of Hailey Fire Chief.

## Hailey Boards and Commission

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Urban Renewal Agency and the Hailey/Wood River Joint Fire Board. Below is a brief description of what each of these boards does, and how often they meet.

**Planning & Zoning** commissioners review land use applications and zoning amendments. Current hot topics in Hailey's development include design review of businesses and Old Hailey residential units, implementation of additional housing and the creation of safe, walkable and vibrant neighborhoods. P&Z meets twice per month.

**Urban Renewal Agency** members apply tax-increment financing to assist in the development of business and housing. They team with the City Council in review of River Street design plans. The URA meets monthly.

**Joint Fire Board** members work together with Hailey Fire and Wood River Fire departments to oversee joint operating policies and budgets. The JPA Fire Board meets quarterly.

**Hailey Arts and Historic Preservation Commission** members work to document historical buildings and develop public art within the City of Hailey. The HAHPC meets monthly.

**Parks & Lands Board** members review policies, plans and uses for City parks, making recommendations on elements such as the design of new parks, equipment layout and usage policies. This board meets monthly.

**Tree Committee** members develop an urban forest plan and policies by which a healthy urban tree culture remains intact. This board meets monthly.

Residents of Hailey may submit a letter of interest for one or more of these board positions to Hailey's mayor prior to November 20, 2019. Letters may be delivered to Hailey City Hall, 115 South Main Street, Hailey ID 83333 or by email to [heather.dawson@haileycityhall.org](mailto:heather.dawson@haileycityhall.org).

## Hailey Public Library November Events

**2019 marks the 100th anniversary of Hailey Public Library. November is full of 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](https://www.instagram.com/HaileyPublicLibrary) #hpl100

### This Month's Era: 2010s

**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 and gaming!

**Wednesdays & Fridays at 10:30 AM: Story Time** is an interactive story hour made especially for preschool aged children.

**Tuesday, November 5, 5:15 PM: Stop Menopause Madness.** Dr. Maria Maricich, The Wellness Clinic in Ketchum, will help you understand 3 must-do things to eliminate menopause symptoms, including hot flashes, anxiety, insomnia and more. Learn why it's important to get balance now so the risk of cancer and Alzheimer's may be reduced.

**Thursday, November 7, 5:30 PM: Fistfights, Bank Fraud, and Water with Tom Blanchard.** Hailey was a rough and tumble community in the early 1880s. It produced water events of statewide importance, including the first municipal electrical system in the west and the Quigley Canyon water dispute. These events established Priority Rights in Idaho water law, resulting in fistfights and bank fraud among a cast of colorful characters.

**Monday, November 11: Veteran's Day Closure .**

**Tuesday, November 12, 5:30 PM: Library Reads Book Club.** Every month, we host a book club with picks throughout the decades. This month's read is *Where'd You Go Bernadette* by Maria Semple.

**Wednesday, November 13, 5:30 PM: Friends of the Hailey Public Library Meeting.**

**Saturday, November 16, 3:00 PM: 2010s Family Games.** Come into the library with the family to play the types of games that were released in the 2010s.

**Wednesday, November 20, 5:30 PM: Board Meeting.**

## Recycling

### Recycling Suspended Nov 5-10, 2019

The Blaine County Recycling Center has sent out a notice that they will be maintaining and repairing the recycle baling equipment at their Ohio Gulch Facility. There will be a pause in their recycling operation from Tuesday, November 5, 2019 through Sunday, November 10, 2019. Full recycling operations will resume on Monday November 11, 2019. During this pause in the Center's operation, Clear Creek Disposal will be on a normal schedule for pickup of all types of recyclables, both commercial and residential. With the Recycling Center closed, all recyclables collected by Clear Creek Disposal during this pause will be disposed of as transferable waste.

If individuals wish to have their recyclables kept in recycling stream, Clear Creek Disposal recommends that those customers hold their recyclables from collection between the dates of Tuesday, November 5 through Sunday, November 10, 2019. All normal recycling operations will resume on Monday, November 11, 2019.

The City of Hailey recommends residents refrain from using the cardboard dumpsters at Hailey's Park & Ride Lot during these five days, Nov 5-10. Hold cardboard in a dry area, such as your garage, until recycling resumes again on Nov 11, 2019.

## Mayor Requests Town Clean-Up in Preparation for Winter

The City of Hailey reminds businesses and residents that it is important the public right-of-way, including streets, alleys and non-motorized easements be cleared of all obstructions in advance of winter. Personal belongings such as yard debris, utility trailers, recreational vehicles, storage containers, gardening areas and motor vehicles must be removed from the city rights of way in the next few weeks.



Hailey's residential streets are at least 60 feet wide, with only 24 feet of the area paved. The portion between the paved street and private property becomes a collection area during the summer for a variety of personal items. This area, along with the alleys, should be cleaned up, as snow removal is far more efficient and effective when the plows run unobstructed. Business use and storage are never allowed in the rights of way.

Branches and garden debris stored within the alleys and rights of ways should be removed. It's also time to remove any gardens and compost areas that encroach into alleys, easements or right of ways.

Mayor Haemmerle is asking residents to take this year's clean-up seriously. "Do your part before it snows and before the City tows," he said. "Under City Code Section 10.08.040.D, parking restrictions are in effect between November 1 and May 1 each year. Violations of our ordinance cause safety problems for the entire community and significantly hamper our snow removal efforts."

The following actions are being requested by the City of Hailey:

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- Remove vehicles and personal belongings from the public right of way adjacent to your property (street and/or alley side of property). All vehicles must be removed by Nov 1.
- Remove unpermitted temporary landscaping in the public right of way such as front yard vegetable gardens that extend beyond the private property line. These temporary, unpermitted features must be removed before winter. They can impede snow removal, damage city equipment, or be destroyed by city equipment.
- Act on Notices requesting removal of belongings or temporary features. Even if you don't receive a notice, you are responsible for removal of these items.
- The city is not responsible for damages which may occur in public rights of way, even if the work you completed was done under a city-issued encroachment permit.



## Employment Opportunity Permanent Full-Time Public Works

Full benefits are 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, 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.