



OUR TOWN

Where the desert meets the mountains.

March 2009
Issue No. 70

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www.haileycityhall.org

Mayor's Message

Survey Results Give Insight, Show Community Pride

A professional survey was conducted in January, 2009 to seek the opinion of residents, businesses, employees and employers about city services and proposed projects. The purpose of the survey is to assist Hailey officials to better understand the attitudes and opinions about existing and potential city amenities and areas of service.

The survey results can guide the Mayor and City Council and staff in prioritizing capital improvements and delivery of city services. Certain projects entail safety related improvements that will factor into the city's priorities and may not be reflected in the citizen's opinions. City staff is even now working with the survey results in preparing department priorities for the city's annual goal setting workshop to be held in late March.

The survey was tabulated by the professional firm Richard Caplan & Associates, who concluded that all of the gathered information "found that Hailey residents' have a high degree of community pride, generally express an overall satisfaction with city government services and are well informed about local issues. Residents seek to remain informed about and participate in city issues."

You will find the entire survey under "Announcements" on our homepage – www.haileycityhall.org. A quick summary is that the top six projects important to you include: 1) improved rodeo grounds with ice rink; 2) additional paths and trails; 3) restrooms added to Lion's/McKercher parks; 4) completing missing sidewalk connections; 5) building sidewalks city-wide; and 6) River Street improvements and upgrades.

The survey results show that you would like improvement in the following areas: 1) maintenance of alleys; 2) maintenance of sidewalks; 3) pedestrian safety; 4) snow plowing; and 5) trash collection rates. You are highly satisfied with the location of the Hailey Public Library and City Hall.

A total of 456 completed surveys were received and tabulated, including responses from 337 residents and 119

business persons or employees. We thank you for this excellent response rate, which provides statistically valid results within a five percent margin of error.

The survey was supplemented with two focus groups, a public meeting and confidential interviews with community representatives. We express our profound

appreciation for those people who gave several hours of their time to the effort.



Calendar

Important Dates

Arts Commission	03/05/09
City Council Meetings	03/09/09
.....	03/23/09
Historic Preservation Commission	03/31/09
Parks & Lands Board	03/03/09
P&Z Meetings	03/02/09
.....	03/16/09
Sustainable Building & Planning Advisory Committee.....	03/04/09
.....	03/18/09
Tree Committee	03/05/09



Are you planning a Special Event?

To assure the success of your event, please be sure it meets city requirements. Thanks for hosting an event in Hailey!

Contact:

Trina Isaacs

788-9830, ext. 22

Trina.isaacs@haileycityhall.org



Community

Volunteers Needed to Warm Up America!

Do you want to help those in need, but don't have a lot of spare time? *Warm Up America!* might be just the thing for you. Through this program, volunteers donate their time to crochet or knit one or more 7" x 9" rectangles. These sections are then joined into an afghan by individuals or groups in the community, and donated locally.



So far, the local *Warm Up America!* effort has resulted in the creation and donation of more than a dozen handmade, cozy afghans.

To be placed on a list of organizations wishing to receive afghans, or to volunteer, contact Tracy Anderson at City Hall / 788-4221.

BE IN THE KNOW

Sign up for email updates on city news, initiatives and programs. Contact tracy.anderson@haileycityhall.org to sign up. Reference "In The Know" in the subject line.

Bright Ideas

Last month we initiated our Bright Ideas program, where your suggestions or questions are highlighted in this newsletter. You responded with:

KEEP HAILEY'S SMALL TOWN CHARM

A suggestion intended to keep Hailey's small town charm in spite of a state highway functioning as our Main Street, by expanding the sidewalks, adding more "green" and patio seating for local eateries, cutting back on lanes and maybe even adding a bike lane. As traffic is forced to slow down in this downtown made tighter through such design and even lower speed limits, perhaps "passing through" traffic will like more of what we are trying to do and stick around a while.

TO PLOW OR NOT TO PLOW?

A question as to why we plow all the streets in the new Old Cutters subdivision, which is still largely undeveloped and has approximately 10 houses under construction. Last winter we did not plow that subdivision, and received complaints that potential buyers were not able to access the for-sale lots. In response to that complaint, we added the full subdivision to our snow plow route this year, which added less than 1/2 hour to total plowing time.



Send suggestions or questions ...

By mail:
City of Hailey
115 Main St. S, Suite H
Hailey, ID 83333

By Fax:
788-2924

By Email:
heather.dawson@haileycityhall.org

Please reference "Bright Ideas" in your submissions. Thank you!

Book Discussion to Feature Surprise Speaker and Food Samples

It's a love story, it's a mystery, and it's also the most thorough explanation of Chinese food in the English language. The Hailey Public Library will be having a book discussion on the *The Last Chinese Chef*. Please join us on March 24, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. We will have a surprise speaker and food to sample on this date.

Community

Hunger Coalition Offers Mobile Food Bank Service

The Hunger Coalition is now offering a mobile food bank service on a weekly basis. In Hailey, beginning the week of March 9, the food bank can be accessed at the Park & Ride lot on the corner of River and Bullion on Tuesdays from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Those in need of assistance may qualify to receive a food punch card for the mobile food bank from partner social service agencies such as Blaine County Services at 219 1st Avenue South. To access this service prior to the week of March 9, or for more general information about this service, call the Hunger Coalition at 788-0121.



In its first week of operation, the mobile food bank served nearly 200 families and distributed more than 5,200 pounds of food over a three-day period – the same amount the organization normally distributes in one month. To meet the tremendous challenge of providing food to serve the community need, the Hunger Coalition is seeking donations of cash and/or food. The group also needs more volunteers to help with the mobile food bank. Donations can be sent to PO Box 1576, Hailey, ID 83333 or can be given online at www.thehungercoalition.org. If you'd like to volunteer, contact Naomi Spence at 788-0121.



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Interim Water Superintendent
Reese Dibble
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Waste Water Superintendent
Roger Parker
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Hailey Public Library
General Information
788-2036