



OUR TOWN

Where the High Desert Meets the Mountains

March 2017
Issue No. 161

Visit us online at
www.haileycityhall.org

Message from the Mayor

Flooding Preparation a High Priority

The City of Hailey fared well compared to many other Idaho areas during the rain-on-snow storms last month. We have our public works department to thank for that. The snow plowing, hauling, widening operations and vigilant drywell maintenance payed off for our town. Preparation for spring run-off flooding in the Big Wood River remains a high priority. As stated last month, it is important to keep informed during emergencies. We urge residents of Hailey to sign up for information alerts from the Blaine County Sheriff's office. Use the link below to sign up now!

www.blaineemergency.org/flood/

Emergency Services

New Hailey Fire Truck

Hailey Fire Department officials inspected their new fire truck at the manufacturer's plant last month, to validate that the truck had been built properly to specifications. A successful inspection is needed prior to the City accepting delivery of the truck.



This \$290,000 piece of equipment is a pumper truck which contains a 750 gallon water tank and pumps from either that tank or a hydrant at 1250 gallons per minutes. These standards are approved by both the City of Hailey and Wood River Fire District. With the two departments working together more closely in the past two years, fire-fighters from both departments will respond to calls in this truck. With the number of calls received by the Hailey Fire Department, the truck is expected to have a 20 year life.

Citizen Action

Friends of the Hailey Public Library's Book & Bake Sale Nets \$3,500

The Friends of the Hailey Public Library sold \$3,500 in used books and baked goods in their annual sale last month. This event is a favorite local tradition within the community, many of whom volunteer to help sort and sell the books or bake delicious products.

Thanks to all the volunteers, donors and patrons of the sale for making one fantastic fundraiser. The amazing generosity of our valley supports the Hailey Public Library in various ways:

- purchase of new adult and children book titles;
- supplement library staff education;
- enhance library technology;
- develop additional "Little Free Libraries;" and
- expand early literacy outreach to the community.

Thanks to Blaine County School District for the Community Campus space and tables. Thanks to REMAX for the truck used to haul the books to the Community Campus. Thanks to Power Engineers and the City of Hailey for their continued support each year. And most of all - thanks to the incredible donors for all the books throughout the year, the dedicated volunteer workers and talented bakers. See you all again in October!

The Friends of the Hailey Public Library meet the 2nd Wednesday of each month. We welcome all to join us in the Sun Room at the library from 5:30 – 6:30. For more information call 720-7395 to find out how you can support the Hailey Public Library.

Calendar



Important Dates

City Council.....	03/06/17 and 03/27/17
Arts & Historic Preservation Commission...	03/09/17
Hailey Public Library Board.....	03/08/17
Parks & Lands Board.....	03/08/17
Planning & Zoning....	03/13/17
Tree Committee	03/09/17

Public Works - Parks

New Parks & Lands Board Launches

The Hailey Parks and Lands Board held their first meeting of the year in February. They welcomed a newly appointed member, Sara Gress, elected officers, and made recommendations on the Hailey Greenway Plan. Their recommendations will be considered by the Hailey City Council in a public hearing on March 27, 2017.



Hailey Parks & Lands Board, left to right, Mark Spencer, Darin Sales, Lamar Waters (Chair), Phil Rainey, Sara Gress, Dean Hernandez.

Utility Billing

April Deadline -- Property Tax Reduction Also Lowers City Utility Bills

Taxpayers who qualify for a property tax reduction with Blaine County, also known as “circuit breaker” reduction, will also benefit by a reduction in their City of Hailey utility bill.

April 18, 2017 is the deadline for filing Property Tax Reduction Applications with your county Assessor’s office. For more information, please call Blaine County Assessor’s office at 788-5535 or visit their website: <http://www.co.blaine.id.us/>

The City of Hailey considers those approved by Blaine County as automatically eligible for city utility bills reduction. No further paperwork is required by the City of Hailey.

Pathways for People Design Hearing

Monday, March 27, 2017

5:30 p.m. Hailey City Council Chambers

Come to the final public hearing to determine Croy Street and 2nd Avenue bicycle lane designs



Hailey Public Library March Events

We packed the calendar this March. Complete details are at: www.HaileyPublicLibrary.org & www.facebook.com/HaileyPublicLibrary/

Thursdays at 4:30 PM: *TNT Thursdays* are for tweens and teens to enjoy gaming

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

Thursday, March 9 at 4:00 PM: *Pushing the Limits: Arctic Drift*. Join us for an adventure in STEM! Group discussion events will be held once per month on the cutting-edge topics: connection, nature, survival, and knowledge.

Friday, March 10 at 10:30 AM: A very special story time with author Leslie Patricelli. Join us as author of colorful board books like *Yummy Yucky*, *Big Little*, and *Quiet Loud* hosts our biweekly reading and crafts!

Monday, March 13 at 6:00 PM: *Lines Between the Wines: The Girl on the Train*. This grown-up book club pairs literature and gourmet samplings of wine and appetizers. Please preregister with a \$25 payment with the WRSC.

Tuesday, March 21 at 6:00 PM: *Let’s Talk About It: Where’d You Go Bernadette*. During the Fall-Spring 2016-17 season, this book club’s theme is Humor and Satire.

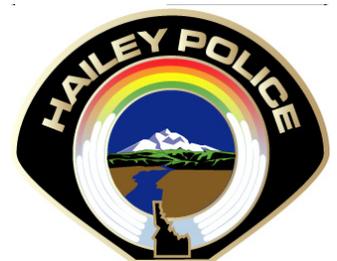
Thursday, March 30 at 6:00 PM: *Easily Pick A Color For Any Room with Tenaya Plowman Kolar of TPK Feng Shui & Design*. Looking for a certain feel, but no idea what color to use? Join us for a free workshop on how to easily pick a color for any room.

LIBRARY EVENTS

LIBRARY EVENTS

HAILEY POLICE
DEPARTMENT
Now located at

311 E. Cedar St
Hailey, ID
208-788-3531





Library Tinker Toy Project Funded By STEM Grant

The Hailey Public Library received a full grant award of \$2500 from STEM Action Center from among over 100 applications. The grants provide funding for innovative Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM) and computer-science projects. The Hailey Public Library project was selected as “one of the most innovative STEM ideas and ... is a unique example of an integrated STEM project clearly illustrating impacts and thoughtfully measuring outcomes,” according to the grant award letter from STEM.

The grant will partially fund the Tinker Time Project which is being developed at the Hailey Public Library. Aimed at students in 3rd-5th grade, Tinker Time will be intentionally structured around problem solving, creativity and learning rather than simply providing access to technology. Tinker Time will work with community stakeholders to create a local ‘STEM ecosystem,’ thus complimenting instead of competing with existing community programs.

Tinker Time is just one component of a larger Maker program envisioned by the Hailey Public Library. According to an article on the American Library Association’s Web Site, “Despite living at the height of the information age with unimaginable quantities of information flowing towards us, we have a visceral need to push back and create...to formulate our own questions and build things big and small, quiet and loud, functional and aesthetic. Creation reinforces learning and sparks innovation; it builds problem-solving and collaboration skills; it empowers the maker; and it fosters community around education. Libraries have always been hubs of self-directed learning and their embrace of the maker movement is no surprise, but what they offer can truly amaze. Rather than feeding information about science to students, the MakerSpace ...equips students to “DO” science, choosing their own projects, setting their own pace and managing their own outcomes. The MakerSpace supports the school’s Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) initiatives and furthers the library’s mission to be a place of discovery and self-guided learning.”

Accessory Dwelling Units & Zoning

What is an “Accessory Dwelling Unit”? Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU’s) are a common planning tool to increase housing options in a community. Often referred to as “mother-in-law” apartments, they have historically been used for multi-generational families. ADU’s have a deep history in the United States, and are found in small and large towns alike. ADU’s can allow a property owner to gain some extra income to offset the cost of owning a house. They are not allowed to be sold separately from the property; they must remain part of the same property.



Hailey has allowed ADU’s since 2002. They are permitted in Old Hailey, and in neighborhoods with “General-Residential” zoning, such as Woodside and Old Cutters. Various rules are in place in the Zoning Code to make sure that ADU’s fit in with the neighborhood.

This year, City Hall has received calls and letters with citizen requests to add ADU’s in other Hailey neighborhoods where they are currently not allowed. In addition to expanding the neighborhoods where ADU’s are allowed, some citizens are interested in lowering the minimum lot size for ADU’s, which is currently 7,000 square feet. Other citizens feel the lot size should stay the same as it is now. Additional comments have been received regarding the need to carefully plan for parking- to make sure there is enough, but also make sure there are not too many cars on properties with ADU’s.

Tree Committee

March Tree Tip

Remove all yews within Hailey

As we have recently seen and heard, yews can be a very dangerous plant. A winter great for back country skiing means a tough winter for wildlife, as they have a great challenge finding enough food to survive the winter. With scarce food sources, some deer, elk and other wildlife have been forced to eat these toxic plants due to accessibility and availability. The only way to ensure wildlife will not eat these plants is for them to be removed. These plants are evergreen shrubs, meaning they will retain green needles throughout the winter. Remember, as always, contact your neighborhood arborist with any questions. The City of Hailey’s arborist on staff, Stephanie Cook, can be reached at 788-9830 x 31.



The Planning and Zoning Commission has had two meetings on the topic of ADU’s, and is discussing all of the issues raised by the public comment. The next meeting on ADU’s is scheduled for **Monday, March 13th at 5:30 pm at Hailey City Hall**. The Planning and Zoning Commission is actively seeking input! If you can’t come to the meeting, you can send written comments to Lisa Horowitz, Community Development Director: lisa.horowitz@hailey.cityhall.org, or call 788-9815, ext. 13.

Public Works - Water Consumption

CK Kastner's Letter to City of Hailey

Water is expensive and precious. At CK's we pride ourselves in being part of the solution and not the problem so when our water bill suddenly doubled we wondered why. Our consumption had increased beyond 60,000 gallons per month. It's easy to hit that terrible number with irrigation but no matter how hard we tried we couldn't seem to reduce the numbers. We checked all the toilets, fixed some leaky valves and reduced our watering's by 30%. Still wasn't enough.

Finally the city water team came in and we did a water audit to see when and why the meter was running. Apparently our water cooled refrigeration system was using the bulk of the water. Through the city's help we were able to isolate and eventually solve the excessive water problem. Dave and Terry Towne came up with a closed system water cooling unit to cool our walk-in freezer, refrigerator and wine cellar. Problem solved, this system reduced our consumption by half.

I'm glad our city is being proactive on water and sewer issues. The fix wasn't cheap but will pay for itself in less than 2 years and we are sleeping better knowing we are saving our precious water.

Thanks,
Chris Kastner
Ck's Real Food



Save Paper and Money

City of Hailey utility bill customers can save paper and money by choosing how their payments are handled. The least expensive option of all is DIRECTPAY. Other options that are less expensive than using paper are also available. Act now to join the majority of paperless customers!

By the Numbers:

- 43%** - Customers who use PAPER: We mail a bill, you mail or drop off check. **1390 of 3267 customers**
- 16%**- Customers who use DIRECT PAY: We mail or email a bill. You do nothing - We automatically deduct the amount due from your checking or savings account on the 22nd of the month. **530**
- 41%** - Number of customers using XPRESS BILLPAY: We mail or email you a bill, you pay us through our secure website payment portal called Xpress BillPay. You choose whether this payment is automatic or periodic by directing the type, amount and date of payment. You also choose whether to receive the bill by mail or email. **1325**

By the Cost:

Environmental Cost - PAPER is most costly, impacting many resources, including trees and resources needed for paper production and fuel for logging and shipping operations from the forest to the mills to the printer to you and back to us. When you use your bank's bill-pay option, all these costs still occur, as the bank mails a paper check!

Labor Cost - PAPER is most costly, including labor, equipment and vehicles to log, manufacture, print & ship, and customer, city and bank labor to handle payments.

Banking Cost - DIRECTPAY combined with emailed bill is least costly. Set up DIRECTPAY with a one-time paper form and voided check, and set up the emailed bill through a one-time XPRESS BILLPAY request. Paying with a credit card may be as costly as using paper!

Making a change is easy:

DIRECTPAY: Please contact City Hall for the Utility Bill DIRECTPAY form or find it on our website www.haileycityhall.org. Send or bring it with a voided check to City Hall.

XPRESS BILLPAY: Choose the Bill Payment tab on the City's website. From here follow the easy steps. You can request to no longer receive a paper bill. Acceptable payment methods through this secure portal are more expensive than DIRECTPAY, and include electronic check, Visa or MasterCard payments. You can set up a preferred automatic monthly payment date or initiate your own payment monthly.

Wildlife Protection

Hillsides and Ridges

Use caution while recreating in the hills and canyons east of Cutters Park. Deep snow and cold temperatures make winter a stressful time for wildlife, and this winter is more extreme than some. Anyone recreating in this area can cause animals to move, stop feeding, get up from their beds or away from thermal cover, using up precious energy in the form of vital fat stores. While recreating in the Old Cutters area stay on the lower trails, avoid hillsides, turn around when you see wildlife and keep dogs on leash.