



OUR TOWN

Where the High Desert Meets the Mountains

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Visit us online at
www.haileycityhall.org

Message from the Mayor

Consider Donating to Fireworks

In March of each year, the Hailey City Council enters into a contract to order fireworks for Hailey's annual 4th of July Fireworks display. You will again be depending on the Hailey Chamber of Commerce to raise enough funds to keep this community element in place in future years.

Hailey has held an Independence Day fireworks display for at least 50 years, and possibly since the inception of the Days of the Old West Rodeo in 1947. Like the rodeo itself, the fireworks were put together by local people who cared about their country and their community, and enjoyed celebrating together.



For approximately 10 years, Hailey Chamber members Rick Davis, Kathleen Harrison and Kim Masik conducted an annual campaign to raise money to match an anonymously sponsored endowment fund dedicated to fireworks. They were wildly successful until 2009, when the economic recession caused many businesses to struggle. Donations dwindled to nearly nothing, but the community still valued the fireworks display, which was cut from \$20,000 to a \$15,000 display and continued each year. The fund's reserves were used for several years, pushing the fund below the threshold stipulated by the fund's donor. The economy began to rebound. A significant donation was given by the Sun Valley Board of Realtors to help stop the decline of the fund in 2016. A fundraising effort by the Hailey Chamber of Commerce helped to slow down the decline of the fund in 2017. But it was not enough. The fund still declined and remains below the threshold stipulated by the donor.

Final Call for Sidewalk Survey

Please fill out the sidewalk survey now! We will close the survey on March 19 to assess results. The survey simply asks: Which of these sidewalks do you feel need the most attention?

- * Galena, Carbonate & First Avenue?
- * Second Avenue? * Third Avenue?
- * Croy Street? * Walnut & First Avenue?

Find the survey online under our home page announcements: **Pathways for People—Sidewalk Priorities Survey**

Fireworks (Continued)

Please watch for the fundraising efforts which will be conducted this year by the Chamber. Plans are underway to sell raffle tickets for a very unique Motoped Bicycle, sponsored by Christopher & Company and Sun Valley Auto Club.

Proceeds from the 5B Father's Day Bash will also support the fireworks fund. Planned for June 17, 2018, the car and bike show in downtown Hailey also sells BBQ and brews to the sounds of Blues music. Other fundraising efforts will emerge in the next few months.

Sponsorships to the Chamber result in advertising for your business. Call the Chamber with questions.

Sponsorships to the City of Hailey can also be made, and are tax deductible. If you prefer to make a donation to the City of Hailey rather than the Chamber, indicate on your check to the City of Hailey "fireworks donation". You can also donate with a phone call to 788-4221 or through Hailey's website www.haileycityhall.org. The orange donation icon is on the right side of home page, at the bottom of the column.

Community Service is Appreciated

Did you notice in the previous article that the Sun Valley Board of Realtors made a substantial donation of funds for Hailey's 4th of July Fireworks? Did you know that the Sun Valley Board of Realtors:

- is the organization that puts together the Holiday Baskets, a food and gift drive for families in need?
- has 100% of its realtors contribute to the Realtors for Air donation program that helps bring more flights into our local airport?
- has a scholarship program that has paid local high school seniors over \$200,000 in scholarships for the past 30 years?
 - provides assistance and grants to Blaine County Veterans to help make housing more affordable to them?



Community

WRHS Student Articles

We are pleased to continue a new feature of Our Town with local students contributing to the City's newsletter. Articles are written by members of the W.A.T.E.R club at WRHS. This month's article is written by Clara Harding.

Student Article

Small Towns Fight Global Battles

Climate change is the biggest environmental issue facing the Earth and its citizens today. As the entire world recklessly consumes fossil fuels, greenhouse gases build up in the atmosphere, trapping sun rays and unnaturally heating our planet. But, when it comes to a local level, it can seem impossible to confront such a universal problem, especially one that seems so irreversible. However, the fact is that, as a community, we can indeed fight climate change.

A large contributor to climate change is transportation emissions. This is further exacerbated by commuter communities like ours, which emit huge amounts of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere every day as people travel across the valley in their cars. Even making small lifestyle changes can help to solve this problem. Think of your neighbors that carpool, or those that ride their bikes in the summer instead of taking their cars. Think of our excellent local bus system, Mountain Rides, which creates easy and efficient transportation and highly minimizes our emissions. It's easy to simply hop into the car with your neighbor every morning, or buy a bus pass to take advantage of local transportation opportunities. In the spring and summer, you can ride your bike on our local bike paths or simply walk to your destination. Doing so would cut our own contributions to climate change, and it only takes a little thought and coordination!

This isn't the only way to combat climate change locally. We can also take advantage of local options that promote renewable energy, like Sun Valley Solar, or support charitable organizations like the ERC. Overall, we cannot give up because we are a small community fighting a global issue. It is towns like ours that can truly make changes in the universal fight against climate change.

Tree Tip

Prune Winter Damage

Pruning trees with evidence of winter damage from weather, animals, and de-icing materials is the best protection for the tree. You can always call your neighborhood arborist with questions. The City's arborist, Stephanie Cook, can be reached at 788-9830 x 31.

Hailey Public Library March Events

Check out what's new in March. Complete details are at: www.HaileyPublicLibrary.org & www.facebook.com/HaileyPublicLibrary

Homebound Mail Delivery:

A free service in which library materials are mailed to disabled or ill seniors unable to visit the library. Please call the library for an application. Scholarships are available for nonresident seniors.

In-between: Monday - Thursday 3:30 - 5:00 PM: an after school camp 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.

Monday, March 5, 5:30 PM: *Idaho Reads 2018*. To celebrate the creation of the Idaho Territory by President Abraham Lincoln in 1863 we'll be discussing *God's Dogs* by Idaho author Mitch Wieland.

Thursday, March 8, 5:30 PM: *Pacific Crest Trail Presentation with Anne O'Regan*. Join us as Anne shares tales from the trail, and offers a unique visual presentation from over 3,000 photographs.

Tuesday, March 13, 5:30 PM: *Library Reads Book Club*. Each month, HPL hosts a book club with curated picks from library staff and special guests. This month's read is *A Piece of the World* by Christina Baker Cline.

Tuesday, March 27, 5:30 PM: *Planning Your Garden*. Learn with the Grange and the Hunger Coalition what and how to grow this spring season.

Wednesday, March 14, 5:30 PM: *Friends of the Hailey Public Library meeting*.

Wednesday, March 21, 6:00 PM: *Board meeting*.

Fill the Bus

Don't let this new Mountain Rides Valley Route bus travel empty. Before you buy a bus pass, inquire if your employer offers bus passes as a benefit to employees.

