



OUR TOWN

Where the High Desert Meets the Mountains

February 2018
Issue No. 171

Visit us online at
www.haileycityhall.org

Message from the Mayor

Hailey Hires Public Works Director

Mayor Haemmerle is pleased to announce that he has concluded the selection process for a new public works director. Brian Yeager of Galena Engineering, was directly recruited for the position. His title as a Hailey city employee will be City of Hailey Public Works Director/City Engineer/City Land Surveyor. His employment with the City of Hailey is planned to start on Monday, February 5, 2018.



Mayor Haemmerle has frequently stated that he believes promoting from within or hiring locally is a high consideration in the selection of a new employee. Mayor Haemmerle said, "We have seen Brian perform brilliantly as an engineer for us and for private sector development. His experience in managing a small local business through robust development as well as economic downturn will lend itself well to his management of the Hailey Public Works Department."

Yeager has served Hailey and the Wood River Valley for decades through his business, Galena Engineering. He brings well-established relationships and knowledge of Hailey's infrastructure, both public and private, to the job. He has served as Hailey's City Engineer on a contractual basis through Galena Engineering since 2014.

Boards and Commissions

Citizens Serve Community through Board and Commission Appointments

The Mayor and Hailey City Council have been pleased to make some new appointments to Hailey's boards and commissions. Each month, these appointed citizens meet in an open, public meeting to discuss matters within their area of expertise and make recommendations to city officials. The meeting schedules are shown each month in Our Town within the Calendar section as shown below.

We are still looking for interested Hailey residents to serve on the Blaine County Housing Authority, the Hailey Arts & Historic Preservation Commission, and the Hailey Tree Committee. We are proud and grateful to announce recent appointments to the following Boards:

Hailey Parks & Lands Board

Henno Heuter and Nancy Linscott were appointed, and Dean Hernandez was reappointed to the Board

Hailey Tree Committee

Dayle Ohlau, Kelly Siemon and Nelson Mills were appointed, and Linda Ries was reappointed, to the Hailey Tree Committee.

Hailey Urban Renewal Agency

City Council member Martha Burke was appointed to the Hailey Urban Renewal Agency Board.

Mountain Rides Transportation Authority

Jim Finch, was appointed as Hailey's representative to the MRTA Board.

Help Plan & Name Hailey's Newest Park

**Tuesday, Feb. 6
6:00pm Hailey City Hall**

Hailey Parks and Lands Board Meeting

The community is invited to the Parks and Lands Board meeting to provide comments on the landscape design for the development of the park at 3920 Woodside Boulevard (next to Building Material Thrift Store)

Comment directly to:

Stephanie Cook

stephanie.cook@haileycityhall.org

Calendar

City Council.....	2/12/18 & 02/26/18
Planning & Zoning	2/20/2018
Arts & Historic Preservation	2/08/2018
Parks & Lands Board.....	2/06/2018
Public Library Board	2/21 /2018
Tree Committee	2/08/2018
Urban Renewal Agency	none
<i>Presidents Day Holiday*</i>	2/19/2018

**City Offices Closed*

Public Works

Hailey Greenway Master Plan

The public comment period for the Hailey Greenway Master Plan has been extended. Council will review the plan and submitted comments on **Monday, February 12, 2018**. This plan will be back on the Council agenda towards the end of March as a consideration for adoption. Adopting this Master Plan allows the City to move forward and pursue projects. After adoption, comments will continue to be welcomed, as this is a living document and will be considered for updates as studies, natural events or other circumstances occur that affect any elements of this Plan. This Plan is part of a larger effort to protect the natural resources along the Big Wood River corridor.

3920 Woodside Boulevard Park

Public Comment: Help Plan and Name Hailey's Newest Park

The Hailey Parks and Lands Board will meet Tuesday, February 6th at 6:00pm at City Hall to take comments regarding the development of the upcoming park space at the South Woodside Lot.

This new park space is located on Woodside Boulevard across from Meadow Mountain Drive and next to the Wood River Land Trust Building Material Thrift Store. The southern portion of this lot has been dedicated by the City Council for use by ARCH for affordable housing. The northern half of the lot will be developed by the City into park space which accesses the Toe of the Hill Trail.

The public will have the opportunity to provide comment, with the goal of this discussion to determine which conceptual ideas will be desired and feasible within the small space of this South Woodside lot. The comment opportunity will remain open and more public meetings will occur over the summer before a plan becomes finalized.

Comment directly to Stephanie Cook at stephanie.cook@haileycityhall.org

Hailey Public Library February Events

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

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](#).

All February Long: *Food for Fines*. Donate undamaged & unexpired boxed or canned non-perishable food items to have your fines forgiven. 1 box/can = \$1 up to \$10. All food is donated to the Hunger Coalition.

All February Long: *Blind Date with a Book*. Let us set you up with the perfect book this Valentine's day! Review your date for a chance to win a fabulous prize.

Tuesday, February 6, 5:30 PM: *Conversation Corner*. An English language conversation group that meets monthly to practice your skills.

Tuesday, February 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 *The Aviator's Wife* by Melanie Benjamin.

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

Monday, February 19: *Presidents' Day Closure*.

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

Resilient Landscapes for Resilient Communities Workshop Series



Thursday, February 15 Nativars – The New Native Plants

This exciting day-long workshop for landscape professionals and dedicated gardeners will cover how to design with newly available native plants called "nativars" and use appropriate maintenance techniques with Dr. Steve Love (U of I scientist), Steven Paulsen (Native Roots, LLC) and others.

Cost: \$35 SBG members / \$40 nonmembers

Register: Call the Sawtooth Botanical Garden – (208) 726-9358

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Place: Sawtooth Botanical Garden



Community

WRHS Student Articles

We are pleased to continue a new feature of Our Town with local students contributing articles 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 Gracy Doyle.

Student Article

Change Habits, Save Lives

Wanting to make change is common, but the act of changing your daily rituals, your habits, your customs can be much more challenging than it seems. Climate change negatively impacts us every day, from monstrosities such as natural disasters to not being able to ski our favorite run on Baldy because of the lack of snow.

Change is gravely needed, and not just because it affects us here. There is more and more documentation showing how climate change disproportionately affects minority and low income communities who don't have the resources to deal with preparation and mitigation. These communities experience poor air quality, heat waves, extreme climate events (such as hurricanes) and much more. Among the obvious negative impacts of these, the health impacts are also substantial.

Our capitalist society is far from eco-conscious most of the time. The government and large corporations cut corners to make profits and it harms our environment, causing low income Americans to suffer.

In short, climate change is caused by the people who are least affected by it. We have to make change happen, and not just because it will benefit us. We need to want to help our fellow humans all over the earth, especially those who don't have the platform or the resources to help or speak up for themselves.

Just as you would march in a protest or send a letter to your representatives, you can make a change for the better by turning off your lights or water, carpooling, just doing your part to diminish the dreadful effects of climate change.

Changing our rituals takes practice but it's so worth it, not only because it will make life better for you and your future generations, but because it will especially help those who are already suffering from these environmental impacts every day.



Partnerships

River Expert Hosted for Local Talk

Gravel-bed rivers like the Big Wood River can be found all over the Rocky Mountains and are the ecological centers of mountain landscapes. While we generally understand that these freestone rivers play important roles, we don't always understand the impacts and interconnectedness of these rivers or the effects humans have upon them.

The Wood River Land Trust and its partners are honored to bring Dr. Ric Hauer, the director of the University of Montana's Center for Integrated Research on the Environment, to the valley to present his ground-breaking findings during his free talk:

“Gravel-bed Rivers in the Northern Rockies: Why mountain rivers are so important and why you should care.”

The talk will take place at

**The Community Library in Ketchum on
Wednesday, February 7th from 6 to 7:30pm.**

Dr. Hauer will discuss natural stream functions, terrestrial/aquatic productivity and how some river restoration practices have compromised our systems today. Dr. Hauer will give examples of restoration practices that do, and don't, work and will provide the rationale for these findings. The articulate and entertaining doctor will also answer questions after his presentation.

“To be effective, conservation efforts in mountain landscapes need a paradigm shift that has gravel-bed rivers and their floodplains as the central focus,” Dr. Hauer's study states. “One that prioritizes the maintenance or restoration of the intact structure and processes of these critically important systems throughout their length and breadth.”

Dr. Hauer has conducted research around the eastern Pacific-rim, from Alaska to Patagonia, with his primary research being the transboundary Crown-of-the-Continent Ecosystem and the Flathead River system of Montana and British Columbia. In addition to his academic research, Dr. Hauer has served in development, implementation and assessment of environmental policy for the Clean Water Act, working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The presentation is being sponsored by the Wood River Land Trust, The Community Library, the cities of Hailey and Ketchum, The Nature Conservancy, Trout Unlimited and Flood Control District #9. For any questions, please contact Mike McKenna at mmc-kenna@woodriverlandtrust.org or call 208.788.3947.

Why Gravel-bed rivers like the Big Wood are important & why you should care!



Dr. Ric Hauer is the director of the University of Montana's Center for Integrated Research on the Environment. He'll be presenting his groundbreaking findings about rivers during his free talk:

**“Gravel-bed Rivers in the Northern Rockies:
Why mountain rivers are important and why
you should care”**

**at The Community Library in Ketchum on
Wednesday, February 7th from 6 to 7:30pm.**

Sponsored by:

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For more information, please check out WoodRiverLandTrust.org or call 208.788.3947.