



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City of Hailey and the Chamber Seek Fireworks Donations

(Hailey, Idaho) – The City of Hailey depends on the Chamber to raise enough funds for Hailey’s annual Independence Day Fireworks Display.

Hailey has held its 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 of Commerce 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, and the fireworks display was cut from \$20,000 to \$15,000 display. The fund’s reserves were used for several years to continue the display, 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.

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.

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