

EVENTS CALENDAR, CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

WED OCT 23

LUNCHTIME LANGUAGE

12-1PM / Community Library / Ketchum

This free high-novice to mid-intermediate class will practice Spanish through conversation, reading and watching authentic materials in Spanish. New vocabulary will be presented, and grammar will be strengthened. For more information, contact instructor Sara Pettit at spettit@csi.edu.

WED OCT 23

SCHOLARSHIP FAIR

4-7PM / Community Library / Ketchum

The Blaine County Education Foundation, with support of the Wood River Women’s Foundation and Cox Communications, will host a scholarship fair for middle and high school students and parents. School clubs will be selling snacks. The BCEF will provide a booklet summarizing college preparation tips, financial aid and local scholarship opportunities. For more information contact BCEF executive director Kristy Heitzman at (208) 578-5449.

WED OCT 23

IDAHO GEOLOGY

5:30PM / Hailey Library / Hailey

The Hailey Public Library will host a free talk by Don J. Easterbrook, emeritus professor of geology at Western Washington University. Easterbrook will discuss Idaho Geology: From Pre-Cambrian to Cenozoic. For more information, visit haileypubliclibrary.org.

WED OCT 23

SCRIPT READING

6PM / Community Library / Ketchum

There will be a script reading of the upcoming feature film, “Breathe In / Breathe Out,” written by Naomi McDougall Jones, a current Hemingway Writer-in-Residence with The Community Library. Jones is an award-winning actress, writer, producer, and women-in-film activist. Actors will include Andrew Alburger, Melodie Taylor-Mauldin, Juliette Rollins, Denise Simone, Joel Vilinsky and Patsy Wygle, The reading will be followed by a Q&A session.

WED OCT 23

BOOK DISCUSSION SERIES

5:15-6:45PM / Hailey Library / Hailey

The Hailey Public Library book discussion “Pushing the Limits” will cover ‘The Marrow Hunters’ by Cherie Dimaline. The library is among 100 rural public libraries nationwide to receive a grant from the National Science Foundation to host the adult discussion series in their community. The next two will be Jan. 15, “Shackleton’s Incredible Voyage” by Alfred Lansing, and Feb.19, “The Deer Camp” by Dean Kuipers. For more information and to register, call Kristin Fletcher at (208) 788-2036 or visit haileypubliclibrary.org.

THU OCT 24

SVCA EVENING TOUR

6PM / SV Center / Ketchum

The Sun Valley Center for the Arts will host the final free evening tour of the visual arts exhibition associated with its current BIG IDEA project, Marketplaces: From Open Air to Online. Included is a look at artist Conrad Bakker’s collection of Idaho rocks. Refreshments will be served. For more information, visit sunvalleycenter.org.

THU OCT 24

‘ARTIFISHAL’

6PM / Wood River YMCA / Ketchum

Patagonia Film will present the free screening of “Artifishal,” a 2019 Tribeca Film Festival winner. The film concerns people, rivers, and the fight for the future of wild fish and the environment that supports them. It explores wild salmon’s slide toward extinction, threats posed by fish hatcheries and fish farms, and continued loss of faith in nature. For more information, visit woodriverymca.org.



THU OCT 24-SAT OCT 26

FALL BOOK & BAKE SALE

9AM / Community Campus / Hailey

The Friends of the Hailey Public Library will hold its annual Fall Book & Bake Sale, Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m.-7 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., in the Queen of the Hills Conference Room. There will be paperback and hardback books, DVDs, books on tape, as well as scrumptious treats. On Saturday there will be the Fantastic Bag Sale for only \$7.



SPONSORED COFFEE CHATS WITH KIKI

‘WHETHER OR NOT’ IS THE WRONG QUESTION

Brothers and authors Dan and Chip Heath, back in 2013, shared some concepts in their book “Decisive” that have really stuck with me. Whenever a question is framed as “whether or not” to do something, we are actually asking the wrong question.



At the Alturas Institute Conference, with Dr. Caroline Heldman and Dr. David Adler.

The Heaths argue that this is a trap of “narrow framing, which means we get stuck in one way of thinking about our dilemma... that we fail to consider other options.”¹ We should be thinking about what we really want to solve. An example: a question should not be “whether or not to build a bridge,” but, possibly, “how do we best get education delivered to this isolated population?” and the solution could be fast Wi-Fi rather than an expensive new bridge. The Heaths further suggest that we “imagine that the option you’re currently leaning toward simply vanished as a feasible alternative. What else could you do?”²

I have been attending most all of the Blaine County Commissioner meetings each Tuesday and I have seen a pattern emerge over several different situations, whether it is: no-parking signs on private roads in the Flying Heart subdivision, a driveway in Lee’s Gulch being considered as a county road, or the use of a parcel on Buttercup Road deeded as Open Space Recreational Use changed to a nonconforming housing designation without a plat amendment process.

Two of these situations have resulted in the county embroiled in litigation. I believe that litigation could have been avoided with mediated discussion and by identifying what we really want to solve. The question at Flying Heart should not be a legal case as to “whether or not the homeowners have the right to erect no-parking signs,” but “how do we help the public use the access to the river responsibly and lessen the impacts of garbage, feces, vulgar finger flinging to homeowners, and private property trespass on homeowners’ property?”

In Lee’s Gulch, the question should not be a legal process to determine “whether or not a driveway was a historical public mining access road, but “how we locally ensure appropriate public access to BLM lands that works with the public and with the landowners living there who have worked to ensure non-motorized public access for decades rather than have the decisions made in Washington, D.C.?”


On Buttercup, the question should not have devolved to a legal battle on ‘whether or not the county could issue a duplex building permit on Open Space Recreational Use Public Use land without process, nor amending the plat,’ but ‘how do we work within our county subdivision ordinance process and the original plat developers’ intentions, possibly to increase housing?’

In all of these cases, so much angst for Wood River Valley residents could have been avoided if the County Commissioners had met with the neighbors first and heard their concerns. Neighbors *live* the reality of a situation on a daily basis. They know intimately what solutions are possible to accommodate a range of needs and they will live with the solution for years to come.

In all of these cases, public access and public use are involved, but in none of these situations has anyone suggested that public access be curtailed, with the exception of the county changing a public park on Buttercup to private home ownership.

I believe that local, mediated conversations on appropriate management of public access is the conversation we should be having. I will continue to speak truth to power to find win-wins in our county and Idaho.

¹ <http://heathbrothers.com/member-content/six-simple-questions-yield-better-decisions/>
² Ibid heathbrothers



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