



## News Release

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### **City of Ketchum Partners with The Community Library** *Library Takes on Historical Museums at Forest Service Park*

**KETCHUM, Idaho (January 9, 2014)** – The Ketchum City Council unanimously approved a lease transfer for stewardship of the Ketchum Sun Valley Historical Society’s historical museums currently housed at the Forest Service Park in Ketchum. Under budget woes, the Historical Society has agreed to disband and transfer all its assets to The Community Library. The Ketchum Parks and Recreation Department is working with its new tenants in order to provide for a smooth transition.

The Community Library and the Parks and Recreation Department partnered recently under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Funding awarded to the City of Ketchum (commonly known as “stimulus”) was split between energy efficiency projects at the library and the Parks and Recreation Department’s administration offices and recreation facility at Atkinson Park.

“We look forward to working with the Parks and Recreation Department in this new way,” said Cynthia Dillon, executive director of the Community Library. “Assuming the museum’s lease and operations is an exciting new library venture, which aligns well with our Regional History Department — a leading resource for research involving historical archives. We look forward to expanding our library services for the community’s benefit.”

The Community Library will take on the former historical society’s functions of museum stewardship at the Forest Service Park in Ketchum which is located at First Street and Washington Avenue. The museums currently house a Hemingway exhibit, Ski and Heritage Museum, and archival space. The current lease with the City of Ketchum, which was transferred directly to The Community Library with no changes, expires in September. “We’ll use this transition time to cultivate our relationship with library staff in order to raise the profile of the historical museums within the park while we continue to provide events at the Forest Service Park which include Ketch’em Alive, the Shakespeare Festival, and numerous private functions,” said director of parks and recreation, Jen Smith.

The residential housing units on the south side of the park are not included in the lease transfer and the restroom on the west side of the park will remain open to the public.

#### **About The Community Library**

The Community Library, founded in 1955, is a 501 c 3 nonprofit organization, privately funded by individual donations, grants, and the Gold Mine stores. Its programs and services are free to the public, without support from taxes. The library’s mission is

“bringing information, ideas, and individuals together to enhance the cultural life of the community.”

### **About the City of Ketchum**

The City of Ketchum is located in the Wood River Valley in south central Idaho. Founded in 1880 during the mining boom, Ketchum is now regarded as one of the most popular destinations for winter and summer visitors due to its world-class skiing, mountain biking, fishing, hiking, restaurants, art galleries and shopping. The City of Ketchum hosts the famous annual Wagon Days Parade, held on Labor Day weekend, and numerous other year-round attractions. Ketchum is home to more than 10,000 full- and part-time residents. For more information about the City of Ketchum, visit [www.ketchumidaho.org](http://www.ketchumidaho.org).

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