“Eventually, all things merge into one, and a river runs through it. The river was cut by the world’s great flood and runs over rocks from the basement of time. On some of the rocks are timeless raindrops. Under the rocks are the words, and some of the words are theirs. I am haunted by waters.” ~ Norman Maclean, A River Runs Through It

Dear Friends,

As a little girl, I stood at my grandfather’s knees and leaned over the bridge at the headwaters of the Henry’s Fork. My grandfather clasped my shoulder while I held the wood rail tightly with one hand and, with the other, dropped tufts of Wonder bread into the river. He pointed and I squealed when a big rainbow trout flashed out of the bridge’s shadow to snag a piece of bread.

As a grown-up these days, I am compelled every time I ski across Murphy’s Bridge on the Harriman Trail to slide to a stop and look down at the Big Wood River weaving a black line between snow-laden rocks and banks. I listen to the water whisper as it slips under sheets of ice. I watch shadows dance where the ice is thin.

“Stories of life are often more like rivers than books,” writes Norman Maclean in A River Runs through It. His book is a fishing story, and it is a story about longing to care for the people and the places that we love. Rivers are never bound by a single story – they eddy and flood and even disappear at times of drought. And stories of life are never static. The best stories invite us to look over a bridge and spot some magic at work in the riffles.

Jenny Emery Davidson, Executive Director

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**INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

- Author Events
- Program Highlights
- New Library Website
- Regional History Museum Exhibit
- Gold Mine Spring Opening
- River Reading for Kids and Teens

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**A River Runs Through It**

Set on Montana’s Blackfoot River 100 years ago, this short novel invites us to think about the changing landscapes of family, rivers, and the West.
The annual community-wide Winter Read this year focuses on the novella A River Runs Through It by Norman Maclean. Discussion groups, programs, and exhibits invite us all to think about how rivers shape our community, and how our community impacts our local rivers. Check out the book from The Community Library or from the libraries in Bellevue, Hailey, or Stanley! Find full details and more programs online: www.comlib.org/winter-read.

**WINTER READ EVENTS**

**January 31**
Virtual kickoff event!

**February 2**
Home Waters: A Chronicle of Family and a River, with John Maclean, and writer and son of Norman Maclean.

**February 8**
Every Day the River Changes: Four Weeks Down the Magdalena, with writer Jordan Salama.

**February 17**
Nation-Building through an Indigenous-Owned Nonprofit, with River Neve founders Jessica and Sammy Matsaw.

**February 24**
Restoring Tributary Health to Stage Zero Restoration, with Brian Cluer, fluvial geomorphologist. Presented with the Wood River Land Trust.

**March 2**
From the Source to the Sea, with Bob Beckwith, Idaho river rafter. Presented by the Stanley Community Library.

**March 3**
How Does Water Matter in the West? with Heather Hansman, author of Downriver and Powder Days.

**WINTER READ EXHIBITS**

In The Community Library Foyer:
Women Fly Fishers in the West

At The Libraries in Hailey, Bellevue, and Stanley: Children’s River Art

**WINTER READ BOOK GROUP**

We will meet via Zoom each Wednesday at 4 p.m., January 26-February 23, to discuss three books about the human relationship to place and waterways:
- *Walden* by Henry David Thoreau
- *A Pilgrim at Tinker Creek* by Annie Dillard
- *A River Runs Through It* by Norman Maclean.

Email Jenny to sign up: jadavidson@comlib.org

**NEW WEBSITE!**

In concept, architecture, content, and function, the new web portal at comlib.org was built from the ground up for accessibility, coherence, and inspiration.

**EXPLORE ONLINE:**
- Slideshows
- “Rivers” of book recommendations
- Easy access to research databases
- Robust search functions

**GOLD MINE SPRING OPENING**

April 21, 2022
When the snow melts and the sun comes out, it’s time to find your new vibe at the annual Gold Mine Spring Opening!

**RIVER READING FOR KIDS AND TEENS**

This poignant picture book addresses something rarely talked about in children’s literature: stuttering. The river becomes a peaceful teacher and place of wonder and peace.

*Picture Book • J EASY SCO*

"Once there was a river..." Adventure ensues when bear comes along, and it builds and builds as more characters join the fray. This is a story about friendship, a sense of community, adventure, fun, and it all begins in a river.

*Picture Book • J EASY MOR*

Book 2 of 5 in the ‘Hatchet’ series. Gary Paulsen is an incredible writer with a relationship with the natural world that draws a reader in and never really lets you go.

*Juvenile Fiction • J FIC PAU*

When the cash-strapped city of Flint, Michigan, switched its water supply from Lake Huron to the Flint River, strange things began to happen. Written for a teen audience, this is also a great read for adults.

*Young Adult • YA 615.9 CDD*