



History in the making

Baha'i Faith to dedicate bench in McGraw Memorial Park

By Marilee Buckley Special to The Flume

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A celebration is to be held in Park County at McGraw Memorial Park in Bailey. The local Baha'i community is donating a bench to be placed in the park to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the birth of Baha'u'llah, the founder of the Baha'i Faith. The presentation of the bench will be held April 21 at 1 p.m., followed by refreshments and socializing.

Worldwide commemorations began the weekend of Oct. 21, 2017, as Baha'i communities, along with their families and friends around the world, observed this historical event with a variety of planned events that unfolded as the sun moved across the face of the planet.

Dignitaries and heads of state in various nations were invited to attend gatherings of joy and celebration and responded with numerous public addresses that mirrored the central teachings of the Baha'i Faith.

Among them was a letter from former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, quoted below, in which he expressed these words of appreciation indicating some of the fundamental teachings of the Baha'i Faith.

"We are heartened by your global community's rededication to peace, racial justice, the equality of women and men, and essential unity of all religions. As many of our people struggle with persistent systemic injustice against African Americans and indigenous Nations, chronic Violence against women, religious conflict and endless war, the centrality of peace, human equality and religious unity found in the Baha'i writings and activities can serve as an inspiration to those of all faiths and creeds," Carter said.

To read his full address and other letters from dignitaries from numerous nations and to view the commemorations across the globe, go to bicentenary.bahai.org.

Here in Park County, the Baha'i Faith was first introduced in 1978 when a few Baha'i's moved into the area. The Park County Baha'i community is extending this invitation to the placement and the dedication of the park bench at McGraw Park in commemoration of this historic time. Everyone is warmly invited please come and join us.