



CONFLUENCE NEWS

SEPTEMBER

2017

The summer days have flown by like a feather in the wind. Labor day, the “unofficial end of summer “, is upon us and the kids are going back to their institutions of higher learning. Hopefully everyone has had a chance to swim, ride bikes, go camping, eat popsicles, and have a barbecue. Soon it will be autumn, with its cool crisp days and excellent sleeping weather. Remember to buy cookies from the school bake sale and cheer on the Longhorns. GO BASALT!

HERE IS TO A SAFE SCHOOL YEAR!

As your children march out the door on that first day of school – and every day – there is really only one priority: Nothing is more important than making sure they get home safely. To that end, we as parents must work to educate our children about a new danger facing our children, distracted walking – specifically walking while texting. According to a study by The Nielsen Company, kids age 13 to 17 send more than 3,400 texts a month. That's seven messages every hour they are awake.



Elementary School Students Texting

Before your children head out, remind them of these year-round safety tips:

- Never walk while texting or talking on the phone. If texting, move out of the way of others and stop on the sidewalk.
- Never cross the street while using an electronic device.
- Do not walk with headphones on.
- Be aware of the surroundings.

- Always walk on the sidewalk if one is available; if a child must walk on the street, he or she should face oncoming traffic.
- Look left, right, then left again before crossing the street.
- Don't pop out between parked cars, cross only at crosswalks.

Safety Doesn't Happen by Accident

WHILE WALKING DO YOU...

- Text your friends?
- Talk on your cellphone?
- Use headphones?
- Cross streets while using your phone?

If you said **YES** to even 1 box, you are at risk for getting hurt. On average, 4 people per day are treated in hospital emergency rooms for injuries related to cellphone use while walking.

WHILE WALKING YOU SHOULD...

- Look left, right and left again before crossing the street.
- Use a crosswalk. Push the button to activate the walk signal.
- Assume drivers do not see you.
- Wear bright or reflective clothing. **BE SEEN.**
- Be **VISIBLE**. Walk in **WELL-LIT** areas.
- Do not be a distracted walker. Watch where you are going.

DISTRACTED WALKING FACTS:

1. Distracted walking is an emerging issue throughout the United States.
2. Distracted walking is anything that takes your attention away from where you are **LOOKING**. Cellphones and tablets can cause distractions.
3. Distracted walking is anything that takes your attention away from what you can **HEAR**. Listening to music or talking on a cellphone can cause distractions.
4. Look up, not down to avoid obstacles and other walkers.
5. Stay alert in parking lots and on or near streets.
6. If you need to talk to someone by phone or text, move out of the way of other walkers.
7. When at an intersection, give your full attention to crossing.

BUILDING CODE CHANGES PENDING

The Basalt Town council passed an ordinance amending The Building Code for the Town of Basalt on first reading. The public hearing and second reading of the ordinance will take place at the next Town Council meeting on Tuesday, September 12. For more information go to:

<http://basalt.net/AgendaCenter>

WATCH FOR A CELEBRATION OF THE UNDERPASS AND THE RIVER PARK COMING SOON!

TACAW

THE ARTS CAMPUS AT WILLITS

TACAW IS OPEN AT “THE TEMPORARY”

The Temporary will begin to realize the long term vision for Willits as a vibrant community connected by art and commerce. The space, located at 360 Market St. adjacent to the Element Hotel, hosts music, comedy, lecture, independent cinema, performing arts, and special events. Its location in the heart of Willits is ideal for creating a hub for vibrant evening and weekend activity. For more information go to: <http://www.tacaw.org/>

SCHOOL STARTS ON SEPTEMBER 5TH.

It's never more important for drivers to slow down and pay attention than when kids are present – especially before and after school. According to research by the National Safety Council, most of the children who lose their lives in bus-related incidents are 4 to 7 years old, and they're walking. They are hit by the bus, or by a motorist **illegally** passing a stopped bus. It is illegal in all 50 states to pass a school bus that is stopped to load or unload children. A few precautions go a long way toward keeping children safe:

- Don't block crosswalks.
- Yield to pedestrians in crosswalks, and take extra care in school zones.
- Never pass a vehicle stopped for pedestrians.
- Never pass a bus loading or unloading children.
- The area 10 feet around a school bus is the most dangerous for children; stop far enough back to allow them to safely enter and exit the bus.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MRS. GRANT!

If you happen to cross paths with Mrs. Eugenia Grant, be sure to wish her a belated Happy Birthday. Eugenia celebrated her 90th on August 28th and the Town Council of Basalt declared it “Eugenia Grant Day.”



Student lights on a school bus flash **YELLOW** when the bus is stopping and **RED** when the bus is loading or unloading.

BHS CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

School starts on Tuesday at Basalt High School as planned. However, as previously communicated, construction will be ongoing into the fall. On Tuesday, staff, students, and parents can expect to see many obvious signs of construction. The impacted areas include the front entry, the music addition, the kitchen, cafe, and commons. These spaces will not be ready for use on Tuesday, but school will be held as usual throughout the rest of the school, and staff will be using creative strategies to work around the construction. Construction crews are working around the clock to get those spaces ready for use. Thank you for your patience and support as we wrap up this project. There has been an enormous amount of progress since we broke ground in May. We look forward to celebrating the completed project later this month!

THE BASALT POOL IS OPEN FOR LABOR DAY WEEKEND

The pool will be open 9/2-9/4 as follows:

11:00-12:00	Lap Swimming
12:00-6:00	Open Swim



FEARLESS PUP GETTING AIR AT THE POOL

DON'T FORGET DOGGIE SPLASH AT THE BASALT POOL!

We like to close out our season with a fun filled day for our furry friends. Join us on September 9, from 10 AM - 12 PM, and bring your four-legged faithful companion to make a big splash at the pool! Free entrance, but donations are being taken for C.A.R.E. Munchies and tennis balls are provided for you and Fido.