



**DATE:** June 5, 2020  
**TO:** Mayor and Council  
**FROM:** Ryan Mahoney, Town Manager  
**RE:** Weekly Update  
**CC:** Department Heads

Staff has been busy putting final touches on the Basalt Bucks program this week. The vouchers should be going to print imminently, and businesses will receive a toolkit with instructions and a simple procedure to opt-in to the program. Additionally, we will include a letter with the vouchers that go to the Basalt households explaining the program and providing information about this summer's Wednesday Night Live events. The Town has created a new webpage and email that will be an easy reference and will include a list of participating businesses and FAQ's.

The Town of Basalt is working with the Basalt Chamber of Commerce and TACAW to host Wednesday Night Live, which will include intimate live street performances in downtown and Willits. Each Wednesday this summer, our Town will come alive with food, shopping and entertainment, all with appropriate social distancing and compliance with public health orders, of course. Wednesday Night Live will be 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. and will run each week from June 24 through August 19.

On a call with Eagle County earlier this week, we learned that there has been an uptick in positive COVID-19 cases. This was expected with the loosening of the stay at home orders. The County is monitoring closely and will react appropriately if cases continue to rise. The variance that Eagle County received from the state's Safer at Home public health order allowed for our transition to the Intermediate Phase of the [Transition Trail Map](#) on May 25. However, the variance included infection indicators that would require the County to mitigate if the increase in positive cases met certain threshold numbers. This includes a doubling of cases over two successive 5-day periods. The County is providing data to the public in their [COVID-19 Dashboard](#) which includes a graph that shows the trendline of cases reported each five days. The interval of five days is tied to the incubation period of COVID-19.

County leadership is continuing to urge residents and visitors to take a personal pledge to follow the "Five Commitments of Containment."



I will maintain 6 feet of distance from anyone not in my household



I will wash my hands often



I will cover my face in public



I will stay home when I am sick



I will seek testing immediately and self-report if I experience symptoms

Public Works has been busy this week with the annual pavement maintenance program. The chip sealing was completed in Elk Run, Cottonwood Avenue and Cody Lane. New pavement was placed in the Basalt Avenue roundabout and on Frying Pan Road. Willits Lane and Two Rivers Road will come next and should happen next week.



## Police

The Police Department continues to assist the weekly food distribution in Basalt. 280 families were served this week, the same number of families as last week, where 14,200 pounds of food was distributed. Food distribution is planned to continue through the month of June.

The Basalt Victim and Witness Assistance and Law Enforcement (VALE) Board met this week to review four separate fund applications. The VALE Board approved funding all four victims in the amount of \$5111.51. Minutes from the VALE Board meeting will be forwarded to Town Council.

On Saturday we assisted at the high school graduation. The drive-in graduation ceremony was followed by a vehicle parade through Town. Many residents lined the streets to cheer for and celebrate the graduates. On Monday officers assisted with the eight-grade graduation run from the middle school to the high school.

This week we have assisted organizers for the George Floyd memorial that will take place Sunday, 4:30 p.m. at Lyons. We will have officers at the event to further assist if needed.

## **Public Works**

Earlier this week we inspected the Town's Well #13 to look for electrical problems. This included pulling the well stem and checking the motor and the pump. This Well is located between Basalt Elementary and the Basalt Middle School. The inspection indicated everything was fine and we are good to go. It was a good exercise to double check our backup parts and equipment.

Public Works is getting the irrigation turned on to the parks. One step, which is required by the state, is to test the backflow devices. The backflow acts like a firewall and blocks the irrigation water from getting back into the drinking water system. On an annual basis, backflows must be tested to make sure they function correctly, and the results must be sent to the state.

## **Planning**

**Willits Town Center** – Considerable time this week was spent working on construction related items, such as street cut permits, letters of credit, and landscaping requirements. Additionally, Staff worked on signage and items related to the building permit for TACAW.

**Other Development Review/Applications** – The automated car-wash application in Southside was approved by the P&Z on Tuesday with by a vote of 5 to 2. The public hearing and first reading is scheduled before the Council on June 23, 2020. Staff also conducted pre-application discussions on potential developments. The Stott's Mill approval documents were signed and we are waiting on the receipt of the letter of credit to secure the public improvements and Staff and the Applicants are still coordinating with the Home Supply Ditch Company regarding improvements around the Home Supply Ditch.

**Basalt Sunday Market** – Staff is continuing to work with Eagle County on a plan for the 2020 Basalt Sunday Market including messaging, creating vendor zones, and other logistics. Staff is currently working on sign messaging that conveys the public health order.

**Green Team - CC4CA** - Members will be reviewing the draft Policy Statement for the 2020/2021 period prior to the June 17th annual (virtual) retreat. The Policy Statement has remained similar to previous years, with the addition of supporting telecommuting as a carbon reduction measure. The Legislative Committee reported that many legislative bills CC4CA would support are being postponed, but the group will continue to monitor those that are ongoing with the hopes that they make it to vote, including a Senate Bill 55 on recycling. CC4CA staff will be checking in with all members to see if 2021 membership dues may be renewed at the same level. Leadership appointments were made, including two of the four positions going to Roaring Fork Valley representatives, including Ashley Perl of Aspen as Vice Chair, and Erica Sparhawk of Carbondale as President.

**BPAC** – The Basalt Public Arts Commission met on Thursday to discuss finishing touches to the Care to Share program, which includes the Covid-19 Artist Relief Fund and the Covid-19 Art Collection programs.

**Floodplain** – The state hired consultants who are preparing new floodplain mapping for Eagle County. We are having discussions regarding the interface between the mapping and the Town's floodplain regulations and with Matrix Design, the Town's river hydrologist, on issues associated the mapping. There will be a full process before the new mapping is put into place.

**Events** – Staff continues to work with TACAW and the Chamber on the summer events and the groundbreaking ceremony for the Arts Campus at Willits which is scheduled for Friday July 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Other** – Staff worked on a George Floyd Memorial event to be held this Sunday at 4:30 at Lion's park and the Library's proposed drive-in movie summer series. Staff worked with the Clerk's office on the license agreements for restaurants expanding their seating areas.

## **Recreation**

On Wednesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> the Arbaney Park Pool opened its doors. These first few days have been well received for most. We have been working through the issues that a few are experiencing with the reservation process. We have seen a wide variety of users from the Valley due to most other pools being closed. We will be looking for additional help with Lifeguarding in the next few days.

Kids Summer Camp programming with Garry Pfaffmann will start on Monday, June 6<sup>th</sup>. We are completely full for this first week of these themed based offerings. Staff has met with Garry and his team for some clarifications of protocol and best practices. We will be watching how this camp works and making the necessary adjustments for future offerings.

We are hopeful that Aspen Lacrosse will begin a skills and drills practice routine soon on the Willits Rugby Field. Staff has been working with Rick Stevens to create a structured safety protocol. The plan is complete and we are working with Eagle County Health to update the safe play guidelines. We expect to be on the field by Monday afternoon.

Youth Recreation Baseball is a conversation that the youth sports managers in the Valley are having right now. There are a lot of moving parts with five town entities and three county health orders to consider. New Castle Recreation has decided to cancel their youth league offerings for safety and financial reasons. All other towns have not chimed in as of yet.