



BASALT NUGGETS – NEWS FROM THE TOWN OF BASALT

BASALT UNDERPASS PROJECT UPDATE

Work on the Basalt pedestrian underpass began on October 10. The work to date has involved relocating utilities, preparing for temporary bus stops, and conducting drainage work.



Construction workers build a temporary bus shelter in front of Basalt Realty, just upvalley from the current bus stop.

On mid-November, traffic lanes will shift to the south side of Highway 82 (SH 82), toward the park and ride lot, to allow for work on the north side of the underpass. Bus stops on both sides of the highway will move upvalley approximately 200 feet. Temporary bus stop shelters will be installed. Pedestrian access across the highway will be maintained. Five lanes of traffic on SH 82 will be maintained throughout construction. Traffic control operations will not interfere with the flow of morning and afternoon peak traffic on SH 82.

The project is currently scheduled to be completed in fall of 2017. For more information, visit www.basalt.net under News or www.rfta.com/basalt-pedestrian-underpass/.

INTERIM TOWN MANAGER ON BOARD

Ron Miller was hired in October as the interim Town Manager. Search for a permanent manager will begin soon.

AVAILABILITY OF CHILDCARE/PRESCHOOL IMPROVES

The Town of Basalt has worked diligently to support expansion of childcare facilities and provide tuition assistance. As a result, infant care will be available in Basalt for the first time in a decade at Growing Years.

The following licensed childcare centers and preschools in the midvalley have space available now: Growing Years: 970-927-8008, Honey Tree: 970-306-8317, Basalt Elementary Preschool: 970-384-6010, Learning Curve: 970-963-9455. Find providers in Pitkin County at <http://www.aspenpitkin.com/Departments/Kids-First/>. Find additional providers at www.coloradoshines.com. For tuition assistance inquiries, contact facilities directly.

“As part of Aspen Community Foundation’s Cradle to Career Initiative, the Basalt Coalition - made up of early childhood educators, business leaders, and town officials - has worked toward increasing access to childcare and preschool,” says. “The Town of Basalt has been a critical partner in this process.”

Cradle to Career Director Andy Davies



Sergeant Aaron Munch worked the drive thru at Starbucks during Coffee with a Cop in September. Representatives from Basalt Police Dept, Eagle County Sheriff’s Office, and Basalt Rural & Fire Protection District participated.



Roaring Fork Apartments will be located just upvalley from Stubbies.

MORE AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMING TO BASALT

RealAmerica LLC plans to break ground on the Roaring Fork Apartments housing complex on December 6, bringing 56 units of much-needed affordable housing to Basalt. The apartments should be completed in the first quarter of 2018. Basalt Town Council approved the project in 2013.

Forty-four of the units at Roaring Fork Apartments are tax credit units, and are expected to rent from \$450 to \$1,350 a month for a one-bedroom and \$550 to \$1,440 per month for a two-bedroom. Application details will be forthcoming.

RealAmerica LLC applied for tax credits through Colorado Housing Finance Authority last year, but did not make the cut. This year, Town of Basalt and Aspen-Pitkin County Housing Authority provided financial support. The Town is contributing \$175,000 and Council wrote a strong letter of support, which helped the project over the goal line.

BASALT RECREATION – DON'T MISS OUT ON THE FUN!

Babysitter Training

The American Red Cross Babysitter Training class teaches participants what to do in emergencies, including training in first aid, rescue breathing and CPR. November 7-11, 3:30-5:30pm Mon-Thurs, 1-4pm Fri. Register at <http://www.basaltexpressrec.org/>

Youth League Basketball Coaches Needed

Basalt Rec needs volunteer coaches for the Instructional League Basketball season, December 12-March 1. To learn more, please call 970-927-8214.

Instructional League Basketball

Boy & Girls, grades 3-4 and 5-6. A great way for kids to learn the game of basketball! Registration deadline is December 2, 2016. Pre-season begins December 12. Regular season runs January 4-March 1, 2017. Cost: \$75 (includes t-shirt). Register at <http://www.basaltexpressrec.org/>

TACAW TAKES ANOTHER STEP FORWARD

In September, Basalt Town Council passed a resolution to support The Arts Campus at Willits (TACAW). The resolution gives TACAW access to operational funding for 2017 from the Willits Real Estate Transfer Assessment Fund, which will allow for financial feasibility studies. According to Councilman and Finance Committee member Bernie Grauer, this is a crucial step toward *“creating a vibrant and financially viable performing arts center at Willits.”* The resolution also outlines a process to complete a long-term lease for the Arts Parcel in Willits. TACAW can now move forward with a capital campaign to raise funds needed to construct the arts center and provide programming. TACAW hopes to have a signed lease with the Town in spring 2017, with a goal of completing construction and opening the facility in 2019.

STORY NEST ADDS WHIMSY IN BASALT

Artist Jayson Fann installed his latest work, The Story Nest, in Basalt in September. Located between the skate park and the library, the sculpture provides a fun reading and play area. The Story Nest is constructed from 20,000 pounds of wood, steel, screws and bolts. The project was funded through the Basalt Parks and Open Space & Trails one percent sales tax. The 2014 “Our Town” Planning Survey indicated a community desire for more public art in Basalt.

The Story Nest, by artist Jayson Fann

