

# MONTHLY LISTING OF COMMUNITY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

## ASPEN PUBLIC RADIO NEWS

Q3, 2015

JULY 2015 - SEPTEMBER 2015

### GOVERNMENT

Program: Morning News

Date: July 13, 2015 Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: Aspen City Council is getting behind a national effort to address climate change. On Monday council gave initial support for what's called a "Carbon Fee and Dividend" proposal.

In June seven Roaring Fork Valley residents, including an Aspen city staffer, traveled to Washington DC to sway elected officials to support the Carbon Fee and Dividend policy proposal. It would apply a fee to carbon-based fuels. Revenues from the fee would be returned to households across the country.

Reporter::Marci Krivonen

Program: Morning News

Date: Aug 3, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: Embattled Snowmass Village Town Councilman Chris Jacobson publicly said on Monday that he will not resign, a move the mayor had asked him to do. Mayor Markey Butler asked him to step down after his June drunk driving arrest and subsequently, a felony charge related to the thousands of dollars in damage he allegedly did to the Pitkin County Jail.

Reporter: Carolyn Sackariason

Program: Morning News

Date: Sep 3, 2015 Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: Ballots are due Tuesday, September 8th, for a Glenwood Springs special election. Voters are deciding whether City officials can consider selling or trading a chunk of property. The land is home to Glenwood's Recycling Center, and could be a key part of revamping the neighboring Glenwood Springs Elementary School.

Reporter: Elise Thatcher

Program: Morning News

Date: Sep 8, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: Colorado has largely been spared from the political wrangling ahead of the 2016 presidential race. But as Republicans nationally are working to narrow the presidential field, the Republican Party in Colorado wants to widen its field of candidates to run against incumbent Democratic Senator Michael Bennet. "The numbers tell us Senator Bennet is vulnerable," said Republican state party Chairman Steve House. "It

would be great to hold onto the U.S. Senate. Republicans have to defend a number of seats more than the Democrats."

Reporter: Bente Birkland

Program: Morning News

Date: Sep 15, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: A new Colorado law gives elected officials across the state a pay hike. On Tuesday (9/15) the Pitkin County Commissioners discussed Senate Bill 288 and how it may impact their paychecks. The legislation was crafted as a way to tackle low pay for state executive officers, such as Colorado's Secretary of State. With an annual salary of just over \$68,000, that position's pay ranks low nationally.

Reporter: Marci Krivonen

Program: Morning News

Date: Sep 16, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: Gov. John Hickenlooper has appointed a new judge for the Ninth Judicial District that serves the Roaring Fork Valley.

Reporter: Carolyn Sackariason

Program: Morning News

Date: Sep 17, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: A group of Roaring Fork Valley officials has continued its review of a large development project for the mid valley. For several months the Roaring Fork Regional Planning Commission has been examining the project, which is being proposed by landowner Ace Lane.

Reporter: [Elise Thatcher](#)

Program: Morning News

Date: Sep 28, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: Tactics to safeguard mountain resort communities against wildfire are improving but educating residents is still a hurdle. Wildfire officials gathered in Snowmass Village Friday (9/25) to go over new approaches to keeping high country homes from burning down. Aspen Public Radio's Marci Krivonen reports. Mountain communities like Snowmass Village have unique problems when it comes to wildfire — many homes are smack-dab in the middle of high risk fire zones. Even though a big fire hasn't burned here for nearly a decade, Snowmass Fire Marshall John Mele says fire is probable.

Reporter: Marci Krivonen

Program: Morning News

Date: Sep 28, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: After hours of debate over details of a major development in Snowmass Village, members of Town Council took a big step toward restarting work on Base Village.

Base Village stalled in the recession. This year Town Council has been reviewing a plan by developer Related Colorado to restart construction. The document is preliminary, but Monday's vote moves the plan into a final design stage. The decision by three members of council came after five hours of discussion.

Reporter: [Marci Krivonen](#)

## **LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT**

Program: Morning News

Date: Sep 10, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: The Aspen Center for Environmental Studies was denied their rail corridor license request when they went before the Roaring Fork Transportation Authority board last month. Yesterday, they came back with a modified proposal that increases safety measures and clarifies the location of the two desired connection points between the Rio Grande Trail and their Rock Bottom Ranch Eco-Education Trail System.

Reporter: [Alycin Bektesh](#)

Program: Morning News

Date: Sep 17, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: Construction is beginning on much-needed affordable housing in the midvalley. A development called Seven North broke ground in Willits last week. The new three story building will house commercial businesses on the ground level and residential units on the second and third floors. All fifty apartments will be deed restricted rentals. Tim Belinski with Willits Town Center says the units will be a mix of studios and one, two and three bedroom apartments.

Reporter: [Marci Krivonen](#)

## **SOCIAL ISSUES**

Program: Morning News

Date: Aug 4, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: When it comes to health, communities in the Midvalley struggle with binge drinking and, just slightly, with obesity. Public health officials are sharing results of a survey with local governments. Jordana Sabella is the Public Health Planner for Pitkin and Western Eagle Counties. Jordana Sabella is Public Health Planner for Pitkin and Western Eagle Counties.

Reporter: Marci Krivonen

Program: Morning News

Date: Aug 17, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: The demand is high for local food in the Roaring Fork Valley, but there's not enough available. Results from a six-month study show a need to increase local food production through supporting new and beginning farmers. Gwen Garcelon heads the Roaring Fork Food Policy Council, which initiated the analysis.

Reporter: Marci Krivonen.

Program: Morning News

Date: Sep 18, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: Imagine a city with hundreds of liquor stores but no bars to drink in. That's the situation for marijuana in Denver. Pot is legal in Colorado, but the capital city has outlawed pot bars like those in Amsterdam, leaving the tourists who flock to Denver to get high with no legal place to do so. But the city is trying to find a solution. On a recent Friday afternoon at LoDo Wellness Center, a recreational pot store downtown, budtender Delaney Mason is talking up a Parmesan-scented marijuana strain called Space Queen.

Reporter:editor

## **ENVIRONMENT**

Program: Morning News

Date: Aug 5, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: A renowned climate scientist spoke in Aspen Tuesday about connecting the global challenge of climate change to local response. Katharine Hayhoe spoke with Aspen Public Radio's Marci Krivonen about how climate change impacts Aspen and, the controversial White House plan announced Monday to cut carbon emissions

Reporter: Marci Krivonen

Program: Morning News

Date: Aug 12, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: The Town of Basalt has stepped up to temporarily fund a popular recycling center. Waste Management runs the site now, but says the estimated operating cost is unsustainable without outside funding. The company met with Pitkin County and Basalt officials this week, on Monday August 10th.

Reporter: Marci Krivonen

Program: Morning News

Date: Aug 26, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: A kayak park near downtown Basalt is one step closer to being created. The Pitkin County Commissioners agreed Wednesday (8/26/15) to purchase a strip of land necessary to develop it. The county will plunk down \$115,000 plus closing costs, to acquire the land. The small parcel is actually underwater in the Roaring Fork, not far from its confluence with the Frying Pan River. Such a park would include a special diversion right that would put water in a stretch of river that sees low flows in drought years.

Reporter: [Marci Krivonen](#)

Program: Morning News

Date: Sep 10, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: The Colorado State Forest Service says certain trees will be less colorful this fall. A wet spring and summer have been ideal conditions for at least two kind of fungus that are affecting aspen and cottonwood trees across much of Colorado.

Reporter: Elise Thatcher

Program: Morning News

Date: Sep 18, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: Snowmass Town Council may vote Monday (9/21) on a resolution that would move forward the next phase of development at Base Village. The recession stopped construction at the base of the ski resort. With council approval, it could restart in the spring and include a new hotel, retail spaces, condos, affordable housing, a health clinic and a town-owned building. That building could become a museum to show off the town's fossil find. Marci Krivonen spoke to Julie Ann Woods, Community Development Director for the town.

Reporter: [Marci Krivonen](#)

### **EMERGENCY / BREAKING NEWS / CRIME**

Program: Morning News

Date: Aug 6, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: Updated (Thursday 8/06/2015 5:40pm): Convicted murderer William "Trey" Styler was found dead in his cell Thursday. Styler was serving a twenty-year sentence for killing Aspen native Nancy Pfister. A press release from a public relations firm, sent

out Thursday afternoon, announced Styler's passing, saying the 67-year-old was found hung to death. The Colorado Department of Corrections later confirmed he had died  
Reporter: Elise Thatcher

Program: Morning News

Date: Aug 25, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: Update: 23-year old Alex Greene was driving a 2011 Ford Escape, Ben Darneille -his bandmate in the Rendezvous Brass quartet - rode in the passenger seat, he was 21. Both men were killed when Greene's Escape crossed the center line on Highway 191 just north of Farson Wyoming, and struck a Volvo tractor pulling two trailers. The tractor driver, 55 year old Brent Hawkes said he tried to avoid the head-on collision. Hawkes was treated and released from nearby Memorial Hospital in Rock Springs Wyoming. All three victims were wearing seatbelts.

Reporter: Patrick Fort

Program: Morning News

Date: Sep 17, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: Names have been released in a fatal single-car collision on I-70 yesterday afternoon. Melanie Jean Leilani Baumert, 41 of Rifle, CO was ejected from her vehicle after her white Volvo crossed the centerline and rolled several times near mile marker 96, between Silt and Rifle. Baumert was not wearing a seatbelt.

Reporter: [Alycin Bektesh](#)

Program: Morning News

Date: Sep 16, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: Carbondale's Fire Department says a fire at a community center has raised concerns. The Carbondale and Rural Fire Protection District responded early Wednesday to a small structure fire at the Third Street Center. The Colorado Bureau of Investigation is now analyzing what may have happened.

Reporter: Elise Thatcher

Program: Morning News

Date: Sep 18, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: Aspen Valley Hospital officials have taken steps to better secure a container that stores hazardous materials after a bear broke into it and dragged body parts out. Aspen Public Radio's Carolyn Sackariason has the details. A bear broke through an unsecured door on a haz-mat trailer parked next to the hospital a few weeks ago. The bruin sniffed out a hazardous materials storage bag containing bones from a cadaver that had been discarded after an orthopaedic training exercise. That's according to AVH spokesperson Ginny Dyche.

Reporter: Carolyn Sackariason

## **EDUCATION**

Program: Morning News

Date: Aug 10, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: Students at Roaring Fork High School will soon be just down the hall from a doctor. A clinic is opening at Carbondale's High School, after three successful locations in the Basalt schools. Haidith Ramirez-Leon is overseeing the expansion. She says Medicaid or private insurance are billed first.

Reporter: Elise Thatcher

Program: Morning News

Date: Sep 2, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: Today's Colorado Mountain College Board of Trustees meeting includes a session reviewing a draft of a Diversity Equity and Inclusion Plan aimed at the changing demographic of the schools students and surrounding communities.

Reporter: [Alycin Bektesh](#)

Program: Morning News

Date: Sep 21, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: The number of students taking courses at Colorado Mountain College is up. The biggest jump in enrollment is in Rifle. The Rifle campus saw double-digit growth compared to last year's enrollment. Campus officials point to more courses, a new downtown location and an increased number of high school students taking courses. Campus-wide, enrollment grew by 3.4 percent. In the Roaring Fork Valley, campuses in Aspen, Carbondale and Glenwood Springs also saw growth. Lin Stickler oversees enrollment for CMC.

Reporter: [Marci Krivonen](#)

## **NONPROFITS**

Program: Morning News

Date: Aug 3, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: Chances are, you've never heard of Public Counsel of the Rockies...until now. This little organization is based out of the Benedict Building in Aspen, and has no staff, but is a heavy hitter when it comes to making big changes on issues of public interest. Tim McFlynn is the founder and board chair of Public Counsel. He shares the organization's history and his inspiration for creating it. Chelsea Brundige is a trustee on the board of Public Counsel, and runs the Counsel's Smart Water Program. She also joins the conversation.

Reporter: [Cornelia Carpenter](#)

Program: Morning News

Date: Aug 31, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: English in Action was created in 1994 when the Basalt Regional Library launched its Adult Literacy Program - committed to fostering a diverse community. In 2008, the initiative became a fully independent non-profit organization known today as English in Action.

Executive Director Lara Beaulieu discusses the organization's history and importance in the Roaring Fork Valley.

Reporter: Cornelia Carpenter

Program: Morning News

Date: Sep 21, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: English in Action Executive Director Lara Beaulieu discusses the challenges facing the organization, as well as her goals for the future. English in Action has a waiting list with almost 100 individuals waiting for tutors - the organization will host a fall volunteer tutor drive in hopes of recruiting almost 80 new tutors.

Reporter: [Cornelia Carpenter](#)

## **ARTS AND CULTURE**

Program: Morning News

Date: Aug 17, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: The man behind Elton John's pipes and odd lyrical flare is still very much active, but now instead of being behind the scenes, he is putting his work on stage. A collection of his work hung in the Aspen Ice Garden this past weekend as one of the first set of works visitors saw when they came to ArtAspen.

Reporter: Patrick Fort

Program: Morning News

Date: Aug 27, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: James Marcus Haney is only 27 yet he has two feature films under his belt, both of which will be shown as part of this weekend's Mountainfilm festival. But his road to success was not a traditional one. The selection of two music films at the festival wasn't either.

Marcus Haney was a senior in college at the University of Southern California. The lineup for Coachella in 2010 was full of big names. She and Him. Atoms for Peace. Jay-Z. Marcus was a broke college student. All of his friends were going, and so was his crush. He had to go.

Reporter: Patrick Fort

Program: Morning News

Date: Sep 15, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: There are a lot of film festivals that stuff their billing with outdoor-centric films. MountainFilm, and the ubiquitous Banff Mountain Film Festival come to mind. But 5Point Film is trying to make a name for itself, nationally and locally. It goes on tour throughout the year to places like New York and Salt Lake City.

Reporter: Patrick Fort

## ENERGY

Program: Morning News

Date: Aug 18, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: The Pitkin County Commissioners are unhappy with what they've seen so far in a BLM plan for existing oil and gas leases on the Thompson Divide. They're crafting a letter to the agency. Pitkin County gets an early look at the BLM's preliminary draft Environmental Impact Statement because it's a cooperating agency. A public version will be released in November. It'll decide what to do with more than two dozen undeveloped oil and gas leases in the Thompson Divide, southwest of Carbondale. Pitkin County wants the leases canceled.

Reporter: Marci Krivonen

Program: Morning News

Date: Aug 31, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: Construction is underway for a second compressed natural gas station in Glenwood Springs. When finished, the CNG filling stop will be the first in Glenwood that's open to the public. Aspen Public Radio's Elise Thatcher examines the economics behind natural gas cars and trucks, and who might use such a station.

Reporter: Elise thatcher

Program: Morning News

Date: Sep 15, 2015 Time:6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: For years the Forest Service has been working to keep mine tailings from an abandoned silver mine from getting into Castle Creek. The long-defunct Hope Mine is

tucked between the creek and Castle Creek Road. Work to return the area back to its natural state is now nearly complete. Aspen Public Radio's Marci Krivonen reports.  
Reporter: [Marci Krivonen](#)

## SCIENCE

Program: Morning News

Date: Aug 24, 2015 Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: The situation is dismal in Colorado for mentally ill people who need to be hospitalized. As reported this week, a new analysis from the Colorado Department of Human Services shows the state has a significant shortage of hospital beds for this group. In Aspen, some end up in the jail and are taken to the nearest hospital - in Grand Junction - when a bed opens. Reporter: Marci Krivonen

Program: Morning News

Date: Sep 30, 2015 Time: 6:04, 7:04, 8:04, 8:33

Description: Basalt Middle School won a Northrop Grumman Scholarship which will finance a trip for 50 students to visit the Space Foundation Discovery Center in Colorado Springs.

Reporter: [Alycin Bektesh](#)