

COLUMBINE VALLEY VOICE

FALL 2025



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FROM THE MAYOR

As I step into the role of Mayor of Columbine Valley, I do so with a deep sense of responsibility—and with a heavy heart.

Many of you know that my appointment to complete the remainder of this term comes under very difficult circumstances. Mayor Bruce Menk, who resigned earlier this year due to health reasons, sadly passed away not long after. His passing is a significant loss for our entire community.

Mayor Menk's contributions to Columbine Valley were both meaningful and enduring. Over the years, he served our Town with great

commitment—as a Trustee for eight years and more recently as Mayor. Bruce brought thoughtful leadership, calm guidance, and a passion for public service to everything he did. He was not only a steady hand at the helm, but also a good friend and neighbor to so many of us. His presence will be deeply missed.

I am honored to carry forward the work that Mayor Menk started and to serve our Town through the remainder of this term, which continues through April. Columbine Valley is a unique and special community, and I look forward to working with the

Board of Trustees, our Town staff, and each of you to ensure that we continue to thrive together.

In the coming months, I hope to connect with as many of you as possible. Whether it's hearing your ideas and concerns, or simply sharing a conversation, your voice is vital to shaping the future of our Town.

Let's continue to honor Bruce's legacy by building on the strong foundation he helped build—and by moving forward with the same spirit of service, care, and community he exemplified.

—Bill Dotson, Mayor

MAYOR & BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Bill Dotson, Mayor
(Term Expires April 2026)

Dave Huelskamp, Mayor Pro Tem
Trustee
(Term Expires April 2028)

Mike Giesen
Trustee
(Term Expires April 2028)

Ed Icenogle
Trustee
(Term Expires April 2026)

Betsy McCain
Trustee
(Term Expires April 2028)

Jeff Sahr
Trustee
(Term Expires April 2026)

Al Timothy
Trustee
(Term Expires April 2026)

Mailing Address
2 Middlefield Road
Columbine Valley, CO 80123

Email
BoardofTrustees@columbinevalley.org

Jeff Sahr Fills Board of Trustees Vacancy

At the August meeting, the Board of Trustees appointed Jeff Sahr to fill the Trustee vacancy left when Bill Dotson was appointed mayor. Jeff and his wife, Rebecca, moved here 36 years ago for Littleton Public Schools and found Columbine Valley to be a wonderful place to live. Jeff is retired from telecommunications and IT roles, founded an HOA management company in Summit and Grand Counties, and lives in Columbine Villas (after downsizing from Burning Tree). In retirement, the Sahrs are focused on visiting and exploring a majority of America's National Parks. Jeff's term will expire in April 2026, at which point he may run for re-election.



Public Works Priorities for Fall 2025

The Columbine Valley Public Works department is dedicated to maintaining the Town, including the roads, lighting, traffic signs, and drainage systems. During the fall months, staff plans to complete the following projects.

Replace damaged gutter plans throughout Town.

The Town is in the final stage of a two-year initiative to replace ~100 gutter pans to improve drainage. Proper drainage helps protect drivers, pedestrians, roads, and foundations from water damage.

Upgrade all light posts. The Town has been replacing roughly four light posts per year as part of an eight-year project to upgrade the circa-1950 crumbling concrete light posts with fiberglass. The project is in its second to last year.

Seal cracks. Public Works will apply crack seal to Town roads as needed to prevent water damage and extend the lifespan of the asphalt.



Wild Plum Update

Understanding the Town's Role in Development Acceptance

When a residential development is approved for construction in Columbine Valley, the approval covers more than just the homes. Detailed design specifications are set for everything that supports the neighborhood—such as water lines, irrigation, landscaping, fencing, stormwater systems, concrete paths and curbs, asphalt streets, underdrains (underground drainage systems), and even amenities like playgrounds, fire pits, and mail kiosks. These specifications are typically aligned with county standards and are established before construction begins.

Formal Review Stage

The Town is now in the stage of formally reviewing the Wild Plum development. Our team of experts is walking the site, inspecting each element, and noting any issues that need to be addressed. These issues are communicated directly to the developer, which is responsible for making corrections. Once the Town's expectations are met, the development can move into *probationary acceptance*. Each portion of the project—such as streets or common areas—may be accepted separately. At that point, the Town or the neighborhood's metro district will assume management and routine maintenance responsibilities. For example, once the streets receive probationary acceptance, the Town will begin snow plowing.

Probationary Acceptance

The Town is hopeful that most improvements related to Wild Plum will reach probationary acceptance by the end of 2025. However, some punch list items are weather-dependent—such as irrigation testing or road work that requires asphalt plants to be open. Because of this, portions of the process may extend into spring 2026.



The remaining steps include:

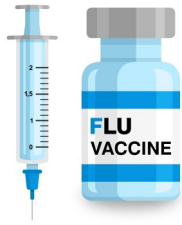
- The probationary period lasts one to two years, depending on the category of improvements.
- After that time, the Town conducts a second inspection to confirm that everything remains in good working order—such as all trees having survived the winter.
- If all standards continue to be met, the Town and/or metro district will take full ownership of the improvements and the developer's work will be complete.
- To protect residents and ensure compliance, the Town holds a bond from the developer, which is released in stages—first at probationary acceptance, and then once the project is fully accepted.

Meeting High Standards

The development acceptance process ensures that all new developments in Columbine Valley meet the high standards our residents expect and that public improvements are well-built, reliable, and ready for long-term community use.

Reminder: If you are new to Columbine Valley, contact kanton@columbinevalley.org to join our email list and receive notices about events, road work, trash service, and more.

Oct. 6



FLU SHOT CLINIC

Monday, Oct. 6
7:30–9 a.m. & 5–6:30 p.m.
Town Hall Board Room

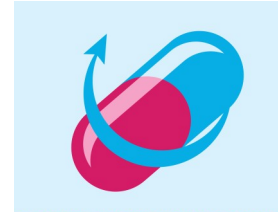
Oct. 11



FALL SHRED EVENT

Saturday, Oct. 11
9 a.m.–noon
Town Hall

Oct. 25



**PRESCRIPTION DRUG
TAKE-BACK**

Saturday, Oct. 25
10 a.m.–2 p.m.
Town Hall

VISIT COLUMBINEVALLEY.ORG > COMMUNITY > EVENTS & SERVICES FOR DETAILS.



TOWN CALENDAR

DATE	ACTIVITY
Sept. 16	Board of Trustees Meeting
Oct. 6	Flu Shot Clinic
Oct. 11	Fall Shred Event
Oct. 21	Board of Trustees Meeting
Oct. 25	Prescription Drug Take-Back Day
Nov. 18	Board of Trustees Meeting
Nov. 27–28	Thanksgiving Holiday
Court Dates	ColumbineValley.org > Court > Municipal Court

TOWN STAFF

J.D. McCrumb Town Administrator	Kelly Anton Communications
Bret Cottrell Chief of Police	Lee Schiller Town Attorney
Lucy Martinez Municipal Court Administrator	Diane Rodriguez Finance Director
Bonnie Zapata-Diaz Building Department Coordinator	Brent Kaslon Town Planner
Hobbes Hayden Public Works Manager	Jim Thelen Chief Building Inspector
Dinae Dreessen Public Works Associate	Troy Carmann Town Engineer