



Dear Carbondale,

A recent tide of COVID-19 positives in Jackson County has been an unfortunate reminder that this virus spreads easily, quickly, and can affect any age group. For months, we have heard that older populations are at the highest risk, and while this is still true, the younger population is also getting sick and driving the transmission of COVID-19 in our community. On July 26, the Jackson County Health Department issued a Public Health Warning calling for immediate action from young adults, as 70% of the cases reported in July in Jackson County were individuals in their teens and twenties. Health experts ask young adults to avoid gatherings, such as parties, and refrain from smoking or vaping in groups. These practices have been the contributing factors in our recently reported coronavirus cases. As your Mayor, I am imploring you to listen to their advice. Unless we all take immediate action to curb this sudden rise in cases, our fight against COVID-19 will be far from over. As a community, we need to wear masks so our kids can go back to school, see their teachers, and socialize with friends. We need to social distance so our businesses can open their doors without fear of employees or customers becoming sick. We need to wash our hands often for our loved ones– and the loved ones of those around us. Carbondale, we will get through this if we remain patient and diligent in our practices.

Sincerely,

John “Mike” Henry
Mayor of Carbondale