



THE CLEAR CREEK CONNECTION

By Megan Hiler, PIO
to subscribe, email:
mhiler@clearcreekcounty.us

Follow along!

 www.facebook.com/ClearCreekCountyCOgov

 @ClearCreekCountyCO

 www.clearcreekcounty.us

 www.youtube.com/channel/UCSypf9bmsquhwNLRViGdaog

 <https://aincolorado.org/audio-publications/clear-creek/>



Longtime Clear Creek EMS Director Retires: A Tribute

After more than 24 years of saving lives in Clear Creek County, Clear Creek EMS Director Bryon Monseu is retiring.

A former ski patroller, Monseu started with Clear Creek EMS as an EMT. He then went to school to become a paramedic--and then worked his way up to become a Field Training Officer (FTO) and then a Captain. He has been the EMS Director for the last four years, guiding people like EMS Captains Aaron Crawley and Clark Church.

"It's the consistency of what he did," Church said. "It's not that it was this specific thing or that, or like these big, grandiose, gestures. They were small, consistent gestures of support and affirmation."

The two recall how approachable Monseu has been--which is especially evident in the open-door policy he has for his office. Literally, he took the door off it's hinges to encourage people to come in for anything they needed.

"That was a purposeful decision. He is just always available," Crawley said.

Monseu is not only quick to help, but also is the first one in line to support his staff--even if that means they are leaving the organization.

"One of the things that he always says when we hire paramedics is, obviously we want to hire people who really want to do this as a career and who want to be here," Crawley said.

"You know, if we can get a paramedic

to work here for 20 years for their career, like what a win for us and for that person. But Bryon looks at it too if somebody worked here for two years and then went and got their dream job somewhere else--he considers that a win too, because we helped them do that."

Monseu regularly is writing recommendation letters for those trying to get into medical school, or advance their career.

"His goal is course to any employee, make them better paramedics, but he also wants everybody to become a better person," Crawley added.



- County Calendar:** July 2023
- July 4th:** County Independence Day Closure
 - July 12th:** Open Space Meeting
 - July 18th:** BOCC Meeting
 - July 19th:** Planning Commission Meeting
 - July 21st:** MYN Skate Park Trip
 - July 28th:** MYN Climbing Club
 - July 31st:** MYN Skatepark Cleanup



Job Openings



- Mechanic
- Equipment Operator (Road/Bridge)
- Caseworker
- Seasonal Laborer (Transfer Station)
- Capital Projects Manager
- Bus Operator
- Transit Supervisor



Last year, it was the Clear Creek EMS staff's turn to return the favor. More than a dozen of them wrote recommendation letters as Monseu was nominated as the Emergency Medical Services Association of Colorado (EMSAC) Executive of the Year. Below are just a few snippets from the letters:

"There is no other EMS executive who parallels Director Monseu's commitment to his staff, his agency, and the county he serves," EMT Peter Trouche wrote.

"I have personally experienced Bryon on many occasions, when sensing unrest within myself, take the time to reach out by phone or show up in person as an open and supportive ear," Paramedic FTO John Manasjan wrote. "At the end of the day Bryon Monseu is simply a good human being. He is patient, honest, humble, humorous, approachable, accountable and joyful. May his example continue to serve as a guiding star for our agency and EMS leaders to come."

"When I found out that Bryon was promoted to the director of Clear Creek EMS I quit the service I was working for to go back to working for Clear Creek EMS full time and have never made a better decision for myself and my career. It is because of Bryon I have remained in EMS after serious considerations of leaving EMS," wrote paramedic Adam Thomas.

The letters are full of gratitude for Monseu as a leader, but also a person. Something that Crawley and Church say is evident each day on the job with him.

"He's the most humble EMS professional that I've ever met in my life," Crawley said. "You'll do a run, or a really interesting call or something, and you're telling him about it--and he's probably got five more than you that he's been on--and he won't tell you."

"It is a rare find in this field," Church added. "Everybody wants to like, one-up each other. So the fact that he's just like, 'hey, that's really cool, what a cool thing you just did,' says a lot about him."

In Crawley's new office, which is Monseu's old one, sits a box of things that Monseu needs to take home. But the captains aren't letting him get away that easy.

"He was like, 'I'm gonna bring the truck tomorrow, get all my stuff out of here.' and I'm like, 'no, it's never leaving,'" Crawley laughed. "I told him you have to pick one thing that you absolutely love and you have to leave it here so I know that you got to come back."

Monseu will be here through the beginning of August. He also says he will volunteer with Clear Creek EMS to make sure the transition is as seamless as possible. But to the staff at Clear Creek EMS, no amount of Monseu will be enough, and no "thank you" will show their gratitude.

"He's by far number one on my list. And I don't know how to say that to him like...that doesn't do it justice. I love that dude professionally and personally," Crawley said.

Nearly 2,000 Wreaths Across America wreaths find their next purpose

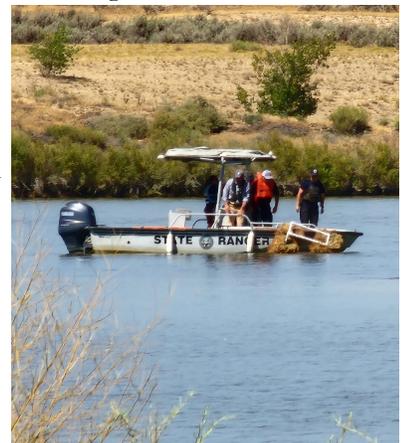
Approximately 1,800 wreaths recycled from Wreaths Across America from Clear Creek County and Ft. Logan National Cemetery made their way to their next purpose this summer. Pictured below, wreaths were distributed from a boat on the Highline Reservoir west of Grand Junction. For the deployment, volunteers boarded the watercraft with State Park Rangers, an Aquatic Biologist and a Game Warden to make sure that all agencies are in agreement.

Wreaths were then placed in the water for fish habitats. According to Colorado Parks and Wildlife, by adding these structures (the wreaths), it added variability to the aquatic environments. In addition, smaller fish can use the wreaths to hide from predators and large fish can use them to sneak up on prey.

"Also as part of our mission, we make sure that Veterans from Clear Creek County who are buried at Ft. Logan get a wreath placed by us," Clear Creek County Veterans Services Officer Troy Erickson said. "Because Ft. Logan is unable to get enough wreaths sponsored each year, they rotate sections of the cemetery and we make sure we remember our local families."

The program also recycles wreaths at Lake Pueblo, Eaglewatch Lake in Littleton, and Romer Reservoir.

"This is a really cool project," Erickson said.



Clear Creek County Veterans Services Officer honored as Denver7 "Everyday Hero"



Not surprising to much of the Clear Creek County Community, our very own Veterans Services Officer, Troy Erickson was awarded the Denver7 Everyday Hero Award alongside Cindy Sterner, a Volunteers of America supervisor for Clear Creek County. According to Denver7 News, The Denver7 Everyday Hero Award is presented to Coloradans who are making a difference in their community.

"It's great to see others recognize what the rest of us have known," Clear Creek County Public Health Director Dr.

Timothy Ryan said.

"We are so lucky to have Troy," Director of Human Services Sarah Cassano said. "He has done so much for people in this community."

Troy Erickson has worked for Clear Creek County for more than eight years. He often goes above and beyond his duties helping local Veterans by providing support, transportation, food, and more. Erickson also is involved with the Project Support Senior Center, the Q-House, and with Wreaths Across America and lays wreaths at local Veterans' graves at Ft. Logan National Cemetery and beyond. Last year, the organization was able to place 336 wreaths at cemeteries for local Veterans.

It's impossible to sum up what Erickson has done for Veterans and the people of Clear Creek County in an article as there is so much more. Troy is kind, hard-working, and most of all, he truly cares about the Veterans and residents of Clear Creek County. Troy--thank you for your compassion and work, because of you, Clear Creek County is a better place!

The history behind Disability Pride Month

Courtesy of Alex Flynn (She/Her) Senior Programming Manager for the Audio Information Network of Colorado (AINC)

Did you know that Disability Pride Month, celebrated in July, has a rich history and serves as a powerful platform for education and awareness about disability rights? Let's dive into its inspiring origins and significance!

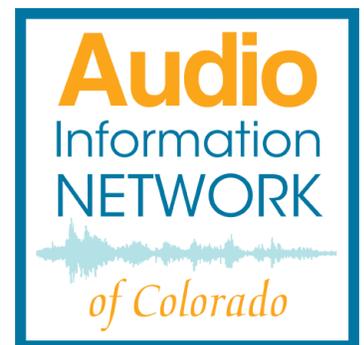
Disability Pride Month finds its roots in the disability rights movement, which emerged in the late 20th century. Fueled by passionate individuals, this movement aimed to combat discrimination and advocate for equal opportunities and rights for people with disabilities.

The movement fought for accessible environments, inclusive education, and employment opportunities, laying the foundation for the Disability Pride Month we recognize and celebrate today.

Disability Pride Month also aligns with the anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), signed into law on July 26, 1990. This groundbreaking legislation prohibited discrimination against individuals with disabilities and mandated accessibility in public places and workplaces.

Throughout Disability Pride Month, diverse events, workshops, and discussions foster understanding and inclusivity. It's an opportunity for all of us to challenge stereotypes and misconceptions surrounding disability while celebrating the remarkable accomplishments and contributions of people with disabilities throughout history. Join us this Disability Pride Month as we honor the progress made, celebrate diversity within the disability community, and continue advocating for a more inclusive world.

Clear Creek County is proud to be partners with AINC. Listen to the latest Clear Creek County News here.



Transfer Station switches back to previous hours; now open four days a week



The Clear Creek County Transfer Station is back to being open four days a week!

The Transfer Station was previously open two days a week due to staffing shortages.

"This is something I know the community has been waiting for, and we thank Clear Creek County residents for their patience and understanding," Clear Creek County Public Information Officer Megan Hiler said. "Please be kind and say hello to workers if you visit the Transfer Station, they work hard to keep the facility running and we know the community

appreciates them and values the services they provide."

The Transfer Station is now open Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

More information on the Transfer Station including fees and pricing can be found here:

<https://www.clearcreekcounty.us/142/Waste-Recycling>.

Summer fun with Mountain Youth Network!



Summertime activities are in full swing for the kids and teens involved in Mountain Youth Network (MYN). Just last month, MYN coordinators took a group of 13 high school students to explore the Great Sand Dunes National Park and went rock climbing near Salida.

"The kids had a blast, despite some rainy weather," Ben Shay, Youth Involvement Coordinator for MYN said.

For 6th grade camping, the team took all three 6th grade classes out, which was a total of 36 kids. All of the activities that kids and teens take part in are asked for by them—that way youth in Clear Creek County can choose what they want to do, or pick a new activity to try. Mountain Youth Network has also continued its weekly skate and climbing programs. Gear is provided for these programs, so any child can participate. Snacks and food are also often provided.

Mountain Youth Network falls under Clear Creek County Public Health's umbrella, and is a true community-based initiative. The coalition includes individuals from a range of sectors: law enforcement, education, faith community, health and human services, government, youth-serving organizations, students, community organizations, parents, and local businesses. Using the principles of prevention science, research, and local youth data as its guide, MYN works to decrease risk factors such as perceived availability of substances, low neighborhood attachment/community organization, and early initiation of behavior.

MYN also consists of the TREK Outdoors program. TREK Outdoors enables youth in Clear Creek County to explore the natural beauty and outdoor activities offered locally. Its goal is for any young person in the community to have access to the incredible outdoor recreation opportunities that right in our own backyard.

To learn more about all the different programs offered by MYN and/or how you can be involved, join us on August 22nd for our Annual Network Showcase from 4pm-6pm at Tommyknocker Brewery. This event is open to our coalition members and any other community member who would like to support the Clear Creek County youth. You can also visit mountainyouthnetwork.org for more information.





Unusual Ignition Sources for Wildfires

Courtesy of Einar Jensen, Risk Reduction Coordinator, Evergreen Fire/Rescue

Heat, fuel, and oxygen are needed to ignite a fire. They are the Fire Triangle. During the summer, common heat sources for ignition include lightning, abandoned campfires, and fireworks. When our ecosystem dries from these daily rains, we should remember uncommon and unusual heat sources, too, in order to prevent fires before they have an opportunity to test our mitigation efforts.

Bullets

While the flight of a bullet cools the metal, a bullet that impacts a rock can release a spark capable of igniting fine fuels such as dead grass, according to research by the BLM. Additionally, when a bullet strikes a target, its kinetic energy transforms into heat energy in the target. Parts of a hot target can ignite dry fuels. Tracer bullets have a pyrotechnic charge at their base that allow our eyes to see the bullet's trajectory. Those charges can ignite fires when the bullet lands as in the 2018 Lake Christine Fire near Basalt.

Golf Clubs

University of California researchers found that clubs coated with titanium can produce sparks when they strike a rock. Those sparks can reach 3,000 degrees Fahrenheit, which is plenty hot to dry, vaporize, and ignite dead fine fuels.

Dragged Chains

Most of us have seen chains dragging from boat and camper trailers producing sparks.

Car Exhaust

If you use a trailer hitch platform to haul items, consider the location of your vehicle's exhaust pipe. Hot exhaust can melt and even ignite some materials on those platforms. Embers from a platform fire can land on roadsides, on nearby homes, and even on other vehicles.

Reflected Heat

Low-emissivity windows reflect 30-50 percent of the Sun's heat. Changes in barometric pressure and air temperature can cause gas between panes to contract and the panes themselves to have enough curvature to focus reflected sunlight much like a magnifying glass, according to the National Home Builders of America.

Welding/Grinding

These activities generate sparks that are hot enough to ignite dead vegetation.

Catalytic Converters

Hot fragments of a failing catalytic converter that ejected through the exhaust pipe ignited Utah's 2021 Parleys Canyon Fire and California's 2018 Ferguson Fire.

Additional wildfire resources, including information on home wildfire assessments and our slash chipping program, all of which are part of our commitment to our community, are available from our website: www.evergreenfirerescue.com.

Staying informed on the I-70 Floyd Hill Project



Stay Informed





Sign up for text messaging service:
Text floydhill to 21000





Visit the project website:
codot.gov/projects/i70floydhill





Leave a voicemail:
720-994-2368 (CDOT)
Send an email:
codot_floydhillproject@state.co.us



Check COtrip.org for real-time lane closures and traffic impacts.



For statewide transportation information:

Follow @coloradodot
on Instagram

Visit
facebook.com/coloradodot

Floyd Hill Construction is officially underway! The Colorado Department of Transportation and contractor partner, Kraemer North America, will begin construction on the I-70 Floyd Hill Project, which will improve mobility and increase safety along an eight-mile stretch of the I-70 Mountain Corridor from west of Evergreen to eastern Idaho Springs. The project received \$700 million in state and federal funding and is a part of Gov. Polis administration's 10-year infrastructure plan.

“The I-70 Floyd Hill Project is many years in the making,” said CDOT Executive Director Shoshana Lew. “From initial scoping to completion of the National Environmental Policy Act process in February 2023, we are now ready for construction. Moving the project forward was a collective effort from many partners including elected officials, local, state and federal agencies, environmental and recreation groups, first responders and numerous community organizations. We couldn’t be where we are today without their input, support and ultimately their endorsement of the project.”

The I-70 Floyd Hill project will:

- Add a third westbound I-70 travel lane in this two-lane bottleneck. This new lane will be a full-time, tolled Express Lane from just west of Homestead Rd. (Exit 247) through the Veterans Memorial Tunnels to Colorado Blvd./Idaho Springs (Exit 241)
- Rebuild bridges due to use, wear and tear, and heavy usage
- Construct a missing two-mile section of the frontage road between US 6 and the Hidden Valley/Central City Parkway interchanges, which will improve emergency response
- Build an extended on-ramp from US 6 onto eastbound I-70 for slow-moving vehicles to have more room to merge
- Improve traffic flow and access at interchanges and intersections
- Improve sight distance and safety by straightening roadway curves
- Improve the Clear Creek Greenway trail
- Implement environmental mitigation to enhance wildlife connectivity, air and water quality, stream conditions and recreation
- Install two permanent air quality monitors

“The I-70 Mountain Corridor, particularly at Floyd Hill, is the gateway to Colorado’s mountains and a critical economic and tourism route,” CDOT I-70 Floyd Hill Project Director Kurt Kionka said. “Increasing traffic volumes, tight curves and steep grades — which are often exacerbated by weather — require a project that will improve travel

time reliability and safety. By eliminating the bottleneck at Floyd Hill, the project will significantly ease congestion and decrease the number and severity of crashes.”

With construction anticipated to stretch through 2028, CDOT and Kraemer North America are committed to minimizing impacts to residents and motorists. The project will be built in three phases.

Construction will begin on I-70 in the East Section of the project, a four-mile stretch that spans from County Road 65 to the bottom of Floyd Hill. Over the summer of 2023, crews will focus on building the work zone, excavation, wall construction, drainage work, and rock scaling and blasting to create room for roadway improvements. For rock scaling and blasting, motorists should expect daytime 20-minute traffic holds both directions of I-70 starting in late-July or early August. Crews will perform rock blasting and scaling for 20 minutes and then reopen the roadway, but motorists can anticipate up to 45 minutes of delays. Blasting is anticipated to occur two times per week through early 2024. Motorists can stay in the know on when blasting activities are planned by signing up for text alerts by texting "floydhill" (all lowercase) to 21000.

During construction, the existing travel lanes will be maintained in each direction of I-70 during peak travel hours. However, overnight lane closures on I-70 will occur semi-regularly. Lane closure hours will vary based on season, day of week, number of lanes being closed and the travel direction. There will also be reduced lane and shoulder widths, and drivers should expect reduced speed limits and increased truck traffic going in and out of the work zones. Motorists can also anticipate minor impacts to the westbound I-70 off-ramp to Homestead Road and periodic daytime flagging on US 40. Work will conclude in late 2028.

Travelers are urged to “know before you go.” Gather information about weather forecasts and anticipated travel impacts and current road conditions prior to hitting the road. CDOT resources include:

- Road conditions and travel information: COtrip.org
- Download the COtrip Planner app: bit.ly/COtripapp
- Sign up for project or travel alerts: bit.ly/COnewsalerts
- See scheduled construction lane closures: bit.ly/laneclosures
- Connect with @ColoradoDOT on social media: Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and YouTube

As always, watch out for workers during construction and drive with caution. Be patient, always allow ample space between you and the car in front of you, and obey the speed limit.

Public Health, Mountain Youth Network hosting Back 2 School Days event

Clear Creek County Public Health and Mountain Youth Network are hosting the second annual Back 2 School Days event on August 1st through August 3rd. The three-day event will take place at the Health and Wellness Center located at 1969 Miner Street in Idaho Springs.

Below are services that will be offered:

- Adult and child vaccines (required school vaccines are: Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (DTap), Inactivated poliovirus (IPV), Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR), Varicella (chicken pox) Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (Tdap)
- Physicals (required for school sports)
- Lead Testing
- Harm Reduction and Drug Education
- COVID-Test Kits
- COVID Vaccines
- Sexual Health Resources

To make an appointment, click here or scan the QR code.

Walk-ins are also welcome. Mountain Youth Network will provide snacks, games and sign-up information on August 1st and 2nd in the afternoon. Everyone is welcome!

**Public Health and MYN
Back 2 School Days**

**AUGUST 1ST - 3RD
10 AM - 4 PM**
1969 Miner Street, Idaho Springs

SERVICES

- Childhood & adolescent vaccinations
- COVID-19 vaccinations
- Sport physicals (required for all students to join school sports)
- Lead Testing
- Harm Reduction and drug education
- COVID test kits
- Sexual health resources

SCAN HERE FOR FORMS OR TO REQUEST AN APPT.

Call 303-670-7528 to make an appointment! Walk-ins welcome.

SNACKS AND GAMES FROM 1-4 PM ON AUG. 1ST & 2ND

County leaders take part in Childcare Townhall

Clear Creek County and local city leaders were in attendance for the first ever Childcare Townhall last month. The Townhall was aimed to bring together parents, educators, childcare providers, and community leaders to discuss solutions about childcare needs in Clear Creek County.



Back in 2019, Clear Creek County was identified as a childcare desert. This is defined as more than three times as many children as licensed childcare seats. For infants and toddlers, there are 8.5 times as many children as seats.

"I am excited and grateful to see so many parents, community members and local government leaders engage on this crucial issue. Clear Creek County is a childcare desert, but it doesn't have to be. This support in the community and commitment of our leadership to build better options for

parents can result in communities that families can thrive in," Clear Creek County Commissioner George Marlin said. "Local government investment with active community involvement and support is the key to achieving a better future for our hardworking families."

Marlin was just one of the dozens that showed up to discuss these issues. Childcare was also made available on-site so parents were able to participate in the conversation.

When it comes to providing more childcare options in the community, there are still a lot of discussions to be had and decisions to be made--which is why this conversation will be ongoing at future meetings. For more information, visit <https://clearcreekecl.wixsite.com/childcare-townhall>.

To make your voice heard about childcare in Clear Creek County, take the survey by clicking here.

Free online fitness classes now available for Clear Creek County Residents

If you have been looking to get back into fitness, or wanting to start exercising--now is your chance to try it free. Thanks to the YMCA of Metro Denver, people in rural communities like Clear Creek County can now access free online fitness classes for six months.

Coloradans who live more remotely often have a harder time accessing a gym - especially for guided activities like yoga or sports like pickleball. To meet this need, the YMCA of Metro Denver and Colorado Community Health Alliance (CCHA) are making online fitness offerings available for free to Coloradans who live in more rural areas of Jefferson, Gilpin and Clear Creek Counties. County residents can now register for six months of free access to the YMCA's online offerings, otherwise known as "Y Without Walls." Anyone who signs up will have access to a host of offerings including not only live exercise classes, but also nutrition, sport training and older adult/youth-specific videos as well.

To register, follow the below steps:

1. Set up your YMCA Account.
2. Sign up for Virtual - Y Without Walls Membership ([click here](#)).
3. Use the same email address you set up your YMCA Account to log into YMCA360.org.



Slacker Half Marathon raises thousands for local charities



The 2023 Slacker Half Marathon was another huge success! Thanks to the help of about 100 volunteers, nearly 1,900 runners took part in the race, with 1,550 completing it.

"Overall, it was a successful event, and we are very excited to be the new race directors," Director of Programming and Communication for Clear Creek Metropolitan Recreation District (CCMRD) Samantha Rees said.

The Slacker is the world's highest half marathon starting at the base of Loveland Ski Area, at an elevation of 10,630 feet. Runners then descend to 8,400 feet for post-race festivities in downtown historic Georgetown.

After the race, runners can partake in numerous activities, including "ridiculous" amounts of freebies, local craft beer, and live music.

The money raised from the event will benefit local non-profits.

"We expect to donate \$5,000 to Friends of Charlie's Place, Mount Evans Home Healthcare and Hospice, and the CCMRD Youth Scholarship Fund," Rees said.

Clear Creek County used to 'run' the event, but this year passed the figurative baton to CCMRD.

The winner of this year's Slacker was 38-year-old Egor Gavrilov from Huntington, West Virginia with a time of 1:13:15.

Bats, bats everywhere! Tips from Environmental Health on how to deal

After a few incidents in the last few weeks, Clear Creek County Environmental Health is sharing what to do if you come into contact with a bat or other rabid animal. First and foremost, if you have come into contact with an animal you suspect could be rabid--get help immediately.

"Don't call us, just go directly to an emergency room," Clear Creek County Public and Environmental Health Director Dr. Timothy Ryan said.



Eight ways to protect yourself and your family

- Do not feed, touch or adopt wild animals, and be cautious of stray dogs and cats. Rabid animals do not always appear vicious!
- Teach children to leave wildlife alone. Be sure your child knows to tell you if an animal bites or scratches them.
- Have your veterinarian (or local animal shelter) vaccinate your pets and livestock against rabies. Keep their vaccinations up-to-date.
- Tightly close garbage cans and feed bins. Open trash and feed bags attract wild or stray animals to your home or yard.
- Feed your pets indoors, never leave pet food outside as this attracts wildlife.
- Keep outdoor pets in a fenced yard. Avoid all contact with bats, especially bats found on the ground. If you find a bat on the ground, don't touch it.
- Report the bat and its location to your local animal control officer or health department.
- Call your doctor right away if an animal bites you. Contact your local health department to report the incident.

For more information, including after hours contact numbers, [click here](#).

Employee Spotlight

Welcome to the County! Mountain Youth Network selects Rose Morris as new MYN Manager

Clear Creek County Public Health's youth program, Mountain Youth Network has a new manager! Rose Morris was selected to lead the program last month. She boasts an impressive resume and has a long history of working with youth all around the country and world. She says this is a perfect fit for her based on past experiences.

"I've participated in research to assess racial equity," she said. "One of the big things with Mountain Youth Network at the moment too is the racial equity assessment work group. And I started getting involved in that even before I got into this role."

From working under former New York mayor Bill De Blasio, to the Clear Creek County School District, brings a wealth of knowledge about youth, and even knows some already in Clear Creek County.

"I've worked with a lot of students from King Murphy, which is Clear Creek students. I met them like seven years ago, and I already know a lot of the families," she said.

In addition, being from Puerto Rico and working with so many different communities, Morris is passionate about making services more accessible to everyone and breaking down barriers.

"Spanish is something that I really wanted to incorporate more into my day-to-day life. One of my main focuses is around equity and inclusion and accessibility to our programs."

Barriers can also be financial, which is why Morris wants people to know that MYN and TREK Teen Council's programs are not only free, but food and equipment is also supplied.

"We don't want equipment to be a barrier for students to be able to join in any of our programs. Food is provided in a lot of our programs too. Even if it's just snacks, we don't want anybody going hungry."

When it comes to other things that Morris is hoping to accomplish, she says promoting youth voices is vital.

"I would also like to strengthen the sense of belonging for youth in our community--provide more opportunities for our youth to develop skills that will better equip them for the future," she said. "And further our community partnerships and family involvement."

Being from a small town, Morris says she enjoys the Clear Creek County community, and is excited to dig her feet in and continue working with kids and teens in the area. In addition, the plethora of outdoor activities goes hand-in-hand with MYN's TREK Teen Council.

"It's always great for students to go out and explore. I think that's the essence of community. Skating, climbing--all those things are taking place because youth asked for them. Also, just knowing that all the opportunities that we provide for them is getting them one step closer to living a more fruitful, vivacious life. Just excelling, and getting them exposed to different opportunities and getting them out there is so important." Morris said.

Another important thing that MYN does is provide guidance for kids and teens who might not have another person in his or her life to fill this role. Morris believes youth just need that one person to be there for them to succeed.

"Just being an adult that's there for them. When you follow the Positive Youth Development model, one of those things is having an adult. It has to do a lot about with my experience too, and who were the people that showed up for me when I was a youth."

Morris adds that she is not only determined to be there for the youth in the County, but she also will listen to them and let them try new things.

"That is what motivates me the most. Like, let's get you to where you want to be, but you need to be exposed to different things to kind of identify what you like and what your passions are. That right there could help you determine what you want to further as a career."

Morris says programs like MYN are "essential" and is excited to get to work.

"I think Mountain Youth Network has been on a great track for years. The community has welcomed these programs and we collaborate with a lot of other organizations that are providing essential programs and services as well. There's so many things out there. Just helping youth explore and be exposed to different activities so that they know that there's so many opportunities for them to succeed."





Your Tax Dollar\$ at Work

County Road 170, Evergreen



Clear Creek County Road & Bridge just wrapped up its County Road 170 \$1.1 million dollar Project. County Road 170, also known as Old Squ* w Pass Road, is approximately 2.7 miles in length and provides access from Highway 103 to several residential subdivisions including Pine Valley, Pine Valley Heights, Hofer Heights, Barrows and Beaver Brook Lodge Estates. Traffic counts collected in August 2021 show over 600 vehicles per day traveling the road.

The project consisted of various pavement patching sections followed by a 2” Hot Mix Asphalt

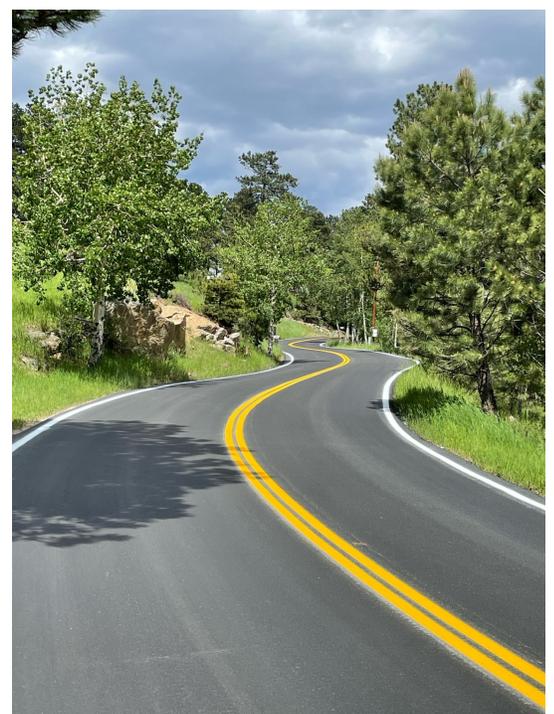
overlay along with a new sedimentation pond, ditch regrading, shouldering, striping and traffic control. County Road 170 is due to be resurfaced in accordance with the Road & Bridge Department’s plan to maintain the County’s paved roads. Additionally, there are concerns associated with excessive erosion and sediment deposits throughout the residential community which creates costly and time-consuming maintenance work to remove sediments from roadside ditches, drainage culverts and other low-lying areas.

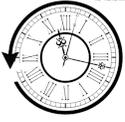
The project was completed last month. We thank you for your patience as we improve county roads!



Left: County Rd. 170 during construction.

Right: County Rd. 170 after construction was complete.

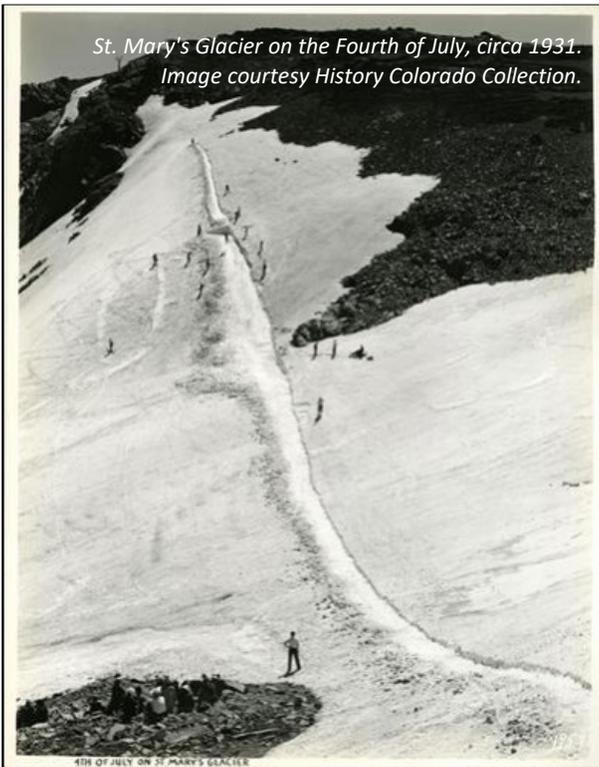




From the Archives

Courtesy of Alexis Ehrgott

FOURTH OF JULY SKI TOURNAMENT AT ST. MARY'S GLACIER



On March 30, 1923, the *Idaho Springs Mining Gazette* announced that the Denver Rocky Mountain Ski Club was proposing to stage a ski tournament “at the Alice glacier next 4th of July... [it] will certainly be a new one, as a stunt of that kind has never been attempted before. The glacier at Alice is the largest in the state, where there is plenty of snow all the year ‘round, and is one of the finest places in the country to spend a few days for rest and recreation.”

Following the inaugural tournament, the *Mining Gazette* reported that “the crowd was not as large as expected, but the 600 [persons] present enjoyed themselves and had a pleasant time. The jumping of the boys under 16 and the classes for women and girls was fine, while the long jump was 91 feet, made by Lars Haugen of Minneapolis... As a result of the tournament, it is planned to make this an annual event, demonstrating that Colorado is the all-the-year-round playground of the country.”

The following year the *Mining Gazette* pronounced “Ski Tournament a Big Success. [This year’s] ski tournament... was the greatest ever staged in [Alice], about twice as many people going up this 4th to

enjoy the cool breezes, fine water and a ski tournament in the middle of the summer. As the years go by, this will be reckoned as one of the greatest attractions for the Fourth, as it is certainly one of the greatest novelties of the Rocky Mountain region.”

The *Denver Post* described the conditions of the glacier in 1931, “Skiing on summer snow is much different than on the winter variety. The glacier snow is not fluffy, but crusty, hard and exceptionally fast, requiring unusual waxing methods. The jumping track is cut out of the side of the gently sloping glacier, and is ample of width to prevent danger from spills too close to the edge. The takeoff is about twelve feet high, and will send the riders hurtling thru the air farther than ever before, it is believed.”

The tournament attracted amateur skiers such as Lewis Dalpes, Genevieve Robinson, Janet Powell, Frank Daples, Leila Erickson, John Steele, Glenn Armstrong, Barney McLean, Sterling Huntington and Pete Wither. It was a family affair for relatives of Colorado ski pioneer Hans Brandt; his son, Harry, two daughters, Wilma and Bernice, sons-in-law Thor Griswold and Covert Hopkins, and brother-in-law Emil A. Storvick all competed in the ski tournament over the years. Covert Hopkins brother, Harry, was also a competitor.

In addition to the men’s and women’s class A, B, and C jumping, other events included men’s and women’s Telemark and Christiania contests, cross country races, toboggan sliding, shovel races, slalom and downhill races, donkey and twin jumps, and “bundle” races in which contestants on skies carried bundles of assorted clothing through various obstacles to the top of the hill, then don said clothing and ski down the hill to the finish line.

The ski tournament was “abandoned,” reported the *Denver Post* on June 30, 1939, “because of complaints about condition of the road to the glacier and parking fees charged by property owners above Alice.” The previous September, the *Clear Creek Mining Journal* stated that “the southernmost glacier in the state [was] infrequently visited except the annual ski tournament because of the present narrow road and the necessity of walking some distance to reach the glacier.”

Helpful Links and Resources:

From Page 3: <https://www.denver7.com/news/7everyday-hero/nonstop-helping-people-idaho-springs-volunteers-go-above-and-beyond-to-help-their-community>, <https://aincolorado.org/audio-publications/clear-creek/>

From Page 7: <https://www.clearcreekcounty.us/1474/Back-to-School-Days>

From Page 8: <https://denverymca.org/y-without-walls>

From Page 9: <https://www.clearcreekcounty.us/1443/Rabies-Information>

From Page 14: <https://www.clearcreekcounty.us/1374/Board-Commission-Meetings>

The Clear Creek County Health and Wellness Center is here for you!

Vaccine Walk-In Wednesday Clinic: COVID Vaccines, Flu, Tdap, Hepatitis A, and more. All Childhood Immunizations 0-18 years old. No appointment needed! You can pre-register by calling **303-670-7528**.

Hours: Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Wellness Clinics: By appointment only. You can set up an appointment by calling **303-670-7528**. The Clinic can check oxygen levels, temperature, blood pressure, and more!

Lead Testing: Walk-in Wednesday from 10:00 am to 2:00 p.m., or by appointments on other days. You can set up an appointment by calling **303-670-7528**.

Women, Infant, Children (WIC): This program is for mothers and infants. It takes place on Tuesdays and Thursdays. For more information, contact WIC Coordinator Donna Prentner, RD, RN, at **970-409-6907** or dprentner@clearcreekcounty.us.

COVID-19 Testing: There is no longer PCR testing. Rapid tests are available for free at the Health and Wellness Center.

Sexual Health Clinics: Birth control, counseling, STD tests, pregnancy testing and more! Completely confidential. Call **303-670-7528** for more information.

Harm Reduction: Public Health is now offering free Opioid and Naloxone Training. Naloxone is an opioid antagonist – it binds to opioid receptors and blocks or reverses the effects of the overdose agent. Public Health is also offering free Fentanyl test strips. Fentanyl is synthetic opioid that is 50 times more potent than heroin and 100 times more potent than morphine. Call **303-670-7528** for more information.

Other services:

- State and Federal Eligibility Programs
- Mental and Behavioral Health providers accepting Medicaid
- Clear Creek County Public Health
- Other CDPHE and CORE services
- Food Pantry (VOA also does free lunches on Wednesdays at 12:00 at the Georgetown Community Center)



Health and Wellness Center
1969 Miner Street (2nd Floor)
Idaho Springs, CO 80452

As always, if you have questions, want updates, to set up an appointment, or leave a message for a nurse, you can call the Public Health Information Line at 303-670-7528.



Clear Creek County
Health & Wellness Center

Clear Creek County Board of County Commissioners



George Marlin
gmarlin@clearcreekcounty.us
303-949-0980

District I: Approximately Floyd Hill to Fall River Road.



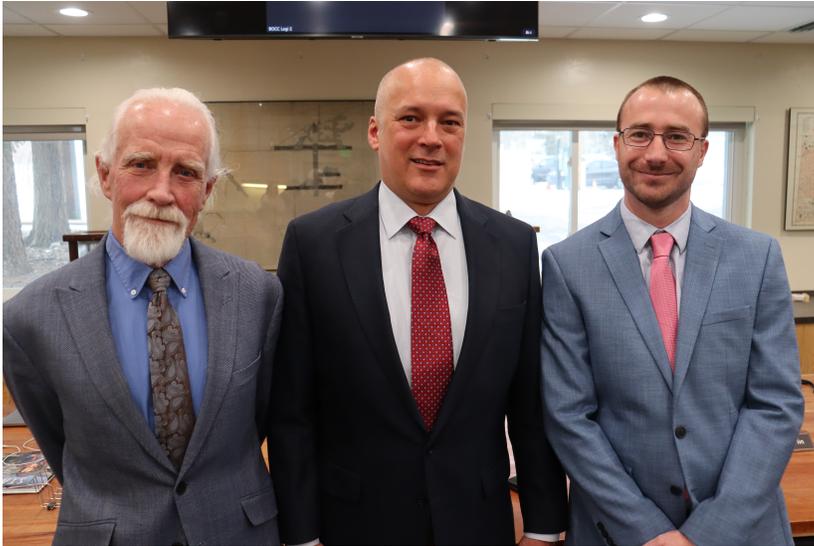
Sean Wood
swood@clearcreekcounty.us
303-478-6168

District II: Southeast Clear Creek County



Randy Wheelock
rwheelock@clearcreekcounty.us
970-390-2195

District III: Approximately Fall River Road and west to Eisenhower-Johnson Memorial Tunnel & Berthoud Pass.



Board Meetings are back in person!

County Board Meetings are back in person in the BoCC Conference Room at 405 Argentine Street in Georgetown. Meetings will still be streamed live online via Facebook and Zoom.

Next Month's BoCC Meetings

- August 1st
- August 15th

See past meetings here.



Important Clear Creek County Phone Numbers:

Emergency: **911**

Sheriff's Office: 303-679-2376

Clear Creek County Offices: 303- 679-2300

Report a Road Concern: 303-679-2334 Option 2

Roundabout Dispatch: 970-409-6714



SCAN HERE FOR
IMPORTANT
COUNTY LINKS
AND MORE!