



Estes Park Training Gazette

New Year's bundle of joy

First Estes Park baby for 2001 arrived Saturday

By LUCIE R. WILLISIE

Her great-grandfather had 13 sons — no daughters. And there are very few daughters in the Salsbury family as a rule.

But Meghan Cecilia Salsbury, now only four days old, is here to say that she's special — on a number of counts.

Not only is she one of the few daughters in the greater Salsbury clan, and Greg and Rozanne's first daughter, but she is Estes Park's New Year baby for 2001. And she didn't make the town wait long, which often happens with the first Estes Park New Year baby — sometimes not until March or April, dad said.

Meghan — a name both parents liked — was born at 8:42 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 6, at the

Estes Park Medical Center and weighed in at 8 pounds, 9 ounces, at a "height" of 20 inches.

"It's an honor to have the first one in the year," Greg said. "Truly exciting."

The Salsburys didn't know for sure if their newest addition would be a boy or a girl, and they didn't care too much, "as long as it was healthy," dad said. And she is.

Meghan's middle name — Cecilia — comes from tradition. It is her mom's middle name, as well as her grandma's middle name. Mom is also

It's a girl!

extra tickled that Meghan has dark eyes and hair. It was what she was hoping for.

Benjamin, 6 1/2, and Christopher, 5, Meghan's

two older brothers think its "neat they have a little sister."

"We're blessed with three healthy children," Greg said. And now that they have a full house, the Salsburys will probably call it quits.

The Salsburys have lived in Estes Park for the last two years and own and operate the

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Photo Lucie R. Willisie

Meghan Cecilia Salsbury, two days old in this picture, is surrounded by her family, from left, her brother, Benjamin, 6 1/2, her dad, Greg, her mom, Rozanne, and her other brother, Christopher, 5. Everyone is happy and healthy and enjoying the new addition to the family, especially since she's a girl. There are fewer girls in the greater Salsbury family than boys.

Could it be spring?

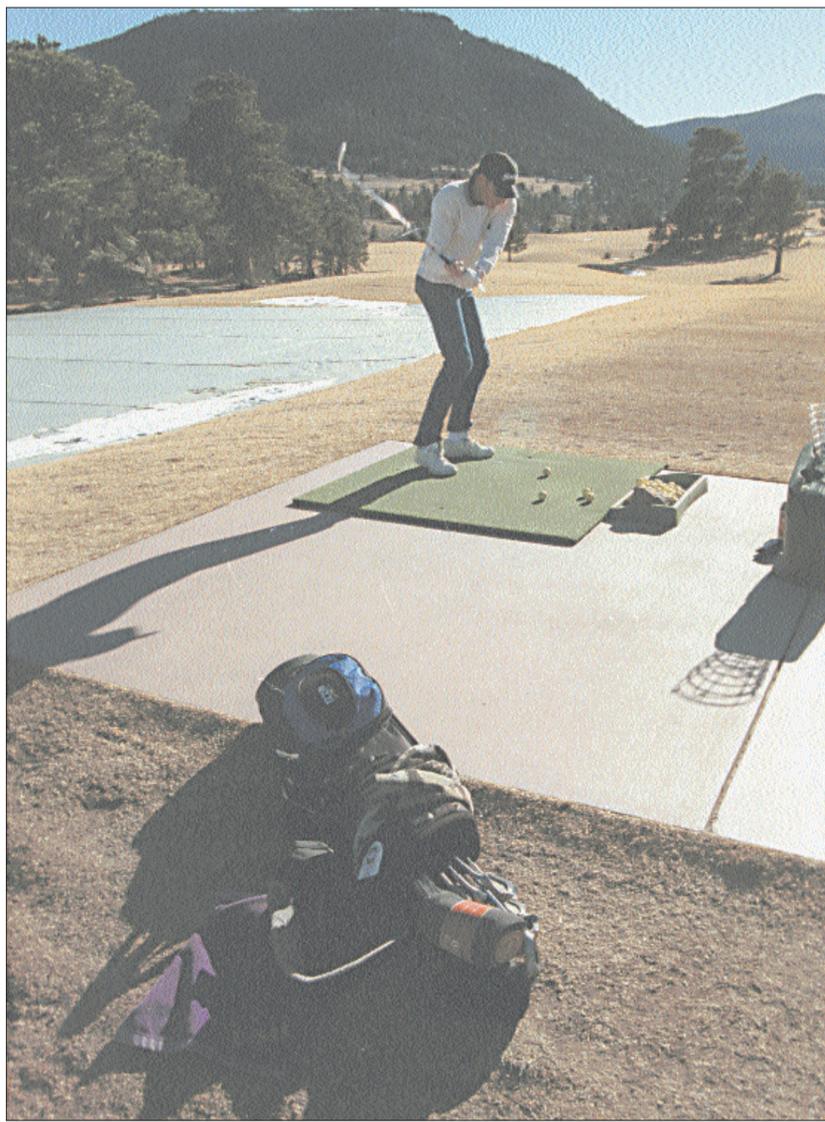


Photo by Walt Hester

Jim Matthies drives golf balls into the unseasonably warm afternoon sun on Friday.

Hidden population

As the number of Hispanic residents grows, Estes Park must evaluate services offered

This is part one of a two-part series.

By JAY GENTILE

You wake up this morning and grab a copy of the newspaper. It's in a foreign language.

You put the paper down and say good-bye to the eight members of your family who are packed into your two-bedroom apartment.

You hop into your older-model car and head off to work. You pray that you aren't pulled over and issued a ticket for not having insurance, which you can't afford.

As the work day winds down, you are happy to receive payment for your services. You think that you haven't been paid in full, but you don't speak English so there's no way to ask.

Plus, if you make waves with the boss he'll probably threaten to deport you again.

You come home and discover that your three-year old is sick, yet you also fear medical costs and formal institutions like hospitals that you suppose also want to deport you.

A *Trail-Gazette* analysis of the Hispanic population of Estes Park, which is estimated at 700 to 800 people, found that a large percentage of these immigrants are here illegally while living in constant fear of deportation and swindling by unscrupulous employers and landlords.

This keeps them on the fringe of society, unlikely to assimilate into the community and unsure of what services

“If you never learn the language, you'll never be a part of the community.”

— Olga Rojas
Estes Park

are available to help them in Estes Park.

The analysis was conducted through interviews with local government officials, church and community leaders, social service workers and Hispanic residents.

The Multi-Cultural Committee of the Estes Valley Community Services Coalition (EVCSC) is looking to incorporate this rapidly growing segment of the population into the community.

It is hoping to create in the future a center to disseminate information on employment and housing opportunities, as well as to deal with Hispanic issues like legal immigration status and employer/landlord abuse.

The Committee, with the backing of the EVCSC, has asked Crossroads Ministry to hire a part-time bilingual services coordinator to “unify service efforts throughout the community as well as reach out to more Spanish-speaking individuals by way of the Cross-

roads programs,” the Dec. 15 letter to the Crossroads Board of Directors states.

This person would work at Crossroads but would be paid through grants and other funding sources that the EVCSC hopes to target.

“What the Community Services Coalition is asking is well outside Crossroads' mandate right now,” said Father Rex Rorex, Director of Crossroads and Chair of the EVCSC's Multi-Cultural Committee. “(Crossroads) is an emergency organization.”

But he hopes that the board of directors will consider expanding Crossroads' mandate in order to deal with this issue, which was identified as a priority at a year-end EVCSC retreat.

But “it'll be a long way down the pipe before the board decides anything,” Rorex said. If they should deny the request, the EVCSC hopes to still hire the services coordinator, but put this person elsewhere.

At the same time, the EVCSC — with the help of Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church Pastor Father Jim Simko — is working to recruit a priest to come to Estes Park to give Sunday mass in Spanish. The majority of Hispanics here are Catholic.

Assistant Town Administrator Randy Repola, who regularly attends EVCSC meetings, recently had a meeting with a Spanish-speaking priest in Fort Collins.

“We had a lengthy conver-

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Library board approves architectural firm for renovations

By LUCIE R. WILLISIE

The Library Board unanimously approved using the 25-year-old Estes Park architectural firm Thorp Associates PC for the recently voter-approved \$805,000 renovations to the Estes Park Public Library.

Thorp Associates PC is the same firm that helped build the library 10 years ago, so is intimately acquainted with the building and design. “We have all the drawings from the first phase,” said Roger Thorp, architect, which would allow his firm to be more inexpensive as well as efficient than a firm “unknown with the first phase.”

The firm is licensed in 16 states and a couple of Canadian Provinces and most of their work on libraries has been right here in Colorado.

Now, 10 years later, Thorp suggests using a

process called “Design Build” which creates a partnership between the architect, the contractor and the library. This eliminates the low bid process and creates a more efficient, more economical and more cooperative environment for the entire process from beginning to end. “We make the decision(s) together,” Thorp added. “Everyone works together as a team.”

At their presentation on Monday night, the firm also recommended three contractors they would feel comfortable working with, if picked to do the renovations.

The three construction firms that the board will interview are:

- R. C. Heath Construction in Fort Collins.
- Drahota Construction, also in Fort Collins.
- And, Fisbeck Sheel from Greeley.

The dates and times of these interviews will be announced and posted at the library in case

anyone from the public is interested in attending. They are open to the public since at least a quorum of the board will be assembled.

Roger Thorp also made recommendations and gave a timeline from initial interviews to start of construction. From these initial interviews to the start of construction should roughly take about four months, including the architect and builder to get together, the contractor and architect to work out their plans together, and another couple of months to break down the budget and get permits to build.

Dennis McHenry, board member and treasurer, will be the official liaison between the board and the architect and contractor. The rest of the Building Expansion Committee includes Board President Al Wasson, Board Vice President Stephen Little and newly appointed Board Member Helen Platt.

Additional library business included the following:

- Melanie Koslowski was hired as a 20-hour, part-time youth services assistant.
- The 2000 budget has been reconciled to within \$7.43.
- The Friends of the Library will provide \$1,300 in funds for 2001 to pay for subscriptions to *The Wall Street Journal*, *Value Line*, *Investors Business Daily* and *Barrons*. The library should be able to cover these expenses themselves starting in 2002.
- An up-to-date technology plan needs to be in place by March 15 to get reduced rates on telecommunication fees.
- Wasson will remain board president, Little as board vice president, McHenry as board treasurer and Cami Sebern as board secretary.

New Larimer County Commissioners sworn in

The two new Larimer County Commissioners elected on Nov. 7, Tom Bender (District 2) and Glenn Gibson (District 3), were sworn in at a ceremony at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 9, in Courtroom 5B of the Larimer County Justice Center, 201 LaPorte Ave., Fort Collins. The Honorable Chief Judge James Hiatt presided.

Larimer County District Attorney Stu

VanMeveren was sworn in at the same time.

A reception following the ceremony was held in the second floor snack vending area.

The weekly Tuesday morning Administrative Matters meeting of the Commissioners was postponed and held at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday and dealt mainly with the

reorganization of the Board. Instead of public comment and a full agenda, they chose a Chair and a Chair Pro-Tem. The new Board decided which legislative responsibilities each Commissioner would be assigned.

Editor's note: Watch for the upcoming Government Directory being updated with all new numbers for 2001.

Admission fees in rec areas on the rise

Admission fees to the Arapaho National Recreation Area (ANRA) are now required for each passenger vehicle entering the ANRA.

A one-day pass costs \$5, a three-day pass is \$10, a week pass is \$15 and an annual pass is \$30.

The admission fees are in addition to the overnight camping use fees already charged at all developed campgrounds in the ANRA.

After months of considering how to best maintain quality visitor facilities, services and natural resource protection in the ANRA, the USDA Forest Service decided to implement the new fees to sustain and improve area operations.

Under the Recreation Fee Demonstration Authority, authorized by Congress in 1996, most of the new fees collected in the ANRA will be reinvested in facility maintenance and enhancements, visitor services, and natural resource conservation programs.

The 36,000 acre recreation area, located in Grand County between Granby and Grand Lake, includes major reservoirs of the Colorado-Big Thompson water diversion project.

Forest Service officers will be checking vehicles for admission passes beginning this week.



Photo by Walt Hester

Strolling

A bighorn sheep bathes in morning sunshine last week north of Fall River Road.

EMT classes offered at medical center

Front Range Community College, along with Estes Park Medical Center Ambulance Service, will be offering an Emergency Medical Technician Basic class.

The classes will be held at The Estes Park Medical Center Longs Peak classroom. They will follow the criteria set by the state of Colorado EMS Division for EMT-B.

Students will be eligible to sit for the state written examination for state certification after successful completion of the class.

The class will begin on Jan. 16. Classes will be held on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6:30 — 9:45 p.m. Two full Saturdays will also be required.

Financial assistance and college credit is available. Anyone interested in this class should contact Susan Panico, Director of Estes Park Center Front Range Community College at 586-9529 x 3131 or Erie Collom, paramedic at Estes Park Ambulance, at 586-0291 or 586-8933.

Public Agenda

Wednesday, Jan. 10

Estes Park Housing Authority, 8:30 a.m., Municipal Building.

Thursday, Jan. 11

Light and Power Committee 8 a.m., Municipal Building.

Tuesday, Jan. 16

Estes Park Planning Commission noon, study session; 1:30 p.m., regular meeting, Municipal Building.
Estes Valley Recreation and Park District 7 p.m., 18-hole golf course.

Wednesday, Jan. 17

Estes Park Urban Renewal Authority 8 a.m., Municipal Building.
School Board 7 p.m., June Patten Administration Building.

Thursday, Jan. 18

Public Works Committee 3:30 p.m., Municipal Building.

Tuesday, Jan. 23

Hospital Board 7 p.m., Prospect Park Nursing Facility conference room.
Town Board 7 p.m., Municipal Building.
Upper Thompson Sanitation District 2 p.m., 2220 Mall Road.

Hospital board to meet with committee

The Park Hospital District Board of Directors will meet with the Community Advisory Committee in the Longs Peak Conference Room at 3 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 11.

Correction:

In a Jan. 3 story about sledding accidents at Rocky Moun-

tain National Park, the phone number to call for snow conditions was incorrect. The number to call is 586-1206.

New Year's baby: Little girl one of few in Salsbury clan

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Chocolate Drop store in Barlow Plaza. Both of their boys were born in Denver.

Greg used to work in the corporate world as a computer programmer and traveled a lot, but the family decided that a better life was available here in Estes, so moving has opened up doors, especially for Greg. Now Greg and Rozanne can share the baby duties more equally and Greg will be able to spend much more time with Meghan. With this baby "it will be differ-

ent," he said, with a big grin on his face.

But Meghan almost wasn't the New Year's baby at all. In fact, many of the last few births from Estes had to be sent down to other hospitals in the Valley, mainly because of the lack of an anesthesiologist, who has been unavailable for work due to an accident he suffered.

In fact, the anesthesiologist on call had already left for home on Friday when Rozanne went into labor around 3:30 p.m. It was un-

certain at that point whether or not Rozanne would have to go down to the valley. But, as luck and fate would have it, he was contacted and agreed to return to help out.

Although Dr. Martin Koschnitz is the Salsbury's doctor, Dr. Astrid Lampey stepped in to actually deliver Meghan early Saturday morning.

"The doctors and entire staff were terrific," dad extolled. "Absolutely wonderful." Especially

when compared to the delivery of their two boys in Denver, they felt they received "much more personalized service ... specific to their needs" here in Estes. They felt much more comfortable and at home this time around.

Mom and daughter left the hospital Sunday and are both in great health.

Right now, the Chocolate Drop is closed for the next two weeks, and dad plans to "just spend time with the family."

Population: Services such as classes to teach English, church services in Spanish, are lacking

Continued from page 1

sation," Repola said. "He's done Spanish mass in other communities. He said, ironically, they didn't last."

The priest said he would be willing to try it in Estes, but said he didn't have a reliable car and therefore couldn't begin until spring. The EVCSC is considering writing a letter to the archbishop of the local Catholic archdiocese asking for help.

Help Wanted

When local Hispanic Olga Rojas moved to Estes Park 12 years ago, she was 19 years old, pregnant and unable to speak English.

"It was very hard for me," Rojas said in a telephone interview. Yet she eventually learned English, secured a year-round job at a local bed and breakfast and bought a house for her family.

She is looked up to as a success story among Hispanics in Estes Park, and also serves on the EVCSC's Multi-Cultural Committee.

"It's something the people are very interested in having here," Rojas said of the Spanish masses. "We don't have many people who speak English, so that's probably one of the reasons people don't go to mass."

This lead Rojas to discuss what she felt was the second initial priority towards improving the Hispanic's quality of life here.

"English classes is another thing that people want and really need," Rojas said. "I have talked to a lot of people who don't speak English and they are interested in having these classes."

Rojas said English classes have been offered in the past by Park R-3 School District, but she said the classes were too expensive, too short, and only taught the very basics of the English language.

"If you never learn the language, you'll never be a part of the community," Rojas said. "All of us are paying taxes, too. I think it's only fair to get something to give progress to these people too."

Linda Rehn, who coordinates the English Language Learner (ELL) classes for the School District, said the courses cost \$75 for six classes. She said about 15 to 20 people attended the last session, which was held from October to November.

In addition, Front Range Community College offers nine- and 12-week courses that start Feb. 5. They cost \$279.

In the schools themselves, the number of students enrolled in the ELL program has almost doubled in the past year — from 22 to 40.

This is the first year the School District has a full-time ELL teacher, who teaches the 25 elementary and intermediate students. The 15 middle and high school students receive instruction from a tutor.

A state test determines what level of instruction Spanish-speaking students receive. Lower-scoring students are placed in ELL classes, while better performers receive tutelage.

This was also the first year the school district

was awarded an Emergency Immigrant Status Grant, a state grant worth \$100 per student per year.

Rehn said the benefits of ELL instruction, which began about five years ago, are starting to bear fruit. "They assimilate quicker," she said. "They're achieving at a higher rate and more quickly."

Rojas' seven-year old boy is in second grade at the elementary school.

"He loves school," she said. "He loves English. He doesn't want to talk Spanish anymore. It's probably why we'd choose never to be anywhere else."

"The environment is just perfect for them," she said. "Education is very important to my children and I don't think they'll get a better education in Mexico."

Part two of this series will examine discrimination and services available for Hispanics in Estes Park. It will appear in Friday's Trail-Gazette.



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Subscription Rates:

In Larimer, Boulder and Weld Counties.....\$32 per year

Elsewhere in Colorado.....\$43 per year

Outside of Colorado.....\$51 per year

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http://www.eprtrail.com

The Estes Park Trail-Gazette, (USPS 594820) succeeding the Estes Park Trail and the Mountain Gazette, is published every Wednesday and Friday. Estes Park Trail-Gazette mailing address is P.O. Box 1707, Estes Park, CO, 80517. Offices are located at 251 Moraine Ave., Estes Park, CO. Telephone (970) 586-3356, fax (970) 586-9532. Web site: http://www.eprtrail.com, e-mail: editor@eprtrail.com. Periodical postage paid at Estes Park, CO, 80517.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Estes Park Trail-Gazette, P.O. Box 1707, Estes Park, CO, 80517.

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