

Proclamation

“COLORADO YOUTH AWARENESS WEEK”

September 11-15, 2023

WHEREAS: Colorado Youth Leadership Network, as well as community partners and local businesses, recognizes September 11-15, 2023 as the 9th annual Colorado Youth Awareness Week; and

WHEREAS: Colorado Youth Awareness Week will feature activities each day to celebrate and honor youth by offering Youth Engagement Opportunities and professional development experiences for youth-serving professionals; and

WHEREAS: youth are our future leaders and regardless of whether they are within an institutional setting, cross-system or non-system. Their intelligence, passion, and resiliency are critical to the state’s future success; and

WHEREAS: Colorado Youth Awareness Week originated as Pueblo Youth Awareness Week, created by a team of adults and young people to celebrate Pueblo youth voice; and

WHEREAS: We need youth voices in communities in Colorado and across the country to lead us into a better future and through civic engagement community youth-serving agencies and local partners helps prepare young adults for effective leadership.

NOW, THEREFORE, we do hereby proclaim September 11-15, 2023 as **“YOUTH AWARENESS WEEK”** in the City of Pueblo, Colorado and call upon the people of Pueblo to observe this day by celebrating young people in the community and supporting youth empowerment and civic engagement in Pueblo.

Proclamation

“Creek Week 2021” September 25 - October 3, 2021

WHEREAS: City and County of Pueblo is fortunate to have extensive and diverse natural resources, such as forests, grasslands, riparian areas, lakes, creeks and a wide variety of open spaces; and

WHEREAS: The Fountain Creek Watershed is a unique and important resource and asset to the residents and visitors of Fountain and the Pikes Peak Region; and

WHEREAS: The Fountain Creek Watershed Flood Control and Greenway District is partnering with the City of Colorado Springs, El Paso County, Pueblo County, the Cities of Manitou Springs, Fountain, and towns of Monument and Green Mountain Falls, and numerous community organizations to coordinate the 8th Annual “Creek Week” cleanup, which will encourage the protection, restoration and maintenance of the Fountain Creek watershed; and

WHEREAS: This 9-day litter clean-up effort runs September 25th through October 3, 2021, throughout the watershed and is now the largest cleanup effort in our State; and

WHEREAS: “Creek Week” programs and activities are designed to raise awareness about the littering issue within our watershed, to encourage organizations and individuals to collect litter and debris to make Fountain Creek and the watershed cleaner and safer; and

WHEREAS: Businesses, churches, schools, non-profits, neighborhood associations, youth groups, service clubs and individuals are encouraged to form a “Creek Crew” to clean up at a “Creek Week” project site; and

WHEREAS: “Creek Week” litter removal activities will reduce pollution in our creeks and clogs in our waterways that can lead to flooding, provide for a safer drinking water supply, and enhance wildlife habitat and property values.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, by the authority vested in us, do hereby proclaim the week of September 25 – October 3, 2021, as *“Creek Week”* in the City and County of Pueblo, Colorado. We encourage all citizens, neighborhoods, civic groups and businesses in the Fountain Creek Watershed to help protect, restore and maintain our waterways by participating in “Creek Week” activities.

Proclamation

“Jeff Valdez Day”

September 9, 2022

WHEREAS: The Pueblo Latino Chamber Foundation’s Lifetime Achievement Award was created to exemplify and honor individuals who have exhibited continuous and selfless contributions to the Hispanic community of Pueblo and beyond in any one or more of the following areas: business, education, government, humanitarian, nonprofit, philanthropic, politics, and social causes; and

WHEREAS: Growing up in Pueblo as the youngest of 9 children, Jeff Valdez rose early each morning with his parents and siblings to work various jobs including cleaning the Mesa Drive-in movie theater - a job he thought was going to be the closest he would ever get to Hollywood; and

WHEREAS: Inspired by movies, Jeff was known to put on plays in the neighborhoods he grew up in. He expanded into comedy and music after graduating from Central High School; and

WHEREAS: When Jeff headed west to Hollywood, roles were limited to such stereotypes as “gang member No. 3” and Jeff began to dedicate his career to changing the narrative of how Latinos are portrayed in films and on TV. His characters are astronauts, in the military, millionaires and a great American family that happens to be Latino; and

WHEREAS: Jeff has been credited with pioneering a new category in American television, the English Language Latino Market and founded Si TV which was the first Latino national channel for English speaking Latinos in the United States; and

WHEREAS: Jeff Valdez is a serial entrepreneur who has been producing, writing, and directing TV and film for over 25 years with the likes of Nickelodeon, Disney, Showtime, NBC and HBO Max. Jeff has been listed as “One of the Top 50 people who Matter” by CNN; and

WHEREAS: As successful as Jeff has become, he still returns to Pueblo to help local nonprofits in their fundraising efforts and always makes a nostalgic stop at Passkey’s to get a grinder and then to the Klamm Shell to enjoy it over a schooner of beer.

NOW, THEREFORE, we, by the authority vested in us, do hereby officially proclaim September 9, 2022 “Jeff Valdez Day” in the City of Pueblo and congratulates Jeff Valdez in this special recognition honoring his significant contributions in the film and television industry along with his ongoing support of local Pueblo nonprofits.