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Internet Writing 1

75 Year Old Bridge Damaged by Flood

Construction finally complete after a year of county concerns.

One year ago the ancient bridge which soared over Roaring Creek crumbled into raging flood waters. Now a year later, after extensive construction, the county has managed to fix the problem for county commuters.

The 33-foot long bridge cost a total of \$700,000. Mixed funds were contributed from the following organizations:

- County - \$100,000
- State - \$200,000
- U.S. Department of Transportation - \$400,000

“The bridge was not in great shape when it was destroyed. We already had some money in the county budget for repairs. Problem was, we didn’t have enough to replace the bridge. We were just going to repair it. Fortunately, some state and federal money was available, and we were able to do it a lot quicker than we expected,” Department head of County Transportation Ronald Lively said.

The bridge allowed the residence of the Oak Grove neighborhood easy access to Highway 19, which leads to Midville. Detours directed commuters 9 miles out of their way to go to school and work in Midville.

“Travelling all that way has made it very inconvenient for a lot of people. We’ve had to use a lot of time and gasoline just to make what otherwise would be very short trips. Having the bridge erected so quickly is a blessing,” Attorney Josh Spiva said.

The bridge has been open for 2 weeks now. The official opening ceremony is this morning at 11. The special guests attending are:

- Midville Mayor Seth Montana
- U.S. Congressman Nancy Draughorn
- U.S. Senator Warren Johns

Although the bridge damages and construction have been a concern and have created hardships for the community, the residents are thrilled about the re-opening of the well-traveled bridge.