



WEEKEND EDITION
FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY
JAN. 30 - FEB. 1, 2015
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THE CHRONICLE-NEWS



50 CENTS
TRINIDAD
COLORADO

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THE FINE PRINT

AREA SPORTS ACTION
BASEBALL
FRI & SAT: TSJC @ Eastern Arizona, Thatcher, AZ 12 p.m. (2 games / same time both days)
BASKETBALL
FRI: Aguilar hosts Sierra Grande 5 p.m.
Trinidad vs. Holoeres Huerta (Boys only) Freshman 4 p.m., JV 5:30 p.m., Varsity 7 p.m.
SAT: Primero vs. Sierra Grande 5 p.m.
Hoehne hosts Rye 2 p.m.
Trinidad hosts Sangre de Cristo (Girls only) 2:30 p.m.
WRESTLING
FRI & SAT: Trinidad @ Las Vegas Tourney
FOOTBALL
SUN: 49th Annual Super Bowl with NE Patriots vs Seattle Seahawks in Arizona @ 4:30 p.m. on NBC.

JAN. 29 - FEB. 1
ABSTRACT WORKSHOP
SATURDAY & SUNDAY (10 a.m.-3 p.m.) & FEBRUARY 7-8 (same time)
TSJC's Professor of Art Vilas Tonape will offer a 2-weekend abstract painting workshop at the College Art Department. Registration and info: Josephine Chacon, 719-846-5474.
SW Youth Art Show
THRU SUNDAY: The 3rd annual Shades of the Southwest Youth Art Show at Raton's Old Pass Gallery, 145 S. First St. in Raton. Info: 575-445-2052.

Today's Quote

"You can fool all the people some of the time and some of the people all the time, but you cannot fool all the people all the time."
-Abraham Lincoln

FEBRUARY 3
Las Animas County
TUESDAY (9 a.m.) PLEASE NOTE THIS CHANGE: The Board of County Commissioners regular meeting has been rescheduled for next Tuesday, Feb. 10, in the Las Animas Courthouse, 200 E. First St., Room 201. Information: 719-845-2568.

VETERAN'S TOWN HALL
TUESDAY (5-6:30 p.m.) All veterans and their families are invited to attend an open Town Hall meeting at the Raton VFW Post, 106 Park Ave. Speaker will be Director Andrew Welch with the NM VA Health Care System. Info: 505-256-6495.

Trinidad City Council
TUESDAY (7 p.m.) Regular session will be held in Council Chambers, City Hall, 135 N. Animas St. Information: Audra Garrett, 719-846-9843.

PUBLIC SERVICE
SPECIAL NOTICE
While they last - The Chronicle-News 2014 Collector Mugs with beautiful artwork by Trinidad Artist Paula Little are here, 200 West Church St. Info: 719-846-3311.

Carnegie Library Teen Action
FEBRUARY 5 (4-6 p.m.) Teen Anime and Manga (Japanese animation) Club meets at the library, 202 N. Animas St. Info: Felicity Boepple, 719-846-6841 or felicity.boepple@trinidad.co.gov.

Carnegie Library Event
FEBRUARY 6 (3:45-5 p.m.) The Library will host a Jan Austen Tea Party for all Austen lovers (teens and adults). Info: Felicity Boepple, 719-846-6841 or felicity.boepple@trinidad.co.gov.

Senior Driving Class
FEBRUARY 12 (9 a.m.-1 p.m.) The AARP Driving Class will be held at the Sayre Senior Center, 1222 San Pedro St. Registration and information: Carl Mozengo, 719-868-2288.

FUN & FUNDRAISER DINNER
FEBRUARY 28 (6 p.m.) The Trinidad State Educational Foundation will host their annual fundraiser dinner and silent auction "Aim for the Fence" with featured guest speaker Colorado Rockies great Todd Helton at the THS Donnelly Gym. Info: Linda Perry (719-846-5649) or Toni DeAngelis (719-846-5520).

CALL FOR FUN!
MARCH 14 (entry deadline) Call for artists for "There's No Such Thing as an Ordinary Cat" all-media art show scheduled for March 20 at Oasis Studios/Galerie Vivant, 214/218 E. Main. Info: Susan Palmer, 805-603-6181.

9HEALTH FAIR
APRIL 18 (7:30 a.m.-Noon) The annual 9Health Fair will be held at the Mt. San Rafael Hospital, 410 Benedicta Ave. Info: Lynda Pachelli at 719-846-8051.

SUICIDE/CRISIS HOTLINES:
*ADULT HOPE: 800-784-2433
*TEEN: 877-968-8454
*GLB-YOUTH: 866-488-7386
*VET-2-VET: 877-838-2838
"it is often in the darkest skies that we see the brightest stars."
ABUSE HOTLINES:
*Domestic Abuse Hotline: In Trinidad call 719-846-6665 (24-hours a day). In Walsenburg call: 719-738-0770. National Hotline: 1-800-790-SAFE (7233).
*Animal Abuse: Report animal abuse and dog/cock fighting at Crime Stoppers anonymous tip line: 720-913-7867.

RIVER CALL

Purgatoire River Call as of: 01/29/15. Johns Flood ditch: Priority # 9 --- Appropriation date: 01/01/1863.

Trinidad Reservoir Accounting:
Release 0.06 AF
Inflow 59.06 AF -- 29.78 CFS
Evaporation 0 AF
Content 16,108 AF
Elevation 6,177.77
Precipitation 0
Downstream River Call /

John Martin Reservoir: (Conservation Storage) 05/31/1949.

PRESERVING FAMILY HERITAGE

'It's the cowboy way'

Landon Berry chooses life on the range

By Tim Keller
Correspondent
The Chronicle-News

RATON - Although Landon Berry grew up moving cattle from high atop horses' backs, when he graduated from Raton High School in 2011, he accepted the standard sage advice: go to college and get something to fall back on in case the cowboy thing doesn't work out.

He spent two school years at New Mexico State University (NMSU) in Las Cruces working toward a degree in mechanical engineering, though he never grew a vision of what he might do with that degree. In May 2013, he came home from college and never went back. He turns 22 next month. He's the sixth generation of his family to raise cattle for a living on the family ranch, and he has no intention of falling back.

The Berrys came from Ireland via Scotland around 1890 to work in the new coal mines around Raton. When his brother was killed in an explosion at the Dutchman mine in Blossburg, Patrick Berry left mining in favor of farming atop Johnson Mesa. By 1896 he'd bought some calves and registered a brand with the Territory of New Mexico.

Eventually the mesa-top winters drove the Berry family down into Bear Canyon and Yankee Canyon. Landon Berry lives in a fam-

Continued on Page 3 ...



Photos by Tim Keller / The Chronicle-News

Landon Berry gave college a shot—two years toward mechanical engineering at NMSU in Las Cruces—before deciding to throw in full-time as a cowboy on the Berry ranch, making him the sixth generation of his family to manage cattle from horseback.



Photo courtesy of Greg Boyce / TSJC

Sally the llama seen wandering around the campus of Trinidad State Junior College last April.

ANIMAL CRUELTY

Charges dismissed in llama death case

Staff report
The Chronicle-News

When a runaway llama named Sally was killed in Atchison Canyon on Trinidad's north side on April 21, 2014, the event was described as a tragedy. Criminal charges against the person who killed the llama were dismissed in Third District Court this week after it was revealed that the killers were acting at the behest of the llama's owner, who apparently felt the llama had become a nuisance and a threat to public safety.

District Attorney Frank Ruybalid said in a Wednesday phone call that it was difficult to make the charge of animal cruelty stick after it was revealed the llama's owner had asked the accused to kill her llama. The llama was seen wandering around on the campus of Trinidad State Junior College last April and attracted considerable media attention on the Internet and from multiple media outlets.

Sally the llama was found dead
Continued on Page 5 ...

SUSPENSION STAYED

DA Ruybalid disciplined by State Supreme Court

By Steve Block
The Chronicle-News

Third Judicial District Attorney Frank Ruybalid was disciplined Wednesday by Presiding Disciplinary Judge William Lucero as part of an agreement between Ruybalid and the Office of Attorney Regulation Counsel, an arm of the Colorado Supreme Court. The DA's law license will be suspended for six months under the terms of the agreement, with the suspension being stayed depending upon successful completion of robust audit and practice monitoring conditions.

"Our office's goal is to help protect the public, and today's agreement helps ensure the people of Colorado receive the best representation in criminal matters before the Third Judicial District Courts," said Jim Coyle, Attorney Regulation Counsel.

The audit includes a review of the DA office's filing system, as well as the creation, logging, documentation and tracking of all cases. Also under review will be the office's evidence collections, discovery and disclosure systems, as well as the office's system of ensuring compliance with court orders and calendar deadlines. The audit requires that effective systems be put into place.

The practice monitoring conditions shall require caseload reviews by the practice monitor involving at least 32 hours per month for the first six months; and reduced amounts every six months thereafter. Mr. Ruybalid shall also be required to pay costs and attend an attorney ethics school, according to a state Supreme Court press release. If any of the probation conditions are violated, Ruybalid will be subject to the six-month suspension of his license and will be required to pe-

tion for reinstatement at the conclusion of the suspension period.

An investigation by the Office of Attorney Regulation Counsel found that in numerous cases, beginning in 2010, Ruybalid failed to comply with court orders and failed to make proper and timely disclosures to the defense, including scientific test results, witness criminal histories, exhibits and expert witness testimony. Those actions resulted in numerous criminal cases being dismissed in the Third Judicial District Courts, which includes both Las Animas



The Chronicle-News file photo

Las Animas County District Attorney Frank Ruybalid

and Huerfano Counties. The DA stipulated to 13 violations of the Colorado Rules of Professional Conduct, including failing to competently represent the State of Colorado, engaging in conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice and failing to properly supervise assistant district attorneys.

The Office of Attorney Regulation Counsel investigates and prosecutes attorneys accused of violating the Colorado Rules of Professional Conduct. The Office employs 21 attorneys and seven non-attorney investigators.

WEATHER WATCH

Friday: A chance of snow before 9 a.m., then a chance of rain. Cloudy, with a high near 43. South southwest wind 10 to 15 mph.

Chance of precipitation is 40 percent. New precipitation amounts of less than a tenth of an inch possible. Night: Rain likely before midnight, then snow likely. Cloudy, with a low around 25. West wind 5 to 10 mph becoming north northwest in the evening. Chance of precipitation is 60 percent.

Saturday: A chance of snow before noon, then a chance of rain. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 37. North wind 5 to 10 mph.

Chance of precipitation is 30 percent. Night: A chance of rain before 9 p.m., then a chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 21. North northwest wind 5 to 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 37. North wind 5 to 10 mph becoming southeast in the afternoon. Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 20. South wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west southwest after midnight.

Weather Sponsored by:
LA QUINTA INN & SUITES
Inn & Suites Wellness Hotel
719-845-0102



WESTERN LIFE

'It's the cowboy way'

Landon Berry chooses life on the range

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ily house built on the mesa before 1900 but later moved downhill, the first house in Yankee Canyon when driving from Johnson Mesa down to Raton.

The family's 17 horses run free in big open pasture atop the mesa with a year-round spring at 8600' elevation. Landon drives his pickup and trailer 11 miles to the horses from his house at the Berry headquarters. In the deep snow of winter, he has to ride one horse three miles in from the nearest pavement to bring others out. This is how the Berrys have always done it.

They're dedicated horsemen—the family doesn't own a 4-wheeler—and they need the horses for moving the cattle that provide the family its living.

Landon's grandfather, John Berry, is still working at 84, one of the reasons Landon cites for leaving college. "I wanted to have as much time with my grandpa as possible." When Landon won the 2011 New Mexico high school rodeo championship in saddle bronc riding, he followed his father, Patrick, a former saddle bronc champion who's been a dedicated horseman all his life, spending large blocks of time with famed horse trainers Tom Dorrance, Ray Hunt, and Pat Parelli.

Landon spent much of January in Mineral Wells, TX, working with Chris Cox, another famed horseman and trainer. Last year, Landon was featured on Cox's RFD-TV show in a ten-episode series called "Horsemanship Showdown," now available on DVD.

"We're horseback every day—me, my dad, mom, and grandpa," Landon says of his life on the ranch with his family. "We buy and sell cattle and tend other people's cattle. After this whole drought and cattle prices going down, it can be nerve-racking. My grandpa and I were riding one day, working, and he said, 'I don't know what's going to happen to this place.' I said, 'I don't know either, but I'm gonna stick around and find out.'"

From his kitchen table, Landon sips coffee and points out the window east to the snow crusting the mesa ridge close by. It's an extraordinary view, and gorgeous. "There's no place in the world I'd rather be," he says.

Citing the challenges of drought, inheritance taxes, and market forces, he says,



Photos by Tim Keller / The Chronicle-News

Atop Johnson Mesa, above, in November, Landon Berry gathers horses for the morning's work. Landon Berry watches and waits during branding at the Berry ranch in Yankee Canyon that lies below Johnson Mesa. New Mexico Territory registered the Berry brand on July 17, 1896. Landon Berry, below left, drags a calf to branding at the Berry ranch headquarters near the top of Yankee Canyon.

"Those are the problems, but it's the best way of life there is. I'm not making any money, but as long as I can keep the land and people keep eating beef, I should be okay."

There's no mention of college or mechanical engineering or falling back on something. As he told his grandpa, he's in it for the long haul. About to turn 22, the future is uncertain, but he's game, and he's horseback.

"It's not the easy way," he says. "It's the cowboy way."



Home on the Range

Lyrics by Dr. Brewster M. Higley (1870)

Oh give me a home where the buffalo roam,
Where the deer and the antelope play,
Where seldom is heard a discouraging word,
And the skies are not cloudy all day.

Chorus:
*Home, home on the range,
Where the deer and the antelope play,
Where seldom is heard a discouraging word,
And the skies are not cloudy all day.*

Where the air is so pure, and the zephyrs so free,
The breezes so balmy and light,
That I would not exchange my home on the range,
For all of the cities so bright.

The Red man was pressed from this part of the west,
He's likely no more to return,
To the banks of the Red River where seldom if ever
Their flickering campfires burn.

How often at night when the heavens are bright,
With the light from the glittering stars,
Have I stood there amazed and asked as I gazed,
If their glory exceeds that of ours.

Oh, I love these wild flowers in this dear land of ours,
The curlew I love to hear cry,
And I love the white rocks and the antelope flocks,
That graze on the mountain slopes high.

Oh give me a land where the bright diamond sand,
Flows leisurely down in the stream;
Where the graceful white swan goes gliding along,
Like a maid in a heavenly dream.

Then I would not exchange my home on the range,
Where the deer and the antelope play;
Where seldom is heard a discouraging word,
And the skies are not cloudy all day.



Valentine's Day Prime Rib Dinner for Two
Limited Seating - Reserve TODAY!

Valentine's Day Menu:

- Prime Rib • Twice Baked Potatoes
- Home Made Rolls • Spinach Salad
- Asparagus • Chocolate Dessert Fountain

PLUS! A Rose & 2 Glasses of Mt. Carmel Wine!

\$65 Per Couple plus tax

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The SCISSORS EDGE Salon

846-4427

159 E. Main

AYSO Soccer Sign Up & Equipment Swap

Everyone Plays
Family Fun for Everyone

Trinidad Community Center

Saturday, January 31 • 10 am to 1 pm
Tuesday, February 3 • 5 pm to 7 pm

Love Kids?
Coaches and Referees Urgently Needed
(no experience necessary)

Sabine 719-680-2013 or Penny 719-859-2584

Trinidad Pediatric & Adult Therapy

Hosts a Seminar by Magdala Ramirez

THE RETURN OF THE ORIGINAL VIBRATION

*A journey into the rediscovery of the ancient ways

January 31 • 12 - 4 pm

at the La Quinta Inn
2833 Toupal Dr, Trinidad

\$25/ person
719-846-4061

EASTER CONCERT TIME!!

Trinidad United Methodist Church
will start Rehearsals for the
Spring/Easter Concert

Join us for lots of fun!

Wednesdays starting January 28th
5:15PM