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THURSDAY
SEPT 24, 2015

THE CHRONICLE NEWS



50 CENTS
TRINIDAD
COLORADO

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THE FINE PRINT

SEPTEMBER 24

CAREER EXPLORATION THURSDAY (1:30 p.m. - 4 p.m.)
The Trinidad Workforce Center will be hosting informational interviews for career exploration at the center, 140 N. Commercial. An Informational Interview is a meeting in which a potential job seeker seeks advice on their career. There will be a surprise guest at 2 p.m. Businesses taking part in the event include Edward Jones, Mt. San Rafael Hospital and The Chronicle-News.

TRINIDAD AMBULANCE THURSDAY (4:30 p.m.) District Board of Directors regular meeting will be held at the Trinidad Ambulance District Office, 939 Robinson Ave. Information: 719-846-6886.

HOEHNE SCHOOLS THURSDAY (7 p.m.) Hoehne School Board will meet in regular session in the Superintendents Office. Information: Hannah Baca, 719-846-4457 ext.109.

Today's Quote

"It ain't over till it's over."
~ Yogi Berra

SEPTEMBER 25

TRINDIEFEST WEEKEND FRIDAY-SATURDAY: Complete Schedule will appear in Friday's Edition of The Chronicle-News.

SUMMER ART TREK FRIDAY (5-8 p.m.) The 4th Downtown Annual Summer Art Trek will be held the last Friday of every month thru October. Relax dining out with friends, listen to great music and revel in terrific artwork.

WINE & CHOCOLATE TASTING FRIDAY (8-10 p.m.) Annual benefit for the Carnegie Library will be held at the Mitchell Museum, 140 E. Main St. Info: 719-846-6841.

FREE MEN'S BREAKFAST SATURDAY (8 a.m.) Bring your sons and join us for food, fellowship and fun every 4th Saturday at the First Christian Church, 402 E. First St. Information: Tom Berry, 719-846-0879 or 719-846-3843. Event is free - everyone is welcome.

FARMERS' MARKET SATURDAY (8 a.m.-Noon) 15th Annual event every Saturday in Cimino Park runs thru mid-October. Information: 719-680-0184.

KIDS FISHING DAY SATURDAY (9 a.m.- Noon) The annual Izaak Walton event will be held at the Central Park Lake. All kids (16 and under) are welcome to come and fish for free. Info: Larry French, 719-845-7440.

FOR MOM'S TO BE SATURDAY (1-3 p.m.) FREE 9-week program for Las Animas County expectant mothers will be held at Mt. Carmel Health & Wellness, 911 Robinson Ave. Runs thru Oct. 3. Info: Marty Hackett, 719-845-4826.

BENEFIT DANCE SATURDAY (7-11 p.m.) Benefit Dance to support the Spanish Peaks Fire Dept. will be held at the Spanish Peaks Inn in Gulnare, just south of Aguilair. Info: Marilyn Carlson, 719-680-0688.

SUPPORT GROUPS SATURDAY & MONDAY (7:30-8:30 p.m.) Narcotics Anonymous meets Saturdays & Mondays at 120 W. Kansas St. Info: 719-220-0833.

FREE FOOD & MUSIC SUNDAY (3 p.m.) The First Christian Church will host this special afternoon free food and music event at Miner's Memorial on Main St. FCC Praise Team will provide the music. Info: 719-846-3843.

PUBLIC SERVICE

SAYRE SENIOR CENTER SEPTEMBER 30 (11 a.m.) Free class "Healthy Habits for a Healthier You" for brain health as we age. Info: 719-846-3336.

COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE OCTOBER 2 (Noon-4 p.m.) Help save a life! Bonfils Blood Drive will be held in the Pioneer Room at TSJC, 600 Prospect. Sign-up info: Bonfils, 800-365-0006 or www.bonfils.org.

BAR NI COMMUNITY GRANT OCTOBER 3 DEADLINE: The Fund is accepting grant proposals for area non-profits. Info: Tom Perry at tomandlindaperry@gmail.com.

WILDFIRE PREVENTION OCTOBER 3 (1-4:40 p.m.) Protect your home and property - Demonstration Site Tour at the Stonewall Fire Station, Hwy 12 in Stonewall. Reservations are required and space may be reserved by calling the SFPD office at 719-868-2249.

RIVER CALL

Purgatoire River Call as of: 09/23/15. Johns Flood Ditch: Priority # 5 --- Appropriation date: 03/20/1862.

Trinidad Reservoir Accounting:

Release 259.32 AF
Inflow 25.58 AF -- 12.90 CFS
Evaporation 10.26 AF
Content 22,918 AF
Elevation 6,187.58
Precipitation 0

Downstream River Call / Ninemile Canal: 05/10/1887.

TRINDIEFEST Independent film festival coming this weekend



THEY DID IT FIRST 'Skateboarding's First Wave' — Local friends share skate pioneer experience at TrindieFest event

By Eric John Monson
News Editor
The Chronicle-News

"It was all the place," says Tim Keller nodding to his longtime friend across the table.

"Yeah, it was all about where we were," replies Peter Berg, of how the pair's adolescence has been resurrected in the film "Skateboarding's First Wave," the award winning short-documentary being shown Saturday afternoon during TrindieFest.

It was also about the time. Keller and Berg are waxing nostalgically about their youth and, incidentally their roles in skateboarding history. They recall grey and sepia tinged images used in the film, gathered from their parents and their friend's parents, who documented the Palisades Skate Team so thoroughly, not knowing then they were catching a quirk

Continued on Page 6 ...



Palisadian-Post photo by Rich Schmitt

Tim Keller who lives in Raton and is a regular contributor to The Chronicle-News, makes cutbacks down the upper hill at Palisades High School.

TRINIDAD HIGH CELEBRATES



Photo courtesy of Louis Rino / THS

Pictured from left: Dante Maes, Cameron Gomez, Bryan Romero, Dante Duran, Brittnee Coberly, Darian Lujan, Devon Sandoval, Antonio Rivera, and Shayde Gettler.

Homecoming Week filled with fun times, good memories

By Steve Block
The Chronicle-News

When the Friday night lights go on at Miners Stadium for Trinidad High School's Homecoming game showdown with the Alamosa Mighty Moose on September 25, the event marks a milestone for all high school students, most especially the 2016 Senior Class. Homecoming week features a series of events designed to elevate school spirit, while welcoming home THS alumni who have their own memories of Homecoming's past.

The day before Homecoming is called 'Throwback Thursday,' and the public is invited to a Barbecue event, beginning at 5:30 p.m., at Miners Stadium. That's followed by a bonfire / Pep Rally, beginning at 6:30 p.m., with a Snake dance included in the festivities. Friday is

Continued on Page 3 ...

CITY COUNCIL

Citizens propose utility rebate using marijuana taxes

By Steve Block
The Chronicle-News

Two local businessmen proposed using marijuana cultivation tax revenues to give rebates to City electrical ratepayers during Tuesday's City Council Work Session. Steve Bolton and Tom Murphy promoted the idea of what they called the 'Marijuana Electric Relief Initiative Jumpstart (MERI J),' to provide relief to Trinidad commercial and residential property owners, who pay some of the highest electrical rates in Colorado.

Murphy provided a history of Trinidad's often-troubled history with the Arkansas River Power

Authority (ARPA), whose non-producing power plant in Lamar has saddled Trinidad, and the five other ARPA member communities, with a serious debt load that could take years to resolve.

Bolton, whose wife, Carol, is a Council member and 2015 mayoral

candidate, said MERI J's backers still hoped to pass a City referendum requiring the City to devote a certain percentage of the tax revenues generated by cultivated marijuana to provide financial relief to beleaguered City ratepayers, but had also decided to ask City Council to pass a resolution in support of an ordinance providing relief to those ratepayers. Bolton said the plan's backers had gotten 60 signatures on a petition in support of their plans at the recent Labor Day Parade. He insisted the Council members get on board and do something positive to provide relief to ratepayers before the end of the year.

City Manager Gabe Engeland said the City administration would be happy to support an ordinance using the tax revenue to help out City electrical rate-



Steve Block / The Chronicle-News

City Manager Gabe Engeland, left, and City Attorney Les Downs listen carefully to a proposal to devote some of the City's cultivated marijuana tax revenues to defray the costs of City commercial and residential electrical ratepayers. Local businessman Steve Bolton, top right, provided information about using marijuana tax revenues to help out City electrical ratepayers at Tuesday's Council work session.



payers, but he added that he didn't think a referendum in support of the idea would be legal, because municipalities had the right to spend tax revenues as they saw fit, subject to City Council approval.

Steve Bolton disagreed, saying that a City referendum in support of the MERI J plan was not illegal, and claimed that the wording of the City's Home Rule Charter sup-

Continued on Page 2 ...

WEATHER WATCH

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 80. West wind around 10 mph becoming east northeast in the afternoon.

Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 51. East northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west in the evening.

Friday: Sunny, with a high near 79. West wind around 5 mph becoming east in the afternoon. **Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 52. East southwest wind around 5 mph becoming

southwest after midnight.

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 82. West southwest wind around 5 mph becoming southeast in the afternoon. **Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 54. East southeast wind around 5 mph becoming west southwest after midnight.



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TRINDIEFEST

'Skateboarding's First Wave' — Local friends share docu-drama experience at TrindieFest event

... Continued from Page 1

in history created by bored California youth, rangy and athletic like themselves, that would later become a world wide phenomenon.

"We were between the ages of 10 and 14," says Keller. "I was the oldest and basically it takes up a time period of two years from like '64 to '67 in there, so I was 13-15 and Peter was 10-12, something like that. When you seen the film you can always find me because I've had a growth spurt and I'm like a whole head taller than the rest of them."

Some 40 years later, Keller is a professional writer, photographer, regular contributor to The Chronicle-News and a recently retired high school English teacher from Raton, N.M. It was a story he wrote for the Palisadian-Post that spurred the later wave that became the film. Tim had taken a photo of his brother, back in 1964, then a tinkerer photographer, that shows his younger brother Terry riding a swooping "wave" of pavement down the graded and concreted slopes of Kenter Canyon Elementary school.

"Palisades HS is where the Santa Monica Mountains come right down into the ocean," says Tim. He and Berg banter the terrain between themselves making swoops with their hands. "No flat ground... It's just paved into a wave... Bulldozed and graded... Just a sloped high school parking lot... It was graded just like this," finishes Berg with a contoured arch of his hand.

In that first story he wrote, Tim describes the photo and how his brother rode that suburban wave in skateboarding's first epoch. "With a final thrust, Terry Keller leans forward and takes the drop into the fast right-hand wall, rapidly accelerating as his board approaches a challenging 90-degree bowl turn. The talented goofy-foot squats low over his board, hands throwing shadows across the dozens of tracks left on the wall by previous rides and riders. The sharp turn snaps him into a new line, the speed whipping him ahead until he exits the ramp at the end of the long wall."

They were just kids. Kids in the neighborhood looking for something to do. A hang. Yet in the last 10-15 years there has been an outpouring of skateboarding nostalgia with documentaries and Hollywood films dedicated to the now famed Z-Boys that would be formed in the "Dogtown" of Ocean Park and Venice, six miles south of, and a decade after, Keller and Berg and their friends carved the "waves" created by Palisades developers. Tim jokes that in his teaching days he would invariably get a term paper from students on the "History of Skateboarding." He would also be

reading books on the history of the now famed sport. "There are these giant histories on skateboarding and the whole period before 'Dogtown' is relegated to like a paragraph. And that's not right."

Peter Berg chuckles and shakes his head at his friend across the table. Berg, a professional musician and songwriter by trade, who lives in Rye, composed the music for the film.

"We didn't think of any of that," says Berg later. "Instead of a new street gang we were a coastal surf gang, a skateboard gang. It was just a place to hang out. And you can see in the film there are a couple shots where Wendy (Bearer) is skateboarding toward you and it's at the top of the Palisades ramp and behind her—everyone's just sitting on the curb. You know, whatever, just hanging out. You'll get a kick out of this, because everyone has bare feet, I mean, unbelievable how we skated with no pads... no helmets... One of the girls in the film, I think Colleen (Turner), that said skating was just something you could yell your parents 'like I'm going skating' and then you could be gone for hours."

Over those sparse early years, before the sport's decade hiatus, Berg and Keller experienced the quick, first and ultimately false, bloom. City Council people and Chambers of Commerce in communities surrounding the Palisades saw the skate movement as a way to involve the youth in their parks. Sponsored teams and skate events began popping up. It would all be gone about two years later, but Berg, Keller and their friends were swept up in the tide.

One of their friends, Don Burgess—who produced and directed the film—had a dad that was an early film buff, also Don Burgess, who's company would sponsor the Palisades Skateboard team. Quickly, the elder Burgess began building skateboards to sell and used a non-slip product from his pool business to cover the top of the decks. Now known as grip tape, or deck tape, the innovation is now found on almost every skateboard. But Burgess's business ended with the sport's early hiatus. "He had one order for skateboards cancelled for the first time on one day and then... it was just over," says Keller.

Keller, again being the oldest of the group, organized that sponsorship and some of those first competitions. "I would just call someone and our teams would meet. And it would be head-to-head down the hill, with judges at the top. And we really just made our own rules on the spot."

Again, 40 years later, Keller would be the one pushing to bring the team back together. For most of the team, their relationships ended with that first skateboarding boom, but memories of that place and that time lingered and begged to be revisited. Keller started tracking people down, "putting out the call" on his brother's and Berg's Facebook page.

"I would call people," says Tim. "And they would be like 'Tim Keller...? Really? Tim Keller?' Because, like, you know, it was like 50 years ago. We mostly went 50 years without seeing each other." Keller and Berg reunited in the early 80s when Keller moved to Santa Fe and Berg moved to Rye.

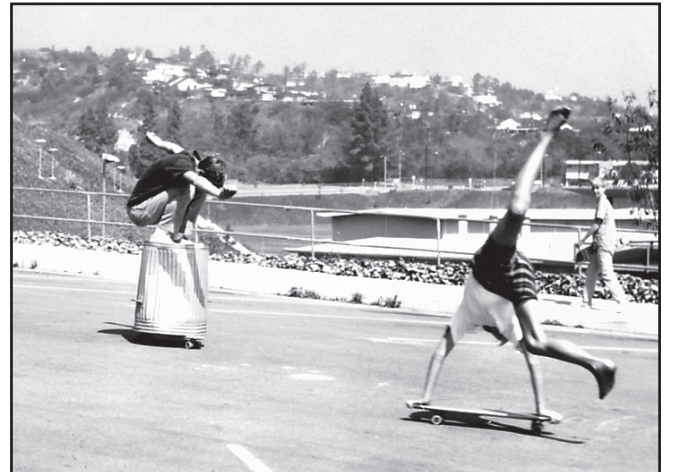
For years the two of them had bugged their old buddy Don Burgess to just convert his father's old movies to digital, so they could relive their youth. You see, once he grew up, Burgess became an Academy Award nominated cinematographer who worked on films such as "Forrest Gump" and "Cast Away."

After Keller-and-friends badgering and after Keller's article, Burgess finally reviewed the film and decided it warranted its own documentary.

"Suddenly we're part of a film," says Keller as Berg's eyes widen in mock shock.

"... And there we are," says Berg. "On film doing something historical."

As the first cuts were sent around, the group was shocked by the quality of the video. They had no idea what kind of shape it would be in after all



Tim Keller, top left, now with buddy Peter Burg, who is a songwriter and professional musician. He lives in Rye, Colo. (Photo by Eric John Monson / The Chronicle-News) Tim Keller then, atop a trash can on the lower hill at Palisades High School competing in the 1966 Palisades-Malibu Jaycees Skateboard Tournament, where he won 3rd place in Senior Trick Riding. (Photo by Jack Keller) A budding photographer in 1964, 13-year-old Tim Keller took a break from skateboarding to climb a playground backstop to photograph his younger brother, Terry Keller, speeding down the slope at Kenter Canyon Elementary School.



Ten members of the Palisades Skateboard Team reunited last summer at the horseshoe turn between the upper and lower hills of the Palisades High School parking lot. Tim Keller is in the blue t-shirt at back center, filmmaker Don Burgess in black at far right, Terry Keller in black hat, and Peter Burg smiling in gray shirt at center. (Photo by Tim Keller)

that time, but Burgess was able to make it pristine. At some point the group, now mostly collected, decided they needed a reunion. Shots of the now 50-year-olds skateboarding would be needed for the film. There would be blood.

Berg, who took a fall that day himself and described a "slight dislocation," chuckles at the image of it. "One of our complaints for Don [Burgess]," smiles Berg. "Was that we filmed a lot of us skateboarding now and hardly any of it made it in the film."

Tim chips in, "And the difficulty greater. Now there's cracks and weeds growing out of it (the Palisades pavement)... it's a lot more treacherous."

Berg takes it home, "And we're 40 years older." "That's true," says Tim with a knowing nod.

It all seems to be wrapped in "time" and "place." They were young, it was for everybody young, there were waves and concrete to ride and they were with friends they would never forget. Though both Berg and Keller admit the details on who was good and who were all members of the team have become a little fuzzy. Still, those times remain in an autumn glow for a pair of childhood friends.

"When skateboarding started," begins Keller marveling, "That's when I met everybody. It was all skateboarding. I didn't even know that until the film came out. It was just so natural, but that's what did it, that's the center of it for me."

Keller and Berg will be on hand to introduce "Skateboarding's First Wave," to the TrindieFest audience at Brix at 1 p.m. Saturday and will take questions after the screening.

THE LAS ANIMAS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES WILL ISSUE COMMODITY FOODS ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2015 FROM 8:30 A.M. TO 3:30 P.M. AT THE LAS ANIMAS COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS (BOXING ROOM). ID REQUIRED. NO EXCEPTIONS.

THE ISSUE WILL BE ONE DAY ONLY

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2015

THE ISSUE WILL BE FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO MEET THE TEFAP INCOME STANDARDS THROUGH A PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, LEAP, TANF, FOOD STAMPS, OAP, AND, SSI OR MEETING THE INCOME LIMITS INDICATED BELOW. YOU MUST BRING PROOF OF LAS ANIMAS COUNTY RESIDENCY WITH PICTURE IDENTIFICATION.

HOUSEHOLD GROSS MONTHLY INCOME SHALL NOT EXCEED THE FOLLOWING:

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	ALLOWABLE GROSS MONTHLY INCOME
1	\$1,815.00
2	\$2,456.00
3	\$3,098.00
4	\$3,739.00
5	\$4,380.00
6	\$5,022.00
7	\$5,663.00
8	\$6,304.00

EACH ADDITIONAL MEMBER ADD \$642.00

THE COMMODITY FOOD PROGRAM SHALL BE EXTENDED TO ALL ELIGIBLE HOUSEHOLDS WITHOUT REGARD TO RACE, COLOR, SEX, RELIGION, NATURAL ORIGIN, OR POLITICAL BELIEFS. USDA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

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