



50 CENTS
TRINIDAD
COLORADO

TUESDAY
JULY 14, 2015

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THE CHRONICLE NEWS

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THE FINE PRINT

■ JULY 14

LAS ANIMAS COUNTY TUESDAY (9 a.m.) Board of County Commissioners work session will be held in the Las Animas Courthouse, 200 E. First St., Room 201. Information: 719-845-2568. **COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:** Gary Hill (719-845-2595), Mack Louden (719-845-2592), and Anthony Abeyta (719-846-9300).

MEMORY LOSS SUPPORT TUESDAY (12:30-1:30 p.m.) This group meets at the Legacy Assisted Living facility, 33 Legacy Lane. Information: 719-846-8682.

CITY COUNCIL TUESDAY (Noon) An Executive session for the purpose of receiving legal advice and discussion of personnel policy matters followed by a Special session and Public hearing for consideration of New Retail Marijuana Store license application filed by Colorado / Cannabis Associates, LLC d/b/a The Spot at 453 N. Commercial Street, then followed by regular work session that will be held at City Hall, 135 N. Animas St. Information: Audra Garrett, 719-846-9843. **CITY COUNCIL:** Mayor: Joe Reorda and Council Members: Carol Bolton, Joe Bonato, Pat Fletcher, Anthony Mattie, Michelle Miles, and Liz Torres.

SQUARE DANCE CLUB TUESDAY (6-8 p.m.) The Square Dance Club meets at LaCasa on Hwy 12. Free membership. Info: Peter Monzon, 719-845-0375 or pmm49@hotmail.com.

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT TUESDAY (6:30 p.m.) This group meets at the LaQuinta Inn on Toupal Drive. Information: Age Wise Advisors, 347-852-0752.

Today's Quote

"Whenever you find yourself on the side of the majority, it is time to pause and reflect."
-Mark Twain

■ JULY 15

CHAMBER LUNCHEON WEDNESDAY (Noon) Monthly Chamber of Commerce Business Luncheon will be held in the Sullivan Center at the TSJC Campus. Info: 719-846-9285.

E-911 AUTHORITY WEDNESDAY (3 p.m.) The E-911 Authority Board meets at the Garcia Justice Center in the Las Animas County Sheriff's Office, 2309 E. Main St. Information: Rita Mantelli, 719-846-4441.

SUPPORT GROUPS WEDNESDAY (Overeaters Anonymous) 5:30 p.m. & Alanan Family Group 7:30 p.m. meets Wednesdays at 120 W. Kansas St. Info: 719-680-0505 or 719-680-7732. No dues or fees.

FP FIRE DISTRICT WEDNESDAY (6 p.m.) Fishers Peak Fire Protection District Board of Directors will meet at the Starkville Fire Station. Information: 719-846-6077.

HOEHNE FIRE PROTECTION WEDNESDAY (6 p.m.) District Board of Directors meets at the El Moro Station, 14386 Hwy 239 in Hoehne. Info: Dana Phillips, 719-846-2080.

PURGATOIRE WATERSHED WEDNESDAY (6 p.m.) Group regular meeting will meet in the NRCS Office, 3590 E. Main. Information: Karen Wolf, 303-543-8688.

■ PUBLIC SERVICE

KIDS CREATION STATION Can you help? Kids group is looking for art supplies of all kinds to help with the "Barrel Painting" Art Project to support recycling. Info: Kelli Van Matre, 719-859-3998 or 719-859-2523. To join this free kid's group call: Rich Columbo, 719-846-6435.

NURSING HOME PICNIC JULY 25 (10 a.m.-2 p.m.) Annual event with food, drinks, bouncy house, face painting and more at the Trinidad Inn Nursing Home, 409 Benedicta Ave. Info: 719-846-7603.

BRANSON BENEFIT JULY 25 (8 a.m.-4 p.m.) Branson Football and Senior Class will hold a garage sale at the school. Items for donations as well as additional community members and vendors are also invited. Info: Kimberly Shor, 719-946-0821.

FNB SCHOOL DRIVE AUGUST 7 DEADLINE: Supplies needed include pencils, erasers, 12-inch rulers, crayons, glue, scissors, backpacks and notebook paper — cash donations are also accepted. Drop off at The First National Bank main bank on Main Street, at the motor bank on First Street or at the Wal-Mart Branch. Info: 719-846-9881.

SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM THRU AUGUST 14 (11 a.m.-1 p.m.) Monday thru Friday all kids (18 and under) can eat a free lunch at the THS Cafeteria, 816 West St. Today's menu is: Cheeseburgers, Salad Bar & Milk.

The Fine Print feature is a courtesy notice used to inform the public of upcoming free public meetings and events. Placement is not guaranteed. For contributions please call 719-846-3311 or e-mail cathy@trinidadchroniclenews.com.

RIVER CALL

Purgatoire River Call as of: 07/13/15. Model Ditch --- Appropriation date: 01/22/1908.

Trinidad Reservoir Accounting:
Release 255.44 AF
Inflow 479.42 AF -- 241.70 CFS
Evaporation 17.98 AF
Content 34,268 AF
Elevation 6,200.98
Precipitation 0.00

Downstream River Call / JMR Conservation Storage: 12/31/1948.



Basketball THS Girl's Summer Basketball program enjoys great success... PAGE 6

CENTURYLINK SERVICE OUTAGE

Construction digs up local phone trouble

By Nick Ruybalid
Correspondent
The Chronicle News

Construction on Commercial St. in downtown Trinidad is being blamed for starting over a week-long internet and landline phone outage for CenturyLink customers in the city.

"The contractor did catch the phone line," said Mike Valentine, Director of Public Works and Utilities in Trinidad. Purgatoire Valley Construction, the contractor for the city, "nicked the cable" when they "kind of caught it and pulled it," Valentine explained during an interview Saturday.

This incident occurred approximately two weeks ago and was actually repaired quickly by CenturyLink, the server for the damaged cable. The problems that residents then later experienced could stem from a different cause, according to a network technician

for the company. He said the cable was actually hit in two places by Purgatoire Valley Construction, and CenturyLink failed to locate and fix the second break point. This neglect allowed moisture from recent thunderstorms to ruin the unprotected cables, leaving many citizens without phone service. Yet, between Century Link, the City of Trinidad and their contractor, several fingers are being pointed for who is to blame.

Trinidad City Manager Gabe Engeland said in a short interview on Saturday that the problem was "separate from us," regarding the city government's role in the issue.

Meanwhile, Purgatoire Valley Construction confronted CenturyLink about the problem when they initially dug up the cable, reported both Valentine and the company technician. CenturyLink did the

Continued on Page 2 ...



Photo by Nick Ruybalid/The Chronicle News

A CenturyLink employee works to repair the phone lines beneath Commercial St. in Trinidad on Saturday. Lines were disconnected from the July 4 holiday weekend to Sunday July 12 for many residents and businesses.



Photos by Steve Block / The Chronicle-News

Samantha Quintana, left, Tyila Baca and Steve Garcia stand ready to greet a hungry public at the new Double D's Grill, located at 443 N. Commercial St., the former Bueno's Restaurant.

BUSINESS

Double D's to offer new dining options

By Steve Block
The Chronicle-News

There's been a popular eatery located at 443 N. Commercial St. for about as long as anyone in Trinidad can remember, and the newest dining incarnation there is set to open soon as Double D's Grill is planning a soft opening next week. First known as the C & H Restaurant and later as Bueno's Restaurant, some changes to the former menu can be expected when the Double D Grill opens, but the business plan calls for high-quality dining with excellent service in a

Continued on Page 2 ...



DESIGN WORKSHOPS

Raton writer pauses to offer summer creativity retreats

By Tim Keller
Correspondent
The Chronicle-News

RATON - Sharon Niederman's 22nd book has just been published but all she wants to talk about is a pair of workshop retreats she's presenting at The Mandala Center this month and next. She relaxing on the high front porch of the 109-year-old westside home she shares with her husband, Chuck Henry, right under the iconic Raton sign.

"I try to design a workshop that would be fun for me to go to," she says. First up is a gentle day of nature, creativity and lunch. "It's a one-day adult summer camp," Niederman says.

"Finding Your Path on the Mountain," Saturday, July 25 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., will take advantage of The Mandala Center's

extensive trail system for participants to share morning walks on the shoulder of Sierra Grande, an 8000-foot volcano that dwarfs its neighboring Capulin Volcano, just west of Des Moines and 35 miles east of Raton.

"We'll spend the morning walking and observing, maybe taking notes in journals, and enjoying the peace and beauty of the mountain," Niederman says. Her intention is priming the pumps of creativity, but that comes after lunch. The Mandala Center is renowned for its professional kitchen and memorable meals. Lunch will be accompanied by readings from beloved nature writers Annie Dillard, Gretel Ehrlich, Terry Tempest Williams and Henry David Thoreau.

"Then, following our thoughts

Continued on Page 3 ...

Tim Keller / The Chronicle-News

Prolific New Mexico writer Sharon Niederman takes a break on the front porch of her 109-year-old home on Raton's west side. She'll soon be teaching writing and creativity workshops at The Mandala Center nearby, aimed at providing area residents an idyllic opportunity to get their own creative juices flowing.

WEATHER WATCH

Tuesday: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny, with a high near 84. West northwest wind 5 to 15

mph. **Night:** A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Cloudy with a low around 58. West wind 5 to 15 mph.

Wednesday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny, with a high near 85. West wind around 5 mph. **Night:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 60. West wind around 5 mph.

Thursday: A 10 percent chance of show-

ers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 86. West wind around 5 mph. **Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 59. West southwest wind around 5 mph.

Friday: A 10 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 87. West southwest wind around 5 mph. **Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 61. West southwest wind around 5 mph.



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Weather Sponsored by:
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STATE & AREA

SUMMER MUSIC ON MAIN STREET



Photo by Tim Keller / The Chronicle-News

Trinidad musicians entertain Raton audience

Wiskey Creek [sic] drove over the pass Saturday afternoon to perform under the trees for listeners and dancers in Raton's downtown Ripley Park. The popular Trinidad band was the third group to headline this summer's Music on Main Street concert series, sponsored by Raton MainStreet. More shows are slated in the late afternoons on July 19 and 25, then August 8, 9 and 23. Information is available from Raton MainStreet, (575) 445-2052, ratonmainstreet.org.

COLORADO ENERGY OFFICE New statewide program to launch to reduce energy use in agricultural industry

Office of Gov. John Hickenlooper
Special to The Chronicle-News

DENVER - July 13, 2015 - The Colorado Energy Office, in partnership with the Colorado Department of Agriculture, has a new statewide dairy and irrigation energy efficiency program that builds on the success of its 2014 pilot program to reduce energy use in Colorado's agricultural sector.

The new statewide program will provide energy services to a minimum of 80 agricultural producers annually for three years. Program participants will receive a free energy audit, renewable energy assessment, technical support and access to financial resources that will help reduce the upfront cost of energy efficiency improvements.

"Dairies and irrigators that participate in the statewide program can benefit from reduced energy use and utility costs, resulting in a more competitive, sustainable business operation," said Jeffrey Ackermann, director of the Colorado Energy Office.

Colorado's agricultural industry faces direct energy expenses of more than \$400 million annually that account for 7 percent of the industry's overall expenses.

In the spring of 2014, the Colorado Energy Office launched the Colorado Dairy and Irrigation Efficiency Pilot program to address industry expenses. The program was designed to decrease the barriers that prevent agricultural producers from investing in energy efficiency by bringing existing resources and partners together, leveraging new funding and implementing a turnkey approach.

The pilot program conducted energy audits for 12 farms, and worked with 8 dairies to install measures that will save over 260,000 kWh of electricity, 10,000 ccf of natural gas, and 9,500 gallons of propane annually, the equivalent of more than \$47,000 in annual cost savings. With approximately \$168,000 in incentives, producers will be able to see a return on their investments in less than four years, with many measures paying for themselves in energy savings in less than two years.

For more information about the statewide Colorado Dairy and Irrigation Efficiency Program, contact Michael Turner, Energy Efficiency Programs Manager, at Michael.A.Turner@state.co.us or go to <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/energyoffice/agriculture-energy-efficiency>

Raton writer pauses to offer summer creativity retreats

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where they lead—to a memory, a dream, a hope, a loss, a discovery, a document of the day's experience, or a feeling recalled from childhood summers—we will indulge ourselves in the luxury of time free from everyday responsibilities and create, in words or watercolors, as our hearts direct us."

The \$30 workshop includes lunch, snacks, art supplies and inspiration, with advance registration available at The Mandala Center, (575) 278-3002. www.mandalacenter.org. Coloradans driving from Trinidad might return home via Folsom, Johnson Mesa, and Yankee Canyon via Highway 72, not much longer in miles than the faster Highway 64/87 Clayton Highway but with diverse beauty that might perfectly cap a memorable day.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for local people to visit, explore and enjoy The Mandala Center," Niederman says. "It's such a treasure. People here need to know what's there and that it's available to them. I want to spread the word."

It's hard to imagine where she gets the time to travel, her published writing is so prolific, and yet she seems to be always traveling. Her new book, a collaboration with Santa Fe photographer Kitty Leaken, is *The New Mexico Farm Table Cookbook*, containing 100 recipes alongside stories and sumptuous photography gathered over the past two years at small family farms, traditional ranches, farmers' markets, mom-and-pop cafés and spirited restaurants that feature locally sourced foods.

The book will attract amateur and professional foodies alike, but it's also a fabulous travel book with photography so gorgeous that one might keep it on the coffee table. The recipes are fun but the stories and people behind them are even better.

Not surprisingly for a supporter of local food, Niederman suggests people buy this book and others locally, although her books are available from all the usual Internet sources. She favors Raton's Patchwork Phoenix on Historic First Street, which keeps a full stock of Niederman's books that include many travel guides, food guides, and a novel. Her last two books before this year were *Signs and Shrines: Spiritual Journeys Across New Mexico* and, before that, *New Mexico's Tasty Traditions*.

Before gaining writing credits in the *New York Times*, *Boston Globe*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Sunset Magazine*, *Rocky Mountain News*, *Denver Post* and countless other publications, Niederman earned a bachelor's degree in Eng-

lish from George Washington University, a master's degree in journalism from the University of Colorado and studied photography at prestigious schools in New York City and Washington, D.C. She later studied writing with Tony Hillerman and Rudolfo Anaya at the University of New Mexico.

Niederman will bring all of her training and experience to an intensive four-day writing workshop at The Mandala Center Wednesday, August 26 through Saturday, August 30. "Writing Your Way Home: A Guided Four-Day Writing Retreat" will immerse participants in their own projects, whether an unfinished manuscript, a poetry collection or memoir—whatever pages or ideas may have been gathering dust.

The Mandala Center's flier says the workshop "will allow your project the space and understanding it needs to blossom. While you will have ample solitary work time, you will also benefit from community support. Information on printing, publishing, agents, genres, self-publishing, establishing a work space and work schedule, and more to lead to your next step will be provided by teacher Sharon Niederman."

The Mandala Center's location is characterized by panoramic views, nature, silence and stillness, all perfect for inspiring new work and providing the time to accomplish it.

The four-day August writers' retreat costs \$585 with private room or \$465 with shared room, and includes workshop fees and all meals.

"I've taught this workshop at The Mandala Center a couple times before," Niederman says. "It's a wonderful way to kick start your manuscript."

Not that she needs a kickstart herself. Hard at work on her second novel, set in the Amazon and based on her travels there eight years ago, Niederman is also busy freelancing features for a variety of magazines and newspapers. It's a marvel that she finds time to relax on the front porch.



Photo courtesy Facebook/TheMandalaCenter

The Mandala Center is a non-profit retreat center offering a wide variety of workshops, including this summer's creativity and writing excursions with Raton writer Sharon Niederman. The center's location—a half-hour drive east of Raton, nestled between Sierra Grande and Capulin Volcano (shown)—makes it an idyllic site for an "adult summer camp, a mini-vacation," as Niederman terms her workshops.

the NEW MEXICO FARM TABLE COOKBOOK

100 Home-Grown Recipes from the Land of Enchantment

SHARON NIEDERMAN
Photographs by Kitty Leaken

Tim Keller / The Chronicle-News

Raton writer Sharon Niederman's 22nd book was published this year. With Santa Fe photographer Kitty Leaken, Niederman spent two busy years traveling New Mexico to compile *The New Mexico Farm Table Cookbook*, gathering stories, photos and recipes from family farms, traditional ranches, farmers' markets, mom-and-pop cafés and spirited restaurants that showcase locally sourced ingredients. It's a travel guide, cookbook and sumptuous coffee-table photography book all in one.

Assisted & Independent Living

The Legacy at Trinidad

33 Legacy Lane - Trinidad, CO 81082
719-846-8662
"Where Legacies are Made"
www.heritagehealthcaremanagement.com

TRINIDAD FOOT CLINIC
Dr. James C. Dill
will hold a clinic on
Thursday, July 16

H.R. Sayre Senior Center 1222 San Pedro
For an appointment call 846-3336
We treat corns, calluses, nail problems, hammertoes, bunions and sports injuries.

QUICK DRAW
Watch as artists paint a masterpiece in just one hour!

Presented by The A.R. Mitchell Museum of Western Art

Saturday July 18th
10:30 a.m. to Noon **LIVE AUCTION**
at the Historic Trinidad Courthouse Lawn **WATCH • BID • BUY**

FREE EVENT • ALL AGES WELCOME

10:30 a.m. Artist Set-up on Courthouse Lawn
11:00 a.m. Starting Gun Fired -Painting Begins
Noon Ending Gun Fired -Painting Stops
12:30 p.m. Live Auction Begins at Museum

The A.R. Mitchell Museum of Western Art
150 E. Main St. Trinidad, CO (719) 846-4224
www.armitchellmuseum.com

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