

# LOCAL NEWS

## Mexico to Canada riders reach La Junta

By **TIM KELLER**  
The Chronicle-News

The Mexico to Canada horseback riders who entered Colorado near Branson last week reached La Junta last Friday for a celebration at Tiger Field. Along with several dozen citizens, La Junta leaders present to greet the dozens of riders included Mayor Don Rizzuto, City Manager Rick Klein, and Chamber of Commerce President Rachel Wallace.

The ride is sponsored by the RFD network television show "Best of America by Horseback", which is covering the entire distance for future shows. Friday they marked the 100,000th mile ridden by their riders over the past three years. The current ride started April 21st at the Mexico border and will finish when it reaches Canada around Labor Day.

More than 40 riders and staff, from 37 states, spent the



Photos by Tim Keller

Mexico to Canada riders leave Swink, Colorado, after Saturday's parade.

weekend resting and attending special events in La Junta and Swink. They filmed TV segments at Tiger Field, where they were joined by the Koshare Dancers, and in Swink where the riders joined the town's annual parade and community celebration Saturday morning.

At Tiger Field Friday, Mayor Rizzuto praised the ruggedness of the riders, comparing it to

the qualities of the people of La Junta itself. Citizens applauded from the grandstands and around the track as the horsemen entered and circled the field, several of them carrying flags of the U.S.A. and the riders' respective states. After some speeches, proclamations, and photo opportunities, trailmaster and TV host Tom Seay asked all the citizens to come down from the stands and get to

know the riders. Riders put children in their saddles and visited with the parents. The event will be broadcast in late fall on "Best of America by Horseback."

Awaiting the start of the Swink parade the next morning, riders discovered their first cell phone signals in more than a week: several horsemen called home from atop their mounts until they were called to the parade.

After a weekend of rest, fun, restaurant meals and resupply runs to Wal-Mart, the horsemen proceeded north from La Junta early Monday morning, bound for the Canadian border.



Best of America by Horseback host Tom Seay rides in the Swink parade Saturday.

## City sales, use tax continues to irk local contractors

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difference in final (construction) costs, I'm going to have to make that cost up by raising the price of the house."

Like Peters, Winter said he also is against the city's requirement of a pre-deposit fund for buildings materials bought outside the Trinidad area. "Certain materials such as brick, cultured stone, tile and carpet can't be purchased in Trinidad. You have to go outside the city. It's a double or triple whammy currently on the builders here in Trinidad."

City Manager Jim Soltis said the city is seeking equitable solutions to the issue and plans to meet with prominent local homebuilding contractors to determine a best course of action to later make a presentation to city staff and council. The city, of course, loses sales tax revenues when residents buy items and services out of town, not to mention the money that circulates throughout the community by the recipient from local purchases.

A building materials supplier like Home Depot can charge significantly less for its products due to the much higher volume of business it does than a local mom and pop operation can.

TLAC Economic Development Executive Director Steve Simonson notified council of the upcoming July 9 Trinidad Community Foundation-ED sponsored leadership development workshop series in TSJC's Leone Lounge.

Issues to be discussed at the workshop include community engagement and programs, financial management and budgeting, management and operations and fundraising and friend-raising. Simonson is also planning to meet with city staff next Tuesday afternoon to discuss development agreement changes regarding primarily Trinidad Industrial Park.

Soltis also reported that the current economic recession continues to impact the city. Trinidad's April sales taxes were down 6.3 percent from April 2008 or about \$26,000. "Year to date we're about 6.7 percent down, which equates to about \$114,000." Of that \$114,000, he said \$85,000 would be lost of the city general fund and \$28,000 to the city's 1-cent capital improvement projects fund. At the current rate of sales tax losses, the city would not collect around \$250,000 in projected sales tax revenues. He said the city is still projecting around \$4 million in sales tax revenues and that loss would still be at a tolerable level.

Soltis also noted that the original builder contracted to build the fountain at Miner's Memorial Park has bowed out because of personal reasons. So the Miner's Memorial Building Committee is now looking at contractor Tony Paradisa to possibly build the fountain.

The scheduled restart up of the Cimino Park fountain has been delayed a few days due to an electrical problem, he said.

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### Trinidad Historical Society Program

Civil War Hero, General Edward Livingston Campbell, will be the subject of Trinidad Historical Society Program starting at 7 p.m. on Thursday in the Pioneer Room at TSJC.

### Trinidad Elks Lodge mtg.

The Trinidad Order of Elks, Lodge 181 will hold a regular meeting at 8 p.m. on Thursday at the Home on South Maple St. All active members are encouraged to attend the meeting.

### Al-Anon Family Group

The Al-Anon Family Group, to help family members living with someone who is drinking and/or using drugs, will host a free meeting at 6 p.m. on Friday at Presbyterian Church, 801 San Pedro, in the basement. For more information, please call Sharone (719) 846-9999. Not affiliated with any other organization.

### Narcotics Anonymous

Narcotics Anonymous will meet from 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. on Friday at the United Presbyterian Church, 801 San Pedro, in the basement. For more information, call Eric (719) 846-0754 or Vincent 846-9999.

### Gideon's Fisher's Peak Camp

There will be a prayer meeting at 7 a.m. on Saturday. Call (719) 846-4044 for location.

### Flea Market

Curves 3rd Annual Flea Market and Bake sale will be from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturday at Curves. All proceeds from the sale go to the American Cancer Society.

### Mass

There will be a Mass at 11 a.m. on Saturday at

the Ave Maria Shrine.

### Trinidad Research Committee

Trinidad Research Committee will not meet on Saturday due to Father's Day

### Drop City

Trinidad's Drop! will be from 4-7 p.m. on Sunday at Lucky Monkey-Aultman Hall and will feature film footage and stories about Drop City.

### Vacation Bible School

Fisher's Peak Community Church will host vacation bible school starting at 9 a.m. on Monday for Kindergarten-6th grade ages. For more information call 846-6018

### Lord's Pantry

The Lord's Pantry is looking for a working upright freezer for a needy family. If you have one that you could donate, please contact Linda at 846-7894.

### Field Notice

Any practice, game, scheduled event, or activity at South Side Park on any of the fields must be scheduled at least three business days prior. For more information call the Community Center 846-4454.

### ReGroup

Recycle electronics at the rehab center, one stop past UPS on Freedom Road, M-W-F 9 a.m.- 3 p.m. For other recycling opportunities, pick up ReGroup's green and white bookmark at the library.

### Downtown Parking

Summer season is fast approaching and the TPD would like to remind everyone of the two hour parking areas downtown. Vehicles will be ticketed for the violation.

## ON THIS DAY IN TRINIDAD

By **COSETTE HENRITZE**  
The Chronicle-News

### 50 years ago - 1959

A petition in commendation, filed by the city of Trinidad and the state of Colorado more than a year ago involving property over which the new US 85-87 freeway is being built in Trinidad, has been docketed for trial by District Judge John N. Mabry.

Defendants in the case are the Santa Fe Railway, the Hanover Bank of New York City, and more than a dozen individuals who, at one time or another, held an interest in the 1,824 acres of land involved in the litigation.

The land is located near Pine and Commercial streets in Trinidad and has been owned by the Santa Fe for some time. A point of dispute is the exact size of the parcel of lands which the state claims is 1,824 acres while the railroad contends it covers 1,984 acres.

### 75 years ago - 1934

A soaking rain general over Las Animas County brought temporary cheer to the long parched farm areas yesterday afternoon, bringing moisture which is of doubtful value unless followed by other rains, according to G.E. McCrimmon, county extension agent, and drouth relief director for this county.

In the drouth smitten area of the east end, McCrimmon's records show it is the first real moisture laden storm since last September Quarter inch of rain fell there, and government precipitation records show .19 of an inch of rain fell during the showers in Trinidad.

The crops have suffered greatly for lack of moisture all season long apart from the irrigated districts of the county. So serious has been the drought that urgent pleas for federal relief were sent out this week from Trinidad. One plea urged immediate action toward the

cattle purchasing plan launched by the the national relief administration. The dry land areas welcomed the heavy rain yesterday, but it will not be sufficient to improve the situation unless followed by more rain.

Mr. McCrimmon as drouth relief director has as yet received no definite instructions in the way of relief. Thru the county relief administration 30 tons of alfalfa hay were shipped into the Nina view area a few days ago for livestock feed. Other shipments will be sent to aid the stock feed conditions. The crops have burned over the entire areas of the east end.

### 100 years ago - 1909

The new C.F.&I. washer, built to replace the one destroyed by fire a year and a half ago, is now complete and for the first time the machinery was tested out today. Electric power from the local plant of the Southern Colorado Power Company was turned on and the entire plant was thoroughly tested out.

The new washer is one of the finest in the country and cost in the neighborhood of \$150,000. It is understood that the plant will be in operation within the next two weeks and that about 200 men will be put to work at once. The opening of another blast furnace at Pueblo creates a demand for 6,000 additional tons of coke a week.

The opening of the washer marks the real resumption of activity in the coal business. The old washer was burned by incendiaries something over a year ago. The guilty men were tried and convicted and are now serving a term in the penitentiary at Canon City.

## Piñon Canyon backers say adverse measure killed

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Army for the expansion.

The Army is looking to add 100,000 acres to Piñon Canyon.

Lamborn said the Army will only work with willing sellers.

"There is no threat of eminent domain or condemnation," Lamborn said Wednesday.

He said he has heard that some landowners are willing to

negotiate but that they are reluctant to say anything publicly in the face of vocal opposition by some neighbors.

"I believe that people should not be able to veto another person's use of their own private property," Lamborn said.

Assistant Army Secretary Keith Eastin said in a letter to Lamborn in April that an

expansion could provide \$140 million worth of improvements and would spend \$9 million a year on operations and payroll for about 100 jobs.

"There's tremendous economic opportunity for people in Las Animas County to have a \$9 million payroll for what the Army would like to do at Piñon Canyon," Lamborn said.

## With all the bad economic news these days, does Century Savings & Loan still make mortgage loans?



Mike McMillan, President  
Century Saving & Loan



Keith Waller, Vice President  
Century Saving & Loan



Paula Tripp, Loan Officer  
Century Saving & Loan

### Of course we do!

We're taking applications and making loans every day!

At Century Savings & Loan we're still doing business the way we always have because we never got involved in the questionable practices that got things so fouled up in the

nation's economy. So, if you could qualify for a loan at Century before all this started, nothing's changed-you can still qualify. Talk to one of us today about getting the money you need to buy, build or refinance your home. We're here to help!

As low as  
**6.125%**  
**6.352% APR**

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...since 1903

233 E. Main, Trinidad, CO  
719-846-2257  
csonline@centurysavings.org

\*Borrower must meet credit qualifications. Annual percentage rate accurate as of 10/20/2008 based on a \$100,000 loan. APR subject to change due to odd days interest and to mortgage insurance requirements for loans above 80% loan to value. Property insurance is required and appraisal may be required at borrower's expense. Limitations apply. Rates subject to change daily. OTHER RATES AND TERMS ARE AVAILABLE.