



Photos by Richard Sitts

Beverly Mark and her husband Dale, at right, explain the surrounding landscape to the visiting quilters from Germany high atop the rim trail around Capulin Volcano. The visitors and their New Mexico hosts did a brisk hike around the one-mile trail before having a potluck barbecue at the Marks' in the nearby village of Capulin.



The visiting quilters from Germany got out for some exercise on Sunday afternoon, Sept. 19, as they trekked the one-mile rim trail around the top of Capulin Volcano, about 30 miles east of Raton. Capulin is one of the best examples of a cone volcano left in the world.



Photo courtesy of Sam Sisneros

Trinidad High School golfers Garrett Schrepfer, second from left, and Carlos Sisneros hold up the Class 3 Southern Region Championship plaque that the Miner team won last week. Sisneros and Brett Dixon, far right, ranked among the top 15 golfers in individual scoring. Blake Young, far left, won 3rd place in the tournament with a score of 71, and Schrepfer took 4th with a 73. Standing behind is head coach Mike Vecchio.

Miner Golf team repeats as Southern Region Champs

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Class 3A final Southern Region Team scores

Team scores

1. Trinidad - 226
2. Rye - 243
3. Classical Academy - 244
4. St. Mary's - 250
5. Monte Vista - 250
6. Salida - 253
7. Manitou Springs - 260

8. Swink - 265
9. Florence - 269
10. CSCS - 275
11. Alamosa - 281
12. Lamar - 283
13. Fowler - 284
14. Colorado Springs School - 285
15. Buena Vista - 285
16. Fountain Valley - 298
17. John Mall - 300
18. La Veta - 305
19. Pagosa Springs - 321

20. Las Animas - 331
 21. Dolores Huerta - 335
 22. Rocky Ford - 363
 23. Kim - 412
- Individuals - 1st - Andrew Cornella - (SM) 70, 2. Luke Condon (MV) 70, 3. Blake Young (Trinidad) 71 4. Garrett Schrepfer (Trinidad) 73 5. Micah Mathias (TCA) 73. Carlos Sisneros (Trinidad) 82 was 12th and Brett Dixon (Trinidad) 83 was 15th.

German quilters travel to Raton rendezvous

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pillows from the German women.

The 1st Franconian Quilt Club flew from Nuremberg to Frankfurt, where they caught a 10-hour nonstop flight to Denver. They rented two cars, a Chevy Suburban and a minivan, enough space to carry lots of suitcases to carry home lots of quilting fabrics.

Besides the police captain, their numbers include three nurses, a doctor of biology, a university office worker, and three retired women.

They've continued on from Raton to visit Santa Fe, Taos, Durango, the Four

Corners, Canyonlands, and Grand Junction before returning home via the Denver airport. They've scheduled visits to six quilting shops along their way, and they're suckers for any fabric stores they find along the way.

"It's amazing how quilting can bring together people from different countries who have little else in common," Marquardt remarked. In the Mark's yard, laughter broke out over the differences in their tastes in colors and fabrics.

The visiting Bavarian quilters included Ines Barrabas, Sonja Fees, Gaby Pfeiffer, Petra Klöppel, Gabi Hartmann, Barbara Roggenthin, Maria Adam, Brigitte Wagner, and Gisela Marquardt.

The host Willow Springs quilters included Diana Akroyd, Carol Baca, Margaret Berggren, Virginia Bonin, Esther Clark, Barbara Cranfill, Sharron Cullison, Trudie Fay, Pat French, Lesly Harris, Susan Houle, Sara Kowalski, Beverley Mark, Pat McCann, Nancy McGlothlin, Barbara Miller, Ellen Murphy, Lynne Parker, Dana Petersen, Eveline Robinson, Floy Sitts, June Stephens, Tom Stephens, Sheri Swan, and Becky Vanwey.

It wasn't hard to find them in Capulin. They were in the big yard festooned with hanging quilts of many styles and colors, where laughter escaped over the fence and it sounded the same whether it was in English or German.

Group instills idea that it's OK to talk

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"We need to be proactive and know it's OK to speak out," Payne told TSJC students and staff. "The best protective act we have is prevention." In more than 80 percent of violent incidents in U.S. schools, somebody else knew it was going to happen, but failed to report it, Payne said, according to the U.S. Secret Service. A study revealed that of those kids who did know that something was going to happen, 96 percent said they did nothing to dissuade them from carrying out their act.

One of safe2tell's goals is to help create an environment in which it is OK for kids to speak out and talk to others, namely adults, about what they have heard or know. "Kids have to feel comfortable telling adults information. You have to tell someone who will take it seriously and follow through," she added.

In severe cases in which students take guns to school, there are warning signs. Potential shooters or attackers make plans and like to tell others about their plans, Payne said, adding that there is no consistent, reliable profile of those kids who might try to carry out such an act. However, student attackers often have easy access to guns.

In Colorado, at least 28 such attacks have been prevented since Columbine happened 10 years ago. In these cases, school staff are the first responders. "Being proactive and being prepared is the difference between success and failure," Payne said. Bullying is often a factor and is problematic behavior, she added. "If we can identify a kid as being a bully, we have to stop it," Payne said. Bullying is spurred on by a "pack mentality" and unchecked cyber bullying also has led to a young female student taking her own life.

School shooters are often suicidal, as were the two student shooters who

shot and killed 12 classmates and a teacher at Columbine High School before taking their own lives.

Payne related a true story that took place in a Jefferson County school. A sixth-grader brought a gun to school and showed it to 10 different students throughout the day. No one said anything, but fortunately, no one was injured that time. Payne then showed a video public service announcement whose tagline was, "Regretting is harder than telling."

The safe2tell mission consists of education, awareness, early intervention, prevention, accountability and follow-up. Sharing information among law enforcement and school staff is essential and dialog is critical, Payne said. Another goal is to decrease the dropout rate among students, as half of dropouts end up in the criminal justice system, she added.

Another goal, she said, is to "break the code of silence." Concerning potentially violent events at schools, staff need to train for "not if, but when," Payne said.

Sometimes, a threat can come from outside, rather than from within, as in the Sept. 27, 2006, death of Emily Keyes, 16, who was shot and killed by a gunman who entered her high school in Bailey, Colo.

Payne also mentioned the March 21, 2005, home and school shooting at Red Lake, Minn., during which a student killed 10 people, including himself. This happened after the school had spent "a fortune" installing metal detectors and other security equipment.

Moving on to other potential problems, Payne asked if a kid who is unconscious from alcohol consumption warrants a 911 call. When not reported in time, such incidents have resulted in death.

"Sexting" is another social problem that safe2tell can help squash. "A few years ago, that wasn't even a

word," Payne said, adding that she recently spoke to a class of fourth graders and 80 percent of them had their own cell phones. Referring to submissions made on popular social websites such as Facebook or MySpace, Payne said, "Once it's out there for the world to see, you can never take it back."

Jessica Logan, an 18-year-old student about to graduate in Cincinnati, sent a nude photo of herself to her boyfriend and the picture ended up going viral. She was unmercifully teased and eventually ended up going to the local media and telling her story, imploring other kids not to make the same mistake. Two months later she hung herself.

Payne threw out some other statistics:

- Suicide is the second leading cause of death among college students, behind automobile accidents, and third among all youth, ages 15-24.

- In Colorado, suicide is the second leading cause of death among youth, ages 10-24.

- 20 percent of all high school students report having seriously considered suicide during the previous 12 months.

"If you know someone who's not accepting a (romantic) breakup, they are at risk," Payne said. "You need to tell someone." The number one thing that kids need, she added, is "a caring, committed adult in their life."

The bottom line is that all the types of tragedies mentioned above can possibly be prevented by talking and safe2tell is out to help facilitate that potentially life-saving communication.

For information, call 1 (877) 542-SAFE (calls can remain anonymous), or go to www.safe2tell.org. Anonymous reports also can be made on the website. Safe2tell is funded entirely through donations, fundraising and grants.

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 (USPS 110-040) 200 West Church Street • P.O. Box 763, Trinidad, CO 81082
 (719) 846-3311
 FAX: (719) 846-3612
 Members Associated Press - Colorado Press Association.
 Periodicals Postage Paid For At Trinidad, CO.
 Published Daily
 Except Saturday and Sunday
 ©2006 The Shearman Corp.
www.thechronicle-news.com

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michelle@trinidadchroniclenews.com

Director of Creative Services:
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Classified Advertising:
 Noah Simpson, ext. 4
noah@trinidadchroniclenews.com

Reporters:
 David Santistevan Jr., ext. 3
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Richard Sitts, ext. 7
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Photo by Tim Keller

A master craftsman lays the first color into what will be the center of a mandala sand painting. Four men continued for four days to complete the detailed painting.

breeze around the Mandala Center's labyrinth.

The four-day program began with a group walk around the labyrinth Saturday morning, Sept. 18, followed by the monks' opening ceremony and the start in creating their sand painting. Later, there was a pinwheel workshop, a healing ceremony, discussion

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