

Today's Quote "If we did all the

things we are capable of, we would astound ourselves."

~Thomas Edison

OCTOBER 23 Trinidad Ambulance District THURSDAY (4:30 p.m.) Trinidad Ambulance District Board of Directors regular meeting at the Trinidad Ambu-lance District Office, 939 Robinson Ave. Information: 719-846-6886.

## **PUBLIC SERVICE**

THE SAMARITAN CLINIC Here to serve the under-insured and non-insured community with free health care and low-cost lab work on the 1st and 3rd Tues. of each month from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at 413 E. Frost. Info: 719-846-3536. Thriff Store Benefit DON'T MISS THIS: St. Vincent De

**DON'T MISS THIS:** St. Vincent De Paul's annual Fall Benefit Sale with most items \$1, including Levis, at its new lo-cation on Convent Street (Soup Kitchen Building), 308 W. Church Street. Info: Isabelle Gutierrez, 719-846-2009.



Willing, able — Trommeter

Somewhere between mayor, county commissioner, assessor and clerk and recorder of deeds, sits the treasurer, not the most

Ed Trommeter wants to be County Treasurer and feels he can do the job effectively.

As for the person he is trying to unseat, he says, "I can't say any-thing bad about Donna Leonetti. It's just that the County Treasurer doesn't have a term limit and I just feel it's time for a change."

Ed grew up in the Park Hill neighborhood of Denver. He attended Metro State for Aviation and spent the next 20 some years going from baggage handler to Assistant Director of Aviation, man-

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ed me to the County Commissioners. They appointed me.," Don-na said. "Mr. Abeyta

was County Treasurer for 22 years before me. Rudy Mazza was County Treasurer before Anthony. I worked for Rudy for eight years."

Donna was raised in the Sopris mining camp.

"The government forced us to relocate, for the Trinidad Dam. We moved to Trinidad when I was in the fifth grade. I've lived here all my life. Sopris was a great town. I have fond memories of the people. After college, I stayed in Trinidad. I found a good job and



Donna Leonetti





looks for win By Scott Mastro Correspondent The Chronicle-News

FRIDAY (8:30 a.m.) Great annual bazaar and bake sale fundraiser for the Sayre Senior Center, 1222 San Pedro. Complete with breakfast burritos and plenty of Christmas decorations and oth-er items for sale. Information: Anna Risley, 719-846-3336.

19-846-3336. **Autumn Gathering SATURDAY is RSVP DEADLINE:** Ladies and Gentlemen's full English Tea to be held Nov. 1 (3 p.m.) at 212 E. Sec-ond St. Proceeds benefit the Trinidad Community Chorale. Information: 719-845-1625. 845-1625

845-1625. Special Fundraiser Benefit SATURDAY (11 a.m.-2 p.m.) En-chilada Dinner for Chris Samora, who is battling cancer, will be held at the Elk's Club, 120 S. Maple St. Information: 719-520-620 w 710-850-5704

Cilb, 120 S. Maple St. Information: 719-680-1666 or 719-859-5784. The Black & White Ball SATURDAY (6-Midnight) A.R. Mitchell will host the annual Black & White Western Ball Dinner & Dance fundraiser with music by Whiskey Creek. Informa-tion: 719-846-4224. Kids Fun Festival

NIGS Fun Festival OCTOBER 31 (5-7 p.m.) Annual "Trunk or Treat" event for the kids will be held at the Fisher's Peak Community Church on Santa Fe Trail Drive Informa-tion: Lana Roberts, 719-868-3375. SCRT free Gala Reception NOVEMBER 1 (5:30 p.m.) A free

**NOVEMBER 1 (5:30 p.m.)** A free Grand Opening "Wine & Cheese" Recep-tion in celebration of the new mezzanine gallery at the Famous Theater will be held prior to the Jacquie Gipson / Wilson & McKee Concert. Info: 719-846-4765.

McKee Concert. Info: 719-846-4765. Area Essay Contest NOVEMBER 1 DEADLINE: The Trin-idad VFW Post 984 will again be sponsor-ing the Voice of Democracy and Patriot Pen competitions for all local school stu-dents (grades 9-12). Information: Com-mander John Rios, 719-846-6094. TIME CHANGE NOVEMBER 2: Clocks move back-wards one hour

NOVEMBER 2: CICKS HIVE Dack-wards one hour. ELECTION DAY NOVEMBER 4: Ballots must be turned in to the LA County Courthouse, 200 E. First St., by 7 p.m. SUICIDE/CRISIS HOTLINES: \*ADIU T HODE: 800-784-2423

\*ADULT HOPE: 800-784-2433 \*TEEN: 877-968-8454 \*GLB-YOUTH: 866-488-7386 VET-2-VET: 877-838-2838



Purgatoire River Call as of: 10/21/14. Johns Flood ditch: Priority # 9 --- Appropriation date: 01/01/1863.

**Trinidad Reservoir Accounting:** Release 0.02 AF Inflow 65.17 AF -- 32.86 CFS Evaporation 4.15 AF Content 11,944 AF Elevation 6.169.94 Precipitation 0

Downstream River Call / Highland Canal: 04/01/1884.





Steve Block / The Chronicle-News

# AT LA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

## By Steve Block The Chronicle-News

Get ready to get the living be-jeebers scared right out of you at the Halloween Haunted House, to be held under the grandstand at the Las Animas County Fairgrounds. Scary animatronic monsters and super creepy features such as an electric chair, a gravevard and rubberized versions of grisly body parts will be on glorious and gory display at the haunted house.

The coffin will creak open on the event beginning at 6 p.m. on Friday, October 24, with frightening forays into freakiness on the second floor of the space underneath the grandstand continuing through Halloween. Then at 6 p.m. on Sunday, October 26 the first floor haunted house area will open, and it's intended for very young children and people with

physical disabilities that won't allow them to climb the stairs to the second floor.

The haunted house features two mazes, one along one wall and the other hanging down creepily from the ceiling, a ghostly cemetery in the back, with the added fun of a torture chamber to complete the picture. Animatronic figures include Frankenstein. Count Dracula and a creepy corpse.

Children aged three and under get in free, while kids ages four to 12 are charged \$5, those over age 12 are charged \$8, while seniors, serving military members and the disabled pay \$5. Profits will be donated to Holy Trinity Academy, the Elks Club soccer program and a charity yet to be determined. Attendees are being asked to provide one canned food item per family,

## Continued on Page 2 ...

# **THE ARTS** Troubadour Matt Campbell

returns for Raton concert

By Tim Keller Correspondent The Chronicle-News

Matt Campbell isn't one to sit still long. The Coloradan served in the U.S. Coast Guard, moved

Chicago to establish dual careers as stage actor and singer/songwriter-both of which have kept him moving. He recently moved to Nashville but has shuttled between Raton's Shuler Theater and Indiana's Brown County Playhouse for stage roles. Between plays, he tours the west as a solo singer/songwriter.

to New York City, then moved to

Friday night, Campbell brings his acoustic guitar to Raton for a free concert at the Isabel Castillo Performing Arts Center, next to the Shuler Theater downtown.

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## Photo by Tim Keller / The Chronicle-News

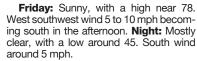
Matt Campbell, right, followed his summer-in-residence at the Shuler Theater with a well-attended end-of-summer concert in Ripley Park in late August. The Coloradan built his career in Chicago but lately has lived in Nashville. He re-turns to Raton for a concert Friday night at the Castillo Performing Arts Center.



Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 69. West southwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming east northeast in the

afternoon. Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 43. East wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west after midnight.

**Thursday:** Sunny, with a high near 73. West wind 5 to 10 mph becoming light and variable in the morning. Night: Clear, with a low around 43. East southeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west southwest after midnight.



Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 78. Southwest wind around 5 mph. Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 46. West southwest wind around 5 mph.







Benjamin A. Montano Benjamin A. Montano, lifetime resident of San Juan Plaza, passed away at home on October 17, 2014. He was 80.

was ou. Visitation will be Wednesday from 2p.m.-6p.m. at the Comi Chapel. Rosary will be recited Wednesday, October 22, 2014 at 7p.m. at Holy Trinity Church Church.

Funeral Mass will be celebrated Thursday, October 23, 2014 at 10a.m. at St. Ignatius Catholic Church in Segundo with interment following at the San Juan Plaza Cemetery San Juan Plaza Cemetery. Complete obit to follow.

Arrangements made under the direction of the Comi Funeral home.



Mullare-Murphy Funeral Home with the arrangements

**Pauline Roberta Phillips** Pauline Roberta Herington Phillips died on Saturday, September 13, 2014 in Birmingham, Alabama. She was born on January 20, 1915, in New York City to Charles Robert Herington and Pauline Viola Herington. She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband, James Mitchell Phillips.

Roberta graduated from High school early and then attended Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, Mass.; she received her bachelor's degree in Economics in 1936. Her college roommate, who lived in Cokedale took her home for a visit and introduced her to James Mitchell Phillips. They were married in 1941. Afterward, they lived on the West Coast, Gulf Coast, and East Coast until they made their home in Birmingham, Alabama in 1949.

Roberta returned to school and received her master's



In Loving Memory of **Clinton Andresen Furu** On His 37th Birthday In Heaven with Our Lord

October 22, 2014



Missing You On Your Birthday Today is full of memories Happiness and tears, Of birthday celebrations We've shared throughout the years And though I'll always miss you The endless joy you brought Warms my heart with gratitude And fills my every thought. Wherever you are resting I hope that you can see, How precious and uplifting Your memory is to me. I feel that you are with me In everything I do, So I'll celebrate your birthday But I'll spend it missing you. Happy Birthday Little Bro! We Love and Miss you Dearly!

Always, Mom, Pops, Big Bro Gaylene, Bobby Lily and Race. You can SAVE LIVES by saying YES Recycle yourself & be an Organ/Tissue Donor I Did! Love Clint.



## An angel

## ... Continued from Page 1

# Trommeter, Leonetti face off in County Treasurer race Donna Leonetti . . . Ed Trommeter . . .

 $\star \star \star \star$ 

**ELECTION** 

aging several thousand people and millions of dollars.

"My son and I were going elk hunting down here in 1990. In the wants ads for places to hunt, there was a house for sale.' The owner was thinking someone who likes to hunt might like to live on property that backs to the Spanish Peaks Wilderness area. "We looked at the house, in Upper Burro Canyon, and bought it that day. I'd been thinking about what I'd like to do after aviation, and knew this area." By 1994 he was here full time. What to do next came in the

form of real estate.

"The gas industry was starting. CIG put in the gas line that parallels Highway 12 from Weston. Roger Vanderwahl said I should get into real estate. I got my license, worked for him, then Dave Shier, became a partner in Higbee Realty and bought Roger's business when he passed. I started Town and Country in 2001."

As a Conservative Republican, Ed believes, "Government should be more efficient and productive, and smaller." He admits the Republican Party has suffered an identity crisis. One of his goals is to correct that issue.

Speaking about qualifications for the Treasurer position, Ed said, "My Company is respected, and I'm involved in a lot of community work.'

Ed is a member of Kiwanis, was a Bon Carbo vol-

unteer fireman, was chief for three years, has been involved in the fire protection district's efforts, is a member of the Economic Development Board, the Trinidad State Junior College Education Board, the Board of Realtors, has been county real estate agent of the year, is Vice Chair of the Republican Party of Las Animas County, Vice Chair of Planning, and is working to get a YMCA and charter school for Trinidad.

As Social Services, the Clerk and Recorder of Deeds, and other government entities assess and collect funds, the Treasurer, "Oversees their use, and authorizes payment."

Ed noted, "Some people think government's purpose is to create jobs. It's to operate efficiently and cut costs.

To educate himself about the duties of Treasurer, Ed said, I visited, spoke with, and have studied other county systems. Otero County's system is a lot like ours.<sup>3</sup>

The Treasurer is also charged with overseeing investment funds and maximizing their returns.

"I bring years of management experience from my careers in aviation and real estate," Ed said.

Three other topics he shared his concerns about were, Roads and bridges. We've got a lot of unpaved roads in this county, and the monthly furlough day at the Courthouse. Instead of closing the Courthouse, it could be split, half of the employees coming in one day and half the other. I'd also like to see more staff development, educating our employees to improve iob performance and their lives in general.'

More than just change, Ed has an eye to precise management

"I'd like to be Treasurer, and am ready to serve in that capacity."

To contact Ed, phone 719-846-3166 or 719-859-3116 or email etrommeter@townandcountryestates.net.

# Feds say mine operators warned before accident

By STEVEN K. PAULSON Associated Press

DENVER (AP) — Federal mine inspectors say operators were warned numerous times of potential danger at the Revenue-Virginius Mine days before two men died of carbon-monoxide poisoning in 2013.

Mine Safety and Health Administration administrator Joe Main said Tuesday managers of the mine near Ouray (yoo-RAY') improperly detonated deteriorated explosives in a mine shaft in an attempt to dispose of them, filling the area with toxic gas. Regulators say mine operators failed to seal off the area or ventilate it, and they ignored complaints from miners. The accident killed Rick Williams of Durango and Nick Cappanno of Montrose, who died of carbon monoxide poisoning. Twenty other miners were exposed to carbon monoxide while unsuccessfully attempting to rescue the two victims. Seven of them were hospitalized. Main said mine operators had numerous warnings of potential problems, including complaints of a lack of ventilation on Nov. 11 days before the Nov. 17 fatal accident. "Mr. Cappanno and Mr. Williams' deaths were entirely preventable," Main said. Around 2 p.m. on the day before the accident occurred, approximately 1,600 pounds of deteriorated explosives were detonated underground. Safety officials say managers failed to follow the proper procedures for disposing of the deteriorating

mineral rights, manufactured housing, and state-assessed taxes. They process redemptions, priors, assignments, pre-pays, endorsements, special assessments, tax certificates, and tax lien sale certificates, and issue moving permits, authentications, and distraints for manufactured housing, along with performing abatements and cancellations of omitted property after the process of the County Assessor and County Commissioners. They prepare and mail tax notices and applications for Treasurer's deeds, maintain receipts and disbursements of the funds mandated by statute, and monitor the daily activity of those funds, reconciling them to a monthly fund ledger and paying the

entities on a monthly basis. Donna explained, "We manage the funds the State sends us through direct deposit, and we care for county funds and investments in local banks. April of each year, we receive, if approved by the State, senior and veteran exemptions, also part of our disbursements. Sometimes I go through the County Commissioners if I have any cancellations on schedules that do not exist, a process called purging, approved before I take them off the tax roll. And I work with the State to make certain we follow the statutes.

As to political affiliation, Donna said, "Yes, I am a Democrat." Two up-coming projects Donna would like to see funded are. "The Treasurer's Office credit card system. I'm working for County Administrator, Leanne Fabec to set this up. Our new computer system is two and a half years old, and it could us a credit card system. And hopefully the State will fund the seniors' and veterans' exemptions for years to come.'

Donna de-mystified some of the Treasurer's duties.

"Cancellations occur when taxes have been levied by erroneous valuation for assessment, irregularities in levying, clerical error or overvaluation. The Treasurer reports the amount to the County Commissioners who purge the taxes as provided by law. Taxes levied on personal property determined to be uncollectible after one year can also be canceled by the County Commissioners.

Tax certificates are ordered through abstract companies when they sell a property to make certain the taxes for the past seven years have been paid. Special assessments are for developments that have associations collecting taxes. Taxes unpaid to the association are turned in to us, and we add them to the tax notice sent out, and try to collect them.

'Pre-pays allow people to pay taxes in advance, if desired. Tax lien sale certificates are offered to interested buyers every December, when an owner does not pay the current year taxes and parcels go up for sale, to collect the delinquent taxes.

Redemptions are monies paid to buyers when a delinquent owner pays taxes on a tax sale. Endorsements are made for the ext three years after purchase of a tax lien sales certificate.

'Assignments are what's left when there is no buyer. They are turned into county-held certificates, and can be assigned to any interested party, if needed. Lastly, priors are endorsed county-held certificates, mostly on personal property schedules. I am collecting the ones I know of, to have them purged."

Some of it can sound like a foreign language, but these are the duties of the County Treasurer. Donna's been performing them for six years.

'I'd like to keep doing it," Donna said.

To contact the Treasurer's office, phone - 719-846-3630 or email - lacbookkeeper3630@yahoo.com.

explosives.

Two miners on that evening shift became ill while working in that area and retreated from the mine. A third miner also returned to the surface after encountering what he called "bad air."

The following morning, two members of the day-shift crew were not warned and went into the drift to observe the results of the detonations from the previous day. Cappanno, who had one month of mining experience, was overcome by toxic levels of carbon monoxide, and another miner ran for help. In an attempt to rescue Cappanno, the shift boss, Rick Williams, entered the drift and was also overcome by carbon monoxide.

The mine was cited Tuesday for multiple failures, including six flagrant violations.

"These were basic safety protections from normal common sense that should have been acted on," Main said.

The mine was cited 33 times after Star Mine became the

degree in Education from the University of Alabama. She taught Jr. High mathematics for 17 years. In addition to teaching she loved cooking and traveling. She was also an avid reader as well as an excellent seamstress, creating beautiful clothing for children and her grandchildren. Gardening was a special passion, especially during the many summers she spent with her husband at her beloved house in Stonewall, Colo.

She met the challenges of life with a determined and optimistic spirit. She was a strong woman in her life and faith.

She is survived by her daughters. Karen Philips Irons of Birmingham, Arlene Phillips Plant of Pensacola, Florida, and Michele Phillips Doyle (Robert) of Fairhope, Alabama; six grandchildren,

tiptoed quietly into our world, silently, only lingering for a moment it seemed. Oh, but what an imprint those footprints left upon our hearts. ~Unknown

# Scary Haunted House

with the collected items being donated to the Fisher's Peak Soup Kitchen at Holy Family Hall. Families who donate food items get \$1 off of the admission charge.

Event organizer Cindy Hammond said volunteers Martin Almarez, Kyle Rowe and Cesar Salinas had done most of the heavy lifting in preparing the haunted house to throw a good healthy scare into the greater Trinidad community. Hammond said she'd had the haunted house in her own home for the last few years, but it turned out to be somewhat disruptive to her family's normal human existence, and so she was forced to find it a new home.

Organizer Cindy Howell said that in previous years, profits from the haunted house at Hammond's home have gone to the cancer ward at Children's Hospital in Denver,

operator in 2011, including 13 that regulators determined were reasonably likely to result in injury or illness. Main says the mine has been fined \$1 million for violations that led to the miners' deaths.

After the accident, the gold, silver and lead mine was put up for sale in 2014.

Troy Nazarewicz, spokesman Fortune Minerals Ltd. that bought the Revenue Silver Mine on Oct. 1, said his company has taken steps to improve safety at the mine, including training.

The mine was operated between 1876 and 1912 by Caroline Mining Co. and had production estimated at approximately 15 million ounces of silver before the mill burned and the mine closed

Nazarewicz said Fortune Minerals believes there is good potential to identify additional resources on the mine property and in the district.

## ... Continued from Page 1

but this year organizers decided to open the event to the general public and donate to local charities.

The animatronic figures come from an anonymous donor. Animatronics is the use of electronics and robotics in the creation of puppets, which simulate life. It's a multi-disciplinary field, which integrates anatomy, robots, mechatronics and puppetry resulting in the lifelike animation of something, be it human, animal or fantasy.

Organizers are looking for more volunteers to staff the haunted house. Call Hammond at: 719-680-1706 to volunteer

"It's a lot of work, but it's also a lot of fun," Hammond said. "We're planning on scaring the heck out of everybody."

# Troubadour Matt Campbell returns

An August concert in Ripley Park demonstrated Campbell's easy way with an audience, chatting between songs and whistling after a chorus. The songs come from his sev-



... Continued from Page 1

eral albums, including the recently released "Live at the Old Town School of Folk Music," recorded at the fabled Chicago venue.

Campbell's voice soars to follow his bounding melodies while his lyrics spin finely wrought stories. Stylistically, he's firmly grounded in bedrock American country music-think Hank Williams and John Prine, Ernest Tubb and Johnny Cash, rather than Keith Urban or Jason Aldean.

His songs occasionally get topical in a homespun kind of way, and he recently announced that he's running for President of the United States in 2016. Until he can be seen in person Friday night, it will be hard to tell how deeply he's planted his tongue in cheek. He did smile a lot during his August show.

Meantime, Campbell is southbound from shows in Minnesota and Montana. He plays the Clayton's Hotel Eklund Thursday night, then follows his Friday night Raton show with others at Cimarron's Express St. James Hotel and the Taos Inn and Taos Mesa Brewing Company before continuing westward to Arizona.

He wants a good crowd in Raton so there won't be a cover charge, although pass-the-hat donations will be happily accepted. Showtime is 7:30 p.m. Friday night, Oct. 24, at the Isabel Castillo Performing Arts Center, next door to the Shuler Theater at 131 N. 2nd St. in downtown Raton.

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