

# OVER THE PASS



## TRINIDAD-RATON CONNECTION

By **Tim Keller**  
Correspondent  
The Chronicle-News

Question of the Week:

**“What have you enjoyed most so far this summer?”**

Photos by Tim Keller / The Chronicle-News

“Going to the skatepark, dropping in on my bike, stuff I haven’t done before. I like to swim and play ball at the [Community] Center.”

– Jesse Mares, TMS 8th grader (Trinidad)



“The views I got to see from the mountaintops and along the river, and capturing the moment with my camera.”

– Nikola Cooper, 16-year-old college freshman, Galesburg, Illinois (with friend Delaney Adams at left) (Raton)



“In June I went to St. Louis on a weeklong mission trip with my church group. We saw how people struggle, and we were able to help. It made me more aware of how I can do things in my community.”

– Sam Foster, high school senior, Rock Island, Illinois (Raton)

“The Fourth of July. So much happens on the Fourth. I was in Greeley and I got to lead the state Masonic camp band in the Greeley Stampede.”

– Sally Ruybalid, THS sophomore (Trinidad)



“Just being outdoors — the water and fun with family and friends. I love the outdoor pool here.”

– Tanya Menapace, Raton High School secretary (Trinidad)



“Philmont Scout Ranch, trekking up in the mountains for 10 days, along with the scenery. It’s the preparation and the challenge, and then seeing it all pay off.”

– Terry Dwyer, printing technician, Woodbury, Minnesota (Raton)



Photo courtesy of Kiwanis Club

Pictured left to right are Trinidad Kiwanis Club President Brian Blasi, Karen Malone, Lorraine Williams, Judge Bruce Billings, Dr. Carmen Simone, Tandy Kephart, Marty Malouf, Ed Norris and Jeff Mangino.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

### Kiwanis Kares for Kids

Special to The Chronicle-News

The Trinidad Kiwanis Club hosts a variety of fundraisers throughout the year and utilizes the proceeds to provide items for children such as books, camp opportunities and sometimes necessities. Most recently, as part of the Kiwanis Kares for Kids project, warm fuzzy blankets, stuffed animals and books, as well as child backpacks, were purchased for donations. Kiwanis members ordered the merchandise, assembled the backpacks and then gave the items to the Las Animas County Department of Human Services to have on hand to disperse as needed.

The filled backpacks, 50 in total, were donated to DHS so that when children are displaced from their homes they can be given a backpack to have something warm and fuzzy to help them through the process of an extremely stressful transition.

Kiwanis International is an international, coeducational service club founded in 1915. It is headquartered in Indianapolis, Indiana and is found in more than 80 nations and geographic areas. Kiwanis and its family of clubs features nearly 600,000 members, and members annually raise more than \$100 million and report more than 18 million volunteer hours to strengthen communities and serve children.

## TRINIDAD MUNI

### Montoya scores rare ace

By **Doc Leonetti**  
Correspondent  
The Chronicle-News

Toni Montoya was not deterred. She has been playing golf for 16 years, and she had never made a hole-in-one — at least not until last Thursday. The odds against “scoring an ace” for an average golfer are about 12,500 to one, yet Montoya beat the odds on the 135-yard 16th hole at Trinidad Municipal Golf Course.

Swinging a hybrid-7, Montoya launched a shot just right of the pin, and the ball tracked into the cup.

“After playing golf for all those years, I finally got my due,” said an elated Montoya. “I finally got one. I can’t tell you how nice it was. It was totally awesome.”

Playing partner Toni Merino also thought it was a pretty good shot. “It was a beautiful hole-in-one,” said Merino, who has scored an ace on hole No. 7, and another No. 5 in a Trinidad Latin tournament. “Toni’s shot was high, hit the green and took two bounces, then went in. We were yelling and crying, we were so happy. It’s hard to

hole an ace. Trinidad has given me two of them, and I really appreciate that. Even the one I hit in the Latin Tournament — it cost me a lot of money, but it was worth it.”



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