



MONDAY
JULY 6, 2015

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THE CHRONICLE-NEWS

50 CENTS
TRINIDAD
COLORADO

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THE FINE PRINT

TRINIDAD LAKE

All activities are rain or shine, and are free to the public. All vehicles are required to have a park pass. Info: 719-846-6951.
♦SAT. (7 p.m.) Don't miss this opportunity to hear Trinidad's own guitarist extraordinaire Jaquie Gipson in concert at the Amphitheater at Trinidad Lake State Park, entrance off Hwy 12.

JULY 6

CELEBRATE RECOVERY MONDAY (6 p.m.) Weekly fellowship for help and support with food and music will be held at the First United Methodist Church, 216 Broom St. Info: Senior Pastor Bobby L. Barnhill, Jr. or email www.celebratercovery.com.

TAAC MONDAY (6 p.m.) Trinidad Area Arts Council will meet in the Gallery Main, 130 E. Main St. Information: 719-846-1441. Public is welcome to attend.

JULY 7

SAMARITAN CLINIC 1st & 3rd TUESDAYS (9 a.m.-4 p.m.) Here to serve the under-insured and non-insured community with free health care and low-cost lab work, 413 E. Frost. Info: 719-846-3536.

CALL FOR ARTISTS TUESDAY DEADLINE: "36 Views of Trinidad" — open postcard show at Gallery Main, 130 E. Main Street. Info: Bree Papan, 719-846-1441.

LAS ANIMAS COUNTY TUESDAY (9 a.m.) Board of County Commissioners meeting is 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).

HOUSING AUTHORITY TUESDAY (4:30 p.m.) Trinidad Housing Board of Commissioners will meet in regular session at the Corazon Square Activity Room, 201 Raton St. Info: Rosemarie Shier, 719-846-7204.

CITY COUNCIL TUESDAY (6 p.m. & 7 p.m.) Special session followed by a regular session will be held in Council Chambers, 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.

PUBLIC SERVICE

TEENS TALK BOOKS FRIDAY (5-7 p.m.) Join Jennifer Swartwood, author of The Ferrokin, for a live talk about her novel at the Carnegie Library, 202 N. Animas St. Info: Felicity Boepple, 719-846-6841.

KIDS' FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE Events are FREE for middle and high school kids. Parents are asked to sign kids in and out of each event. Info: Berni Arrazola, 719-680-9639.

♦FRIDAY (7-10 p.m.) Game Night at Brix
♦JULY 17 (3-6:00 p.m.) Fun with Water at Cimino Park

FARMERS' MARKET SATURDAY (8 a.m.-Noon) 15th Annual event every Saturday in Cimino Park runs thru mid-October. Information: 719-680-0184.

WET CANYON LANDOWNERS JULY 11 (Noon-3 p.m.) Group annual meeting and potluck lunch will be held at the Stonewall Fire Protection District Station. Info: Barb Holik, 719-868-2024.

FREE ADVENTURE WEEKEND JULY 17-19: Colorado Parks and Wildlife will host a great outdoors camping get away for kids and their immediate families at the Terco Ranch, 30 miles west of Trinidad on Hwy 12. Registration and info: 719-561-5300.

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. Adults can join in for \$3.25. Information: Carol Villa, 719-845-2051 or 719-846-3314.

LIFE-SAVING COURSES Trinidad Ambulance Service offers ongoing instruction in First Aid, CPR and Automated External Defibrillation (AED). Info: 719-846-6886.

DISPLAY YOUR ART! The Carnegie Library is looking for artists to display their art on the community art wall for July. Artists of all ages and abilities welcome. Info: Mallory Pillard, 719-846-6841.

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

RIVER CALL

Purgatoire River Call as of: 07/02/15. Model Ditch --- Appropriation date: 01/22/1908.

Trinidad Reservoir Accounting:
Release 394.74 AF
Inflow 384.43 AF -- 193.81 CFS
Evaporation 16.69 AF
Content 32,180 AF
Elevation 6,198.70
Precipitation .26

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



WILDLAND FIRE REIMBURSEMENT

Pipeline Fire payments distributed to Fire Protection Districts

By Steve Block
The Chronicle-News

Two Las Animas County Fire Protection Districts received their payments from the County Board of Commissioners, with the Fisher's Peak District getting \$5,306.86, and the Stonewall District receiving a payment of \$7,500 for their respective roles in successfully fighting the Pipeline Fire, which broke out on the north slope of Fisher's Peak in early July of 2013. The Board agreed to make the payments at its meeting on June 16, 2015, though each of the three Commissioners voiced objections, saying they didn't believe the County should have financial responsibility for fighting

wildland fires.

In September 2014, the County was billed approximately \$36,000 by the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control (DFPC), to compensate the two districts for their expenses. The Board had earlier paid \$7,216.74 to the Fisher's Peak District and \$13,059.13 to the Stonewall District to compensate them for their expenses. The final compensation payment amount was tentatively agreed to in negotiations between County officials and representatives of the two districts. The Stonewall representatives agreed to accept less money than they were actually owed, though the Fisher's Peak District was fully compensated for its expenses.



Photo courtesy of the Pueblo Chieftain

Smoke could be seen for miles covering the base of Fisher's Peak during the July 2013 Pipeline Fire. More than 100 acres were consumed in the wildland fire determined to be caused by lightning strikes.

Colorado changed how it managed wildland firefighting a few years ago. The Colorado State Forest Service had managed wildfires

for many years, but now the State Division of Fire prevention and

Continued on Page 6 ...



Photos by Tim Keller / The Chronicle-News

Balloons rose over Raton an hour later than scheduled Saturday morning after waiting for low cloud cover to clear. Among hundreds of spectators on the ground were dozens of photographers whose images benefited from backdrops of clouds.

JULY 4TH CELEBRATION

Raton enjoys brightly colored holiday weekend

By Tim Keller
Correspondent
The Chronicle-News

RATON — It's hard to imagine a more colorful Fourth of July than the day spectators enjoyed Saturday, from the brightly colored hot-air balloons that hovered over the south and west sides of Raton in the morning, to the jaw-dropping city fireworks display downtown after dark. In the afternoon, an Americanism parade featured bright colors—with an emphasis on red, white and blue—ending at Ripley Park for a daylong fair packed with people, rides, food booths, and live music.

Sponsored by Raton MainStreet and the City of Raton, the day's events were free to the public, and cars streamed in from every direction throughout the region.

A hundred parked cars ringed La Mesa airfield by 6:30 Saturday morning as 16 balloon pilots fretted that clouds might force a repeat of Friday morning, when low clouds forced balloonists to remain tethered to the ground. As spectators sipped coffee in lawn chairs or enjoyed the Kiwanis Club pancake breakfast, the clouds slowly parted and at 7:30 the balloons began filling and rising.

There were still plenty of clouds to provide the most beautiful sky full of balloons in recent years, and the International Santa Fe Trail Balloon Rally is an event that brings out the cameras. Joining the

Continued on Page 3 ...

SCHOOL DRIVE

First National kicks off 15th annual School Supply Drive

Special to The Chronicle-News

The First National Bank in Trinidad is holding its 15th annual "School Supply Drive" to collect for the children in our area.

"Many students start school without the necessary supplies to participate in class. This program has been an excellent opportunity to help," said Bank Vice President, Chris Huffman. "There are eleven schools that we distribute supplies to, and the need is great."

School supplies needed include pencils, erasers, 12-inch rulers, crayons, glue, scissors, backpacks and notebook paper. Cash donations are also accepted. Donations need to be dropped off no later than

Continued on Page 3 ...



Photos by Eric John Monson / The Chronicle-News

Cuchara Celebrates Dog Days

People came from miles around to celebrate the 4th of July in Cuchara this weekend. The little hamlet west of La Veta was all decked out in its finest patriotic gear to host another Independence Day holiday. Participants enjoyed the day with cool drinks, ice cream and a town barbecue to top off the festivities. For more photos from the fourth see page 3.

WEATHER WATCH

Monday: A 60 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms likely. Cloudy, with a high near 72. North northeast wind 5 to 15

mph. **Night:** A 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Cloudy, with a low around 56. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph.

Tuesday: A 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 73. Light east southeast wind becoming south southeast 5 to 10 mph. **Night:** A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 57. South southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.

Wednesday: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly after noon. Partly sunny, with a high near 80. South southwest wind 5 to 10 mph. **Night:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 57. West southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.

Thursday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 82. Southwest wind around 5 mph.

Weather Sponsored by:

Inn & Suites
Wellness
Hotel
719-845-0102

FOURTH OF JULY



Old friends and neighbors gather to enjoy the day and celebrate 4th of July

Photos by Doc Leonetti / The Chronicle-News

The eldest residents attending the Sopris reunion at Trinidad Lake on the 4th of July were: Bottom row L-R, Tom Komora (93), Lorraine Komora (sister, 88) and Carrie Terry (97); Top row L-R, Rose Vecellio (93), Sam Incitti (89) and Dorothy Battistone (90). Former Sopris residents, below, crowd around the main tent where Father Jim Koeingsfield officiated at the mass services held especially for the annual Old Sopris Reunion.

COMI FUNERAL HOME
 Trinidad's Leading Funeral Home
 1804 East Main
 Trinidad, CO 81082
 (719) 846-3347
 Owned & operated by:
 Mary (Kitsy) Winter

Mary Carol Bowie
 Mary Carol Bowie, age 87, passed away June 26, 2015 at Mt. San Rafael Hospital. Memorial Services will be held Tuesday, July 7, 2015 at 11a.m. at the Comi Chapel with Rev. Janet Rawlins officiating. Private inurnment at a later date.

Persons wishing to do so may make contributions to Noah's Ark in Carol's memory. Arrangements made under the direction of the Comi Funeral Home.

62 Memorials
 In Loving Memory of ISIDRO TAPIA "BIG CID"



8 long years have passed, yet it still feels like yesterday.

We love and miss you, brother, uncle, friend,
 From your family Pat & Reuben, Richard, Damon & Lou Bradley, Shawn, Brother & Sisters



"The two most important days in your life are the day you are born and the day you find out why."
 ~Mark Twain

Sopris celebrates holiday with reunion at Trinidad Lake

A gathering of former residents at Trinidad Lake for the 7th Sopris reunion on July 4 was a fun and happy way to celebrate the 4th of July weekend. Old friends and neighbors came together to visit and enjoy the day at Trinidad's famous 'City Under the Lake'.



Raton enjoys brightly colored holiday weekend

... Continued from Page 1



Tim Keller / The Chronicle-News

Raton Humane Society joined Saturday's midday parade by taking several dogs on a long walk down Historic First Street. The dogs appeared to enjoy their applause.

clouds—and almost as big—was Beagle Maximus, a 135-foot long balloon that remained tethered through the morning.

Thirteen balloons went aloft Saturday, with calm winds allowing them to float nearby for more than an hour. Two balloons joined Beagle Maximus in remaining tethered, including Hector Corominas's Sky Gypsy that gave rides to every kid that lined up. (Sunday morning, Sky Gypsy was one of the first balloons to leave the Earth and float high over Raton's south plains.)

The annual downtown Fourth of July parade featured lots of noise and music and color, led by two couples that shared grand marshal honors. Kathy and Bob Harris last year celebrated the 50th anniversary of their downtown business, Title Services. Next year, Fabie and Andy Solano will mark the 60th

year of their Solano's Boot & Western Wear anchoring the downtown business district.

Raton Fire Department's annual fireworks display always packs downtown with locals and visitors alike, creating the year's only traffic jams. Many said that this year's display surpassed anything they'd ever seen—better than the best of Santa Fe or Albuquerque, said one. It mimicked the creation of the Universe, said another.

Afterward, cars crawled bumper to bumper as they slowly departed downtown Raton. The line of cars heading north was backed up more than a mile to the north onramp to I-25 as Coloradans patiently waited their turns to accelerate onto the interstate highway. Behind them, they could see fireworks exploding in the air as Ratonians continued to celebrate.



Photos by Eric John Monson / The Chronicle-News

Cuchara Celebrates Dog Days of Summer



First National kicks off 15th annual School Supply Drive

... Continued from Page 1

August 7 at The First National bank in Trinidad main bank on Main Street, at the motor bank on First Street or at the Wal-Mart Branch. First National will match up to \$1,000 in donations. School supplies will be distributed to area schools based upon enrollment numbers, and teach-

ers will be able to give the supplies to the students as needed. "Unfortunately, we cannot provide all our young people with idyllic childhoods, but we can provide them with the minimum requirements they need to grow up into self-supporting and contributing adult mem-

bers of society," Huffman said. "We hope our efforts will bring an added awareness of the responsibility we have within the community, and that others will join with us to make a difference in the lives of the children who are our future," said Huffman.

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