



TUESDAY
JULY 8, 2014

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THE CHRONICLE-NEWS

50 CENTS
TRINIDAD
COLORADO

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THE FINE PRINT

JULY 8
-Public Meeting
TUESDAY (11 a.m.-1 p.m.) The public is invited to a meeting presented by the City Council to share resident concerns will be held at the Welcome Center, corner of Animas and Nevada Streets.
-Trinidad City Council
TUESDAY (1:30 p.m.) Work session in Council Chambers, City Hall, 135 N. Animas St., Third Floor. Information: Audra Garrett, 719-846-9843.
-ARPA Public Meeting
TUESDAY (5:30 p.m.) The City of Trinidad encourages all residents to attend the status meeting of the Arkansas River Power Authority's Lamar Repowering Project to be held in the Pioneer Room at Trinidad State Junior College, 600 Prospect. Audience comments are invited. Information: 719-846-9843.

Today's Quote

"I've often thought that the process of aging could be slowed down if it had to go through Congress."

-George H.W. Bush

JULY 9
-Piñon Water Sanitation
WEDNESDAY (8:30 a.m.) District meeting will be in the Century Financial Building, 109 W. Main. Information: Dana Phillips, 719-846-2080.
-Tourism Board
WEDNESDAY (9 a.m.) Committee meets in the City Hall Third Floor Conference Room, 135 N. Animas St. Information: City Clerk, Audra Garrett, 719-846-9843.
-Stonewall FPD
WEDNESDAY (6:30 p.m.) Board of Directors meets in the Stonewall Fire House. Information: Dana Phillips, 719-846-2080.
-VFW
WEDNESDAY (7 p.m.) Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #984 will meet in the Elks Club Banquet Room, 120 S. Maple St. New members need to bring their DD214. Information: Post Commander John Rios, 719-846-6094.

PUBLIC SERVICE
-Please Help our Furry Friends
The Noah's Ark pantry is low on dog and cat food supplies used to help elderly and in-need residents maintain their pets. If you'd like to make a donation of food or funds stop by the animal shelter at 224 N. Chestnut St. or call 719-846-8578.
-United Mine Workers
SUNDAY (10 a.m.) Union 9856 will have nominations for international officers at the Sayre Senior Center, 1222 San Pedro. Information: Ralph Sandoval, 719-846-4194.
-Free Summer Lunch Program
THRU AUGUST 8 (11 a.m.-1 p.m.) All kids (18 and under) can eat a free lunch Mon.-Fri. at the TMS Cafeteria, 614 Park St. Adults can join in for \$3. Information: 719-845-2051.
-Carnegie Public Library
CALLING ALL ARTISTS who want to exhibit their 2-dimensional artwork at the Library. Information: Mallory Pillard, 719-846-6841 or stop by the Library at 202 Animas St.
-FP Fire Protection District
The auxiliary is now accepting donated items to be sold at the annual July fundraiser firehouse sale (no clothing, please). Proceeds benefit the fire department. Call 719-846-4074 for drop-off or pick-up.
-2014 ARTOCODE
CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS: Anyone interested in participating in the September ArtoCade please contact Rodney Wood at 719-334-0087 or artocadefun@yahoo.com.
-Books & More
The Carnegie Library's bookstore is located at 132 N. Commercial St. All proceeds benefit the public library. (Open noon-4 p.m., Monday-Saturday.) Volunteer information and book donations: 719-846-8522.
-Volunteer Firemen
Anyone over 18 interested in becoming a volunteer fireman for any of our area fire protection districts, please call Buddie Curro at 719-859-1535. Any donations of food, water and funds for our area fire district volunteers call 719-846-4074.

-SUICIDE/CRISIS HOTLINES:
*ADULT HOPE: 800-784-2433
*TEEN: 877-968-8454
*GLB-YOUTH: 866-488-7386
*VET-2-VET: 877-838-2838
"When the world says, 'Give up!'
Hope says, 'Not today!'" -Unknown

RIVER CALL

Purgatoire River Call as of:
07/07/14. Salas North ditch: Priority # 27 / Appropriation date: 05/31/1866.

Trinidad Reservoir Accounting:
Release 141.50 AF
Inflow 138.87 AF -- 69.99 CFS
Evaporation 11.67 AF
Content 13,273 AF
Elevation 6,172.64
Precipitation 0

Downstream River Call / High-land Canal: 05/31/1866.



TRANSPORTATION

County Board endorses CNG refueling station plan

By Steve Block
The Chronicle-News

The effort to establish a Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) refueling station in Trinidad cleared another hurdle on Tuesday. The Las Animas County Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to send a letter of support to the state for a grant application that would provide some of the funding for a CNG station at the Shell gas station at Exit 11, just off of Inter-

state 25. The effort is the result of a partnership between the County, other regional partners, local private business interests and Sparq Natural Gas, an Oklahoma-based CNG producer.

No CNG refueling stations currently exist between Colorado Springs and Santa Fe, New Mexico. County Commissioner Mack Loudon is among the leaders in the effort to establish a CNG station here, as well as Ray Duran, of Duran Oil Co., and others.

"What the CNG will do is deliver the same fuel mileage as gasoline or diesel fuel for about \$2 a gallon less," Loudon said. "That's why we picked Exit 11, because we can get trucks in and out of there. There's quite a few trucking fleets going that way, and, in terms of personal vehicles, there will be some of those using CNG, too. The market is still growing. It's going to be very beneficial to the County and the City. The State Park trucks are equipped for that,

but there's no place for them to go for fuel. This is going to help them out quite a bit. It's going to be one of those things that grows. It's going to be a big savings."

In April 2012, the Colorado General Assembly approved House Bill 1258, whose goal is to promote the development of CNG and Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) refueling stations across the state, along with recharging stations for electrically powered vehicles. Partial funding for the project comes from the federal Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) program, and the local coalition has applied for a \$500,000 CMAQ grant to build a CNG refueling station in Trinidad. Private funding will be required, in addition to the grant, to build the station.

Loudon explained why the local partnership was eligible for the CMAQ grant funding, saying, "In the Front Range they get CMAQ money because they have bad air. They get this money to clean up their air. What we were able to do is work with Weld and Pueblo Counties to get \$30 million of that CMAQ money spread out across the state. We're going to be able to use \$500,000 per station to put up these stations. The back end of the CMAQ grant funding goes to alternative-fueled vehicles. One of the arguments we made was we said, 'You've got bad air, but we've got clean air. Help us keep our air clean, and when the wind blows from the south, then our clean air will go up to Denver.'"

Commissioners Gary Hill and Anthony Abeyta both thanked Loudon for doing so much of the work that has led to this point, since having a CNG refueling station in Trinidad is now a strong



Tim Keller / The Chronicle-News

Raton's free City-sponsored fireworks show on the Fourth of July ended a big day in which the Trinidad Triggers swept a pair of games against the Raton Osos.

FANTASTIC FOURTH CELEBRATION

Balloons, baseball highlight All-American Weekend

By Tim Keller
Correspondent
The Chronicle-News

Raton's All-American Weekend on the Santa Fe Trail began and ended with balloon mass ascensions early on Friday and Sunday mornings. Between these flights, downtown hosted a parade that stretched several blocks, daylong fairs with live music and fun in Ripley Park, as well as baseball. The Trinidad Triggers beat the Raton Osos in Trinidad in Friday's Fourth of July day game, then traveled to Raton to beat them again that evening.

As if losing a second game wasn't enough for the Osos, Raton's annual City-sponsored fireworks show seemed timed to celebrate, as the Triggers closed out the game's final inning under starbursts of exploding fireworks.

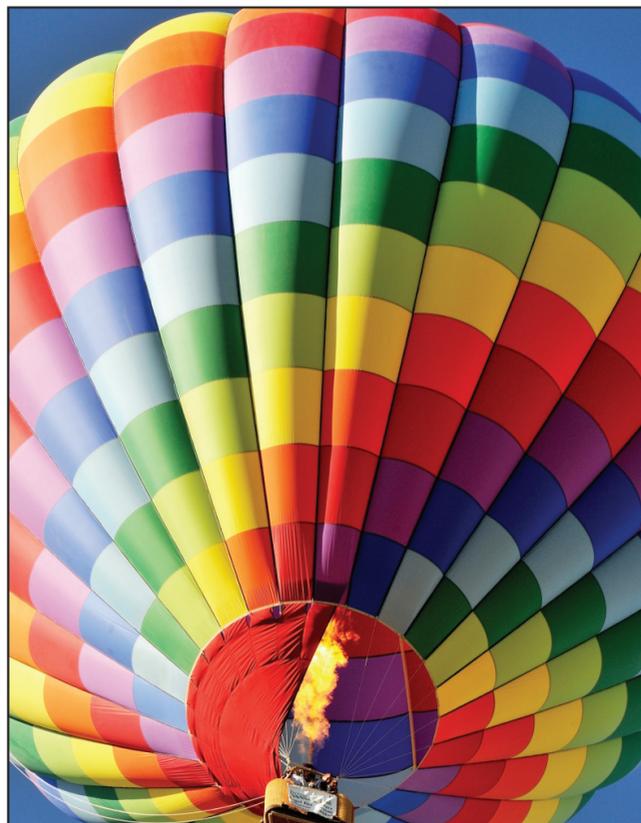
Brighter than the pyrotechnics display were the 16 balloons that rose in mass ascension on Friday morning, July 4, to start the three-day 20th anniversary International Santa Fe Trail Balloon

Rally. Winds were so light that the balloonists were able to hover just west of town for as long as their fuel held out. One balloon stayed up for 80 minutes.

Last year's balloonmeister, Tom Gardner of Albuquerque, actually brought his balloon back to land on his exact launch spot to exchange passengers — no small feat for a craft whose steering is controlled by wind.

The Raton Osos' game-day operations director, Nina Zimmerman, had never been near a hot-air balloon. "As I walked from my car, a real friendly guy waved and said hi," she said. "He turned out to be a pilot. I asked if he needed help for his crew. He didn't, but he took me to Debby Young, who did need help with her balloon, Road Trip.

"I ended up getting to ride! I won't lie to you, as we rose, I thought, 'What am I doing here?' Looking down, I felt nervous and nauseous. Once I got over the fact that I was in a basket held up by hot air in a balloon, I relaxed and enjoyed it," Zimmerman said. Her



Photos by Tim Keller / The Chronicle-News

Many spectators offered visiting balloonists their help and ended up getting free balloon rides at the 20-year anniversary of the International Santa Fe Trail Balloon Rally in Raton over the holiday weekend. On Friday and Saturday, Raton's downtown Ripley Park hosted live bands, food trucks, community booths and fun and games such as the water attraction at left.



favorite parts were seeing herds of pronghorn antelope running below her, and landing.

Would she do it again? "Oh, in a heartbeat," she said.

New Mexico Game & Fish officer Clint Henson won a raffle that helped sponsor a balloon for Raton Recycling. His prize was a flight in Keith Lutz's Sky Pirate on Friday morning. "There's not much room in those things! It's tiny," he said. "I've flown in about everything with Game & Fish, so I didn't think it would bother me, but when we got up a thousand

feet in this little wicker basket, it was disconcerting."

Would he do it again? "Yes, it was a great experience," he said, without hesitation. "I've decided it's the most expensive and labor-intensive way to travel a short distance. But I mean that in a good way. We traveled about a mile in an hour."

Zimmerman said her ride reached speeds up to 9 mph, lasted an hour, peaked at 7,500 feet in altitude and ended in a fenced pasture

Continued on Page 2 ...

Weather Sponsored by:
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Inn & Suites
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Hotel
719-845-0102

WEATHER WATCH
Tuesday: A 40 percent chance of showers, mainly after noon. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 78. N-NE wind around 10 mph

becoming S-SE in the afternoon. **Night:** A 30 percent chance of showers, mainly before midnight. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 59. S-SW wind around 10 mph. New rainfall amounts of less than a tenth of an inch.
Wednesday: A 30 percent chance of showers after noon. Partly sunny, with a high near 86. S-SW wind 5 to 15 mph. **Night:** A 20 percent chance of showers before midnight. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 62.

SW wind 10 to 15 mph.
Thursday: A 20 percent chance of showers after noon. Mostly sunny, with a high near 90. SW wind 5 to 10 mph. **Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 60.
Friday: A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly sunny, with a high near 89. W-SW wind 5 to 10 mph. **Night:** A 10 percent chance of showers. Partly cloudy, with a low around 61.

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



Mary Hayden, age 100, passed away at home, on July 1, 2014

She was born in Minden, W.Va on February 3, 1914, the daughter of Agatha and Anthony Blecki.

Mary attended school in Valdez, Colo.

On February 14, 1933, Mary was united in marriage to Ted Hayden in Raton, N.M.

She enjoyed cooking, working in her yard and caring for her flowers.

Mary was a faithful member of Jehovah's Witnesses for 61 years.

Her kindness and gentle ways will be missed by many.

Preceding her in death are parents, Agatha and Anthony Blecki, husband Ted Hayden, infant daughter Alda May, sons, William and Paul Hayden, and granddaughter Johnette Arrasmith.

Survivors are children, Leona Miller, Trinidad, Colo., Ted "Sonny" (Karen) Hayden, Paonia, Colo., Sue Hayden, Trinidad, Colo., 8 grandchildren, 17 great grandchildren, 2 great great grandchildren, several nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends.

Visitation will be Monday, from 10am-Noon at the Comi Chapel.

Funeral Services will be held Monday, July 7, 2014 at 1pm at Kingdom Hall with Elder Larry Swetky officiating.

Interment will follow at the Trinidad Masonic Cemetery.

Active pallbearers are, Kevin Hayden, Matthew Hayden, Jim Swetky, Austin Arrasmith, Jim Hedges and Troy Harper.

Arrangements made under the direction of the Comi Funeral Home.



STORM KING MOUNTAIN

14 fallen firefighters remembered 20 years later

Associated Press

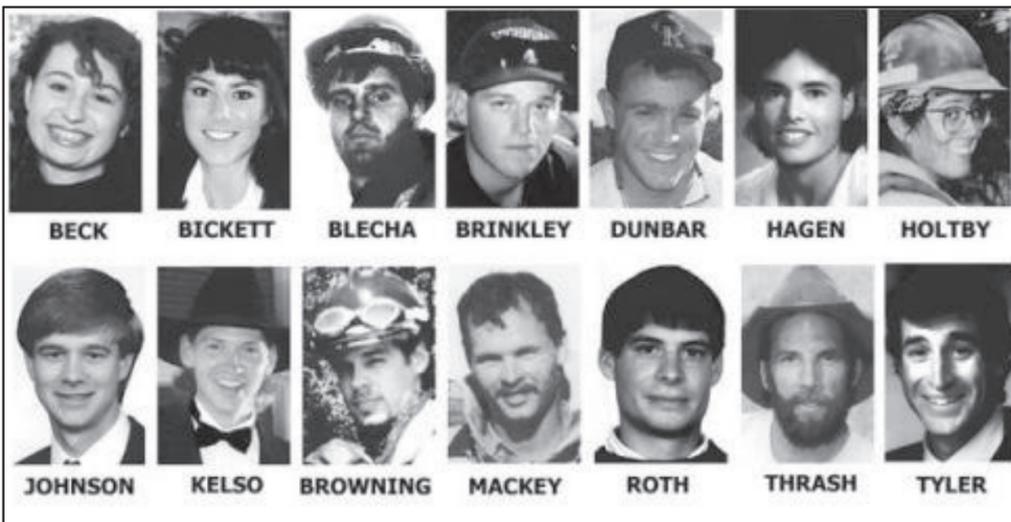
GLENWOOD SPRINGS, Colo. (AP) — Relatives and friends of the 14 firefighters who died when a wildfire exploded and trapped them on Storm King Mountain in western Colorado 20 years ago returned to the site of the tragedy Sunday to remember their loved ones.

With a group of crosses serving as a backdrop on the hillside, Kenny Frost, a spiritual leader for the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, gave the blessing and sang to pay homage to the firefighters, who were killed in the blaze July 6, 1994.

A rapid change in weather created raging winds that fueled 100-foot flames, and the firefighters were unable to escape as the fire raced up a hillside.

"It was incredibly meaningful for my mom and dad to be here, and to make it up here [to the site of the crosses]," said Jim Roth, the older brother of Roger Roth, who was among the firefighters killed that day.

Wally Roth, 81, made the hike up the fire line trail to the spot housing 12 of the 14 crosses, while Carol Roth, 78, took a helicopter ride to the ridgetop. The Glenwood Springs Post Independent reported. The he-



Associated Press

The South Canyon Fire was a 1994 wildfire that took the lives of 14 wildland firefighters on Storm King Mountain, near Glenwood Springs, Colorado on July 6, 1994. It is often also referred to as the "Storm King" fire.

licopter was provided for those unable to do the hike.

"You look at how many people died here and then look at the ripple effect of family members it impacted," Jim Roth said, motioning to

the many siblings, cousins, nieces and nephews who made the remembrance trip.

Safety standards for wildland firefighters were toughened after investigators found a number of

errors in the way the blaze was fought. Now, firefighters cannot be deployed unless they have a safe place to retreat, and they must also be continuously informed of changing weather and post lookouts.

Washington pot shops prepare for historic sales

By GENE JOHNSON
 Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — With the clock ticking down to the start of legal weed sales in Washington state, store owners hoping to start selling on Tuesday are consumed by details as they try to make sure there's pot on the shelves.

At Cannabis City, the only recreational marijuana shop that's ready to open in Seattle, owner James Lathrop has hired an events company to provide crowd control, arranged for a food truck and free water for those who might spend hours waiting outside, and rented a portable toilet.

He can only hope his initial 10-pound supply is enough to stone the multitude, and he says he may limit purchases to ensure everyone can go home with at least a 2-gram package of history.

A hundred miles to the north, John Evich is trying to figure out how to get the marijuana to his store in Bellingham quickly once it's approved for a license, which should happen Monday. He's considered everything from loading the pot onto his commercial crab boat and rushing it across Puget Sound to renting a helicopter.

One year and eight months after voters in Washington and Colorado stunned much of the world by legalizing marijuana, the sale of heavily regulated and taxed cannabis begins here this week, with the first few stores opening amid talk of high prices, shortages and rationing. Sales began in Colorado at the start of the year.

As many as 20 shops in Washington, out of a planned 300-plus, should receive their licenses on Monday, officials say. They could open at 8 a.m. the next day, but how many planned to be up and running remained unclear as nervous excitement built among industry hopefuls and their potential customers. While Seattle had just one store ready, at least two could open in some smaller cities, including Bellingham, Tacoma and Spokane.

Some shops were frantically calling growers, trying to ensure they'd have enough product. More than 2,600 people applied to grow the marijuana that will be sold, but fewer than 100 have been approved by the state Liquor Control Board's swamped licensing investigators, and many won't be ready to harvest until later this summer.

Even those who already made agreements to buy marijuana — at exorbitant prices, in many cases — weren't sure when it would arrive. State rules require a 24-hour "quarantine" before growers can ship it to customers. What time the stores receive their licenses on Monday will dictate when they can place their order with the growers, and thus how soon the growers can transport it to the stores, which might be hundreds of miles away.

Once it arrives, the stores must verify their bar-coded inventory and enter it into the state's tracking system before they can sell it. Few had confidence the software would be glitch-free.

The challenges were daunting enough that Adam Schmidt, of Clear Choice Cannabis in Tacoma, said he was leaning against opening his store this week even though he expected to be among the first to get a license.

"I don't want people to be waiting in line for four hours and then I have to come out and tell them we don't have any more," he said.

Lathrop, whose shop is south of downtown Seattle, and Evich, an investor in Bellingham's Top Shelf Cannabis, had secured agreements to buy dried marijuana buds from Nine Point Growth Industries in Bremerton, on the Kitsap Peninsula. Workers there rushed to sort its 30-pound harvest into thousands of 2-gram packages, said Gregory Stewart, Nine Point's owner. He spent some of last week struggling with the logistics of transporting the pot to his customers, which also included a shop in southwest Washington, when they all want it immediately.

Evich brainstormed ways to get the bud on his shelves as soon as possible. He thought of using a helicopter to pick it up from Nine Point, but it seemed unlikely helicopter companies would agree. His crab boat might draw the Coast Guard's attention, but driving and waiting in line for a state ferry seemed too slow. Maybe a friend's Bayliner would work.

Once it reaches his store — however it gets there — he said the various strains would fetch \$12 to \$25 per gram. People often pay \$8 to \$12 per gram at Washington's unregulated medical marijuana dispensaries.

In Seattle, among those who planned to buy some of the first pot at Cannabis City was Alison Holcomb, the lawyer who drafted Washington's law. She said it was a good opportunity to remind people of the big-picture arguments for ending nearly a century of prohibition, including keeping nonviolent, adult marijuana users out of jail; redirecting profits away from criminal groups; and ending racial disparities in who gets busted.

"No one thought legalization could happen in our lifetime," she said. "I think this is going to be a little overwhelming for me."

Obama coming to Colorado Tuesday for Udall fundraiser

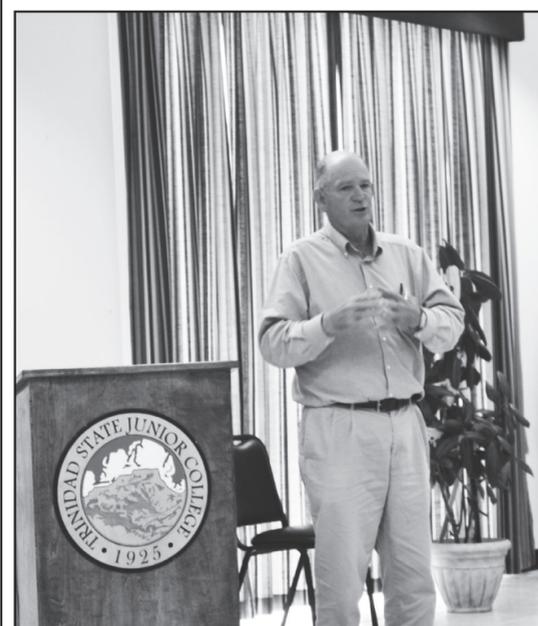
Associated Press

DENVER (AP) — President Barack Obama is traveling to Colorado this week to give a speech about the economy and raise money for Sen. Mark Udall's reelection campaign.

The president is scheduled to arrive in Denver Tuesday evening and give

a speech on Wednesday. Obama later has a closed-door fundraiser for Udall, who is seeking a second term in the Senate.

Udall's race against Republican congressman Cory Gardner is one of the most competitive Senate races in the country. Gardner has hammered Udall's support for Obama's health-care law.



File photo by Steve Block / The Chronicle-News

County Commissioner Mack Loudon

County endorses station

... Continued from Page 1

possibility. "I have to agree with Gary," Abeyta said. "Mack's been involved in this thing from the get go, and I don't think he could even tell us how many meetings he's gone to to get to this point. Things like this don't happen overnight. It's a lot of work, and I commend you, Mack, for that."

Colorado will use \$30 million of its Federal Highway Administration CMAQ funding for the project to build as many as 30 NGV refueling stations across the state and to provide incentives for the purchase of up to 1,000 alternative-fuel vehicles, according to a report posted on the website *ngv.com*.

All-American Weekend

... Continued from Page 1

a mile from the launch site. The balloon rally was blessed with still skies all three mornings as dozens of visitors were able to float above the world and come back down easily. Many participants then went on to enjoy the all-day activities in the park.

Although there were plenty of Colorado license plates on cars at the park and at the balloon rally, the Coloradans didn't stand out the way they did at the Triggers-Osos game on Friday night. Equaling the Osos fans in number, the Triggers fans were louder. And their team prevailed. Despite being far behind throughout the game, the Osos tied the score, 9-9, going into the final inning. The Triggers quickly added three runs, then shut down the Osos to win, 12-9. As if Triggers fans controlled Raton's annual fireworks show, the night's climactic starbursts of light exploded over the centerfield fence as the Triggers celebrated their second victory of the Fourth of July holiday.

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General Manager
 Allyson Sheumaker
 asheumaker@trinidadchroniclenews.com

Advertising
 Sales-Adam Sperandio
 advertising@trinidadchroniclenews.com

Classifieds, Memorials, & Circulation- Lauri Duran
 classified@trinidadchroniclenews.com

Design & Legals- Krysta Toci
 ktoci@trinidadchroniclenews.com

News Room
 Editor: Bruce Leonard
 editor@trinidadchroniclenews.com

Features Editor & Fine Print
 Catherine Moser
 cathy@trinidadchroniclenews.com

Reporter: Steve Block
 news1@trinidadchroniclenews.com

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