

OVER THE PASS



"Patience. When I want something, I want it on my own timeline, not on somebody else's."

— Kristen Mrzena, baker/waitress, The Café (Trinidad)



TRINIDAD-RATON CONNECTION

"What is it that you lack?"

By Tim Keller
Correspondent
The Chronicle-News

Photos by Tim Keller / The Chronicle-News

"I lack a voice, to voice my opinion or speak up for myself. I'm a pushover."

— Caylene Romero, Raton High School senior (Raton)



"We lack some tail winds. It's been some pretty hard going for the last few days."

— John Selby, retired firefighter, Queensland, Australia, on Santa Fe Trail bike ride (Trinidad)



"Empathy. An awareness of other people's issues. I lack awareness of other people's perspectives. I think it's largely due to being raised as an only child."

— Tom Noe, engineer/inventor, Wylie, TX, on cross-country motorcycle trip (Raton)



"Resourcefulness. Today my spoke broke and somebody had to help me. I'd like to get deeper in my resourcefulness, being able to fix anything on my bike without depending on anyone."

— Ken Astl, programmer, San Antonio, TX, on 930-mile Santa Fe Trail ride (Trinidad)



"Furniture and winter clothes. I just moved here from Florida."

— Page Gandy, Raton High School English teacher (Raton)

Hometown girl Dixie Webster-Davis goes to Hollywood

who you were, your teachers, neighbors, and anyone you ran into at the store knew you as who you uniquely were. I never felt like someone in the crowd. That individual confidence can do wonders in your adult life."

About school, she remembered, "There was always a lot to do because there were more involvements than there were students. It allowed me to excel in many ways, and to not feel that I only fit in one talent category. As an adult, being able to handle change and fall into any role necessary is a genuinely valuable skill."

About her hometown, she revealed, "Being a part of traditional events like parades, Friday night football games, and summer days at the baseball field and the Trinidad State basketball tournament were important. Growing up in Trinidad gave me a naturally sentimental notion towards tradition and community. I remember being very excited about simple happiness, like watching the leaves change in the fall, or seeing the town covered in freshly fallen snow and the sound of the trains. I still have an ap-

preciation for those simple, easy moments. Family was important. Being one of six children raised in a small town where everyone knows you and your siblings, I was constantly connected to them. I've moved away, but the depth of love for my family has never wavered. Growing up surrounded by family is incredibly beneficial to you later in life. The good, the bad, the laughter and the tears have all contributed to the adult I've become. Trinidad has given me the notion of home and of a place where you belong. Life can be a whirlwind of opportunities and changes, but there is something truly beautiful about knowing you always have somewhere to call home."

About being a casting director, Dixie said, "I love the collaboration and creative process. Seeing a project go from concept to completion, and being part of that process, is very satisfying. I've had the great fortune of working with some of the most respected, award winning actors, producers, directors, costume designers, cinematographers and other creative people in the film business. The most gratifying part of my job

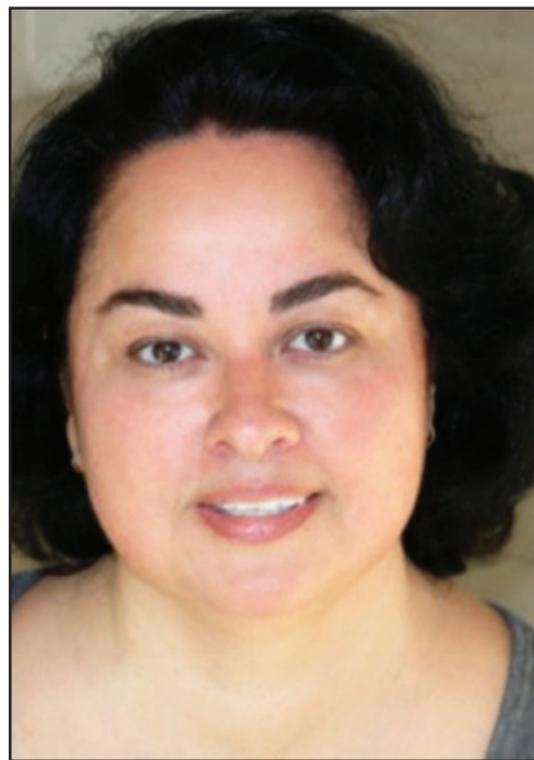


Photo courtesy of Dixie Webster-Davis

Dixie Webster-Davis, a Trinidad native, is an award-winning casting director who made it big in Hollywood. She will be a guest speaker at this weekend's TrindieFest Film Festival.

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is giving people jobs, helping someone that's interested in working in the film business, giving them that chance to be part of the process."

But, "It's not all glitter and glamour. There are a lot of early mornings and late nights, 12 to 14 hours at times, with the exception of a Clint Eastwood set. He knows exactly what he wants and often wraps by lunchtime. With Clint, there's no being late and you must always be prepared to shoot scenes that were scheduled for the next day's work."

Speaking about some of the unusual experiences she's had working on films, Dixie said, "There are so many. For The Dark Night Rises, The Bat Cave was shot in a large LA sound stage. Normally, to make room for cameras and lighting, they create a partial set, but the Bat Cave was a full 360-degree set, to allow the director the freedom to choose camera angles. I was standing there thinking, "Wow, we're in the Bat Cave." It was thrilling, the scope and scale of it and the fact that it was this iconic Batman setting. You don't see that every day. Other high points have been

working with playwright and Pulitzer Prize winner David Mamet for Spartan and Redbelt, with Sir Anthony Hopkins and Dame Helen Mirren together on set, Alfred Hitchcock and Warren Beatty. Meeting the real Navajo Code Talkers was a wonderful, humbling experience."

How did the film festival know to contact Dixie?

"Joe Tarabino asked if I'd be interested in coming to Trinidad as a guest speaker. How great to come back to my hometown and share my life and work. It's great that there's a film festival in Trinidad. It's an opportunity to see and be a part of a uniquely creative event. Who knows? The next Spielberg might come out of Trinidad and TrindieFest will be the inspiration."

Dixie will be a film festival guest speaker and receive the inaugural CJ Kaho Prize at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday at Mt. Carmel. The festival runs this Thursday through Sunday. To see a list of film's she's worked on, visit imdb.com/name/nm0916875. For more information about TrindieFest, phone 281-362-3675, visit trindiefest.net or email info@trindiefest.net.

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Las Animas County Road and Bridge will be replacing a culvert on C.R 48.8. There will be a road closure from 8:00 A.M to 3:00 P.M. on Wednesday, September 17, 2014.

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MACK LOUDEN
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A Cofounder of the Purgatoire Watershed Partnership secured a \$100,000 grant from Bureau of Reclamation
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