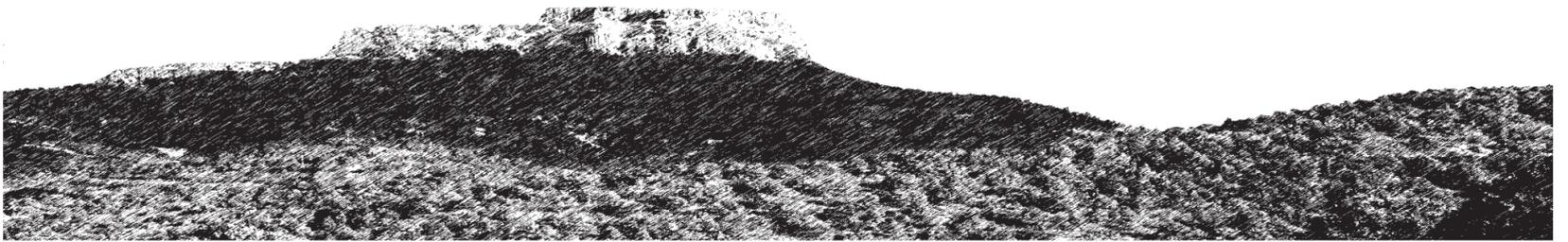


# OVER THE PASS



## TRINIDAD-RATON CONNECTION

### “Have you embraced new technology?”

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

Photos by Tim Keller / The Chronicle-News



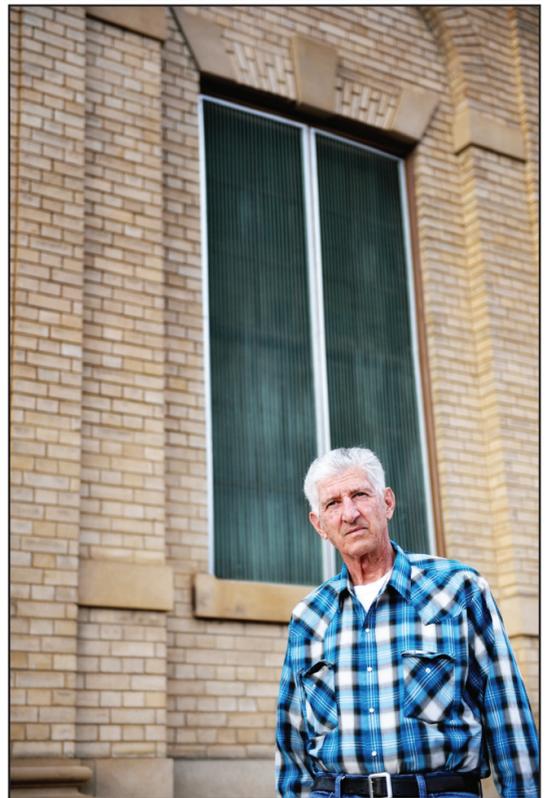
“More than I should! I used to use a computer but now it's all in my Galaxy S3 phone. I can access anything with all the apps, but it's time consuming.”

– Aurora Manke, expeditor and cook, Brix Sports Bar & Grill (Trinidad)



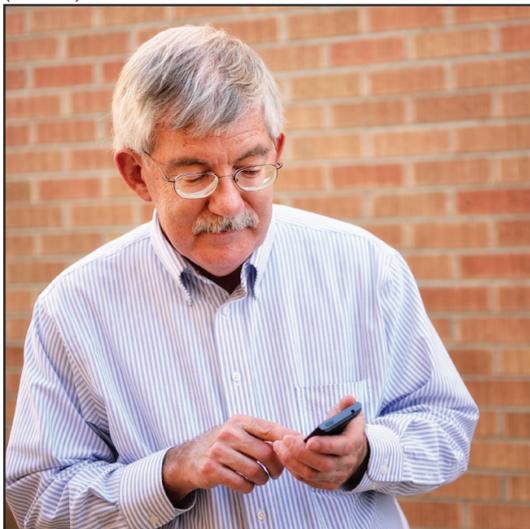
“I can't afford it or I'd use it more. I have a cell phone but not a smart phone. Plus, I have a laptop so why do I need a smart phone?”

– Sandra Piersee, retired casino cashier (Trinidad)



“A considerable amount. We're confronted with a whole new language that's needed to converse in the new century. Youngsters grow up with it but we oldsters have to re-learn. It's a different process. I have a computer and a smart phone, and we use iPads when I fly search and rescue missions.”

– Frank Montonati, pilot and retired mining engineer (Trinidad)



“I finally got my first smart phone this year, an LG from Radio Shack, and it's great. I know I was a dinosaur, the last one on my block to buy one—although that's probably not true: my block has old people on it.”

– David Cox, RHS history teacher (Raton)



“I have a cell phone but not a smart phone and I hate my email. I don't want to take the time. My children and grandchildren, they—what's it called, Skype?—and my daughter uses an iPad all the time, but I don't want to mess with it.”

– Marjorie Munden, home health care provider, Cimarron (Raton)



“Pretty much all of it. I use my laptop and Android phone for everything. I do homework on the Internet, my math book is on-line, and I text friends for help. I use Google to search how to do things, and I don't watch TV—I stream TV shows from the Internet.”

– Noah Schoonover, webmaster, RatonRoar.com (Raton)

## NATURE CONSERVANCY

### Partnerships protect thousands of acres across Colorado for people, wildlife

Special to The Chronicle-News

From northwest to southeast Colorado, The Nature Conservancy and partners have recently helped protect nearly 25,000 acres through conservation easements. A conservation easement is a voluntary legal agreement that limits certain types of uses or prevents development now and into the future, protecting agricultural and natural values.

Near Kim, Colorado, The Nature Conservancy placed an easement on the Lazy OU Ranch after selling the 10,785-acre property to fifth generation Colorado rancher, Russell Freeman. The West Carrizo Creek flows through the property making it rich with wildlife.

“This is part of the largest and most intact prairie lands in the region,” says Matt Moorhead, the Conservancy's southeast Colorado program director. “The rangelands are in good condition, thanks to generations of careful management by private land owners and ranchers.”

When meeting with Freeman, the Conservancy quickly learned he has a strong conservation ethic, ties to the local community, and experience managing prairie lands.

“I share many of the same goals as The Nature Conservancy,” says Russell Freeman. “This collaboration enables me to protect this place forever, build a viable business and leave a legacy. By raising our boys on a ranch, we're giving them a wholesome life with a connection to nature while building a strong work ethic.”

Near Hayden, Routt County's Purchase of Development Rights Program and Great Outdoors Colorado will fund a conservation easement on an additional 3,500 acres of the Smith Rancho property, bringing the total acres under easement to 12,800. The property supports working ranchlands and exceptional wildlife habitat amidst mounting development pressures.

Further west in Moffat County, an easement has been placed on the 9,700-acre Crooked Wash Ranch which encompasses sagebrush, wetlands, grasslands and pinyon-juniper

woodlands making it a prime habitat for many wildlife including, elk, mule deer, and sage grouse. At times, 3,000 elk winter on this ranch. Colorado Parks and Wildlife and the Natural Resources Conservation Service funded this easement.

In southwest Colorado, a donated conservation easement was placed on 374 acres near the Dallas Divide – one of the most scenic places in Colorado. With the addition of the 374 acres, more than 1,000 acres are now under easement in the area, protecting natural assets as well as habitat for many species including the threatened Gunnison Sage-grouse.

“Conservation easements are an important tool in helping to protect these critical lands,” says Tim Sullivan, the Conservancy's Colorado state director. “By working with partners, we are able to preserve our Colorado heritage and quality of life and protect these lands for future generations.”



I wish to thank all my friends, family and the citizens of the City of Trinidad and Las Animas County for their support and vote of confident in re-electing me, the Sheriff of Las Animas County.

I will work and serve to the best of my ability, to all the citizens of Las Animas County.

I ask that our Lord will continue to guide us and help us get through the times we are facing, as it makes no difference what our party is, as this is your office, one for all and all for one.

James W. Casias

The Chronicle-News has a Notary on the premises.

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Photo by Allyson Sheumaker/ The Chronicle-News

### Dust storm blows over

A dust storm blew up in the Trinidad area late Monday afternoon. This shot taken from Wal-Mart and aimed toward Trinidad shows the dust cloud that passed in a couple hours.

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