

OVER THE PASS



"I left my home in Bishop, California, and went to college, got married, and started providing for a family. After nine years away, we moved back to Bishop. I was there another 30 years before moving 18 years ago to Trinidad."

— Dean Dougherty, retired from Southern California Edison (Trinidad)



TRINIDAD-RATON CONNECTION

"What is the longest time you've ever been away from home?"

By Tim Keller
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The Chronicle-News

Photos by Tim Keller / The Chronicle-News

"I left Trinidad for about six years. I went to California to take care of my father's funeral arrangements and ended up working out there in aerospace. My children's illnesses brought me home to Trinidad."

— Maria D. Vigil (Trinidad)



"Thirty days. We took a trip to visit my family, from Raton to Indiana to Kentucky. We had an RV and just basically took our time, and we had a real good time."

— Joyce Savell, retired horse ranch caretaker (Raton)



"I went to Hawaii with my family and ended up working there for a year. It was such a good job that I should have stayed but I missed Raton! I showed my friends there a slideshow of Raton and they all understood."

— Josh Esquivel (Raton)

"I graduated from St. Pius High School in Albuquerque when I was 17 and I took off. I went to school at San Diego for a year, then traveled to Central America, Hawaii, Europe. Eventually I came back home for my family. I love them."

— Kristen Benson, UNM student, Albuquerque (Trinidad)



"That depends on how you define 'home.' I've been away from the United States for ten years, teaching in China. Before that, it was a school year away from home, which was Hawaii and I went to school in Ohio."

— Jerry Veltmann, recovering attorney, Santa Fe (Raton)

Huge undersea mural adds sea life to Raton's aquatic center

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sea project, she researched coral reefs and orca whales, along with other inhabitants of the mural—pilot fish, clownfish, silver school fish, a moray eel, and a white-tipped shark. "All of the fish in the painting are real fish based on my research," she says. Marlowe drew a grid on the wall underlying the mural so she could create all of her undersea life to scale—yes, each of those orcas is life size.

She presented her drawings to City of Raton Parks & Recreation director Jared Chatterley, who took them to the Parks & Recreation Board for approval.

"I couldn't do it for what Jared offered, but I made a proposal in December and they made it happen. It's a \$24,000 mural that I did for \$6,000 but it was worth it to me because it was so much fun." In fact, she became so invested in the project and the site that she's already planning a pair of smaller murals for the opposite wall, across all of the pools, that she'll paint free of charge.

"Jared will provide the materials. I'll make two large panels in my home studio, probably 8'x12' Masonite. I'll design and paint them at home, then we'll move them here and mount them on the far side from the big mural. It'll pull in the rest of the room and increase the sense of being under the sea."

She started the big mural in March and finished it last week. "It painted a lot faster than I anticipated. It probably has only about 15 full days of painting." She used ten gallons of regular house paint, recommended and prepared by Kerry Medina at Record's Ace Hardware. "I used three gallons of blue, two gallons of black, and more than a gallon of white. There's also four quarts of various other blues," Marlowe says.

Chatterley gave her a key to the aquatic center and she worked all day on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, leaving the first two days of each week for her other work: she teaches art for Cimarron Municipal Schools.

"For 34 years, I taught math, science, language arts, and special education, with the last 14 years in Cimarron," she says. "I've used art in all of my teaching and every subject area, because it's such a part of who I am."

Marlowe finally retired from teaching in 2009 to have more time for her art. Her retirement lasted four years.

"The Cimarron superintendent of schools, Adan Estrada, saw my murals all over town, and he saw me working. In 2013, he asked me to return to teaching and teach art. I told him, 'But I'm not an art teacher.' He said 'You're an artist and a teacher. I want you to teach art.'" They agreed that she could teach on Mondays and Tuesdays. She's enjoyed it for two years, but this month she's retiring again as mural commissions and other art projects excite her. She likes challenging, exciting projects.



Tim Keller / The Chronicle-News

An orca whale playfully swims between the City of Raton official website address and a ventilation pipe high above the pools at Raton Regional Aquatic Center, where patrons now enjoy a new 60-foot mural of undersea life.

That's why she can't leave Raton Regional Aquatic Center without completing the vision she developed over the past two months, adding undersea life to the walls across the pools from the big orcas and white-tipped shark and silver school fish. That makes it a work in progress, and that's when she's happiest.

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Trinidad Inn Nursing Home Celebrates "Bring on the Fiesta"

During National Nursing Home Week
May 10 - May 16, 2015

Monday, May 11 - Mother's Day Brunch at 10 a.m.
Tuesday, May 12 - Taquito Tuesday during Bingo at 1:45 p.m.
Wednesday, May 13 - Volunteer Appreciation Day and our Memorial to Loved ones that have passed on in 2014 at 2 p.m.
Thursday, May 14 - Employee Appreciation Day. Churros served during Bingo at 1:45 p.m.
Friday, May 15 - Employee Appreciation Day. Fiesta Friday Celebration at 2 p.m.

JM Tire at 709 N. Commercial St. has 4 tickets to give away for the Cuchara Country Music Festival.

All JM customers can enter the drawing at JM Tire from May 1st to June 3rd. On June 5th we will announce the winners.

We are also having the same drawing at our Walsenburg location.

