

# OVER THE PASS



"I was going to be a mechanic. I found art. Now I work in a dispensary and I've switched to botany. I have most of an associate's degree in botany."

— Bec Pepin, dispensary manager, Trinidad



"I have been a wandering soul all my life. I was the shyest, nerdiest little bookworm you can imagine. I wanted to be a hermit. I wanted to live out in the country. I never planned on typing, and I never planned on writing, and that's exactly what I do all day now. I still haven't figured out what I want to do when I grow up."

— Mary Jo Tesitor, features editor, World Journal, Walsenburg

## TIM KELLER'S CONNECTIONS

### "What did you want to be when you grew up?"

Photos by Tim Keller / The Chronicle-News



"I wanted to be a quarterback like Troy Aikman, or a bull rider like Lane Frost, or a U.S. Marine. I really wanted to join the Marines, but then I never did it. I was quarterback of my high school team in Robert Lee, Texas. We were the Robert Lee Steers."

— Beau Boxell, janitor, NV Customs and Designs, Trinidad



"My dad drove a truck all my life. I wanted to be a truck driver but I changed my plans. I drove a pickup in the oilfields for seven years and that burned me out on driving. I turned to painting car bodies. Now I've been doing body work on cars for 13 years."

— Lonny Horton, body man, City Carriage, Trinidad

## STATE BRIEFS

### Truck crossed white line before hitting trooper

Associated Press

CASTLE ROCK, Colo. (AP) — Court documents say a truck driver accused of hitting and killing a Colorado state trooper had drifted across the white line on the right edge of the highway and onto the shoulder.

An arrest warrant affidavit released Monday says Trooper Cody Donahue was standing beside a vehicle and investigating a previous crash when he was hit Friday on Interstate 25 south of Castle Rock.

The truck driver, Noe Gamez-Ruiz of Denver, was charged with careless driving causing death and failure to yield the right-of-way to an emergency vehicle. The affidavit says Gamez-Ruiz didn't steer his truck into the next lane, away from where the trooper was standing.

No phone number could be found for Gamez-Ruiz. Court records didn't indicate whether he had an attorney who could speak on his behalf.

### Fort Lewis students hold Standing Rock support rally

Associated Press

DURANGO, Colo. (AP) — Days after returning from protests at Standing Rock Sioux Reservation, students and staffers at Fort Lewis College gathered to rally against a controversial oil pipeline.

The Durango Herald reports that more than 100 people on Sunday protested against the 1,170-mile Dakota Access Pipeline, which would transport oil from North Dakota's Bakken oil fields to other pipelines in Illinois.

The rally comes after more than 50 students, professors and other Fort Lewis College community members traveled to spend Thanksgiving in the Dakotas to show solidarity with the tribes protesting the pipeline.

The Standing Rock Sioux oppose the pipeline because they say it threatens drinking water on their nearby reservation and cultural sites. Pipeline developer Energy Transfer Partners has said no sites

have been disturbed and that the \$3.8 billion pipeline will be safe.

### Supreme Court asks Fed's view on mine spill

DAN ELLIOTT  
Associated Press

DENVER (AP) — The U.S. Supreme Court asked the Justice Department on Monday to weigh in on New Mexico's lawsuit against Colorado over a mine waste spill that polluted rivers in both states and in Utah.

The court asked the Office of the Solicitor General to submit the Obama administration's views on the lawsuit. The solicitor general represents the executive branch in Supreme Court cases.

The federal government has a stake in this case because a work crew supervised by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency accidentally triggered the 3-million-gallon spill from the Gold King Mine while doing preliminary cleanup work in August 2015.

The EPA estimates that 880,000 pounds of metals flowed into the Animas River in Colorado, including arsenic, cadmium, copper, lead, mercury, nickel and zinc. It turned the water bright orange-yellow.

The chemicals flowed into New Mexico and Utah and passed through the Navajo and Southern Ute Indian reservations. The EPA said water quality quickly returned to pre-spill levels.

New Mexico sued Colorado in June, saying Colorado should be held responsible for the contamination as well as decades of toxic drainage from other mines.

New Mexico and the Navajo Nation also sued the EPA. Those lawsuits are pending.

Utah officials are considering a lawsuit against the EPA. Dan Burton, a spokesman for the Utah Attorney General's Office, said Monday that they haven't reached a decision.

Utah also hasn't ruled out a lawsuit against Colorado, he said.

Mark Pino of the New Mexico Attorney General's Office said state officials hope for a quick resolution to their lawsuit against Colorado.

Colorado officials had no immediate comment.

The EPA has added the Gold King and other nearby mine sites to the Superfund list and is researching cleanup alternatives. A temporary water treatment plant has been removing pollutants flowing from the Gold King Mine since October 2015.

### Body Discovered in Arkansas River Identified

Colorado Bureau of Investigation  
Special to The Chronicle-News

A man discovered in the Arkansas River near La Junta was identified on Tuesday, November 22.

James Hawkins, 29, of Las Animas was found in the Arkansas River on Sunday, November 20.

Just after 7 a.m. on Sunday morning, the Otero County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) received a 911 call from a citizen about a deceased male in the river. The location of Hawkins' body was near the town of La Junta at Colorado State Highways 109 and 50.

The OCSO requested the assistance of the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to assist with the investigation.

There are no suspects being sought and there is no danger to the public at this time.

The OSCO and the CBI continue to investigate the incident.

### Coal company considers synthetic gas plant

Associated Press

GRAND JUNCTION, Colo. (AP) — A coal mine operator is hoping to build a plant to produce synthetic gas from coal waste in western Colorado.

The Daily Sentinel reports that Bowie Resources LLC's plan to build the plant near Paonia (PAY'-own-ee-ah) could help it add jobs after its coal mine was idled earlier this year.

The U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Fossil Energy website says gas can be produced by subjecting coal to heat and pressure instead of burning it directly. According to a permit revision application, the Bowie No. 2 Mine would use the gas to generate electricity or diesel and fuel oil.

According to the application, the process generates very little pollution. Supporting materials indicate that it would, however, emit carbon dioxide — the molecule considered the principal cause of climate change.




## Trinidad

### Fire Department Toy Drive

Once again

Bombshells & A Lock in Time Photography are teaming up to raise funding and toys for the **Trinidad Fireman's Toy Drive**

Bombshells will be doing haircuts from 9-4

Santa photos from 10-2




Bring an unwrapped new toy for a free haircut (or \$10)

\$20 for a 5x7 print of your child with Santa

## December 3, 2016

500 W. Main / Walk ins only!

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