

# Fun Facts

By **ROBERT COONEY & SAWYER HAMM**

Telluride Film Festival has premiered the last 4 out of 5 Academy award-winning movies. The movies are "Argo", "12 Years A Slave", "The King's Speech", and "Spotlight."

Before being named Telluride, our town was called Columbia. However, the name was changed because there was a town in California named Columbia, so the Telluride Post Office changed the name in 1887.

Where the Shell Gas Station is now, used to be the Town of San Miguel. However, there was a mining camp towards the east end of town. the mining camp grew and later turned into the town of Telluride.

Mr. Lavender's great, great grandfather, Charles Painter, was the first Mayor of Telluride. He came to Telluride to potentially make money off of mining. Painter did not believe in labor, so instead of becoming a miner, he invested in the mining industry. Painter bought stocks in the Smugglers Union and Mr. Lavender still has the stock certificates. Charles Painter also ran the newspaper and served as the county clerk.

Telluride Helitrax is Colorado's only and oldest helicopter ski company and has been in operation since 1982.

Butch Cassidy robbed his first bank in Telluride on June 24, 1889, walking away with over \$24,000. Which is worth about \$664,534.98 today. He robbed the "San Miguel Valley Bank". In the Hollywood movie however, "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid", they do not show or talk about where Butch Cassidy robbed his first bank.

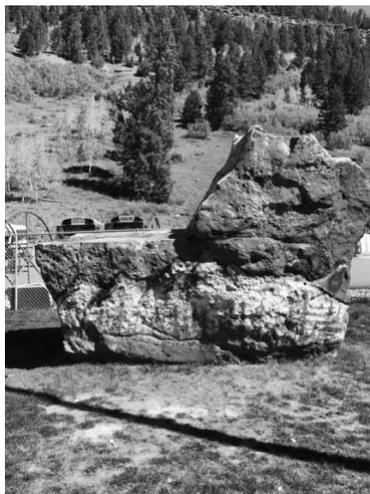
At 9,078 feet above sea level, the Telluride Regional Airport is the highest commercial airport in North America.

Telluride has the only free gondola public transportation system of its kind in North America.

Conde Nast Readers rates Telluride, Colorado in the Top 10 "Best Small Towns in America."

The Native American Ute Tribe were the first to inhabit the Telluride Valley. They made their summer camps along the San Miguel River and hunted elk, deer, and mountain sheep high in the San Juan Mountains. In winter, they migrated to the lowlands and the nearby red rock canyons of the desert for shelter and dry ground. They named the area, "The Valley of Hanging Waterfalls." The Ute way of life continued for centuries until Spanish explorers and fur trappers passed through in the late 1700s.

## Do These Rocks Look Familiar?



On the left, David Lavender's great, great grandfather, Charles Painter, sitting on top of Telluride High School's famous rock.



Pure joy as boys from the soccer team exit the cave after nearly thirteen days.

# Students' Trapped

By **GRACEY RINGSTAD & CHARLIE MILLER**

A dozen boys and their soccer coach were found alive inside a flooded cave in Thailand. The boys, ages 11-16, went into the Luang Nang Non Cave with their 25 year old coach in attempt to write their names on the walls. It was an initiation process for the team to get to the end of the tunnel and back, but a flash flood caused the boys to be trapped inside the cave system.

After nine days of being trapped in the tunnel, they were found by a rescue team who had seen their bikes outside of the tunnel. When it was realized that the boys were in the cave system, leaders deployed park officials, local police, and 17 members of the SEAL diving team from the Royal Thai Navy to assist in search and rescue efforts. After being in the cave for more than a week, British divers Rick Stanton and John Volanthen were the first to reach them; 2.5 miles into the cave.

"We found them safe. But the operation isn't over," Narongsak Osatanakorn said, referring to the

complicated rescue process. "When the medics have evaluated the kids to see if their health is in good condition, we will care for them until they have enough strength to move by themselves, and then we will evaluate the situation on bringing them out again later" (Narongak).

The boys were heavily sedated ahead of the rescue to prevent them from panicking in the dark, tight underwater passageways. Then, the boys were fitted with full-face breathing masks. For the underwater sections, they were strapped to a rescue diver. The divers were guided through the dark by dive lines. The diving option was considered extremely dangerous by some, but dive experts said the priority was to get the boys out before the rains brought more flooding and debris into the cave system.

After the flooded section, when they reached the divers operating base in the cave, the boys were bundled into stretchers and carried along ropes.

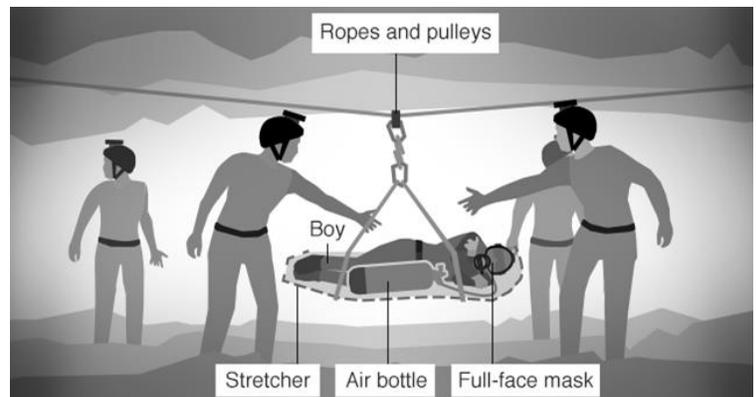


Diagram of how the divers recued the children through the maze of the caves.

