



WEDNESDAY
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THE CHRONICLE-NEWS

50 CENTS
TRINIDAD, COLORADO

Proudly Serving Southeastern Colorado and Northeastern New Mexico

THE FINE PRINT

A.R. Mitchell Museum

Volunteers for A.R. Mitchell Museum, coffee get-together at 10 a.m. on Wednesday at the Mitch. Gift shop, inventory, mailings, receptions, handyman help etc., ongoing or occasional, please join in! 846-4224.

Trinidad Ambulance District

The Board of Director's for the Trinidad Ambulance District will be holding their regular Board meeting at 4 p.m. on Wednesday. The meeting will be held at the Trinidad Ambulance District Office located at 2309 E. Main Street, Suite A.

Trail Plan Task Group

The City of Trinidad will be hosting the next meeting for the Trail Plan Task Group at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 22, 2009, at City Hall in the Council Conference Room on the third floor.

Fisher's Peak Fire Protection

Fisher's Peak Fire Protection of Directors will hold a Special Meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday at Fire Station #1, in Starkville, to discuss the new building. The public is invited to attend.

Fiesta Meeting

There will be a Fiesta Meeting for all members of La Casa at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday at La Casa.

Tourism Board

The Trinidad Tourism Board will meet for a regular session at 9 a.m. **Continued on page 4**

WEATHER WATCH

Today: A 10 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 3pm. Partly cloudy, with a high near 76. North northwest wind between 5 and 15 mph.



Tonight: A 10 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 9pm. Partly cloudy, with a low around 40. West wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Tomorrow: Mostly sunny, with a high near 79. Southwest wind between 5 and 15 mph.



Tomorrow Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 42. Southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.

RIVER CALL

Purgatoire River Call as of 4/21/09. Lewelling & McCormick priority #19 6/1/1865.

Trinidad Lake accounting: Release, 20.50 acre ft.; Inflow, 93.36 acre ft.; Evaporation, 10.86 acre ft.; Content, 2,6218 acre ft.; Elevation, 6188.69; Precipitation, 0.

Downstream River Call, Highland 4/1/1884.

(Provided by Division of Water Resources)



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Photo by David Santistevan Jr.

Happy to be back! The major highlight of Tuesday's Las Animas County Commissioners Board meeting was the first public appearance of Las Animas Sheriff James Casias. Board members, and other in attendance at the meeting welcomed him back. (Not Pictured) Under Sheriff Derek Navarette was by the sheriff's side, Navarette did an excellent job filling in for the sheriff.

Sheriff Casias makes his first public appearance at Tuesday's commissioners meeting

By DAVID SANTISTEVAN JR.
The Chronicle-News

All three Las Animas County Commissioners welcomed back Las Animas County Sheriff James Casias at Tuesday's board meeting. This was Sheriff Casias' first official public appearance since he fell ill earlier this year. Many county employees', and

others in attendance embraced and welcomed Sheriff Casias back. Everyone is glad to see him back on the job. The Sheriff took no time getting back to business asking the board to approve two new vehicles for his department. Both vehicles are fully equipped at a cost of \$5,000 each. The Sheriff also said that his department would like to sell some vehicles that

they can not longer use. Casias went on to suggest that he would like to put the money of a possible sale back into a 1 cent tax to help put an initiative on the ballot. Casias also stated that his department is willing to work with the veterans, the rehabilitation center, the health district, and any other entity to get a tax on the ballot so all parties

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Photos by Tim Keller

The Glass Menagerie's Amanda Wingfield will visit Des Moines Saturday in a performance by actress Kathryn Engel.

Raton actress takes Tennessee Williams on the road to Des Moines

By Tim Keller
The Chronicle-News

Raton actress Kathryn Engel will bring her one-woman show, "Two Women of Tennessee Williams," to Studio C in Des Moines Saturday evening as the featured act in the monthly Live at Studio C series of entertainments.

Engel will provide five monologues from two of Williams' most famous

ladies, Amanda Wingfield from the play "The Glass Menagerie" and Blanche DuBois from the play "A Streetcar Named Desire." The monologues will be linked by transitions provided by a narrator, also played by Ms. Engel.

She first played the characters in two different summers of summer stock theatre in Minnesota two decades ago. "They never leave you, Tennessee Williams's women," Engel

says. "When you play his women, they take up residence in you. Particularly Blanche. It's an honor to play them."

When director Michael Tillman first convinced Engel to play DuBois - he said he would only do the play if she took the role - she tape-recorded all of her character's lines. When finished, the tape ran 90 minutes; the entire play ran two hours. Blanche is in eleven of twelve scenes. Engel was

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Colo. House votes to eliminate death penalty

BY STEVEN K. PAULSON
Associated Press Writer

DENVER (AP) - The Colorado House approved a plan Tuesday to eliminate the death penalty and use the money to focus on cold cases.

The measure now goes to the Senate, where it's expected to pass. Gov. Bill Ritter, a former prosecutor, hasn't said whether he would sign the bill.

The bill passed by a single vote, 33-32, after victims' relatives asked lawmakers to help with unsolved slayings.

Rep. Ed Vigil, D-Fort Garland, cast the tie-breaking vote.

Vigil said he was torn by the decision, concerned that he was voting to take away an option for law enforcement to get guilty pleas, and the moral issue of taking a life. Vigil said he also worried that relatives of victims will now expect cold cases to be solved, which he said rarely happens.

"These are false hopes," he said.

Vigil was comforted by Rep. John Kefalas, D-Fort Collins, who said he whispered under his breath, "Thou shalt not kill," as Vigil struggled with his decision and eventually cast the final vote.

The legislation would shift funds currently used to prosecute death-penalty cases to deal with the growing backlog of more than 1,400 unsolved homicides that have stymied local investigators since 1970.

Rep. Steve King, R-Grand Junction, said the legislation will pit families of crime victims against law enforcement who are frustrated with a lack of resolution.

House Majority Leader Paul Weissmann, a Democrat from Louisville, said the state should be spending money solving those cases instead of defending the only two inmates currently on death row and a half-dozen other cases that are pending.

Weissmann said the last death penalty case tried in Colorado - against Jose Luis Rubi-Nava, who was charged with dragging his girlfriend to death behind a truck - cost \$1.4 million to prosecute.

Rubi-Nava, 38, was sentenced to life in prison without parole after pleading guilty.

Weissmann said it costs only about \$70,000 to try a non-capital case.

Informational session on earning a Bachelor's Degree rescheduled

On Thursday, Adams State College (ASC) will host a free Information Session for anyone interested in earning a Bachelor's Degree without leaving Trinidad. The meeting (rescheduled from last week) is set for Thursday, April 23, at 6 p.m. in the TSJC Leone Lounge. The public is invited and no reservations are required. Refreshments will be served. For more information, contact Carol Patrick at 719-846-5454.

CASH 5 NUMBERS

Here are Tuesday's Cash 5 winning numbers: 1-3-13-19-22