

INSIDE TODAY



Oscar's Cinderella Story

Win or lose, True Grit nominee Hailee Steinfeld is living her dream on Hollywood's biggest night.

Intelligence Report: The 9/11 Memorial Needs You

The national memorial on the site of the twin towers opens on the 10th anniversary of 9/11. Find out how you can make this tribute extra special.

THE FINE PRINT

FRIDAY E911

Authority Board Meeting 1:30 p.m. Fri (Feb 25) @ the City Hall Conference Room, 135 N. Animas St. For more information call Rita Mantelli @ 719-846-4441.

HTA Benefit

Zion's Lutheran Church hosting a High-Fashion Jewelry Show by Premier Designs Jewelry 3 - 6 p.m. Fri @ the Church Hall, 613 Prospect (behind the church). All proceeds go to Holy Trinity Academy.

Al-Anon / Adult Child

Group meets 6 p.m. every Friday @ the Fisher's Peak Community Church, 10377 Santa Fe Trail Dr. (south door). Call Sharone @ 719-846-9999 for more information. No fee charged to participate & all are welcome.

Eagles #179

Regular meeting 7 p.m. 2nd & 4th Fri @ Eagle Hall, 204 Pine Street. For more information call the hall @ 719-846-3821.

TASPERA

Trinidad Area Schools & Public Employees Retirement Association meets 1 p.m. Fri (Feb 25) in the TSJC Sullivan Center, Pioneer Room. Guest speaker is Jim Davis from COG. Lunch available in the cafeteria from noon to 1 p.m. (on your own). Call Paul @ 719-846-2423 for more information.

SATURDAY Weight Watchers

Meets 9:30 a.m. every Sat @ the Sayre Senior Center, 1222 San Pedro Ave. Call 719-846-3336 for more information.

Angel Food

Distribution 11-12 p.m. Sat (Feb 26) from @ Fishers Peak Community Church, 10377 Santa Fe Trail Dr. For more information call Barbara Krause @ 719-846-3853.

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RIVER CALL

Purgatoire river call as of 2/24/11
Baca ditch priority #3 11/30/1861
Trinidad Reservoir accounting
Release 158.67 acre ft. -Release is due to City of Trinidad and State Park's delay return flow accounts stored in Reservoir.

Inflow 23.76 acre ft.
Evaporation 2.09 acre ft.
Content 18,550 acre ft.
Elevation 6,177.97
Precipitation 0
Downstream river call
JMR 12/31/1948
Notes

1 cubic (cfs) foot per second equals one cubic foot of water passing a point in one second of time.

1 acre-foot equals a quantity of water required to cover one acre of land to a depth of one foot.

1 cubic foot per second = 1.9835 acre-feet per day (24 hrs)

(Provided by Division of Water Resources)



Photo by Mike Garrett

Pictured here, from left, are Trinidad State Junior College President Felix Lopez, wife Darlene, and Kiwanis Club acting President Jeff Mangino.

Lopez dispels rumors, lays it on line describing TSJC's future

By MIKE GARRETT
The Chronicle-News

Like most presidents of Colorado institutions of higher education these days, Trinidad State Junior College President Felix Lopez is growing more apprehensive at all of Gov. John Hickenlooper's proposed state budget cuts to try and balance an approximate \$1.2 billion deficit. He is also hearing more rampant rumors and reports that without sufficient state funding, some of the state's two and four-year colleges may eventually have to shutter their doors, including TSJC.

In a comprehensive and enlightening talk to Kiwanis Club of Trinidad members at Tuesday's weekly luncheon at A Little Catering Co., Lopez sounded some alarm bells while trying to be relatively more positive and upbeat than expressing his concerns over TSJC's future. He acknowledged that a diversionary and precautionary approach is going to be needed over the next couple of years as he guides the college into uncharted fiscal waters. "I believe Trinidad State is going to be here 10 to 20 years from now," Lopez said.

But since Lopez can't be sure

what budget cuts the state is going to serve up or which entire plates it may take away from TSJC, he pointed to the latest report out of the governor's office last week, announcing a potential initial \$39 million impact to state higher education depending on the Office of Planning and Budget's projected March revenue income forecast.

When he alerted his faculty and staff last week on what is coming down the state's fiscal roadway, one staff member asked him if it was morally proper for the state to fund its Department of

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PERA to host COG senior services speaker Friday

Special to *The Chronicle-News*

Jim Davis, director of the Trinidad-based South Central Council of Governments Area Agency on Aging, will speak to the Trinidad Area School and Public Employees Retirement Association, the local chapter of the Colorado Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA) at a 12:15 luncheon Friday in the Trinidad State Junior College Pioneer Room.

With no formal, organized group of community retirees that meets regularly, the group's goal is to keep all community seniors informed on issues relevant to them. At a past Trinidad meeting, an American Association of Retired People (AARP) representative spoke to the group on what to expect with the upcoming federal health care changes. Another speaker addressed legal questions unique to senior citizens with a presentation from attorney and retired District Court Judge Jesse Manzanaras.

SCCOG sponsors and coordinates a number of area seniors-related programs, including a wheelchair accessible transit bus, \$2 daily lunches at the Sayre Senior Center, at Corazon Square and three other county locations, and many related social activities.

The Agency on Aging also offers material aid for eyeglasses, dentures and hearing aids. The agency also offers Information, Referral and Telephone Reassurance for homebound seniors, in-home care services, legal assistance, health and disease prevention, elder abuse prevention, and home modification. The agency's ombudsman oversees

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Photos by Tim Keller

Vivian and Mavis compare muscle tone in "A Second Helping."

Shuler gets 'A Second Helping' of musical comedy

By TIM KELLER
The Chronicle-News

Raton Arts and Humanities Council (RAHC) continued its season of professional entertainments Monday night with a presentation on the Shuler Theater stage of the touring musical comedy, "A Second Helping." The play is a sequel to the popular "Church Basement Ladies," which itself was based on "Growing Up Lutheran" and other books by Janet Letnes Martin and Suzann Nelson; its five characters might have come from the Minnesota shores of Garrison Keillor's Lake Wobegon.

Four scenes in two acts occurring in 1969 and 1970 are all set in the basement kitchen of a Minnesota Lutheran church where four women talk and cook their way through their various issues and events. Vivian is an elderly widow who is skeptical of pretty much everything, except



Vivian and Mavis compare muscle tone in "A Second Helping."

the elderly man who was just hired as the church maintenance man.

Mavis is a bawdy and irreverent matron who enjoys prodding Vivian; Mavis finds laughter in anything.

Karin is the pert 40-ish mother of returning newlywed Beverly, who is beginning to assert her own independence.

Inserting himself into this otherwise all-female domain is the church pastor, known to all simply as Pastor: When one woman says that men don't belong in the kitchen, another says that Pastor is in the kitchen a lot: "Is he a man?" The reply is, "Oh, no, he doesn't have a pickup."

Many lines brought laughs for locals who recognized the irony in such statements as, "It's better to raise children here than in the cities; there's nothing to do here."

For those who remember 1969-70, there were many reminders of the period, including cars called Datsun and Gremlin. The ladies are agog at the high price of a California model home Beverly has toured - it costs \$25,000. Nixon and Viet Nam come up, but far more time is spent on the 1970 Super Bowl where the Minnesota Vikings lose to Kansas City. The women pronounce the name of Chicago Bears star Dick Butkus several times, very slowly, the last syllable sounding like "kiss."

There were cute homilies - "Use it up, wear it out, make it do, or do

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Trinidad & Las Animas County Chamber of Commerce is getting prepared for this weekend's event.
The Annual Dinner, Chenoweth Award and Casino Night.
Have you made your reservations yet? Call Helen today at 719-846-9285. Tickets are \$35 or \$25 for Seniors and corporate tables are \$360 for a table of 8.
Donations welcomed for silent auction

WEATHER WATCH
Today: Partly sunny, with a high near 55. North northwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.
Tonight: A slight chance of rain before

8pm, then a slight chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 21. West northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph becoming calm. Chance of precipitation is 10 percent.
Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 54. Breezy, with a southwest wind between 15 and 25 mph.
Saturday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 23. Breezy, with a southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph.

Sunday: A slight chance of snow before 10 am, then a slight chance of rain. Partly sunny, with a high near 49. Breezy, with a west northwest wind between 20 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.
Sunday Night: A slight chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 20. West southwest wind between 5 and 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 10 percent.

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Now is the time to get started on summer gardens

By JONI STEINER
Special to The Chronicle-News

March is quickly approaching and you can feel the anticipation in the air for spring to arrive. Thinking about the next season's garden may not be in many people's minds when we are all trying to keep ourselves warm, and are swimming in snow, but that is just what we all need to be doing while we sip our hot cocoa and plan our summer activities. The March new moon is a big planting time for all avid gardeners and farmers. It is time to start those new seedlings so that they can be nurtured until they are ready for transplanting into the garden. Timing is a large percentage of being successful when it comes to growing food for sustenance or flowers for blooms, especially in a short growing season such as ours. The mountain zones can present challenges to garden enthusiasts, but



Photo courtesy of Trinidad Community Cooperative

Community volunteers come out for the Trinidad Community Garden Spring Community Work Day.

growing a great garden or market plot can be done! In and surrounding Trinidad there are a lot of opportunities to learn from each other and experience many types of gardens. There are also many options for obtaining locally grown produce for your family.

The Trinidad Community Garden offers 15' x 15' size plots to the public who pay a minimal fee to grow their own produce organically. A plot this size can save a family over \$700 in grocery bills and supply an ample amount of fresh produce, (most likely you will have enough to

share). The Trinidad Community Garden, in its 7th year, was organized by Earth Mountain Education Farm (EMEF) as the first outreach project and is managed cooperatively by its gardeners. The beauty you see come to life every season at Linden Street and White Avenue is the product of inspired people doing for themselves, eating healthier, and being a part of something that makes the world a better place. Anyone who may be interested in a Community Garden plot for the 2011 season should contact Earth Mountain Farm as soon as possible, as it is first come, first serve, and also be on the lookout for the first meeting at the end of March.

The Learning Farms CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) Cooperative is a way to purchase a weekly share of vegetables for the entire growing season from a local farm. Buying naturally grown produce from nearby farmers is very cost effective, cuts down on transportation costs, lessening energy burden, and assures the freshness of your vegetables and supports the continuation of small farms. CSA's are the way people all over the globe are rejuvenating small family farms and feeding themselves locally. It is a grassroots answer to a large problem. Most farming has become industrialized, the farms have grown to unsustainable proportions, threatening food safety, causing irreversible environmental damage, and nearly wiping out the ability of the small family farm to survive. When you buy a share from the Learning Farms CSA Cooperative you are not only saving money and precious resources but are supporting Earth Mountain's internship program which offers work-trade opportunity for students nationally and internationally to learn about sustainable living, organic farming, and organizing community programs.

Another way to buy local produce is to patronize the

local Farmer's Market. There, you will find a host of homegrown and homemade items that are provided by local farms. This market runs from mid-July to mid-October and is located at Cimino Park near downtown. Stroll the Market and find all you need from your neighbors. The Trinidad Community Coop, located at the corner of Elm Street and Maple Avenue, is a food store that focuses on locally grown produce, meats and dairy and organic bulk foods and groceries. To support local producers and to get nutritious, fresh, non-chemically grown foods, shop at the Co-op.

This year's outreach project for Earth Mountain Education Farm is "The Growing Healthy Initiative." The goal is to increase nutrition education, inspire healthy eating habits, increase the availability of locally grown foods, increase physical activity and gardening knowledge and deepen the connection to each other and the natural world. Small interactive educational gardens in different sectors of town will be sites for educational workshops, community service, and food production. Currently, we are seeking "Garden Helpers" and "Garden Leaders" for these gardens, as well as business and individual sponsors.

The locations for the Growing Healthy Gardens will be at the World of Discovery Learning Center, the Legacy Assisted Living Care Facility, Trinidad State Junior College, and a living classroom at the Trinidad High School. Building community, food security, and health through growing gardens is a powerful tool that is simple, fulfills a basic need, and saves money, all while educating future generations.

To learn more about gardening, EMEF will host a Successful Mountain Gardening Workshop Part 1 on Saturday, March 5 at 10:30 a.m., and Wednesday, March 9 at 6 p.m. for anyone who could not make it on the weekend. The workshop is \$5 per person and will be held at The Trinidad Community Co-op. Information covered will be soil and composting, transplanting and successful seeding of beds, different types of gardens and design, tricks for high altitude, and more.

To get involved in any of these gardening opportunities please contact Earth Mountain Education Farm at (719) 680-0215 or e-mail us at earthmountainfarm@yahoo.com. Learn about other opportunities at Earth Mountain or view this year's schedules of events at www.earthmountainfarm.org.

State Farm Insurance is Comcast Spotlight winner



Photo by Mike Garrett

Trinidad & Las Animas County Chamber of Commerce President Janna Tranter, far left, and many of her board members and officers join Trinidad State Farm Insurance owner-agent and community leader Laura DeBella, center right, in congratulating her for being selected as next month's Comcast Spotlight Award winner, worth a month's worth of free advertising on the Comcast cable channel.

Shuler gets 'A Second Helping' of musical comedy

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without" – and practices: Vivian walks in from the snow wearing plastic Wonder Bread bags for shoe covers and head cover. She tells Pastor to be careful folding them up: they're new.

The sound system worked against the actors. They wore small microphones the size of flesh-tone Q-tips; while three actors hid the mics in their wigs, two actors wore them hanging over their foreheads, a visual distraction. Then there was the auditory distraction: when characters were talking softly into the refrigerator or closet in the back corner, their voices came booming out over the front of the stage. This probably worked well enough for those in the back of the theater, but it was disconcerting up front. (Many productions have done just fine at the Shuler with no amplification.)

The music was prerecorded but seamlessly integrated, so a live band wasn't missed as much as it might



Photo by Tim Keller

The entire cast of "A Second Helping" gets a little crazy and songful on the Shuler Theater stage Monday night. Clockwise from front are Pastor (David Simmons), Mavis (Autumn O'Ryan), Karin (Becky Barrett-Jones), Beverly (Lisa Bark), and Vivian (Janet Brucken).

have been otherwise.

The women went through an array of wigs, all of which were made of plastic-like synthetic materials that looked unnatural and distracting, although on Vivian, the old widow woman, that looked just

right. Vivian also wore glasses without lenses, avoiding the troublesome glare from stage lights that afflicted the two actors who wore lenses.

RAHC's presentation of "A Second Helping" was co-sponsored by International

Bank and the Whited Foundation. Written by Greta Grosch with music and lyrics by Dennis Curley and Drew Jansen, the production tours the United States under the auspices of Troupe America, Inc.

ARPA, City establish college scholarship program

Special to The Chronicle-News

At its recent annual meeting, the Board of Directors of the Arkansas River Power Authority announced the creation of a College Scholarship Program. ARPA will offer six \$500 scholarships, one to be awarded by each of ARPA's member municipalities. The City of Trinidad is a member of ARPA. The City is also offering a matching \$500 contribution. Therefore, the total award for the ARPA/Trinidad Scholarship is \$1,000. This year the City of Trinidad will award one scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 to a qualified senior. Application forms, scholarship requirements, and eligibility criteria are available either through the counseling offices of the high schools receiving electric service from the City of Trinidad or at the local office of the Trinidad Electric Department. To be eligible, a student must reside with a family that receives electric service from the City of Trinidad. A local selection committee will name the winner of the award. Applications are due by April 19. Winners will be announced during the first week of May.

ARPA is an intergovernmental power authority created in 1979 by the municipalities of Holly, La Junta, Lamar, Las Animas, Springfield and Trinidad. ARPA furnishes the wholesale electric power needs of its member municipalities.

Dave Brunelli, Superintendent of Trinidad's Electric Department, is the local coordinator for the ARPA Scholarship Program. He can be reached at 846-9843, ext. 120.

RATON POLICE BLOTTER

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- James Mascarenas: parking violation
- Doris Odell: parking violation
- Ann Rigdon: parking violation
- Tanya Sanchez: parking violation
- Monica Cordova: equipment violation, proof of insurance & operator to be licensed

02-24-11

- Justina Garduno: resisting/evading/obstructing an officer & concealing identity
- Jessica Lawver: shoplifting
- Robert Martinez: driving while license revoked
- Taran Roper: speeding

PERA to host COG senior services speaker Friday

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seniors in a long-term care situation. SCCOG provides information and services to people 60 years or older, regardless of their financial status.

Those attending today's meeting will have an opportunity to hear about these and other services. The Trinidad Area School and Public Employees Retirement Association has opened the meeting to any area seniors who want to be informed of local services that may be of great benefit to them. The meeting will be held at 1 p.m., following the lunch.

Way to go **Stephany** #12 We Love You GO Miners Lady Miners

TRINIDAD MINERS **GOOD LUCK!** Chelsea #24 Love Papa Tom

GO Lady Miners! **Good Luck Ashleigh** We Love You & Are Proud of You! Mom, Dad, Mychaela & Kaity

GO LADY MINERS and Good Luck to all area teams in the District Playoffs this weekend

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wishes all the area basketball teams good luck at districts!

Congratulations Bulldogs and Lady Bulldogs! Good Luck at Districts this weekend!

From the faculty and staff and students