



TUESDAY
APRIL 5, 2011

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THE CHRONICLE-NEWS

50 CENTS
TRINIDAD
COLORADO

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THE FINE PRINT

Notice

Attention home delivery patrons of The Chronicle-News. It's that time of year, again. If you have an automatic sprinkler system and want to avoid wet papers, please call 719-846-3311 and leave your name and address with the receptionist. We'll wrap your paper in plastic for early morning delivery.

Tuesday

Continuum of Care

Meets 8-9 a.m. at the Fisher's Peak Soup Kitchen, 308 Church St. Information: Karrie Apple, 719-846-6665 or Tom Power (Colorado Coalition for the Homeless in Denver), 303-285-5221.

Flea Market

Sayre Senior Center annual fundraiser, bake sale and enchilada dinner begins at 8:30 a.m. at the center, 1222 San Pedro. Information: Anna Risley, 719-846-3336.

Las Animas County

Commissioners meet at 9 a.m. in the Las Animas County Courthouse, 200 E. First St., Room 201. Information: 719-845-2568.

Kiwanis Club

Meets for lunch and program at noon at A Little Catering Co., 916 Arizona. Information: Jeff Mangino, 719-846-9881.

Internet Safety Training

Learn to protect your children. All parents are invited to attend this free informative safety program at 6 p.m. at the Trinidad Middle School Auditorium and Computer Lab. Refreshments will be served. Information: Raylin Bak, 719-859-3930. The Trinidad School District #1 District Accountability Committee is sponsoring this event.

Trinidad City Council

Meets in regular session at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall, 135 N. Animas St., Third Floor. Information: City Clerk Audra Garrett, 719-846-9843.

Wednesday

Potluck Dinner

The United Methodist Church is hosting a free dinner and presentation by Irene Mparutsa, a medical missionary from Cambodia, 6:30 p.m. at the church, 216 Broom St. Information: 719-846-2436.

Public Service

Segundo Senior Citizens

Yard sale and Easter dinner fundraiser 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at the Kennedy Center, Highway 12, Segundo. Watch for the signs. Information: Barbara Holik, 719-868-2024.

Reminder

The Carnegie Library is temporarily closed for new carpet installation. It is scheduled to reopen the week of April 25. The book drop is open for those who need to return books.

Fall Registration

Hoehne School is now accepting applications for 2011-2012 (grades K-12). Please obtain an application on the website www.hoehnesd.org or call 719-846-4457.

Career Expo

Trinidad State Junior College hosts this annual event 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. April 13. To include your organization contact Ron Barros, 800-621-8752, ext. 5456.

9Health Fair

Mount San Rafael Hospital hosts annual free screening and low-cost testing event 7:30 a.m. - noon, April 16, in the lobby at the hospital, 410 Benedicta Ave. Information: 719-846-9213.

April Recycling

Event 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. April 22 and 8 a.m. - noon April 23 at Waste Connection, 2600 Freedom Road. Information: ReGroup, 719-845-8218.

Art and Culture

TALAS Art Show

Upcoming event is April 14-30. Regional artist entries accepted 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. April 5-6 at the Corazon Gallery, 149 E. Main St. Information: 719-846-0207.

Free Art Show

"Mitchell's Legacy" opening reception begins 5:30 p.m. April 15 at the A.R. Mitchell Museum, 150 E. Main St. Show runs through June 18 and features the artwork of Trinidad State Junior College students and instructors since the Art Department was founded in 1945. Information: 719-846-4224.

RIVER CALL

Purgatoire river call as of 4/1/11
Chilili ditch priority #7 4/30/1862

Trinidad Reservoir accounting
Release .02 AF
Inflow 48.93 AF
Evaporation 7.91 AF
Content 20,140 AF
Elevation 6,180.35
Precipitation 0
Downstream river call
Ninemile 5/10/1887

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)



It's official: Rodríguez signs

Rodríguez signs agreement that keeps him on the job for five years

By Ken Stickney
Special to The Chronicle-News

Trinidad School District #1's Board of Education and Dr. Manuel Rodríguez, the board's choice for its next superintendent, have signed an agreement that would keep Rodríguez on the job for five years.

Board member Vic Meyers said Monday that Rodríguez signed the contract over the weekend and Linda Vigil, board president, signed the contract on the board's behalf Monday morning.

"It's official, signed and done," Meyers said.

The contract, which was

approved by the board March 23, pays the next superintendent, a Texas native now serving as an assistant superintendent in Maryland, \$105,000 annually with a \$12,000 annuity.

Meyers said only minor details had remained to be worked out since March 23, including moving expenses.

Rodríguez was the board's first choice to lead the system among three finalists who were interviewed in March. He was selected in a March 18 special meeting and both board members and Rodríguez said they were in substantial agreement on the particulars of Rodríguez's contract.

"Given his history and the successes he has had in other places, I expect he will hit the ground running..."

Board member
Vic Meyers

Rodríguez will assume control of the school system office July 1. His wife Agatha, also hired March 18, will start her new duties July 1 as an Eckhart Elementary School teacher on that same day.

"Given his history and the successes he has had in other places, I expect he will hit the ground running," Meyers said.

McKinley services Tuesday

C-Staff report

Janice McKinley, 64, wife of State Rep. Wes McKinley, D-Walsh, died at her home Sunday night, a local funeral home confirmed Monday.

A graveside service for Mrs. McKinley is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Tuesday at Walsh Cemetery. No visitation was scheduled.

The representative's Web site said he and Mrs. McKinley had been married for 43 years and had eight children. The couple also had 25 foster children from around the world.

Mrs. McKinley is survived by her husband, Wes McKinley; children, Paula McKinley Duhon of Charlotte, N.C., Toni (Ross) Marston of Holcomb, Kan., Tamra (Hal) Yeager of Winterset, Iowa, Lydia McKinley of Sterling, Kan., Matt McKinley of Syracuse, Kan., Dexter McKinley of Washington state, John McKinley of California, and Edward McKinley of Lamar; two brothers, Ron (Carolyn) Hardy of Detroit, Mich., and Max (Tara) Hardy of Oklahoma City; two sisters, Barbara (Arden) Cogburn of Walsh and Brenda (Richard) Hargrove of Springfield. Mrs. McKinley is also survived by her mother, Mary June Hardy, and 13 grandchildren.

Contributions in her memory may be made to Baca County Hospice.

Dykes Funeral Home of Walsh is arranging the service.



Tim Keller/Chronicle News

The wind blows circus into town

Winds up to 60 mph forced the Barnes & Carson Circus to perform without its Big Top tent in Raton on Sunday. The winds resulted in some empty bleachers, but the show must go on and it did, delighting the hardy hundreds who braved the winds. See full story and more photos on page 2.



Photo courtesy of John Peach

Flames rise above Garcia Plaza trailer

A local resident took this photo of the trailer home fire soon after it began late Monday morning on the northeast edge of Trinidad, before area firefighters arrived on the scene.

WEATHER WATCH

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 70. West southwest wind between 5 and 15 mph.

Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 41. West southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.



Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 76. Breezy, with a west wind 5 to 10 mph increasing to

between 20 and 25 mph.

Wednesday Night: A 10 percent chance of rain. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 42. Breezy, with a southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph.



Trial set to begin Tuesday

C-N Staff Report

Jury selection continues Tuesday in the jury trial of a Trinidad man accused in a stabbing death.

Trinity Jay Romero has been charged with first-degree murder in the Aug. 15, 2010, stabbing death of Kyle Williams Phillips. The trial is scheduled to begin late Tuesday.

According to police reports, ROMERO



allegedly stabbed Phillips, 24, of Trinidad, after both men were playing pool and after an argument between the two at the Empty Pocket Saloon on North Linden Street in Trinidad. After arguing outside the bar for about five minutes, Romero allegedly stabbed Phillips and then fled the scene.

Romero, 32, of Trinidad, was formally charged in October with first degree murder after he went into hiding and was arrested on Sept. 4 by the Las Animas County Sheriff's Office at his parents' home on East Main Street in Trinidad.

Las Animas County District Attorney Frank Ruybalid is not seeking the death penalty. Romero is charged with first-degree murder, a Class 1 felony, which carries a sentence of life without parole.

Romero has been held at the Las Animas County on a \$250,000 bond since his arrest.

Wildfire hits about 15 homes

Associated Press

FORT COLLINS — Crews fighting a Colorado wildfire from land and air Monday were trying to get control of a blaze that had destroyed about 15 homes.

Helicopters on Monday dropped water on the fire around 15 miles west of Fort Collins. Two planes were also being used to help to identify hot spots.

The weather was forecast to grow windier and warmer, with gusts of up to around 40 mph.

Snow and cold weather on Sunday helped calm the 7-square-mile fire in a rugged, hilly area. However, fire managers say there were still hot spots that winds could spread.

The fire was about 5 percent contained at midday. Crews were building containment lines and checking to make sure the fire did not spread beyond.

Residents of more than 300 homes were evacuated but were allowed back.

OBITUARIES



ARTHUR MARTIN VALLEJOS

Arthur Martin (Marty) Vallejos passed away peacefully at home on March 31, 2011.

He was born February 5, 1936 in Tercio, CO. He graduated from Primero High School, Trinidad State Jr. College, and the University of Colorado, Boulder with a Bachelors of Science degree in Pharmacy. On May 24, Marty was united in marriage to Corine Cruz in Trinidad, Colorado

He retired in 2001 after working 44 years as a pharmacist, 42 of which were in Trinidad.

He enjoyed camping, hunting, ranching, watching football with his family, and helping his customers.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Jose E. and Antonia Vallejos, brothers Leo and Gilbert, and sisters Rose Sandoval and Ida Vallejos.

He is survived by his wife Corine and five children: Susan (Roland) Brown of Phoenix, AZ, Sharon (Jerry)Warren of Trinidad, CO, Veronica (Brian) Haigh of Lonoke, AR, Valerie Miller (Chad) of Denver, CO, Arthur Martin Vallejos II (Serenia) of Westminster, CO, eleven grandchildren: Amanda (Emery)Hill, Nicole Miller, Nicholas Brown, Richard Brown, Jerry Warren Jr, Christopher Warren, Jennifer Warren, Stephen Haigh, Katherine Haigh, Chelsea (Jordan)Simpson, Candice Haigh, and six great grandchildren; great grandchildren, Marisella, Keon, Robert, Mariah, Serenity and Taylor.

He is also survived by sisters Stella Cordova of Lakewood, CO and Sally George of Trinidad, CO and numerous nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be Tuesday, April 5, 2011 from 3-7p.m. at Comi Funeral Home.

Memorial services will be held Wednesday, April 6, 2011 at Faith Christian Church with Pastor Bill Frashuer officiating. Active pallbearers are Tim Vallejos, Stephen Haigh, Placido Gonzales, Alvin Vallejos, Ron Vallejos and Dustin Medina.

Private interment will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Sangre de Cristo Hospice.

Arrangements made under the direction of Comi Funeral Home.

Local businesses warned about letter

By David J. Santistevan Jr. *The Chronicle-News*

Local authorities Monday were reviewing a letter sent by a Nevada-based company to Trinidad area businesses that asks for what appears to be an excessive amount of money for helping with business filings with the Colorado Secretary State's Corporate Division's office.

Over the past five days Las Animas County businesses have received letters

from Corporate Controllers Unit LLC that have what appear to bear legitimate-looking seals and letterheads. The letters quote state laws for filing annual business reports and offer assistance for \$225.

Some local businesses say the letter looks to be legal and creates some sense of urgency for them to pay out the high fees by April 15.

The Boulder County District Attorney's office

has also reviewed the letters, and said, "Consumers should deal directly with the Colorado Secretary State's Corporate Division's office" when it comes to filing paperwork with that office.

Those reports can be done on line for only \$10 at the Colorado Secretary of State's web site.

Businesses should be aware that they do not have to pay the middle business

the \$225 asked for in the letter by this Nevada-based company, the Secretary of State's Office has said.

Trinidad Police Chief Charles Gloriso said Monday his office was just made aware of the letter.

"We are looking into this; the bottom of the periodic report does state that this is not a bill, invoice or statement of an account due, and that the business are under no obligation to make any payments on

account of this offer," Gloriso said.

Las Animas County District Attorney Frank Ruybalid added, "Everyone needs to be careful and check into any suspicious e-mails, mailings and phone calls before sending any personal information or money."

If consumers have any questions about the letter they should call the Trinidad Police Department at 719-846-TIPS.

Big winds blow but show goes on

Polished performances dazzle N.M. audiences

By Tim Keller *The Chronicle-News*

RATON, N.M. – The Barnes & Carson Circus didn't really bring the wind to town – the two arrived from opposite directions – but the circus and the wind arrived in Raton at the same time and left together too.

Westerly winds of 30 mph repeatedly gusted as high as 60 mph all day Sunday, wreaking havoc at the Raton rodeo grounds as the 75-year-old circus company decided the show must go on, but it couldn't go on inside the huge Big Top tent under such conditions.

An hour before the first of two shows was scheduled to begin, co-owner Barbara Byrd wasn't confident there would be a show. Though rides and booths and food and animals were all arrayed along a midway, the public hadn't yet braved the wind to start arriving.

Minutes later, though, vehicles started entering the parking area out on York Canyon Road, outside Raton, and by 3 p.m. the first of two shows went on with several hundred adults and children in seating designed to hold up to 2,000 under a tent. For 90 minutes, smiles and laughter became so universal that the audience was able to forget the wind.

The seasoned circus performers were consummate show people there to entertain. They'd just emerged from their annual four-month winter hiatus in Hugo, Okla., and begun eight months of travel in which they put on two shows in a different town every day. The closest they come to taking a day off is occasionally performing in the same town for two days.

After ending their evening show in Guymon, Okla., Saturday, they took two and one-half hours to strike the show, then their caravan of more than two-dozen large trucks and trailers drove to Raton, arriving by midnight. In an open field, the troupe of 125 created an entire carnival and circus in just one Sunday morning.

By 3 p.m., the performers had changed into flashy show costumes. The fast-moving one-ring circus featured a variety of performers who have honed their skills by giving 480 shows each year. Professional entertainment at remarkably reasonable prices gave area families an unforgettable day at the circus, despite the wind's competing efforts for people's attention.

Although the big-voiced circus announcer apologized for the lack of the Big Top, the show was too professional to make any other



Richard Sitts/Chronicle-News

No, it's not the 60 mph winds blowing away circus star Alex the Clown. The clown is high above a trampoline under the open New Mexico sky Sunday.

apologies: no mention was made of the fact that the trapeze, high wire, and juggling acts had to be canceled due to the winds. Other acts were substituted, but the whole show was good enough that no one noticed anything missing.

The Barnes & Carson

Circus first performed in Raton in 1987. Its appearance this year was sponsored by the Raton Kiwanis Club, The Medicine Shoppe, KRTN Radio, International Bank, and Trinidad's Hometown Pharmacy. A second show at 6 p.m. drew hundreds more to the rodeo

grounds before the circus troupe pulled everything down and moved on to Las Vegas, NM, for its Monday shows. Those who came out for Sunday's unique open-sky show outside Raton will hope the circus troupe returns next year, but without the wind.

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1year..... \$84.00

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3 Months.....\$24.00
6 Months.....\$48.00
1year..... \$96.00

MEMORIALS

In Memory of Rafael (Ralph) Archuleta on his 65th Birthday, April 5, 1946



Happy Birthday Daddy. We sing to you this year, hoping you enjoying every minute of it there. We would love to have you here to celebrate and cheer. So, hope you have another wonderful year! We love you Daddy.

Love Always,
Your Girls, Son-in-laws, and Grandkids---

OBITUARIES



ORLANDO J. MONTOYA

Visitation will be Thursday, April 7, 2011, from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Mullare-Murphy Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at the Seventh Day Adventist Church, 1605 Aiello St. on Friday, April 8th, at 1:00 p.m. Burial will follow at the Trinidad Catholic Cemetery. The family has entrusted Mullare-Murphy Funeral Home with the arrangements.

Post office to present passport fair Saturday

Special to *The Chronicle-News*

The Trinidad Post Office will offer a special passport fair at its postal location at 301 E. Main St. on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The special passport fair is being held to accommodate local and area residents with their passport needs that day. The event is also being held on "Passport Day in the USA," an annual day sponsored by the U.S. State Dept. and U.S. Postal Service, in which special passport fairs are being held at a number of post offices and passport service locations nationwide.

RATON POLICE BLOTTER

ARRESTS:
04-04-11
■ Patrick Sauble: Arrest Warrant, aggravated stalking, escape from jail and protection order violation

INCIDENTS:
04-04-11
■ Daniel Mascarenas: Victim of criminal damage to property
■ Charles Gonzales: Victim of aggravated battery

CITATIONS:
04-04-11
■ Leroy Martinez: Assault
■ Dean Sparaco: Assault
■ Jeremy L. Licon: Criminal damage to property
■ Ralph Mendez: Child restraint
■ Glenn Clingerman: Speeding
■ Donna Bernal: Speeding and child restraint

"Our Trinidad Post Office is very pleased to host this special passport fair event," says Officer-in-Charge Sandy Perea. "We will provide extra postal staffing for the fair, so that all of our regular postal customers and area residents can have their passport applications processed quickly and efficiently. That includes the taking of their passport photo if needed."

At the passport fair, customers can apply for either a passport book or a passport card application with the State Dept. (See passport fees below.)

The passport book can be used for most international travel world-wide. The less costly passport card may only be used for land and sea travel between the United States and Canada, Mexico, Bermuda or the Caribbean. Both the passport card and the passport book have the same validity period: 10 years for an adult, five years for children 15 and younger.

Customers can help save their passport application processing time at the Post Office passport fair and have the process go smoothly by bringing the below required documents. Call the Post Office at (719) 846-1180 for information.

• Bring proper proof of American citizenship. This must be either: a certified birth certificate issued by the city, county or state; a

previous U.S. passport; a certificate of citizenship; or a naturalization certificate. (Note: a hospital-issued birth certificate alone is not acceptable.)

• Bring proof of identity. This must be either: a previous U.S. passport; a naturalization certificate; a certificate of citizenship; or a current valid driver's license, government ID or military photo ID.

• The passport application requires one recent photograph. If you don't have a photo, photo services will be available for \$15 for each application payable to the Post Office.

• To save time, download a passport application at usps.com/passport and complete it beforehand but do not sign the application until witnessed by an acceptance agent. Passport applications must be made in person and cannot be made online.

Current Passport Fees set by the U.S. State Department:

Adult or Child Passport Book

Current total fees: \$135 for Age 16 and over; Child Passport Book - \$105 for Age 15 and under

Adult or Child Passport Card

Current total fees: \$55 for Age 16 and over; Child Passport Book - \$40 for Age 15 and under

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