



WEDNESDAY  
SEPTEMBER 18, 2013  
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# THE CHRONICLE-NEWS

50 CENTS  
TRINIDAD  
COLORADO

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## THE FINE PRINT

**SEPTEMBER 18**  
-Trinidad Schools  
**WEDNESDAY (6 p.m.)** Board of Education will hold its regular session at Eckhart School, 1021 Pierce St. Information: 719-846-3324.  
-FP Fire District  
**WEDNESDAY (6 p.m.)** Fishers Peak Fire Protection District Board of Directors public meeting at the Starkville Fire Station. Information: 719-846-6077.

## Today's Quote

"But if I think on thee, dear friend, all losses are restored and sorrows end."

-William Shakespeare

**SEPTEMBER 19**  
-Economic Development  
**THURSDAY (3-5 p.m.)** Trinidad and Las Animas County Board of Directors will meet at 134 West Main Street, Suite 23 (Bell Block). Information: 719-846-9412.  
-Water Association  
**THURSDAY (5:30 p.m.)** Greetville-Carbondale Board of Directors meeting at the Century Financial Group, 109 W. Main St. Information: Jeni Skalko, 719-846-2080, ext. 116.

-Community Health Forum  
**THURSDAY (6 p.m.)** With the marketplace for government health insurance plans opening on October 1, much confusion about the Affordable Care Act still exists, so the Trinidad/Las Animas County Community Roundtable Healthnicks Action Group is holding a community forum to help clarify the fast-approaching plan that is often called Obamacare. The forum will be held in the Pioneer Room at TSJC with the purpose of informing the public and the business community of what they should expect when the legislation kicks in.

-Trout Unlimited  
**THURSDAY (6 p.m.)** Purgatoire River Anglers meeting is in the Purgatoire on Elm Restaurant, behind the Post Office. Scheduled speaker will be Jon Kleiss from Anglers Covey in Colorado Springs presenting "Fly Fishing for Carp." Information: Joanie Muzzulin, 719-846-7307. Meetings are always open to the public.

**PUBLIC SERVICE**  
-CLOSURE NOTICE  
**FRIDAY:** The Las Animas county offices at the courthouse will be closed for a mandatory furlough day for all county employees. All state offices will remain open. Information: Leeann Fabec, 719-845-2562.  
-Free Disposal Day  
**SATURDAY (7 a.m.-4 p.m.)** The City of Trinidad Landfill will accept residential refuse FREE. Electronic waste not accepted. Tires will be assessed normal tipping fees. The landfill is located at 2401 N. State Street, Trinidad. Information: 719-846-2538.

-Farmers' Market  
**SATURDAY (8 a.m.-Noon)** 13th Annual Trinidad Farmers' Market will be open until mid-October in Cimino Park on Modica Drive. Information: 719-846-7386.

-Ludlow 100 Years Later  
**SATURDAY (11 a.m.-2 p.m.)** "Family and Community" program with Carolyn Newman as Mother Jones, presentations by Richard Bonacquist, and Louis Tikas and exhibits at the Trinidad History Museum, 300 E. Main St. Information: 719-846-7214.

-Historic Celebration  
**\*SATURDAY (6-8 p.m.)** The community is invited to an old-fashioned ice cream social in honor of the 125th Anniversary of the Zion's Lutheran Church, 613 Prospect St. Trinidad. Information: 719-846-7785.

**\*SUNDAY (10 a.m.)** Please join us at Zion's Lutheran Church for Sunday services with Dr. Andrea Doeden and Rock Mountain Synod Bishop Jim Gonia officiating. Information: 719-846-7785.

-Goree Scholarship  
**SUNDAY (7 p.m.)** Parents, students and teachers are invited to a public meeting for the Goree-Princeton Fund at Trinidad High School, 816 West St. Information: David Vandermeulen, Dublin, Ohio, 614-389-2852. Senior interviews are Monday. Information: Paula Maldonado, 719-846-2971.

-Trinidad Recycling Event  
**SEPTEMBER 27 & 28: FRIDAY (8 a.m.-6 p.m.) SATURDAY (8 a.m. to noon)** Las Animas County recycle event at Waste Connections, 2600 Freedom Road. Information: ReGroup, 719-845-8218.

-Golden Harvest Bazaar  
**OCTOBER 14 (8:30 a.m.)** Annual Sayre Senior Center fundraising event includes, bake sale, crafts, quilt raffle and a delicious lunch at 1222 San Pedro St.

**Downstream River Call**  
Amity Canal - Appropriation date: 07/22/1889.

**RIVER CALL**  
Purgatoire River Call as of 09/17/2013. South Side ditch priority # 98 - Appropriation date: 04/30/1884.

**Trinidad Reservoir Accounting**  
Release 516.23 AF  
Inflow 486.34 AF 245.19 CFS  
Evaporation 6.11 AF  
Content 11,085 AF  
Elevation 6,168.09  
Precipitation 0.03

**Inn & Suites Wellness Hotel**  
719-845-0102

**Weather Watch**  
Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 84. West wind 5 to 10 mph. Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 55. West southwest wind around 10 mph.

**Thursday:** A 10 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon. Mostly sunny, with a high near 76. West wind 5 to 10 mph becoming east in the afternoon. **Thursday Night:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 49. East wind around 5 mph becoming calm in the evening. New rainfall amounts of less than a tenth of an inch, except higher amounts possible in thunderstorms.

**Friday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 73. Light and variable wind becoming south southeast 5 to 10 mph in the afternoon. **Friday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 52. South southwest wind around 10 mph becoming west southwest after midnight.

## Local boy sells boar for amazing \$40,000

By Pankaj Khadka  
The Chronicle-News

A sixth-grader at Hoehne Elementary shocked himself and his parents at a national livestock show last week when he sold his 300-pound Duroc boar for \$40,000, something neither he nor his parents ever expected to happen.

Travis Hamilton, a 12 year old from Model, Colorado, a town 36 miles east of Trinidad, sold his five-and-a-half-month old Duroc boar for the enormous and surprising sum last Wednesday at the National Barrow Show held in Austin, Minnesota.

Hamilton's boar, to be known as Colorado High across the nation, sold for more than any other boar in the show and was bought by Swine Genetics International, a semen company for show pigs based out of Cambridge, Iowa.

Hamilton said he had asked a lot of people to come look at his

boar at the show, and as he entered the ring with his boar and walked around, the bidding war started, which he said was fun at the beginning but got pretty intense as it progressed.

Hamilton's mother, Lori Rae, who had accompanied him to Austin and was standing ringside as the bidding continued, said the bid prices went up drastically as semen companies started outbidding each other, until the bids reached \$32,000, and then they slowed down, before eventually stopping at \$40,000.

Lori Rae said, "It was very, very exciting, and I was very excited for Travis and for me to be able to experience it with him. It was definitely like you were in a dream, so to speak," she said.

Although the boar was sold and whisked away, the family had to wait to hear from the buyers on how it performed. Lori Rae said she was holding her breath until



Photos courtesy of Lori Rae Hamilton

Colorado High (above and at left), a Duroc boar that belongs to 12-year-old Travis Hamilton, sold for \$40,000 at the National Barrow Show in Austin, Minnesota last week. Travis' mom, Lori Rae (above right), holds a chow treat for the family's outstanding champion pig.



the semen company called to let them know that the boar was performing.

Travis said two days went by before he received a phone call saying that the boar had produced 12 doses.

"At the beginning, you don't know that you're gonna get \$40,000, because it had to produce the semen.... When I got the call about that, then I got pretty excited," he said.

Travis and his father, Johnnie Hamilton, raise show pigs, something they have been doing for a long time now, and Johnnie said Travis has been showing hogs and pigs at shows since he was 3 years old, "barely big enough to walk."

The Hamilton family has about 15 sows at their property in Model, and Travis has always liked Durocs, said Johnnie, adding that Travis has three Duroc sows and has made sales at different state fairs, as well as the National Western Stock Show in Denver. He has also travelled to Belton, Texas, and to Oklahoma to show pigs.

Talking about the highest selling boar, Johnnie said that particular boar "had some of the hottest Duroc genetics in the nation, so all the boar studs got to bidding against each other and Swine Genetics ended up paying \$40,000."

Johnnie said he had bought the mother boar for Travis to start a sow herd for \$3,700 and had had it artificially inseminated by a boar with Top Cut Genetics. Travis raised the whole litter himself.

"Travis helped farrow that litter out in the farrowing barn and raised them since they were babies," said Johnnie.

The Hamilton couple is "on cloud nine" and they never dreamed of the boar bringing in that kind of money for Travis, said Johnnie. He and Lori Rae have decided to put aside a major chunk of the sale for Travis' college education.

Because Travis wants to buy a trailer, Johnnie said he would use some of the money to purchase a trailer for Travis.



Tim Keller / The Chronicle-News

... a thousand words

## County to ask voters for mill levy to support Health Services District

By Steve Block  
The Chronicle-News

Faced with mounting debt at Mt. San Rafael Hospital that could force its closure, the county board of commissioners adopted a resolution approving the district's service plan, which includes a provision to ask the voters to approve a property-tax levy of seven mills. County mill levy funding currently does not support the district,

which acts as a funding mechanism for Mt. San Rafael Hospital.

The proposed mill levy would generate about \$2.6 million in 2014 for the district, if it were approved in the election on November 5. For the owner of a house worth \$150,000, that would mean a property-tax increase of about \$83.60 per year, or about \$7 per month. The mill levy tax is part of an amended and restated service plan for the county health services

district, which was addressed at a public hearing during Tuesday's meeting.

The health service district's five-member board is supposed to be elected by a vote of all county residents, but in recent years the district failed to schedule regular elections for new board members. That situation compelled the remaining board members to appoint some new members to keep the district going as a viable en-

tity. All of the five board positions will be contested in an election in May 2014.

Jeanne Hollon, a member of the Trinidad Area Health Association (TAHA) board, said the hospital had been losing money consistently for the past three years.

"I wanted to point out that in 2010, 2011 and 2012, the hospital

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