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THE CHRONICLE-NEWS

50 CENTS
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THE FINE PRINT

MARCH 3
-Planning Commission
MONDAY (1 p.m.) Las Animas County Planning and Land Use Office commissioners' meeting at the County Court House, 200 E. First St., Room 201. Information: 719-845-2561.
-Community Choral
MONDAY (6:15 p.m.) Rehearsals for the annual Spring Concert under the direction of Jireh Thomas are being held at the First United Methodist Church, 216 Broom St. Information: 719-846-3720. New members always welcome, no auditions necessary.

Today's Quote

"To dare is to lose one's footing momentarily. To not dare is to lose oneself."

- Søren Kierkegaard

MARCH 4
-Las Animas County
TUESDAY (9 a.m.) Board of County Commissioners meeting is in the Las Animas Courthouse, 200 E. First St., Room 201. Information: 719-845-2568. COUNTY COMMISSIONERS: Gary Hill (719-845-2595), Mack Louden (719-845-2592), and Anthony Abeyta (719-846-9300).
-Annual Pancake Supper
TUESDAY (4:30-6:30 p.m.) Holy Trinity Academy will host their annual Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper at Holy Family Hall. Proceeds benefit the school.
-Trinidad Schools
TUESDAY (6 p.m.) Board of Education will hold a special meeting and work session at Eckhart School, 1021 Pierce St. Information: 719-846-3324.
-Trinidad City Council
TUESDAY (7 p.m.) Regular session, Council Chambers, City Hall, 135 N. Animas St. Information: Audra Garrett, 719-846-9843.

PUBLIC SERVICE
-TSJC English Tutoring
FRIDAY (10 a.m.-Noon): The English Department at Trinidad State is offering free English tutoring to any high school student. Students should bring relevant books, notes and a flash drive to Room 312 in the Freudenthal Library. Information: 719-846-5930.
-Songs of Hope
FRIDAY (7 p.m.) Jason & Denise will be in concert at New Hope Church, 38096 Hwy 160 (old Wagon Wheel). No admission and everyone's welcome.
-Philanthropy Phair
SATURDAY (3-6 p.m.) The community is invited to explore opportunities with local non-profit organizations and enjoy entertainment, prizes and refreshments at the Mitchell Museum, 150 E. Main St. Event hosted by the Trinidad Community Foundation. Information: 719-846-3943.
-Call for Design Submissions
MARCH 10 DEADLINE: Send your Corazon de Trinidad crosswalk art design submissions to: City of Trinidad Arts & Culture Advisory Commission, P.O. Box 880, or call Kim Marquez at 719-846-9843, ext. 123 for more information.

-Holistic Health EXPO
MARCH 22 (11 a.m.-5 p.m.) A Holistic Health & Recreation EXPO will be held at the Mt. Carmel Community Center. Admission is free and open to the community. For general and vendor information call: 719-845-4894.
-From the LA County Clerk
License plate renewal online. Go to: www.colorado.gov/renewplates.

-RECYCLE
Terra Firma Recycling (Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. & Sat. 9 a.m.-Noon) at 2400 Nevada Ave. (The Water Station) will recycle paper, cardboard, tin can and plastic #1-#7. Information: Kelli Van Matre, 719-859-3998.

-SUICIDE/CRISIS HOTLINES:
*ADULT HOPE: 800-784-2433
*TEEN: 877-968-8454
*GLB-YOUTH: 866-488-7386
*VET-2-VET: 877-838-2838
"When the world says, 'Give up!' Hope says, 'Not today!'" -Unknown
-DOMESTIC ABUSE HOTLINES:
*Domestic Abuse Hotline: In Trinidad call 719-846-6665 (24-hours a day). National Hotline call: 1-800-790-SAFE (7233).
*Animal Abuse: Do your part and help put a stop to animal cruelty. Report animal abuse and dog/cock fighting at Crime Stoppers anonymous tip line: 720-913-7867.

A THOUSAND WORDS

The stone facade over the Carnegie Public Library on Animas Street.

RIVER CALL

Purgatoire River Call as of 02/27/14. Chilli ditch: Priority #7 -- Appropriation date: 04/30/1862.

Trinidad Reservoir Accounting:
Release 0.24 AF
Inflow 41.21 AF -- 20.78 CFS
Evaporation 3.97 AF
Content 17,087 AF
Elevation 6,179.38
Precipitation 0

Downstream River Call. John Martin Reservoir -- 12/31/1948.



POLITICS

County Democrats, Republicans to caucus on Tuesday

By Steve Block
The Chronicle-News

The political winds are beginning to blow strongly in preparation for the statewide general election that will take place on Nov. 4, 2014. Democrats and Republicans will each hold their party precinct caucuses, beginning at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 4, at the various locations listed below.

The caucuses will give party members the chance to elect delegates to each party's county convention. The delegates will then vote for their choice as the party's nominee for county commissioner, county treasurer, county assessor and county clerk and recorder, which are the local offices on the ballot for Las Animas County voters this year.

The county clerk and recorder's office has no role to play in the party caucus system, which operates under each party's rules and relevant Colorado law. The system provides that on the first Tuesday in March of each even-numbered year, political parties hold their precinct caucuses to begin the process of selecting delegates to nominate candidates in the upcoming election.

Registered voters of the same political party gather at their respective precinct locations to choose delegates to represent the precinct at the county assembly, along with committee officers to organize the precinct's political activities. Precinct caucuses are open to the public and are held throughout Colorado, according



Tim Keller / The Chronicle-News

... a thousand words

to the website of the Colorado Secretary of State.

People eligible to vote in precinct caucuses include those who have been residents of the precinct for at least 30 days, residents affiliated with the caucusing party for at least two months before the precinct caucuses and those who registered to vote no later than 29 days before the precinct caucus date of March 4. Those people wanting to serve as election judges should attend their party's precinct caucus and add their names to the judges' list.

County assemblies must be held no later than 25 days after the precinct caucuses and are the places where precinct caucus delegates gather to select candidates for the state primary, delegates to the congressional district assemblies and delegates to the state assembly.

Las Animas County Republicans will hold their county assembly beginning at 9 a.m. on March 29 in the Pioneer Room of the Sullivan Center, located on the campus of Trinidad State Junior College, at 600 Prospect St. County Democrats will meet for their assembly in late March at a time, date and place yet to be announced.

The district assembly chooses district level delegates to the national convention and also nominates candidates for Congress, the Colorado General Assembly, the State Board of Education, the Board of Regents and district attorneys.

The state assembly nominates candidates for statewide offices for the primary election ballot and delegates for the national convention. Democrats will hold their state assembly in Denver, while

Republicans will hold their assembly at the Coors Event Center in Boulder, both on April 12. Las Animas County Democrats will have eight delegates and four alternates at the state assembly, out of statewide totals of 3,053 delegates and 1,535 alternates. County Republicans will have 14 delegates and 14 alternates at their state assembly, out of statewide totals of 4,150 delegates and 2,089 alternates.

Monday, March 31 is the last day to file major or minor party candidate petitions for the statewide primary on June 24. The last day a write-in candidate may file an affidavit of intent for the primary election is Friday, April 18. The first day an unaffiliated candidate may circulate or obtain signatures on a petition for nomination for the general election is Thursday,

Continued on Page 2 ...

IMPROVEMENT

New roof approved for Raton's Old Pass Gallery



Steve Block / The Chronicle-News

Raton's City Commission recently approved a bid for a roof-replacement project at the Old Pass Gallery.

By Steve Block
The Chronicle-News

The Old Pass Gallery in Raton, N.M. is one of the great attractions along the Santa Fe Trail, hosting many outstanding art exhibits and competitions through the years. The gallery's galvanized metal roof, however, tends to leak during heavy rains, endangering some very valuable works of art. In order to protect that artwork, the Raton City Commission approved a bid during last week's City Commission meeting of

\$38,857 by David Parker Builders of Raton to replace the roof.

The building, located at 145 S. First St., was originally built in 1910 as a Wells Fargo railroad freight depot and is one of just five original Wells Fargo depots remaining in the United States. During the 1920s and 1930s, the building housed a tire shop owned by the Redd family of Raton, and the family eventually donated it to the City. It became the home of the Old Pass Gallery and the Raton Arts & Humanities Council (RAHC) in 1990.

Terry Baca, president of the

RAHC, said on Thursday that the roof had leaked for at least the past five years. "The roof was constant cause for concern," Baca said. "We've always been worried that artworks could be damaged or destroyed during a sudden, heavy rain. The water has been damaging the drywall in the building, and we've had some pieces fall off. This is great news that the City is going to use some of its Lodger's Tax income to fix this serious problem, and RAHC is very grateful to the City for their help."

RAHC pays the City \$1 per year to lease the building, but RAHC is

responsible for maintaining the building out of its own resources. Repairing the leaky roof, however, was beyond RAHC's financial capabilities, so its board decided to ask the City for help.

David Parker Builders was the only firm to bid on the project, though two other firms had obtained plans and specifications for the project. Once a building permit is obtained, the contractor will have 30 days to complete construction, weather permitting.

Jason Phillips, a project manager for K.S. Berry Engineering of Raton, which recommended accepting the bid, said the roof-replacement project would involve installing a new galvanized-steel roof with a membrane, which will alleviate the problem of rainwater collecting near the building's parapet wall and getting inside the building.

The Lodger's Tax contribution to the project will be \$36,000, and the remaining \$2,857 will come from the New Mexico Gross Receipts Tax.

Baca said the leaky roof was the gallery's most serious problem, but there are other concerns as well. The drainage around the foundation needs to be improved so that water drains away from it rather than toward it. The windows are very old, and the exterior window frames need to be replaced, and a crawlspace underneath part of the building is not properly vented.

"The interior of the gallery is still in very good shape, especially when you consider how much use it's gotten over the years," Baca said. "A fresh coat of paint will help with that. The main problem was the roof, and I've been up there, and I know that it badly needs to be replaced. We're happy the job is going to be done."

Weather Sponsored by:
LA QUINTA Inn & Suites
Wellness Hotel
719-845-0102

WEATHER WATCH
Monday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 54. SW wind 5 to 10 mph becoming

W-NW in the afternoon. **Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 27. W-SW wind 5 to 10 mph.

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 57. W-SW wind around 5 mph becoming E-NE in the morning. **Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 31. South wind 5 to 10 mph becoming W-SW after midnight.

Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 58. West wind around 5 mph becoming N-NE in the afternoon. **Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 31. N-NW wind 5 to 10 mph becoming SW in the evening.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 66. West wind around 10 mph. **Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 36. West wind around 10 mph.