



WEDNESDAY
APRIL 23, 2014

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THE CHRONICLE NEWS

50 CENTS
TRINIDAD
COLORADO

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THE FINE PRINT

APRIL 23
-Tourism Board
WEDNESDAY (9 a.m.) Committee meets in the City Hall Third Floor Conference Room, 135 N. Animas St. Information: City Clerk, Audra Garrett, 719-846-9843.
-VFW Service Officer
WEDNESDAY (1-5 p.m.) Tony Archer will be at the Colorado Welcome Center, 309 Nevada Ave., to assist veterans with needs of any kind, from medical issues and housing to employment. Information: VFW Commander, John Fios, 719-846-8094.
-Trinidad Ambulance District
WEDNESDAY (4:30 p.m.) Trinidad Ambulance District Board of Directors regular meeting at the Trinidad Ambulance District Office, 939 Robinson Ave. Information: 719-846-6886.

Today's Quote

"The sky is the daily bread of the eyes."

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

APRIL 24
-Calling all Volunteers
THURSDAY (10 a.m.) Anyone interested in volunteering at the Mitchell Museum is encouraged to attend the annual Volunteer Coffee at the Museum. Information: Deb Bernhardt, 719-860-9048.
-Chamber of Commerce
THURSDAY (5-7 p.m.) Business After Hours event will be held at the Mt. Carmel Community Center, 911 Robinson. Information: Marty Hackett, 719-845-4894.
-Hoehne Schools
THURSDAY (7 p.m.) Hoehne School Board will meet in regular session (no work session), in the Superintendents Office. Information: Hannah Baca, 719-846-4457 ext.109.

PUBLIC SERVICE
-Help Save the Veteran's Post
URGENT: All interested parties who would like to help the veterans save Trinidad's local VFW Post 984 from closing, please contact Commander John Fios at 719-846-8094. The Post is in desperate need of caring individuals to champion this organization that provides so many honorable benefits to the community.
-Student Homework Help
FRIDAY (10 a.m.-Noon) Free Math and Science homework help for middle school and high school students at Trinidad State Junior College, Library 308, 600 Prospect. Information: Jenn Swanson at 719-846-5670.

-Comcast Community Clean-up
SATURDAY (8 a.m.-Noon) The Trinidad Community Foundation and Comcast will host the annual Comcast Community Clean-up project. Participants to meet at Cimino Park. Information: Margaret Apodaca, 719-846-3943.

-Livestock Meeting
SATURDAY (12:30 p.m.) The Southern Colorado Livestock Association will meet in the Hoehne Community Building for a potluck lunch and presentation on "National Heritage Areas" by Dr. Norman Kincaide and Elizabeth Erickson-Noe. Everyone is welcome to attend. Information: 719-469-4048.

-Fiesta Dinner
SUNDAY (11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.) The Mount San Rafael Hospital Auxiliary is hosting their annual fundraiser "Fiesta Dinner," in the hospital cafeteria, 410 Benedicta. Information: Sylvia Lackey, 719-846-6497. Take out is available and proceeds benefit the auxiliary's hospital equipment projects.

-Mammography Project
APRIL 29 (5:30 p.m.) A public meeting will be held in the boardroom at the Mt. San Rafael Hospital, 410 Benedicta Ave. to discuss this project and grant submission to the USDA. Information: 719-846-8053.

-Latin Golf Scholarship
APRIL 30 DEADLINE: Applications may be picked up at all Las Animas County high school counselor's offices and at Chacon Insurance, 125 E. Main St. High school and college students are eligible. Sponsored by the Trinidad Latin Golf Association. Information: 719-846-9253.

-Free Disposal Day
MAY 3 (7 a.m.-4 p.m.) The City of Trinidad Landfill, 2401 N. State Street will accept residential refuse without charge. Tires will be assessed normal fees. Electronic waste is excluded. Information: 719-846-2538.

-9Health Fair
MAY 3 (7:30 a.m.-Noon) Annual 9Health Fair will be in the lobby of the Mt. San Rafael Hospital, 410 Benedicta Ave. Information: 719-846-8051.

-Lion's Club Benefit
MAY 3 (9 a.m.-3 p.m. / Flea Market & 4:30-7 p.m. Chili Supper) Annual fundraiser for the Lion's Club charitable projects will be held at the Izaak Walton Building, 1900 Santa Fe Trail Drive. Interested vendors and information: Jack Maurer, 719-860-8510.

-Adopt a City Planter
MAY 9 DEADLINE: Individuals, organizations and businesses interested in participating in the City's "Adopt a Planter" program, scheduled to run from May thru September, can contact David Esquibel at the Parks and Boulevards Dept., 719-846-7699.

A THOUSAND WORDS

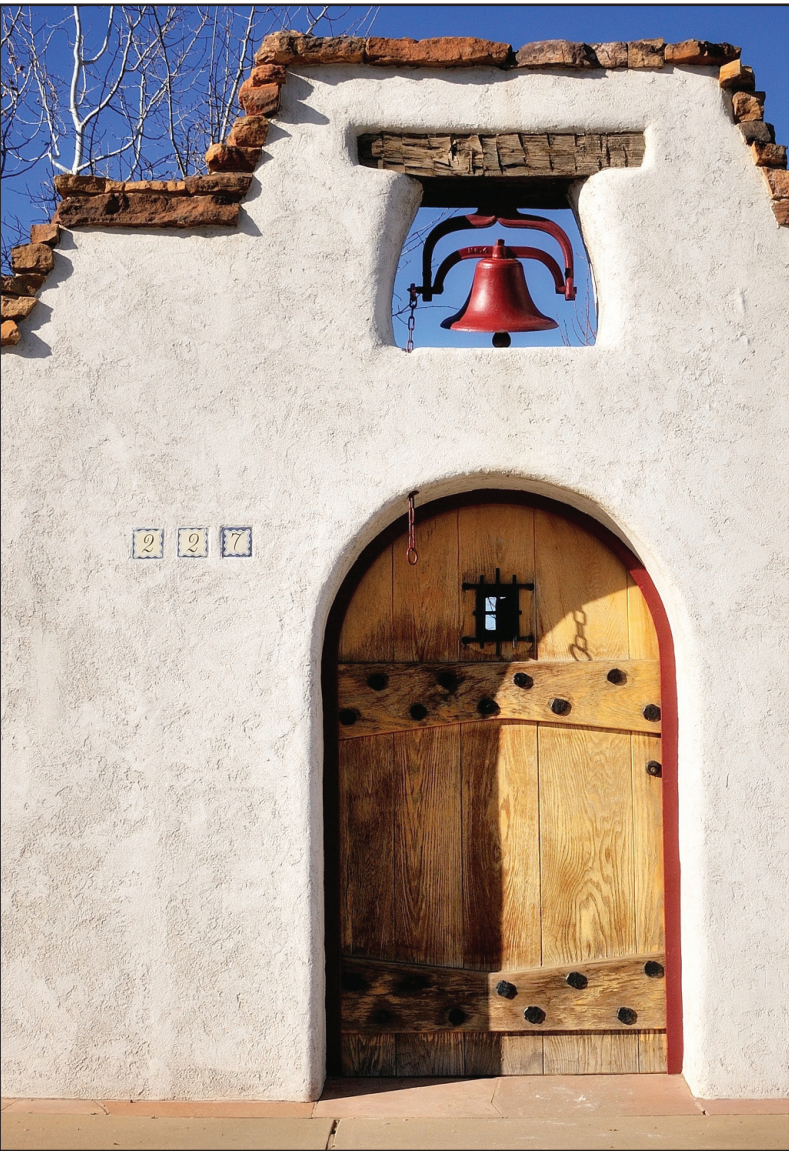
A bright red bell hangs above the entryway door at 227 Elm Street.

RIVER CALL

Purgatoire River Call as of 04/22/2014. Enlarged South Side ditch: Priority #74 -- Appropriation date: 02/17/1876.

Trinidad Reservoir Accounting:
Release 74.11 AF
Inflow 259.59 AF -- 130.87 CFS
Evaporation 4.48 AF
Content 18,573 AF
Elevation 6,181.63
Precipitation 0

Downstream River Call: High-land Canal: 05/31/1866.



Tim Keller / The Chronicle-News

... a thousand words

ENVIRONMENTAL LESSONS

Fort Carson celebrates Earth Day at Piñon Canyon with local students

By Scott Mastro
Correspondent
The Chronicle-News

The Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site (PCMS) is a vast and varied expanse of land where tanks and helicopters simulate combat, dinosaur fossils exist in their greatest abundance in the nation, and 14 Native American tribes can view artifacts and rock art pertaining to their history. On Thursday, as part of a national tradition that began in 1970, PCMS opened its two state-of-the-art clamshell facilities to the public for Earth Day, inviting area public school kids to come learn about eight facets of the natural world.



After viewing a continuous slideshow about the regional ecology, including the many animals that live onsite, and a display called From Trash to Treasure that featured functional art made from recycled materials, Hoehne and Primero middle-grade students walked 150 yards to the second clamshell that houses interactive-educational seminars. According to Fort Carson Wildlife Biologist Michelle Blake, "Everyone can learn about backyard birds and cavity-nesting species, native species, paleontology - the study of fossils - dendrology - the study of trees, wildlife management, sustainable energy, conservation law enforcement and archaeology - the study of ancient civilizations."

Blake said, "The kids will rotate through the stations highlighting conservation and environmental topics."

Paul Lavigne of All That is Energy in Trinidad shared his wealth of knowledge about sustainable

energy - in particular, solar power - by saying, to everyone's surprise, "The main ingredient in a solar panel is silicon, finely granulated sand."

Mark Loveall, assistant district forester with the Colorado State Forest Service, revealed startling facts about trees, explaining that, "A tree doesn't grow up like a human being. It adds on in increments," meaning that as a tree grows the piece of it that's at 10 feet stays at that height and more of the tree grows above it. "This is how we can count rings on a tree to see how old it is." Locally, he said, "some of the Ponderosa Pine in Stonewall are 200 years old, from about 1808, shortly after Lewis and Clark's famous transcontinental expedition."

Fort Carson Conservation Law Enforcement Officers Mike Simon and Paul Everett brought a stunning display of animals that can be seen at PCMS. The display included a stuffed and mounted raccoon, fox, coyote, bobcat and skunk. It also included a bear skin, which, at one point, Hoehne student Steve Bollinger donned as part of the conservation law-enforcement demonstration, while Simon said, "If you encounter a bear, don't run, don't stare, make yourself look as big as possible, and look for cubs and move in their opposite direction. Bears will often fake charge to let you know you should slowly back away."

Everett said, "Most wild animals don't want anything to do with humans," so most trouble arises "when animals are surprised or feel threatened." In the case of rattlesnakes, "Most people get bit on the hand while taunting the snake," he said.

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ASSISTANCE FOR VETERANS

VFW State Service Officer to visit City on Wednesday

By Steve Block
The Chronicle-News

Military service veterans often need help with multiple issues ranging from medical problems to housing and long-term unemployment. Tony Archer, a Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) assistant state service officer, will pay a Wednesday visit to Trinidad to help veterans deal with their problems.

Archer will be on hand from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, April 23 at the Colorado Welcome Center, located at 309 Nevada Ave. He said in a Monday phone call that he would have with him plenty of printed information about benefits, filing claims and other veteran processes, and he would also help veterans gain access to Internet websites related to veterans' issues.

Archer said there are still many World War II veterans in Colorado who need help through the VFW's Military Assistance Program (MAP), which is the outstretched hand between the VFW and active duty, National Guard and Reserve military units. MAP offers grants to VFW posts that participate in military unit functions, such as sponsoring farewell and welcome-home activities, Family Readiness Group events and other programs.

MAP also works with VFW's Operation Uplink and Unmet Needs programs to provide a networking team for military assistance. MAP and Operation Uplink have provided more than 200 computers to set up Internet cafes where service members' families can e-mail their deployed loved ones. MAP has also forged partnerships with various service providers, including www.vet-jobs.com, to provide the returning service-member with relocation and employment assistance.

Archer said his office works regularly with veterans of conflicts in Korea, Vietnam, the Persian Gulf, Iraq and Afghanistan to provide them with the services they need. Hearing-loss problems are an issue for veterans who served in flight operations, tanks and armored-personnel carriers or in the artillery.

"Veterans suffer from a variety of medical problems, mostly depending on the jobs they did while they were in service and where they were stationed," Archer said. "We do see some cases of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder

(PTSD), and that can happen to veterans of all of our wars."

Navy veterans are the most likely to be stricken with mesothelioma, Archer said, because of the presence of cancer-causing asbestos on Navy ships and in Navy shipyards.

The VFW believes that in recognizing the sacrifices of those who served their country in military service, the federal government has a moral obligation to ensure that veterans, especially those returning wounded, receive the full appreciation of a grateful nation.

Those veterans who may be eligible for Veterans Administration (VA) benefits include veterans, their dependents, the surviving spouse, children or parents of a deceased veteran, an active-duty military service member or a member of the Reserve or National Guard.

Professionally trained veterans' service officers grant help that's better than trying to go it alone, according to the website wcolodept.org/serviceoffice. Even those veterans eligible for federal benefits who have never applied for them can still receive them. Those persons eligible can receive benefits in the areas of compensation, pensions, health care, vocational rehabilitation and employment, education and training, home loans, life insurance and

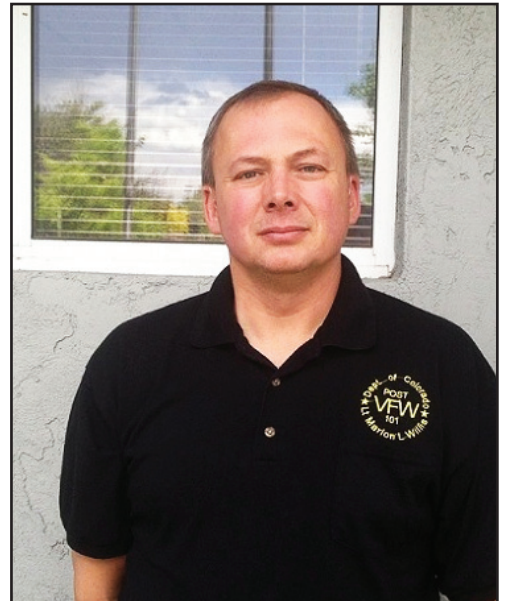


Photo from VFW website

VFW Veterans Service Officer Tony Archer will be at the Colorado Welcome Center on Wednesday afternoon to help eligible veterans qualify for federal benefits.

dependents and survivors. Archer said he's looking forward to his visit to Trinidad and hopes to engage with veterans and explain what benefits they might qualify for. He's a VFW employee with one year's experience as a veterans' service officer.



Scott Mastro / The Chronicle-News

Hoehne students, left to right, Cody Olguin, Analise Kendall, Gabrielle Dasko, Brock Wilson and Lexie Robinson attended last week's Earth Day at Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site. Colorado State Forest Service Assistant District Forester Mark Loveall, above left, talked about the health and life of trees in Colorado during last week's Earth Day at the Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site.

around 34. Breezy, with a west wind 15 to 25 mph decreasing to 5 to 15 mph after midnight.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 70. SW wind 5 to 15 mph becoming S-SE in the morning. **Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 40. W-SW wind 5 to 10 mph.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 74. West wind 5 to 10 mph becoming

south in the morning. **Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 44. S-SW wind 5 to 10 mph.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 71. Breezy, with a S-SW wind 10 to 15 mph increasing to 20 to 25 mph in the afternoon. **Night:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 40. Breezy, with a W-SW wind 15 to 25 mph.

Weather Sponsored by:
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719-845-0102

WEATHER WATCH
Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 75. Breezy, with a W-SW wind 15 to 25 mph. **Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low