

THE FINE PRINT

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The Fine Print is a courtesy service offered by The Chronicle-News to inform the public of upcoming events. Fine Prints must be 30 words or less. We reserve the right to reword any submission to fit available space. Placement is not guaranteed and is subject to space available.

When possible, the Fine Print will run three times - the day of the event and two days prior.

Note: Fine Prints must be received by NOON the day before publication - no exceptions. Please e-mail Fine Print to news@trinidachroniclenews.com.

The Fine Print section is not for advertising. If you wish to advertise an event, please call Aileen Hood at (719) 846-3311 ext. 5.

Tourism Board

The Tourism Board will meet tomorrow at 9 a.m. at City Hall in the conference room.

LA County BOC

The Las Animas County Board of County Commissioners will meet at 9 a.m. Tuesday at the Commissioners' Chambers, Las Animas County Courthouse Rm. 201.

Pastor's Text Study

Pastor's Text Study will meet at 9 a.m. at Zion's Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall on Tuesday. All pastors welcome to come and study the texts for Sunday and for support of each other.

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WEATHER WATCH

Today: A 10 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon. Partly cloudy, with a high near 88. Breezy, with a west wind 10 to 20 mph becoming south. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.



Tonight: A 10 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Partly cloudy, with a low around 51. Breezy, with a south southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

Tomorrow: A 10 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon. Partly cloudy, with a high near 85. South southwest wind between 5 and 15 mph.



Tomorrow Night: A 10 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 49. Breezy, with a south southwest wind 15 to 20 mph becoming west northwest 5 to 10 mph. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

RIVER CALL

Purgatoire River Call as of 5/16/09. Southside priority #96 11/23/1883

Trinidad Lake accounting: Release, 525.59 acre ft.; Inflow, 354.48 acre ft.; Evaporation, 16.89 acre ft.; Content, 26560 acre ft.; Elevation, 6189.13; Precipitation, 0.

Downstream River Call, Highland 5/31/1866.

(Provided by Division of Water Resources)



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Junie Verquer and Margaret Maria stand inside the door of the new LA County Search & Rescue Incident Command trailer with other emergency responders Saturday.

Photo by Tim Keller

EMS fundraiser brings action downtown

By **TIM KELLER**
The Chronicle-News

Trinidad's annual Michelle Minion EMS Fund Raiser was held at Cimino Park Saturday under cool overcast skies. Though the weather was a blessing for runners in the morning 5K race, it dampened some spirits and attendance later in the day, causing cancellation of the popular Dunk Tank event. However, all other events went off without a hitch, funds were raised for the QRT Scholarship Awards, and scholarships were awarded to two local EMTs.

At midday, Quick Response Team

(QRT) Coordinator Junie Verquer presented scholarships to Fisher's Peak firefighters Lynn Reynolds and Bobby Nichols for advancing their EMS certifications. The presentation competed with the morning race and afternoon tug-of-war competition for highlight of the day.

Forty-three runners left the 5K (3.1 mile) race starting line at 8:30 a.m., alongside the 1-mile walkers. Official winner Ruben Sisneros, Jr., crossed the finish line 20 minutes and 17 seconds later. (He was preceded by a pair of high school track standouts who ran unofficially to preserve their eligibility.) Jeff Roybal followed a half-

minute later, with Kermit Snyder coming in 3rd place the same distance behind Roybal.

Theresa Gonzales led the women entrants to win 1st place with a time of 23:47, followed by Angela Hernandez in 2nd place at 24:25 and Melinda Hofmeister in 3rd at 25:56. Maria Quinella was the fastest female age 20-29 at 27:48, with Trisha Davis taking the women's 50-59 division at 26:11.

Chris Sandoval won the male under-14 division with a time of 22:37. Louis Pino was the fastest male in the 40-49 division at 23:35, Greg Brown in the 50-59 division at 22:33, and Bob

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Photos by Marty Mayfield

The After School Program headed by Mary Grace Rupert was on hand to perform for the Run for the Wall riders and after their performance gave Central Route Coordinator Russ "SheepDog" Cockrum the hand painted flag they did. The Flag will be carried to Washington DC and placed at the base of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall.

They ride for those who can't

By **MARTY MAYFIELD**
The Chronicle News

Each year, the week before Memorial day, a group of hardy motorcyclers embark on a ride from California to Washington DC. They ride for one purpose, to honor those veterans who paid the ultimate price and gave their lives so we could enjoy the freedoms we do today.

The mission statement for the ride

says "To promote healing among ALL veterans and their families and friends, to call for an accounting of all Prisoners of War and those Missing in Action (POW/MIA), to honor the memory of those Killed in Action (KIA) from all wars, and to support our military personnel all over the world."

Each year the central route passes thru New Mexico making stops in Angel Fire at the Vietnam Veterans

Memorial, and Raton for fuel escorted by the New Mexico State Police who also ride motorcycles. It was noted by Russ Cockrum that New Mexico is the only state that provides border to border escort for the event.

Run for the Wall started in 1989 by James Gregory and Bill Evans, both Vietnam veterans who travelled across the country on motorcycles talking to

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Reaction to Gov. Ritter's statement that he will sign House Bill 1317

By **DAVID SANTISTEVAN JR.**
The Chronicle-News

Over the weekend Colorado Gov. Bill Ritter made his first public comments on his stance on House Bill 1317, the Land Owner and School Protection Act. Ritter stated that he is going to sign the bill once all the proper steps are taken and the paper work is complete, according to multiple sources.

The bill will prohibit the Colorado Land Board from allowing the Army to buy or lease any state land in southeastern Colorado or any land around the 240,000 acres of the Pinon Canyon Maneuver site (PCMS).

Congressman John Salazar told The Chronicle-News, "I was glad to see Gov. Ritter is going to sign the bill. I do not consider this fight over and I intend to pursue legislation to put this issue aside once and for all."

Salazar and Congresswomen Betsy Markey are looking to pursue permanent legislation in the US Congress that may possibly end once and for all any further expansion attempts by the Army at PCMS. That would put this dark cloud issue affecting all of the landowners in the area to rest.

Mack Loudon of Not One More Acre said, "We are really pleased that Gov. Ritter has decided to sign HB1317. This bill now will put all of the land in question because we have no willing sellers, it put the state in the same position as all of the private landowners. By the governor signing the bill it will tie up the all of the land around the PCMS, this is very heartening that we have closed one more gap on this expansion issue."

The bill earlier this spring was introduced in the House by Rep. Wes McKinley of Walsh and Rep. Sal Pace of Pueblo, and then Sen. Ken Kester of Las Animas sponsored the bill in the Senate. The bill had lots of bipartisan support.

"Right now we are feeling good that the governor has stated publicly that he will sign HB1317. This is encouraging in a lot of ways and this really gives support to both Congressman Salazar and Congresswomen Markey's future efforts for something more permanent." Lon Robertson of the PCEOC told The Chronicle-News Monday afternoon.

Gov. Ritter's decision looks to be based on the Army's broken promises made to the citizens of Las Animas County. The Army promised money, jobs and economic growth in southeastern Colorado. Another promise the Army broke that weighted heavily on Ritter's decision to sign HB1317 was that the Army said that they would not use live fire at PCMS and of course they have used live fire.

Salazar added, "The farmers and ranchers of Southern Colorado had made it very clear to me they do not want to sell their land. They deserve the freedom to go about their lives, working the land, without the threat of losing that land hanging over them."