

# LOCAL NEWS



**Top Left:** The winning Trinidad Fire Department tug-of-war team flexes its muscles after its triumph over five other departments Saturday afternoon. Standing from left are Anthony Trammel, Aaron Morabito, Dave Bacharach, Jon Garcia, and Jody Stodghill. **Top Right:** The Hoehne firefighter team gives a tug Saturday morning. **Bottom Left:** Runner Zach Brown poses with his father Greg after the race. **Bottom Right:** 5K Race standouts were, from left, Kermit Snyder, Jeff Roybal, Rubin Sisneros, Jr., Theresa Gonzales, Angela Hernandez, Zach Brown, and Alexis Lopez

**THE CHRONICLE-NEWS**  
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(USPS 110-040) 200 West Church Street • P.O. Box 763, Trinidad, CO 81082  
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www.trinidadchroniclenews.com

**Publisher:**  
Aileen Hood, ext. 5  
aileen@trinidadchroniclenews.com

**Director of Creative Services:**  
Sheila Hamlin, ext. 6  
sheila@trinidadchroniclenews.com

**Reporter: David Santistevan Jr.**  
david@trinidadchroniclenews.com

**Classified Advertising/Office Man:**  
Noah Simpson, ext. 4  
noah@trinidadchroniclenews.com

**Business Manager:**  
Barry Hood, ext. 8  
barry@trinidadchroniclenews.com

**Raton Reporter:**  
Laura Brewer, (719) 859-0838  
raton@trinidadchroniclenews.com

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## EMS fundraiser brings action downtown

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Compton took the over-60 division with a time of 35:12.  
5K race winners Gonzales and Sisneros each took home a \$100 cash prize. 2nd place winners Hernandez and Roybal each won \$75, with 3rd place winners Hofmeister and Snyder each taking a \$50 prize. The 1-mile walk winners each took home a medal, with Michele Eichler taking 1st place, Sandra Clark 2nd, and Jennifer Roybal and Lori Navarette tying for 3rd.  
Following the races, the morning was filled with a variety of events including a bike rodeo, a water safety

program, and Kidsville Express. A meal wagon from JoJo's Pizza sold food on site all day. The Las Animas County Sheriff's Department proudly displayed its new Search & Rescue Incident Command Center, in a huge trailer that will be towed to the site of large emergency operations throughout the county, greatly assisting local responders.  
The popular Tug-of-War competition topped the day with six local emergency response teams each anteing up \$10 for the chance to win bragging rights and the \$60 pot. The elimination rounds ended shortly after 1:00

pm with the Trinidad Fire Department team victorious. They donated their \$60 winnings to the International Bank Cerebral Palsy Fund to assist 10-year-old Megan Soltani in getting stem cell treatment for her cerebral palsy. It was a fitting end to a day of fun aimed at improving the lives of people in need throughout Las Animas County.  
"We always run the Michelle Minion EMS Fund Raiser the week before National EMS Week," says Junie Verquer. "Trinidad Mayor Joe Reorda has issued a proclamation supporting EMS services this week."

EMTs are in the business of bringing order to situations that cannot be fully controlled, achieving the best available outcome. Saturday's weather was just the latest challenge as the schedule was accelerated and the event ended a couple hours early. "With the weather," Verquer explains, "everyone was just leaving, so we ran everything early."  
But the goals were achieved, much fun was had, and the EMS Coalition of Las Animas County will soon be turning its attention to next May's fundraiser. If there is justice, it will fall on a warm, sunny spring day.



Friday, May 15 marked the grand re-opening of Commercial Street Salon and Day Spa. Trinidad/Las Animas County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce members, Yolanda Romero, secretary and president, Jennie Garduno present the salon staff (left to right, Cyndi Tenorio, Schakara Arrazola, Sheila Cappellucci, Reuben Torres and owner, Liz Torres) with a membership certificate. The celebration was complete with food, giveaways and a tour of the newly renovated salon.

Photo by Noah G. Simpson