

Lodger's Tax board meets for final quarter review

Continued from page 1
around \$186,000. Lannon explained that this year the lodger's tax receipts were down about twenty percent over one year ago, and that the city will allow \$118,000 for disbursement by SM/PR for all marketing of the local events that are seen as being able to possibly draw visitors from outside the local area. The city has also set aside \$25,000 in a contingency fund for designation on a per event request.

Martin explained that the advertising and marketing dollars will be spent for radio ads that reach markets in a larger geographical region, using radio stations in Portales, Albuquerque, and Colorado Springs. Printed ads will be placed in magazines like New Mexico Magazine and possibly certain newspapers because they are viewed by travelers throughout New Mexico.

Advertising will not be spent for local newspapers and radio stations because they do not necessarily reach the larger target audience. She went on to describe events in the Shuler that will be marketed strongly, and provided ideas on what other events would constitute valid requests for marketing. Another website, which is intended to help market Raton organizations, and will include what Martin describes as a "comprehensive" community calendar is being created and should be online and viewable by the public within a few weeks. She explained that eventually each organization will be able to access the calendar and post events. Martin plans to spend time with members from each organization from Thursday's meeting in order to develop a unique, professional, and effective marketing campaign

AP sources: Russian subs patrolling off East Coast

Continued from page 1
defense system in Central Europe.

Just last week a senior Pentagon official said the administration is looking at options for the plan, which would install 10 interceptors in Poland and a radar system in the Czech Republic. Assistant Secretary of Defense Alexander Vershbow told Congress members that the Obama administration is looking at various configurations as part of its review of missile defense plans.

Russia, meanwhile, conducted naval exercises with Venezuela last year in the Caribbean and sent one of its warships through the Panama Canal for the first time since World War II. The exercises with Venezuela were the first deployment of Russian ships to

the Western Hemisphere since the Cold War.

Officials said they became aware of the most recent submarine activity off the East Coast early on through intelligence sources and were not notified by Moscow in advance of the patrols. They said the submarines have not crossed into U.S. waters, which extend 12 miles (19.3 kilometers) out into the ocean.

The statement issued by Northern Command and the North American Aerospace Defense Command said, "We have been monitoring them during transit and recognize the right of all nations to exercise freedom of navigation in international waters according to international law."

On the Net:
N O R A D :
<http://www.norad.mil/>

Friday deadline for General Entry Competitions at Colorado State Fair

Special to The Chronicle-News

PUEBLO, Colo. - Friday is the deadline for Colorado residents to enter over 1,500 general entry competitions at the 2009 Colorado State Fair.

The general entry department offers an incredibly diverse menu of competitions for residents of all ages. Each year, there are approximately 6,000 entries for more than 1,500 competitions throughout the General Entry categories including Pantry, Quilts, Needle Arts, Dolls, Porcelain Art, Arts & Crafts, and Floriculture (Potted Plants, Arrangements & Herbs) to name a few.

For a complete list of General Entry competitions, visit http://www.coloradostatefair.com/index.php?page=competitive_premium_book.

Entry forms, competition rules and guidelines for each category are available online or may be picked up from the General Entry Office in the Kitchen Craft Hall on the Fairgrounds, Monday - Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00pm., or by calling (719) 404-2080.

The 2009 Colorado State Fair runs from August 28 - September 7, 2009. For more information, visit www.coloradostatefair.com.

'Lucky' cyclist recovers from lightning strike

BOULDER, Colo. (AP) - A 44-year-old bicyclist struck by lightning in north-central Colorado while training for a triathlon is out of the hospital after temporarily losing her sight and motion in her arms.

Terri Menghini said she had finished 78 miles of a 100-mile bike ride Monday in Boulder when she saw a dark cloud overhead and lightning in the distance.

Menghini said she was on the crest of the hill when lightning struck within 100 feet of her.

"There was one lightning bolt and within a minute, the second one got me," she said.

The mother of five says she lost consciousness and when she woke up, her vision went from blurry to black and she couldn't move her arms. She was taken to the Boulder Community Hospital and was released Tuesday.

Menghini, who is from St. Louis, Mo., but stays in Estes Park west of Boulder every summer, said all that's left from her close call is a bad road rash and a cracked helmet.

"I was just lucky. So I'm going to go buy a Powerball ticket now," Menghini said.

But she was disappointed when doctors said she couldn't compete in a half-triathlon Sunday. Doctors are monitoring her heartbeat, which was erratic when she was first admitted.

It looks like she'll be able to compete in the Ironman triathlon later this month.

"My training, I'm still going to do it," Menghini said. "I've been an athlete my whole life, and I'm not going to stop that."

Information from: KMGH-TV, <http://www.thedenverchannel.com/index.html>



John and Virginia Francis Dale Morrow

Folsom Museum presents Chautauqua Saturday

By **TIM KELLER**
The Chronicle-News

FOLSOM, N.M. - The Folsom Museum will present another in its series of Chautauquas on Saturday at the old Folsom School in Folsom, New Mexico. The hour-long program begins at 4 p.m. and features Dorothy Thompson Smoker portraying legendary area resident Fanny Dale Morrow.

Last year, Smoker portrayed heroic telephone operator Sarah Rooke, who drowned at her switchboard in 1908 while frantically calling other residents to warn them of the imminent flood that decimated the then bustling town.

Chautauquas, termed by Theodore Roosevelt "the most American thing in America," swept the country from the late 1800s to the mid-1900s, bringing culture and entertainment to rural America.

Saturday, Smoker will portray Virginia Francis (Fanny) Dale Morrow, born in Missouri in 1872, one of 11 children. When she was 12, her family traveled by covered wagon to the New Mexico Territory, settling on Johnson Mesa. In 1891, Fanny married her schoolteacher, John Morrow; they began a family that has become a dynasty in the area today.

The Morrow name has become synonymous with politics, ranching, law, and public activity, crossing county lines to reach across New Mexico and to the United States Congress.

Performer Dorothy Thompson Smoker is a former resident and schoolteacher in Des Moines and Raton. An active member of the New Mexico Humanities Council, she currently lives in Santa Fe. She has performed several Chautauquas in northeastern New Mexico.

Saturday's show will be provided free of charge by the Folsom Museum, although donations to the museum are always gratefully accepted. In conjunction with Saturday's Chautauqua, the Folsom Museum has created a special exhibit of Morrow family genealogy and memorabilia. The exhibit will be on display throughout August with regular \$1.50 admission to the museum, open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily through the summer.

Further information is available at the museum's website, www.FolsomMuseum.org.

RAISING CAIN

Courtesy of **PAT KANE BOWERS**

Special to the Chronicle-News

In May of 1959 Trinidad High School graduated 111 students. We are those students. The Class of '59. After we left high school, many of us left Trinidad, with our class motto, "We have reached the foothills. The mountains lie ahead."

Let's all take a trip down memory lane.....those days in the plains before the foothills.

"American Graffiti" and "Happy Days" were both supposed to be about growing up in the late 1950s. Perhaps they reflected Southern California or Milwaukee, but they didn't reflect our 50s in Trinidad.

Cars. We didn't really have them. A few might have had something very old that ran very poorly most of the time. Others borrowed their parents autos, but the cult of cars didn't seem to hit us that hard. O.K., it often affected young males, but it was more "if I had the money" than anything else. The high school didn't need special parking lots for kids. For the most part, we walked. School was never that far away, and if it was, too bad. You walked anyway.

Proms, dances, and social life. We held proms and dances in the gym, which was more or less disguised by crepe paper.

Today kids have limos to take them to the event, in hotels and ballrooms. Catered by professionals. (I had to get a hoop-skirted formal into a Henry-J. There was no car.) Were our proms any better? Who can say? But we did the planning, the decorating, and it was "ours", not a professionally planned and run event. Same thing went for our Homecoming floats and anything else the school sponsored.

School. Neither "American Graffiti" nor "Happy Days" ever focused on school, but school dominated our young lives. One was either in school, getting ready to start school, or waiting for school to be over. You name it, but school was the center of things.

We started in primary school, grades one through five. There was no kindergarten. Here we learned to read, write, and do basic arithmetic. In the first years, the schools didn't provide books, you had to buy them, or use your older siblings' copies. The reading was phonetic, you learned to sound stuff out, and it still works. Dick and Jane may have been boring, but we all learned to read. Learning to write pretty much meant just that. We were taught how to hold the pencil, how to form letters, and how to

space words. Now kids are

handed pencils and told (apparently) to do whatever feels right. Watch a 16 year-old kid clutching a pencil and trying desperately to write anything. What all these kids need is a Miss Claiborne to whack their hands when they didn't learn the "Palmer Method". No wonder typing is now the only way to go. Mr. Palmquist and Mr. Furia should have had every kid in school in those typing classes. (Computers were coming.) We learned a lot of social skills, enforced by every teacher we had. In short, we got our basic skills drummed into us and our instinctive barbarianism drummed out. We were made fit for junior high.

That's right junior high. No middle schools for us. After primary school, where you spent the day with the same group of kids, in the same room, with the same teacher all day, junior high was a big change. Now you spent the day with the same group of kids, but in different classrooms and with different teachers. And there were male teachers. Something most of us hadn't encountered before. Hard as it is to remember, and believe, World War II was only a half-dozen years in the past, the Korean War was still going on, and a lot of those men were vets, who became teachers.

As a general rule, our generation didn't get much formal education on World War II or the Korean War history. Classes back then tended to finish the book at about 1890. We learned far more about the American Revolution and the Civil War than we did about the wars our fathers' fought.

Junior high was the little melting pot for the four primary schools. There we found new faces and new attitudes. We had teachers who thought we should follow the rules and play fair, or else. The "or else" was they would call your folks and report your wrong-doing, so, not only would you be in trouble at school, you would be in trouble at home, too. I have two clear memories of junior high. One occurred in 1953 when Miss Harris (a mainstay, I believe of the DAR) broke all precedent and brought in cookies for everyone to celebrate "A Great Day". That was the day after Stalin died. The second was Mrs. Day opening all the windows in the classroom and demanding silence so we could hear them blow up the last water tower for steam engines at the rail yards.

And then came the big melting pot. We all came together for high school.

September, 1955, our naive, innocent selves started at THS, but the class of '59 was outstanding from the beginning

(That surely isn't too much to say, is it?) As freshmen we stood up at the first pep rally and spelled our class name loudly and clearly, none of that amateur trailing off at the end. And our homecoming floats were great from the beginning.

Clothing. Again Happy Days and Graffiti let us down. Girls DID NOT wear slacks to school. We had dresses or skirts and tops, but no slacks. Boys wore their button down shirts tucked into belted slacks. No T-shirts. T-shirts were considered underwear. And if they weren't tucked in, Mr. Wiggins was there to enforce the code. "Take due notice thereof and govern yourselves accordingly." No character in the shows was ever shown in anything resembling the horrible blue gym suits girls had to wear at THS. Nor were the girls in the shows forced to go swimming first period in the morning (the boys needed the gym in the afternoons, you see) so that they would have wet hair for hours afterward. (There were no blow dryers, either.) We wore full skirts with lots of petticoats, stiff net petticoats, stiffening provided by starch or sugar water. I don't remember a single poodle skirt. We did have jeans, but not for school. And who can forget sitting in a bathtub filled with hot water in your new blue jeans? This was supposed to shrink them correctly. Mostly it just turned your legs blue, but it was what we did.

The movies and TV had "Arnold's" T. We had Lee's and Charlie's. On Saturday nights we went to the movies. Trinidad had three or four downtown theaters and one drive-in. Then we drove around (if we could get our hands on a car) and cruised Lee's or Charlie's. Nothing like a good chili burger to end the night. The movies had radio disc jockey, Wolfman Jack, we had KCRT. No disrespect to Herman Corley, but KCRT was not exactly a teen-oriented station. If you wanted pop music on the radio, you needed access to a car. You drove out east and could pick up stations out of Oklahoma City or Del Rio for that. We could watch "American Bandstand" if we were lucky enough to have tele-

vision, or had friends who did. In the summer, with no school, the majority of us had part-time jobs. Trinidad had 22 "filling stations" and 11 car repair places, which provided jobs for the car inclined. It also had three bakeries, several department stores, five drugstores (the soda jerk jobs), and countless other places where the only training needed was basic skill. Looking through a business directory for the city in 1958 is an amazing experience. Hard to believe, but there were dozens of places to shop, and many needed part-time workers. High school brought a lot of new ideas, many new friends, and a lot of learning.

We were forced to write. One wrote papers for almost every class, English, science, business courses, every class. And you were graded on the quality of that writing. A perfect biology experiment could get a failing grade if you couldn't write about it in formal English. Ditto for every other class. Writing in formal English was demanded, not merely hoped for. We were forced to read. Who can forget the dreaded "Reading List?" Was there a single book on that list written after 1900? The point system gave you a choice, read and write a report and take a test on one 4-point book per semester. Or you could choose four, one-point books, or two, two-point books or...choices, choices, choices. Once in awhile a teacher would grant points for a book not on "The List". Bless Mrs. Sayers, she knew books had been written after 1900. Read we did, and tested we were. For some of us, at least, it led to a life-long love of reading. I suspect that for others it led to a life-long hatred of the same. We came to Trinidad High School in the Fall of 1955 and graduated in May of 1959. Four years filled with learning, participating, and enjoying our lives. Did we have happy days? Of course we did. Now we have happy memories of those years. It has been 50 years since we declared "We have reached the foothills, the mountains lie ahead". We've been in those mountains a long time now, and there are still peaks to climb.

Pat Kane Bowers pal.bowers@att.net

Volunteers needed

The Las Animas-Huerfano Counties District Health Department is anticipating a busy flu vaccine season. We are looking for individuals who can give us their time, talent, and effort to help keep our population healthy. We are especially interested in nurses and people with a health care related background. If you are interested please contact Kristy at the Trinidad Office (719) 846-2213.