

## THE FINE PRINT

### Arthritis Exercise

Arthritis exercise classes will start on Monday, and will continue every Monday and Wednesday following. The 9 a.m. class will be held at the Corazon Square and the 1 p.m. class will be held at the Early Learning Center. To register or more information please call 845-1133 ext 224.

### Community Chorale

The Trinidad Community Chorale rehearsals begin at 6:15 p.m. every Monday at the First United Methodist Church. New members are welcome. No auditions.

### Continuum of Care

The Las Animas/Huerfano Continuum of Care meeting will be from 8-9 a.m. Tuesday at the Soup Kitchen, 308 Church St. All newcomers with ideas for the less fortunate are welcome to attend

### Las Animas 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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### Dam Road closure

Due to bridge inspection, the road across Trinidad Lake Dam will be closed from approximately 11 a.m. to completion of the inspection on Wed. Aug. 5. Access to boat ramp will be open from Highway 12. Any questions please call 719-846-7990.

### Gulnare Road Paving

Asphalt paving will commence, weather permitting, on County Road 43.7 (Gulnare) August 3rd, 2009. Expect delays.

## WEATHER WATCH

**Today:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon. Partly cloudy, with a high near 92. North northwest wind around 10 mph.

**Tonight:** A 10 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Partly cloudy, with a low around 58. West wind between 5 and 10 mph.

**Tomorrow:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon. Partly cloudy, with a high near 94. Northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

**Tomorrow Night:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Partly cloudy, with a low around 60. East wind 5 to 10 mph becoming southwest.

## RIVER CALL

Purgatoire River Call as of 8/3/09. Hoehne priority #20 10/7/1865.

Trinidad Lake accounting: Release, 168.20 acre ft.; Inflow, 126.51 acre ft.; Evaporation, 9.31 acre ft.; Content, 18,092 acre ft.; Elevation, 6,177.26 acre ft.; Precipitation, .02.

Downstream River Call, Ninemile 5/10/1865.

(Provided by Division of Water Resources)



Photos by David Santistevan Jr.

The Executive Director of the Trinidad-Las Animas County Economic Development (ED), Steve Simonson (back left) spoke at Friday's Trinidad Las Animas County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce July Luncheon. Simonson, along with Hoehne students, Cody Cloud and Clint Hagger (back by the poster), and ED, are working side-by-side with Hoehne Schools developing posters to put in historic buildings around town. This poster of Bat Masterson is on display at The Chronicle-News. Not pictured with the Hoehne school students is Victor Fossen.

## Simonson speaks at Hispanic Chamber luncheon

By DAVID SANTISTEVAN JR.  
The Chronicle-News

Steve Simonson, the Executive Director of the Trinidad-Las Animas County Economic Development (ED), gave an informative speech at Friday's monthly luncheon held by the Trinidad-Las Animas County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Simonson talked about his offices partnership with the tourism board, and the Hoehne Schools, as well as ED being awarded a \$50,000 grant to start a new Revolving Loan program here in Las Animas County for new and existing businesses. Phase Two of the loan program will bring in \$750,000 by year-end to help businesses here in our community.

Simonson first thanked the local tourism board for their \$500 grant for a program that partners ED, the tourism board, and Hoehne Schools. This program will provide funds needed to print and place informative historical-style posters in 27 vacant buildings around Trinidad's Historic District. This is all in an effort to gain tourist's attention, get them to stop, and get them out of their vehicles. By reading these posters they will learn about the great history here in our community. There are 102 buildings in our historic



The Star Club at the Trinidad State Nursing Home proudly sported their new neon yellow T-shirts at Friday's Hispanic Chamber Luncheon. If you would like to purchase a shirt please call the Nursing Home at 846-9291 and ask for Georgette Santistevan or Tom Martinez Jr. The money raised from the sale of the shirts will go toward helping pay expenses for various activities for Star Club members. Cost for the shirts is \$10. All were purchased locally.

district.

The first poster will be of Bat Masterson, Trinidad's sheriff in the early 1800's. Hoehne students, Cody Cloud and Clint Hagger, unveiled the first poster at last week's Hispanic Chamber Luncheon, and then gave a little historical background about Masterson.

According to Cloud and Hagger

there is proof that Masterson was actually the first sheriff here for about a year. Masterson made about \$1,000 a month. Las Animas County Sheriff Jim Casias jokingly stated that Masterson, under current pay scales, would be making a lot more money than he does. His comment received a good chuckle from the audience.

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## Tim Keller performs original ballads at Studio C

By LAURA L. BREWER  
The Chronicle-News

**DES MOINES** - The audience filled every chair available at the recent "open mic" at Studio C in Des Moines this past Saturday. The event opened with artist, and writer, Nathaniel Franklin, who explained some of his fine art, and metal sculptures. Later, local author, Sharon Neiderman stepped up to the microphone to read an excerpt from one of her books. But the evening was really devoted to Tim Keller, singer, songwriter, photographer, educator, and musician.

As Christina Boyce, owner of Studio C, introduced her husband, Tim, she explained when she first met him, she really fell in love with the

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Photo by Laura L. Brewer

Tim Keller entertains the audience with original ballads during the "open mic" at Studio C in Des Moines.

## Colo. could be sued over tax and spending limits

COLLEEN SLEVIN  
Associated Press Writer

**DENVER (AP)** - A lawyer with experience both suing and representing the federal government plans to sue Colorado in federal court to try to overturn the state's tax and spending limits.

The state's Taxpayer's Bill of Rights, a constitutional amendment passed by voters in 1992, limits the amount of taxes the government can take in to a formula based on population growth plus inflation. It also requires any tax increases to be approved by voters.

Herbert Fenster said Monday he plans to file the lawsuit in late September. He said that TABOR has weakened the Legislature so much by taking away its ability to tax that the law has deprived Colorado of the republican, or representative, form of government the U.S. Constitution guarantees for each state.

"Without the power to tax, many of the things a legislature can and should do, it can't do," said Fenster, who practices in Colorado and Washington, D.C.

Fenster, a Republican who wants more state funding for higher education, said he would file the lawsuit on behalf of four state lawmakers, but he wouldn't name them.

House Minority Leader Mike May, a TABOR supporter, said he thought the suit was "much ado about wackiness" but that it still would force the state to spend money to defend TABOR at a time it's cutting millions from its budget.

May compared Fenster's arguments to those from people who believe the Constitution bars individual income taxes.

"But it's not going away, and the same with TABOR. At least not in the courts," said May, R-Parker.

Fenster said he won't try to overturn Amendment 23, a constitutional amendment passed after TABOR that requires that school funding increase each year regardless of the economy. He said such "Band-Aids" passed in reaction to TABOR won't be necessary if his suit succeeds, although the law would remain on the books.

Fenster testified last week before a committee of state lawmakers and others who are looking at Colorado's budget laws and tax breaks. He argued that lawmakers should privatize the University of Colorado-Boulder because they've been unable to fund the state's flagship university on par with other states.

Fenster, who has been a lawyer for 48 years, said he worked as litigation counsel for the Reagan-Bush campaign committee.

He also said he was part of a team of lawyers who helped obtain a \$3.9 billion judgment against the federal government in 1998 in a case involving a classified aircraft for the military. He also represented the interior secretary in Indian trust litigation.

## Strong quake hits Mexico's Gulf of California

MARTHA MENDOZA  
Associated Press Writer

**MEXICO CITY (AP)** - A powerful earthquake Monday shook fishing villages along Mexico's Gulf of California and prompted alarm as far away as Phoenix, but there were no immediate reports of injuries or damage.

The U.S. National Earthquake Information Center said the 6.9-magnitude quake struck at 12:59 p.m. (1:59 EDT, 17:59 GMT) and was centered 76 miles (122 kilometers) north-northeast of Santa Isabel in Baja California and 331 miles (533 kilometers) southeast of the border city of Tijuana.

It was the strongest of four quakes of 5.0-magnitude or greater that struck the area over a 45-minute period late Monday morning.

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