



WEDNESDAY  
MARCH 18, 2015

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# THE CHRONICLE-NEWS

50 CENTS  
TRINIDAD  
COLORADO

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## THE FINE PRINT

**MARCH 18 Chamber of Commerce WEDNESDAY (Noon)** Monthly business luncheon will be held at the Mt. Carmel Community Center, 911 Robinson Ave. Guest speaker will be Karen Griego. Please RSVP: 719-846-9285.

**Becoming A Mom WEDNESDAY (1-2:30 p.m.)** Introductory session for this community program will be held at the Mt. Carmel Center, 911 Robinson Ave. Info: 719-845-4880.

**E-911 Authority Board WEDNESDAY (3 p.m.)** The E-911 Authority Board meets at the Garcia Justice Center in the Las Animas County Sheriff's Office, 2309 E. Main St. Information: Rita Mantelli, 719-846-4441.

**Purgatoire Watershed Partners WEDNESDAY (5 p.m.)** Group regular meeting will meet in the NRCS Office, 3590 E. Main. Information: Karen Wolf, 303-543-8688.

## Today's Quote

**"No one cares how much you know, until they know how much you care."**

~Jeff Wall

**FP Fire District WEDNESDAY (6 p.m.)** Fishers Peak Fire Protection District Board of Directors public meeting will be at the Starkville Fire Station. Information: 719-846-6077.

**Hoehne Fire Protection WEDNESDAY (6 p.m.)** District Board of Directors meets at the El Moro Station, 14386 Hwy 239 in Hoehne. Information: Dana Phillips, 719-846-2080.

**Trinidad Schools WEDNESDAY (6 p.m.)** The Board of Education will hold its regular session at the District Administration Office, 612 Park St. Information: 719-845-2048.

**LENTEN SERVICE WEDNESDAY (6:30 p.m.)** Weekly service will be held at Zion's Lutheran Church, 613 Prospect St. Info: 719-846-7785.

**Trinidad Community Co-op WEDNESDAY (7 p.m.)** Acoustic Music Jam is open to all levels, all musicians at the Coop, Corner of Elm and Maple Streets. Info: communitycoop-trinidad@gmail.com.

**MARCH 19 Dine out for Noah's Ark THURSDAY:** Dine out all day and evening at Bob and Earls, Brix, Nana and Nano's and Wendy's to help support Noah's Ark Animal Shelter. Information: 719-846-8578.

**Lifeline Screening THURSDAY:** Stay stroke free — Event will be held at the Faith Christian Fellowship Church, 2608 Santa Fe Trail Dr. Pre-registration required: 1-800-364-0457 or www.lifelinescreening.com.

**Trout Unlimited THURSDAY (6 p.m.)** Purgatoire River Anglers meeting will be in the Garden Room at Mt. Carmel, 911 Robinson St. Info: www.pratu.org. Meetings are always open to the public.

**PUBLIC SERVICE Bicycle Repair Day FRIDAY (2-4p.m.)** Bring your own bike and some elbow grease and we will provide the rest at the Carnegie Library, 202 N. Animas St. Info: Felicity Boepple, 719-846-6841.

**SCRIT Performance FRIDAY & SATURDAY (7 p.m.) & SUNDAY (2 p.m.)** Neil Simon's "I Ought to be in Pictures," directed by Fred Vaugeois runs at the Southern Colorado Repertoire Theatre, 131 West Main St. Info: 719-846-4765 or www.scrtheatre.com.

**SCRIT Auditions SATURDAY (1 p.m.)** Auditions for Nagle Jackson's "A Hotel on Marvin Gardens" directed by Noah Simpson will be held at the SCRIT Famous Theatre on Main St. Info: Noah Simpson, 719-680-0109.

**La Casa Lip Sync Contest SATURDAY (7 p.m.)** Compete for prizes at this fun event to be held at the Trinidad Middle School on Park St. Info: Linda Velasquez, 719-680-3438. Proceeds benefit the La Casa community charity projects.

**CASTING CALL! SATURDAY (10 a.m.-3 p.m.)** Speaking and non-speaking parts, extras, and any other behind the scenes

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## RIVER CALL

Purgatoire River Call as of: 03/17/15. Elmore ditch: Priority # 8 --- Appropriation date: 11/15/1862.

**Trinidad Reservoir Accounting:**  
Release 27.45 AF  
Inflow 67.50 AF -- 34.03 CFS  
Evaporation 6.05 AF  
Content 18,220 AF  
Elevation 6,181.12  
Precipitation 0

**Downstream River Call / John Martin Reservoir: (Conservation Storage) 05/31/1949.**



## TRINIDAD COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

# New tourism initiative discussed at TCF

By Steve Block  
The Chronicle-News

With 14,000 people per day traveling on Interstate 25, the effort to attract more and more of those people to stop in Trinidad and see what it has to offer has become increasingly important to the city's economic future. A new initiative proposed by the Trinidad Community Foundation (TCF) was discussed at a gathering of community leaders held Friday at Trinidad State Junior College.

The initiative would involve a new website called [www.lasanimascounty.tours.com](http://www.lasanimascounty.tours.com), and utilize something called a "QR Reader" to help visitors find out about this area's cultural, historical and recreational attractions. The QR Reader is a quick and easy application that can be downloaded for free from the Inter-

net and used on multiple computer-based devices, including smart phones and computerized tablets.

TCF's Col. Lou Simpleman (Ret.) gave a presentation about the new website and the potential

for boosting tourism by the full development of the potential of the QR Reader. Simpleman said TCF was not trying to intrude on other tourism efforts by other entities in the city, but was trying to build a coalition to move those efforts forward.

QR code, or Quick Response Code, is the trademark for a type of matrix barcode (or two-dimensional barcode) first designed for the automotive industry in Japan, according to Wikipedia. A barcode is a machine-readable optical label

used. The QR Code system became popular outside the automotive industry due to its fast readability and greater storage capacity compared to standard UPC barcodes. Applications include product tracking, item identification, time tracking, document management and general marketing.

A QR code consists of black modules (square dots) arranged in a square grid on a white background, which can be read by an imaging device, such as a camera, and processed using Reed-



Photo courtesy of Mt. Carmel

Col. Lou Simpleman (Ret.)

*"With just a click . . . they [tourists] can see all the attractions available in Trinidad and Las Animas county."*

that contains information about the item to which it is attached. A QR code uses four standardized encoding modes to efficiently store data, and extensions may also be

Solomon error correction until the image can be appropriately interpreted. The required data is then

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## SCRIT WEEKEND

# 'I Ought to be in Pictures'

A classic play by Neil Simon, directed by Fred Vaugeois, opens this Friday at the Southern Colorado Repertoire Theatre's Famous Theatre on Main St. Herb, who is played by Jeffrey Schultz, right, and his girlfriend, played by Cassandra Jackson, share a moment during rehearsals for the upcoming performance. Tickets are on sale now by calling 719-846-4765, online at [www.scrtheatre.com](http://www.scrtheatre.com) or can be purchased at the box office. Showtimes are Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m. or Sunday at 2 p.m.

Photo by Cynthia Ploski / The Chronicle-News



Photos courtesy of Latin Comedy Jam

## Bringing laughs to Shuler Theater

The youngest comic ever featured on Comedy Central, Dillon Garcia, above, has also been featured regularly on Stand-Up Revolution. Saturday night at the Shuler Theater, he'll join Roberto Rodriguez, Jerry Garcia, and host Mike G. for The Latin Comedy Jam. Mike Acquisti-Gotti is the show's producer and, as Mike G., right, appears with a revolving cast of stand-up comics in performances that regularly tour Texas, Colorado, Arizona, and New Mexico. Saturday night the laugh-fest rolls into Raton's Shuler Theater.

## RATON ENGAGEMENT

# Latin Comedy Jam in the house Sat.

By Tim Keller  
Correspondent  
The Chronicle-News

RATON — The Latin Comedy Jam rolls into the Shuler Theater for an 8 p.m. show of stand-up comedians Saturday night (March 21). The company regularly tours Texas, Colorado, Arizona, and New Mexico, with each show presenting three or four of a revolving cast of stand-up comics that sometimes includes Paul Rodriguez and Steve Treviño.

The Shuler Theater show will present comics well on their way to gaining that level of fame. Dillon Garcia is the youngest comic ever featured on Comedy Central, and he's also been a regular performer on Stand-Up Revolution hosted by Gabriel Iglesias. Fellow comics Jerry Garcia and Roberto Rodriguez will join Dillon Garcia on the Shuler stage.

The show will be hosted by Mike G., who has appeared in the major Hollywood films "Three Kings" with George Clooney, Mark Wahlberg, and Ice Cube, and "Any Given Sunday" with Al Pac-

ino, Jamie Foxx, and LL Cool J. As Mike Acquisti-Gotti, he's also the producer of The Latin Comedy Jam. He promises live taping of



the Raton show for a forthcoming DVD.

With 55 reviews on Ticketmaster.com, The Latin Comedy Jam

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## WEATHER WATCH

**Wednesday:** A 20 percent chance of showers after 1 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 66. Southwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming north-

east in the afternoon. New precipitation amounts of less than a tenth of an inch possible. **Night:** Showers, mainly after 1 a.m. Low around 37. North northwest wind 5 to 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 80 percent.

**Thursday:** Showers. High near 50. North wind around 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 80 percent. **Night:** Rain showers likely before 5 a.m., then a chance of rain and snow showers.

Mostly cloudy, with a low around 34. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west northwest after midnight. Chance of precipitation is 60 percent. Little or no snow accumulation expected.

**Friday:** A 30 percent chance of snow showers before 7 a.m. Mostly sunny, with a high near 59. West northwest wind around 5 mph becoming south in the afternoon. **Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 33. South wind around 5 mph.

Weather Sponsored by:  
  
Inn & Suites  
Wellness  
Hotel  
719-845-0102

# COMMUNITY

## REGIONAL EXHIBIT

### Visual Arts Curator of Sangre de Cristo Art Center to judge TALAS Show

By Cynthia Berresse Ploski  
Art Correspondent  
The Chronicle-News

The Trinidad Art League/ Corazon Gallery announced that Elizabeth Szabo, Curator of the Sangre de Cristo Art Center in Pueblo, will be the judge of the 14th annual TALAS regional art show April 25-May 22, 2015.

Elizabeth graduated from the University of Colorado in Colorado Springs with a degree in Visual Arts. She has worked as the Exhibit Designer and Preparator at the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center. Additionally, she served as Gallery Manager at the Business of Arts Center in Manitou Springs before assuming her present position at the Sangre de Cristo.

A strong supporter of the Arts and accomplished artist herself, Elizabeth brings to TALAS a wide knowledge of many media and a discerning eye for special qualities of excellence in the work she judges.

She will award cash prizes for best in entire show, 2nd and 3rd place overall, plus 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each of the two categories (2 dimensional or 3 dimensional art) and a number of honorable mention certificates. Patrons will also be encouraged to grant purchase awards to the artwork of their choice.

This highly successful show, open to any artist in southern Colorado and northern New Mexico within a range of 100 miles of Trinidad, annually draws the finest of current art from regional artists because of the enthusiastic

participation of local patrons who promise to buy something of their choice from the show.

These patrons are rewarded for their support by being treated to a special Preview Night dinner created by members of the Corazon Gallery, and the opportunity to thus view the exhibition and make their choices before the show opens to the public the following day.

Each year the gala Patrons' event is themed to a different culture. This year will feel like a trip to France, with Boeuf Bourguignon and champagne for the invited guests. No effort is spared to honor and pamper those supportive citizens and businesses that also honor and support our local and regional artists by their purchase award choices.

The Patrons' banquet will be held in the common hall of the four galleries at 149 East Main St., at 5 p.m. on Friday, April 24. There will be French art and music in the hall to create an Oh-la-la ambiance, plus excellent food and wonderful people.

The TALAS exhibit will fill the Corazon Gallery with 100 or more pieces of beautiful art, priced well below that found in larger cities, in this once-a-year opportunity to see the best artwork of our region all in one place, and join in the enthusiastic community support that helped earn Trinidad its Creative District designation from the State of Colorado.

Patronage forms are available in the Gallery, 149 East Main Street, or may be obtained by calling Trinidad Art League President, Trish Keck at (719) 859-7702 or the Gallery to sign up at (719) 846-0207. Gallery members will also have forms with them as they go about town and be very happy to share them with prospective patrons.

It is exciting to witness and be a part of the rising tide of creative activity that has become Trinidad's brand as an Arts Community. It is a joy to swim in it and feel the uplift art brings our spirits. Be a supporter of TALAS and feel the glow.



Cynthia Berresse Ploski / The Chronicle-News  
Elizabeth Szabo, judge of the 14th annual TALAS (Trinidad Area Local Artists) Show.

## FUNDRAISER FOR KIDS' COATS DRIVE

### Trinidad Middle School is the place to be — Lip Sync Contest on Saturday to benefit La Casa charitable projects

By Steve Block  
The Chronicle-News

It's time for the musically inclined to strut their stuff at a Lip Sync Contest beginning at 7 p.m. on Saturday, March 21, at the Trinidad Middle School Auditorium. Tickets cost \$5, and kids under age three get in free.

The performers will compete for cash prizes ranging from \$50 for Fourth Place up to \$175 for First Place.

The Lip Sync Contest is a benefit fundraiser for the annual children's winter coat drive by the La Confederation Lodge, better known as La Casa. La Casa buys new winter coats for needy children to protect them from winter's blasts, and needs to raise a considerable amount of money for that effort.

Velasquez and Noah Simpson will share the Master of Ceremonies role, and local celebrities will serve as judges. There will be a special appearance by well-known local musician Anthony Tafoya.

A school employee will play the CDs while contestants do their best to imitate

celebrated performers. "We want to encourage everyone to go and support the children," Velasquez said. "With your help, we can get winter coats to kids who need them."

For more information on performing and complete contest rules call Linda Velasquez at: 719-680-3438, or Betty Joe Montano at: 719-846-9583. Multiple donors have contributed door prizes.



Steve Block / The Chronicle-News

Betty Joe Montana, far left, and Linda Velasquez said they wanted to invite the entire community to come out for the Lip Sync Contest, beginning at 7 p.m. on Saturday, March 21, at the Trinidad Middle School Auditorium, to benefit La Casa's winter coat drive for children.

quez at: 719-680-3438, or Betty Joe Montano at: 719-846-9583. Multiple donors have contributed door prizes.

## New tourism initiative discussed by community leaders

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extracted from patterns present in both horizontal and vertical components of the image, according to Wikipedia.

Simpleman said the purpose of the new tourism effort was to create packages that allow independent or guided local tours that highlight local points of interest. Its objectives are to create an interest in local history for both locals and visitors, to provide

incentives for visits, to serve as a means for people to plan vacations and reunions, to act as a portal for community assets and to provide job opportunities for students.

The plan's strategy will be to form partnerships with organizations and outlying communities, to establish a steering committee and to establish an Internship with Trinidad State for student support. The strategy will include an inventory of all existing tourism information, planning a phased approach to tourism efforts, collecting available tourism-related information and digitizing it, developing text and audio files that can be downloaded on smart devices and creating tourism packages.

Simpleman followed with a list of functional requirements for the new tourism efforts. Some of the informational requirements would include points of interest text and audio files to be added to the repository on the website, links to Web Pages and organizational information and ideas for new downloads.

Other communities have utilized QR Reader technology to boost their tourism efforts and Trinidad can do that too. Simpleman said it

Steve Block / The Chronicle-News

Lou Simpleman, above, of the Trinidad Community Foundation gave a power point presentation to community leaders about a new tourism initiative in partnership with Trinidad State Junior College and other local entities. The photo at left depicts the flyer for the proposed website: [www.lasanimascountytrips.com](http://www.lasanimascountytrips.com), and, on the left, shows examples of Quick Response Bar Codes directing visitors to various sites in Trinidad and Las Animas County.

was just a matter of bringing multiple parties together on a project that used the best possible technology in the efforts to bring more visitors to Trinidad and Las Animas County. The technical know-how of the staff and students of Trinidad State would be a critical part of that effort, he said.

"The idea is that people, with just a click of their smart phone or their iPad, if they're down in Dallas, Texas, and they're planning a trip up to Denver, they can get on the Internet and they can see all the attractions available to them in Trinidad and Las Animas County," Simpleman said.

## Raton: Latin Comedy Jam in the house Sat.

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has scored an impressive average of 4.8 out of 5 stars. People like the show. Acquistogotti says, "The humor is universal, and it's been enjoyed by millions of people around the world. It's a blend of situational and topical comedy from the country's top Latino comedians."

In addition to Raton, the current tour

presents shows in Pueblo, CO, and Clovis and Tucumcari among other New Mexico cities.

The Shuler doors open at 7 p.m. Saturday night for general admission seating with tickets costing \$20. The front rows will be available to people who buy a \$25 ticket. The show begins at 8 p.m.

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## Lip Sync Contest

La Confederacion Lodge Fundraiser

March 21 • 7:00 p.m.

Trinidad Middle School Auditorium  
\$5.00 per person (under 3 yrs free)

Local Celebrity Judges!!

## Compete for Cash

For information on performing & complete contest rules call:  
Linda 680-3438 or Betty 846-9583

