



MONDAY  
JUNE 22, 2015

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# THE CHRONICLE-NEWS

50 CENTS  
TRINIDAD  
COLORADO

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## THE FINE PRINT

### ■ JUNE 22

**HOLY TRINITY ACADEMY MONDAY (5:30 p.m.)** School board meeting at the school, 613 Prospect St. Information: Andrea Jimenez, 719-846-4522.

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY MONDAY (6 p.m.)** Weekly fellowship for help and support with food and music will be held at the First United Methodist Church, 216 Broom St. Info: Senior Pastor Bobby L. Barnhill, Jr. or email www.celebratercovery.com.

### ■ JUNE 23

**CITY COUNCIL TUESDAY (1:30 p.m.)** Work session followed by a special session will be held in Council Chambers, City Hall, 135 N. Animas St., Third Floor. Information: Audra Garrett, 719-846-9843.

**CITY COUNCIL: Mayor: Joe Rorda and Council Members: Carol Bolton, Joe Bonato, Pat Fletcher, Anthony Mattie, Michelle Miles, and Liz Torres.**

**VISION LOSS SUPPORT TUESDAY (1:30-3:30 p.m.)**

Group meets monthly at the Trinidad Work Force Center, 140 N. Commercial. Refreshments will be served — family and friends are encouraged to attend. Info: 719-546-1271.

**SQUARE DANCE CLUB TUESDAY (6-8 p.m.)**

The Square Dance Club meets at LaCasa on Hwy 12 in Jansen. Free membership. Info: Peter Monzon, 719-845-0375 or prmm49@hotmail.com.

### ■ PUBLIC SERVICE

**LIFE-SAVING COURSES**  
**Trinidad Ambulance Service** offers ongoing instruction in First Aid, CPR and Automated External Defibrillation (AED). Info: 719-846-6886.

**DISPLAY YOUR ART!**  
The Carnegie Library is looking for artists to display their art on the community art wall for July. Artists of all ages and abilities welcome. Info: Mallory Pillard, 719-846-6841.

**CITY COUNCIL THURSDAY (9 a.m.)**

A special work session and retreat will be held at Monument Lake in Weston. Info: Audra Garrett, 719-846-9843.

**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 free and open to the public.

**KIDS' FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE**

Events are FREE for middle and high school kids. Parents are asked to sign kids in and out of each event. Info: Berni Arrazola, 719-680-8639.

♦ **FRIDAY (4:00 p.m.)** Field Day at Triggers game at Central Park

♦ **JULY 10 (7-10 p.m.)** Game Night at Brix

♦ **JULY 17 (3-6:00 p.m.)** Fun with Water at Cimino Park

**CARNEGIE MYSTERY PARTY FRIDAY (5-7 p.m. / ages 11-18)**

Help rescue us! Join the Library staff for a special SUPER VILLIAN DIVERSION, 202 N. Animas St. Info: Felicity Boepple, 719-846-6841.

**LUNCHEON & STYLE SHOW SATURDAY (11 a.m.)**

The Las Animas County Republican Women will host this event to support LA County Youth Programs at the Primero Café, 911 Robinson Ave. Tickets & info: Paula Marshall, 719-845-9544.

**BRANSON-TRINCHERA SATURDAY:**

Reunion with potluck lunch will be held at the Branson Gym. Entertainment by Sam Bachicha. Info: Larada Miller, 505-323-7098.

**FREE ADVENTURE WEEKEND**

**JULY 17-19:** Colorado Parks and Wildlife will host a great outdoors camping get away for kids and their immediate families at the Tercio Ranch, 30 miles west of Trinidad on Hwy 12. Registration and info: 719-561-5300.

**SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM**

**THRU AUGUST 14 (11 a.m.-1 p.m.)** Monday thru Friday all kids (18 and under) can eat a free lunch at the THS Cafeteria, 816 West St. Adults can join in for \$3.25. Information: Carol Villa, 719-845-2051 or 719-846-3314.

**The Fine Print feature is NOT an advertisement — it is a courtesy notice used to inform the public of upcoming free public meetings and events. Placement is not guaranteed and is always subject to space available. For contributions please call 719-846-3311 or e-mail cathy@trinidadchronicle-news.com.**

## RIVER CALL

**Purgatoire River Call as of: 06/19/15. Model Ditch --- Ap-propriation date: 01/22/1908.**

**Trinidad Reservoir Accounting:**  
Release 272.12 AF  
Inflow 745.28 AF -- 375.74 CFS  
Evaporation 13.16 AF  
Content 30,014 AF  
Elevation 6,196.24  
Precipitation 0.07

**Downstream River Call / JMR Conservation Storage: 12/31/1948.**



Photo courtesy of Trinidad State

Dr. Lorenzo Trujillo is the leader of the accomplished group known as the Southwest Musicians who will perform on Friday, June 26 at Trinidad State.

## TRINIDAD STATE

### Southwest Musicians to present free outdoor concert

By Greg Boyce  
Special to The Chronicle-News

An accomplished group of musicians will perform the traditional music of southern Colorado and northern New Mexico at a free outdoor concert at Trinidad State on Friday, June 26. The concert by the Southwest Musicians will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the "Pit" a grassy amphitheater on the Trinidad Campus at 600 Prospect Street (donations accepted).

Prior to the concert a lecture on the celebration and preservation of area cultural music will be held at the Berg Little Theater at 6 p.m. Attendance is limited to 60 people with an admission cost of \$5. The concert has the backing of the new Southern Rockies Heritage School at Trinidad State.

The Southwest Musicians is led by Dr. Lorenzo Trujillo, a folk violinist, guitarist, vocalist and ethnic dancer. He has given thousands of concerts and lectures. He is extensively published on traditional music and dance of the Southwest United States. He was awarded the 1996 Gov-

Continued on Page 2 ...

## 2015 SANTA FE TRAIL DAYS



Photos by Eric John Monson / The Chronicle-News



Trynity Martin, Jesse Gegelman and Kylie Wilson from Dance Connection.

## Trinidad welcomes summer with fun fest

Practically everything and everyone, from parading llamas named Cotton (above) to pond paddle races (City Attorney Les Downs, left, and City Manager Gabe Engeland, top right) and energetic dance troupes (from Dance Connection), participated in Trinidad's 2015 Santa Fe Trail Days over the weekend at Central Park. There was plenty of food, music and activities to please everyone who ventured out in the perfect Colorado weather to attend. Event organizers were pleased with the turnout and are already making plans to host next year's event. **See more photos on page 6.**

## COMMERCIAL ST

### Road work to begin in second block today

City of Trinidad  
Special to The Chronicle-News

Work continues on the Commercial Street Project currently underway in the City. Crews have poured more curb and gutter as well as more sidewalks in the first block. Storm drain inlets, piping, and manholes have been installed also. More concrete will be poured in the next few days to move the work closer to Cedar Street. This block will remain closed for a while yet.

Work on the second block will begin on Monday June 22nd, and will result in closure of Commercial Street from Cedar to Plum Streets to vehicle traffic, but sidewalks will remain open. The intersection of Cedar and Commercial will be completely closed for a period of time to facilitate installation of utilities. Cedar Street will be closed at Convent to through traffic but open to local businesses. Plum Street will remain open at this time. City crews will remove

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Photos by Tim Keller / The Chronicle-News

Eileen Jennings and Stephen Peebles drew the naughty half of competing singing duos called "Naughty & Nice," improvising lyrics as they sang humorously naughty songs during Saturday night's season-opening show, "A Variety of Errors" at the Shuler Theater in Raton.

## SHULER COMIC EXERCISE

### Summer opens with comic variety show

By Tim Keller  
Correspondent  
The Chronicle-News

**RATON** — It was a comic exercise in multi-tasking for the actors of the Shuler Theater's 2015 summer stock company. In the midst of preparations for Thursday night's big opening of their

musical "Into the Woods," they mounted a zany variety show of improvisational comedy Friday and Saturday nights (June 19-20) called "A Variety of Errors."

Written, produced, and hosted by actor Ian McCabe, the show introduced the company to Shuler audiences while providing plenty of laughs. One evolving theme,

developed by the company every time McCabe left the stage, was the similarity between a summer stock acting company and a cult. They explored ways of freeing themselves from McCabe's tyranny. At show's end, a uniformed officer of the Raton Police Depart-

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## WEATHER WATCH

**Monday:** Sunny, with a high near 95. Southwest wind 5 to 15 mph becoming east in the morning. **Night:** Partly cloudy, with a

low around 61. South southeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west after midnight.

**Tuesday:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon. Mostly sunny, with a high near 91. West wind 5 to 15 mph. **Night:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Partly cloudy, with a low around 60. South southwest wind around 15 mph.

**Wednesday:** A 20 percent chance of

showers and thunderstorms after noon. Partly sunny, with a high near 88. Southwest wind 5 to 15 mph becoming east in the afternoon. **Night:** A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 60. East southeast wind around 5 mph.

**Thursday:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny, with a high near 85. Southwest wind around 5 mph.

Weather Sponsored by:  
  
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719-845-0102

## COMMUNITY

## THINKING ABOUT HEALTH

# High deductibles may mean lower premiums but can be costly trade-off

By **Trudy Lieberman**  
Rural Health News Service

A few weeks ago I got an e mail from Judy, a reader who wanted to tell me about trouble she's had paying her medical bills, particularly those for prescription drugs. Severe daily headaches had just qualified her for Social Security disability benefits. After she satisfies a two-year waiting period, which the law requires, she will qualify for Medicare as all people on Social Security disability will do whether or not they are age 65. Judy couldn't wait so she looked for other insurance options.

Her monthly income of about \$1,300 is too high for Medicaid benefits. "I'm \$20 over the income guidelines," she told me. So she turned to an Affordable Care Act policy with a low premium but a \$6,500 deductible.

That deductible pinches financially. Until she reaches the \$6,500 annual limit, she pays out of pocket for her medicines and other healthcare needs while juggling the rent, utility payments, car expenses, insurance premiums, fuel and food bills and praying her car doesn't break down. "Where is all this going to end?" she asked.

Judy is one of the growing numbers of Americans who are underinsured, meaning according to one definition, those who spend 10 percent or more of their income on healthcare costs excluding premiums. That means they are spending money for coverage that

might not help them. The financial squeeze is not going to end any time soon not only for those like Judy who bought an Obamacare policy through a state exchange but also for people who have chosen policies outside the exchanges and for workers who get employer-sponsored coverage.

How high deductibles can go is, of course, up to your employer or insurer. This year, policies offered through the exchanges created by Obamacare can require families to pay as much as \$13,200 out of pocket. That includes deductibles but also copays and co-insurance, a percentage of the bill.

HealthPocket, a website that tracks insurance costs, says this year the average deductible for bronze policies generally the cheapest sold in the exchanges is \$5,181 for individuals and \$10,545 for families. Average deductibles for silver plans were about \$3,000 for individuals and \$6,000 for families. Any way you look at it, those are pretty hefty amounts for low and moderate-income families.

High deductibles come at a high cost. A new report from The Commonwealth Fund, the funder of Rural Health News Service, shows that people suffer both financial and health consequences. The report said that almost half of those who were underinsured had trouble paying medical bills or had medical debt that ate up all their savings. One-third with medical bills took on credit card debt to pay them.

When the survey asked underinsured respondents if they skipped getting care -- like going to the doctor, shrugging off a recommended test or treatment, or not filling a prescription because of costs--about 45 percent said yes. When researchers specifically asked those with deductibles of \$3,000 or more if they got care, again about 45 percent said they didn't.

These findings run counter to a major goal of the Affordable Care Act, which was to bring more Americans under the insurance umbrella. The crisis of uninsurance is being replaced by a new crisis of underinsurance, says Jonathan Oberlander, a health policy expert at the University of North Carolina.

The theory behind those high deductibles is to make people think twice before going to the doctor and thus to save money for the whole health care system. In other words, if patients now assume more of the cost burden, fewer of them will actually use medical services. The Commonwealth Fund study shows that's true: Patients are skipping care.

But we don't know yet whether that's causing a significant, sustainable drop in the

national healthcare tab. Medical inflation has slowed somewhat, but no one is certain the trend is permanent.

I asked Sara Collins, a vice president of The Commonwealth Fund, about the effectiveness of controlling costs through high deductibles. She said it doesn't

address the biggest reasons for them. Those "are driven by very sick people and that suggests something more fundamental," she explained.

Are employers and insurers going to sell policies with ever-increasing deductibles when we know people respond in ways that don't help them stay healthy or get better care when they are sick? Or are we going to get serious about pushing back against the power of the big insurers, drug companies, and hospitals, which like things just the way they are?

"What does it take to get affordable medications," Judy asked me. That's the question policy-makers must answer.

We'd like to hear about your experiences with high deductible insurance. Write to Trudy at [trudy.lieberman@gmail.com](mailto:trudy.lieberman@gmail.com)



Trudy Lieberman

## STATE BRIEFS

Associated Press

## Man drowns in tubing accident near Pueblo

DENVER (AP) — A man drowned following a tubing accident on the Arkansas River near Pueblo on Sunday, and a search has been called off for a man missing after falling off his inner tube in rapids on the South Platte River.

Police say the man who drowned was near the Cottonwood picnic area. He was not identified.

Sheridan police called off their search for a man missing after falling off his inner

tube in rapids on the South Platte River on Saturday.

Witnesses say the 20-year-old surfaced and went under several times.

The man was one of four tubers. The others got out of the river.

U.S. Geological Survey hydrologic technician Sue Hartley says recent rains have created some of the highest water levels in 20 years.

## Danger of rushing water, flooding across Colorado

DENVER (AP) — Officials are warning people to be careful on Colorado's creeks and rivers because of recent heavy rains.

Sue Hartley with the U.S. Geological Survey says the rainfall has created some of the highest water levels since 1995 in many

creeks and rivers.

According to KUSA-TV Clear Creek was rushing at roughly 2,000 cubic feet per second on Friday. Hartley says that's enough to fill an Olympic-size pool in 45 seconds.

Hartley says many people lack experience with fast water. She says inexperience combined with rushing water and debris creates dangerous conditions.

Rainfall caused water levels to rise, but experts are now focusing on snowmelt, which Hartley says could bump up rivers and creeks this weekend.

## Man dies in first of plague in Larimer County

DENVER (AP) — A young man has died in Larimer County's first confirmed plague

case since 1999.

Authorities are still investigating the June 8 death but believe the man may have contracted the disease from fleas on a dead animal on family land.

The county Department of Health and Environment is leading the investigation with help from experts from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, the State Health Department and the coroner's office.

Officials say the family is reaching out to people who visited the home before the cause of death was known. There is a small chance that others could have been bitten by infected fleas.

The CDC says an average of seven human plague cases are reported each year nationwide.

Authorities have not yet identified the man who died.

## Southwest Musicians to present free outdoor concert

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ernor's Award for Excellence in the Arts, acknowledging his work as a folk violinist, guitarist, and vocalist, among his other accomplishments as a musician, ethnic dancer, folklorist, arts administrator, and culture bearer for approximately five decades. In 2004, he was awarded the Hilos Culturales Distinguished Traditional Folk Artist Premio for his lifetime contributions to the traditional Hispanic traditions of Southern Colorado and New Mexico. In 2009, he was inducted into the Colorado Chicano Music Hall of Fame and in 2011 he was presented with the Tesoro Cultural Center's Tes-

oro de Oro Award. His most popular CD is: The Golden Age of the Southwest: From 1840 to Hollywood.

"The musicians I perform with are truly masters of their style, genre and repertoire," said Trujillo of the Southwest Musicians. William "Billy" Archuleta and John Archuleta are from Taos, New Mexico. They have both recorded traditional music and were awarded the Hilos Culturales Distinguished Traditional Folk Artist Premio for their lifetime contributions to the traditional Hispanic traditions of Southern Colorado and New Mexico. Larry Edelman is a violinist. He is a

nationally noted fiddler of traditional music. He has performed on numerous recordings and throughout the U.S., reflecting a broad spectrum of traditional music of the United States. Also, playing with the group will be Scott Mathis and Linda Askew. They come from Albuquerque, New Mexico. Their lifetime of music is reflected in thousands of performances across the United States presenting folk traditions of Americana with a focus on the Southwest.

For more information contact Kim McKee at the Southern Rockies Heritage School at 719 846-5274.

## COMMERCIAL STREET

## Road work to begin in second block today

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the brick pavement to expose utilities, allowing contractor crews access to sewer and water lines.

The City of Trinidad thanks all merchants and citizens for their patience during this construction process. We look forward to providing a much more appealing Commercial Street area upon completion, for both businesses in the area and the public.

Any questions regarding this project may be directed to Tom Beach, Public Works, at 719-846-9843 extension 126.

**PLEASE NOTE**  
There were no obituaries or memoriums submitted for today's edition.

## THE CHRONICLE-NEWS

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**Business Hours:**  
Monday - Friday  
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

## Shuler opens summer season with comic variety show

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Tim Keller / The Chronicle-News

Actors Tamara Todres and Ian McCabe met as cast members in a Chicago show five years ago. They've worked together ever since, developing a camaraderie that showed in the zany improvisations of "A Variety of Errors" on the Shuler stage Saturday night. McCabe wrote, produced, and hosted the show.

ment emerged from the wings, hand-cuffed McCabe, and led him away under arrest.

Other Raton locals were drafted for even more prominent on-stage roles. Audience members were randomly selected to dance with a cast member or thumb wrestle with another, winning prizes donated by local businesses.

A panel of two well-known local couples played game shows like "The Match Game" and "The Not So Newlywed Game," and served as celebrity judges for the cast's improvisational games, songs, and skits. Saturday night's guest panel consisted of Sara

& Mike Kowalski and Sandy & Frank Ferri.

The professional cast was selected from auditions of more than 100 actors and singers in Chicago and Indiana. The ten on stage Saturday had several opportunities to demonstrate that they're great singers, which bodes well for "Into the Woods." Music director Nathan Blustein repeatedly cued the large group, spread across the stage, to sing the musical's title song; each time, the group instead burst into the title song from "Les Miserables." They can sing. (Cast member Eileen Jennings is completing a doctorate in opera sing-

ing.) At the end, they finally previewed "Into the Woods."

"A Variety of Errors" served as a warm-up for a season of music, Shakespeare and comedy, beginning with "Into the Woods," running this Thursday through Sunday (June 25-28), then continuing through July 5. Performances begin at 7:30 p.m., with Sunday matinees at 2:30. General admission tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 seniors, and \$5 children. Discount ticket books are \$87.50 for five tickets, \$175 for ten.

Tickets and information are available at the Shuler, 131 N. 2nd St., (575) 445-4746, [shulertheater.com](http://shulertheater.com).