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MONDAY
JUNE 8, 2015

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THE CHRONICLE-NEWS

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TRINIDAD
COLORADO

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THE FINE PRINT

■ JUNE 8

ARTOCARDE INSPIRATION MONDAY (6-8 p.m.) Hey kids and folks — learn how to make your own ArtCar entry or Kooky Conveyance at this free workshop at the Oasis Studio, 281 E. Main St. Info: Rodney Wood, 719-334-0087.

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

COMMUNITY SOCCER MONDAYS & THURSDAYS (5:30 p.m.) FREE pickup games for all ages at Los Niños Field behind the Post Office. Bring a light- and dark-colored tee shirt. Info: sherry.hinchley@yahoo.com

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.celebraterecovery.com.

■ JUNE 9

LAS ANIMAS COUNTY TUESDAY (9 a.m.) Board of County Commissioners meeting is in the Las Animas Courthouse, 200 E. First St., Room 201. Information: 719-845-2568. **COUNTY COMMISSIONERS: Gary Hill (719-845-2595), Mack Loudon (719-845-2592), and Anthony Abeyta (719-846-9300).**

TRINIDAD SCHOOLS BOE TUESDAY (10 a.m.) The Board of Education will hold a board retreat and special meeting at the District Administration Office, 612 Park St. Information: Diane Montoya, 719-845-2048.

MEMORY LOSS SUPPORT TUESDAY (12:30-1:30 p.m.) This group meets at the Legacy Assisted Living facility, 33 Legacy Lane. Information: 719-846-8662.

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

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

SQUARE DANCE CLUB TUESDAY (6-8 p.m.) Join the fun at the Square Dance Club at LaCasa on Hwy 12 in Jansen. New members and beginners always welcome. Info: Peter Monzon, 719-845-0375 or pmm49@hotmail.com.

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT TUESDAY (6:30 p.m.) This group meets at the LaQuinta Inn on Toupal Drive. Information: Age Wise Advisors, 347-852-0752.

■ PUBLIC SERVICE

COLLEGE FOR KIDS EVERY THURSDAY THRU JULY 9 (9 a.m.-4 p.m.) FREE Summer Workshops at TSJC. Limited to 50 students each week (ages 7-11). Register the previous Friday beginning at 8 a.m. Call: 719-846-5475.

FARMERS' MARKET SATURDAY (8 a.m.-Noon) 15th Annual event every Saturday in Cimino Park runs thru mid-October. Information: 719-680-0184.

FAMILY FUN DAYS THURSDAY-SUNDAY: 3rd annual event that will be held at the County Fairgrounds on North Linden St. Info: Tom Davis, 719-680-4677. FREE admission.

PUBLIC MEETINGS JUNE 15 & JULY 27 (6 p.m.) City of Trinidad Comprehensive Plan Update & Community Workshops will be held at the Sullivan Center Pioneer Room at TSJC. Info: Trinidad.mccooldevelopment.com and plantrinidad.mindmixer.com

SANTA FE TRAIL DAYS JUNE 19-20: Annual 2-day festival will be held at Central Park on Stone-wall Ave. Enter Trinidad's soon-to-be World Famous Chili Cook Off Contest. Info: Linda Barron 719-846-8223 or Chamber of Commerce, 719-846-9285. Enter the Pet Parade with Costume Contest (June 20 at 4:30 p.m.). All breeds and all sizes can win trophies and prizes. Info: Kathleen Olguin, 719-680-4629 or Pam Cordova, 719-680-1043.

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: 06/05/15. Model Ditch --- Appropriation date: 01/22/1908.

Trinidad Reservoir Accounting:
Release 677.80 AF
Inflow 586.81 AF -- 295.85 CFS
Evaporation 21.01 AF
Content 28,908 AF
Elevation 6,194.96
Precipitation 0

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



EDUCATION

Smithey: New THS Principal looking forward to challenges

By Steve Block
The Chronicle-News

When the principal's job at Trinidad High School became available this year, Chuck Smithey said he was more than ready to return to Southern Colorado. Smithey was an employee of the Walsenburg School District from 2001-2009, and he and his wife, Marianne still had some business interests there. He's just been hired as Trinidad High School Principal, and said in a Thursday interview that he's looking forward to the challenges and opportunities of his new position.

He earned his Master's degree from Adams State College while teaching and coaching in Walsenburg, and then worked for the school district in Brush for a few years, while Marianne looked after the businesses in Walsenburg. Commuting back and forth wasn't a good option for the couple, who have three grown children, 13 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Smithey said he liked what he'd seen of the educational atmosphere in Trinidad.

"I'll be honest with you. Every person I've met in Trinidad has been so positive," Smithey said. "They're looking forward. They don't look backward. They want to move forward and they want the best for the kids, and the best for the community. I've met a lot of people in a short period of time, and I'm very, very impressed with the community. They have a great staff and they have great kids."

He was asked in what new directions he'd like to take the high school over the next few years. He said he wanted to continue along the present path the school's leadership had already established.

"Well, the first thing I'm going to do is to build on the success they've had," he said. "I want to keep moving forward. Obviously, we want to be a highly rated school, and that's one thing that's always there. But the



Steve Block / The Chronicle-News

New Trinidad High School Principal Chuck Smithey is opening a new door to the next chapter in his life as a professional educator and administrator.

Continued on Page 2 ...

OFFICIAL CELEBRATION



Photo by Steve Block / The Chronicle-News

City's first retail marijuana facility holds Grand Opening

The staff of Trinidad Higher Calling U looks on in the background at the ribbon cutting signaling the Grand Opening of "Trinidad Higher Calling U," the city's first retail marijuana facility, located at 1000 Freedom Road. In front, left to right, are the Chamber of Commerce's Linda Barron, higher Calling U's Brad Burnet and Robert and Kim Schultz, Robert's mother Colleen Schultz and the Chamber's Jack Israel. The facility first opened its doors in December, 2014.

FAMILY FUN DAYS

Fun summer event returns

By Steve Block
The Chronicle-News

Community events are often at their very best when they're played out in summertime's sunshine. The Third Annual Trinidad Family Fun Days promises to be a great way to get out of the house and have summertime fun, with the festival running from Thursday, June 11, through Sunday, June 14, at the Las Animas County Fairgrounds.

Sun Valley Rides will once again host multiple carnival rides and games for kids of all ages. Live music and the Little Britches Rodeo will be featured in two performances at this

family-friendly event, with no alcohol served onsite or allowed on the grounds.

Tickets cost \$15 in advance or \$25 at the festival. Each ticket is good for one person for any one day of the festival, with unlimited

carnival rides per ticket. Individual carnival ride tickets can also be purchased at the festival.

Admission and parking are free for the festival, the bands and the



TRINIDAD FAMILY FUN DAYS

rodeo, though free will donations will be gratefully accepted. Tickets can be acquire by calling Tom Davis at: 719-680-4677, Mandy Hagy

Continued on Page 2 ...

MAIN STREET

Raton's free summer concert series to launch this Sunday

RATON — Raton Main Street will kick off its summer series of free concerts in Ripley Park Sunday afternoon at 4 p.m. with two hours of classic cowboy and Western music from Syd Masters & The Swing Riders. The Music on Main Street concert series continues through August with seven more weekend concerts, all with no cover charge thanks to the generosity of Raton's Whited Foundation.

Syd Masters formed his band 18 years ago and has now toured through "half the states and 131 New Mexico towns." Based in Edgewood, NM, the band's constant touring and playing have honed its skills. The rhythms and harmonies are good enough that they've built a loyal fan base in Raton, where they've played the Ripley Park series and headlined last year's Independence Day Dance at the Raton Rodeo Harrelson Pavilion.

The last time they played Ripley Park, a cooling breeze swept down from the generous shade trees as 200 people spread out on blankets and lawn chairs to enjoy the show. The cowboy swing band combined well-received original songs with many classic cowboy songs that appeared to be enjoyed by people — and dogs — of all ages.

Masters is a showman with between-song banter and tales, repartee with his band mates, songs that get the crowd swaying...and yodeling. His grandstand yodeling on his own "Galisteo Highway" was a great crowd-pleaser and a highlight of the last park concert. Beloved cowboy favorites such as "The Streets of Laredo", "Leaving Cheyenne", and "Cool Water" were interspersed with Masters' own songs, including "Under New Mexico Skies," which is "The Official Cowboy Song of the State of

Continued on Page 6 ...

WEATHER WATCH

Monday: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny, with a high near 79. West northwest wind 5 to 10

mph becoming east southeast in the afternoon. **Night:** A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 53. South southeast wind 5 to 10 mph

Tuesday: A 10 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 84. West southwest wind 5 to 10 mph. **Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 54. East northeast wind around 5 mph.

Wednesday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 82. South wind 5 to 10 mph. **Night:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 57. Southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.

Thursday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 81. West southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.

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AREA & COMMUNITY

Raton's free summer concert series to launch this Sunday

... Continued from Page 1



Photos by Tim Keller / The Chronicle-News

Clockwise from above, Syd Masters & The Swing Riders return for Music on Main Street at Ripley Park Sunday from 4 to 6 p.m.. Syd Masters has toured most of the U.S. singing cowboy songs. From the Ripley Park gazebo, the band played to a relaxed audience of about 200 people the last time they performed in the park on a Sunday afternoon.



New Mexico."

Masters used frequent humor to entertain his last Ripley Park crowd. One of his songs had the lines, "Frying bacon in the nude/ That is what I like to do/ Because it reminds me of you." Masters followed the song with the quip, "I was actually wearing chaps and a cowboy hat when I fried that bacon." Another lyric said, "The more people I meet, the more I like my dog." Before breaking into a three-part a cappella section of "You Are My Sunshine", Masters told the audience that a cappella is Italian for "I forgot the chords."

Progressive cities such as Santa Fe and Denver have long seen the wisdom in providing their citizens with free outdoor concerts for all ages. Raton Main Street and the Whited Foundation deserve kudos for the Music on Main Street series at Ripley Park, which annually attracts people from Trinidad, Des Moines, Cimarron and other surrounding towns and makes Raton look pretty attractive to visiting tourists as well.

Syd Masters & The Swing Riders perform their free concert in Ripley Park Sunday (June 14) from 4 to 6 p.m. Bring blankets and lawn chairs. Music on Main Street continues at the park with Smooth Riders Jazz Quartet June 28, Wiskey Creek July 11, Matt Campbell & Trevor McSpadden July 19, and Broken Spoke July 25. High Maintenance plays the series August 8, followed by Blackwater Draw & PFGOT August 9 and the Ben Marshal Band August 23. The last two shows start at 2 p.m. and run all afternoon. The earlier shows run two hours each, starting at 4 p.m. on Sundays and 5 p.m. Saturdays. Ripley Park is located on Main Street (N. 2nd St.) at the north end of Raton's Historic Downtown district. From I-25, take the northernmost Raton exit (454) and turn south into town. Further information is available from Raton Main Street, (575) 445-2052.

CITY UPDATE

Commercial Street Improvement Project deals with rain delays

City of Trinidad
Special to The Chronicle-News

The rains seem to have stopped, at least for the moment, and city crews are working diligently in the first block of the Commercial Street Improvement Project to dry out the subgrade and re-compact the base material to allow for placing of the road base and forming of the curb and gutters.

Contractors will be working on pouring of new curb and gutter and installing the new storm drain line in the coming days.

The "slip lining" of the sewer pipes between Main street and Plum street is finished. Both the 10" and the 15" lines have been lined and videoed for our records and everything looks good at this point.

The City of Trinidad would like to thank all the merchants and citizens for their patience during this construction process, especially with the delay the rains have caused. The project should be finished close to the predicted date and will provide a much more appealing and safer Commercial Street area upon completion.

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

COTTAGE FOOD LAWS

Homemade pickle bill among dozens signed into law by Gov. Hickenlooper

Associated Press

DENVER (AP) — A new law allowing Colorado cooks to sell homemade pickles is among five dozen new measures that have been signed into law by Gov. John Hickenlooper.

The governor's office announced the bill signings Friday. They include an expansion of the state Cottage Foods law, which allows home cooks to sell some items without seeking a commercial food license. The law had

been limited to mostly homemade breads and jellies. The expansion adds pickled vegetables and fruit empanadas.

Other new laws include an update to Colorado's medical marijuana regulations, which were due to expire without action from the Legislature.

The governor also signed a law clearing the way for state universities to develop certified hemp seed. Currently growers of the new crop have difficulty acquiring seeds for the newly legal crop.

Colorado looking to drier weather, storm risk remains

Associated Press

DENVER (AP) — A soggy Colorado was looking forward to clearer, calmer skies over the next few days — though forecasters warned another Pacific storm could send a watery wallop next weekend.

Colorado would see more isolated afternoon storms in the next few days, forecasters said Sunday. That's after a multiday pattern of intense, violent storms that have damaged homes and whipped branches to the ground.

The storms' first injury came Saturday, when a man was struck by lightning in Colorado Springs after a cricket match. The man, identified by witnesses as Venkat Ramani, was hospitalized with burns but expected to survive, KKTU reported.

"It looked like someone had taken a torch to his clothes," said Chris Ciccolella, who witnessed the strike and ran to help.

The series of violent storms included almost a dozen confirmed tornadoes since Thursday. No injuries were reported, though homes in Berthoud and on Colorado's Eastern Plains were damaged.

Two weak tornadoes touched down Saturday in southern Utah during the slow, powerful storms sweeping through the state.

The storms moved into the northern and central Plains, including in

the Dakotas, Nebraska and into parts of Minnesota and Iowa. On Sunday, central Iowa residents picked up fallen tree limbs and dealt with other minor damage from the overnight storms. The storms knocked down trees and traffic lights with 55 mph winds.

The storms were the result of the El Nino phenomenon in the Pacific Ocean, an upper-level jet stream and a low-pressure system parked over

some ways, though. Hydrologists with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation have been able to release surplus water from reservoirs above the Upper Colorado River to mimic natural spring runoff.

That's about the opposite of what reservoir operators typically do as they try to store water for times of drought, prevent floods and generally even out flows throughout the year,



Photo courtesy Colorado State University

Colorado pikeminnow

Southern California.

Forecasters say another Pacific storm could deliver rains by the end of the week. Hurricane Blanca was headed Sunday for Mexico's Baja California Peninsula. Forecasters say Blanca could produce more rains in Colorado on Thursday or Friday, a special concern in areas prone to flooding and in sections of the state still lacking ground cover after wildfires in 2013.

The rains have been good news in

the Summit Daily News reported.

"We hydrologists were just so happy with all this rain," said Jana Mohrman, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service hydrologist with the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program.

The program works to improve water flows for four endangered fish species — the humpback chub, razorback sucker, bonytail and the Colorado pikeminnow.

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Mel Williamson
Financial Advisor

201 E Main Street
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719-846-4204

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