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TRINIDAD, COLORADO

Proudly Serving Southeastern Colorado and Northeastern New Mexico

THE FINE PRINT

Fine Print Policy:

The Fine Print is a courtesy service offered by The Chronicle-News to inform the public of upcoming events. Fine Prints must be 30 words or less. We reserve the right to reword any submission to fit available space. Placement is not guaranteed and is subject to space available.

When possible, the Fine Print will run three times - the day of the event and two days prior.

Note: Fine Prints must be received by NOON the day before publication - no exceptions. Please e-mail Fine Print to news@trinidadchroniclenews.com.

The Fine Print section is not for advertising. If you wish to advertise an event, please call Aileen Hood at (719) 846-3311 ext. 5.

P.E.O. Chapter J

P.E.O. Chapter J will meet at 12:45 p.m. on Monday at the Presbyterian Church for the Annual Auction.

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.

Catholic Daughters

Catholic Daughters will meet at 7 p.m. on Monday at the Knights of Columbus Hall.

LA 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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WEATHER WATCH

Today: Sunny, with a high near 89. West wind around 10 mph becoming south.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 51. Southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Tomorrow: A 10 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon. Partly cloudy, with a high near 87. Southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Tomorrow Night: A 10 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Partly cloudy, with a low around 51. Southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.

RIVER CALL

Purgatoire River Call as of 5/15/09. Southside priority #98 4/30/1884

Trinidad Lake accounting: Release, 492.99 acre ft.; Inflow, 399.34 acre ft.; Evaporation, 25.35 acre ft.; Content, 27182 acre ft.; Elevation, 6189.77; Precipitation, 0.

Downstream River Call, Highland 5/31/1866.

(Provided by Division of Water Resources)



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SCRT Season Begins on June 12th

Courtesy of Carl De Bono
SCRT Board Member
Special to The Chronicle-News

The actors are signed, the performance dates are set, and the Trinidad community is gearing for another spectacular season of professional theater. Recalling the unprecedented act of generosity and support by the Trinidad community that saved the 2009 season by its donating of over \$90,000.00 during this difficult economic time which affected the larger contributions from our major donors, the SCRT Board of Directors wants to thank the Trinidad audiences by offering a special reduced ticket price before the season begins on June 12. Here's how it works. All theater tickets purchased before the season's opening date of June 12th will be reduced by \$10.00. Regular admission price for each production is \$30.00. Regular admission price for the opening night gala performances is \$40.00. With this one-time special offer, the admission prices will be \$20.00 per regular performance and \$30.00 for the gala performances. If you don't yet know the dates you will be going to each of the productions, no problem. You will be issued a voucher that will guarantee the reduced prices. Once you select the date you will be attending the theater, present the voucher at the door on the night of the performance for admission at the reduced price.

These early tickets or vouchers may be purchased at the SCRT office at 132 East Main or by calling the SCRT office at 846-4765. "Sylvia," the first production premieres on June 12th. "Crimes of the Heart" opens on June 26th, and "Forever Plaid" opens on July 10th. For more information about the plays

and the SCRT, log on to SCRTTheatre.com. Donations are still important for the SCRT; so if you haven't donated and wish to do so, please call the SCRT office. The SCRT Board definitely knows you are going to be thoroughly entertained by this season's offerings. See you at the theatre!



Photo courtesy of Cindi Elsberry

SCRT News Brothers Carl De Bono and Rick Johnson are flanked by SCRT President Mark Danielson and SCRT artistic director Fred Vaugeois as they promote reduced season ticket prices.

Ritter plans to sign bill to block Pinon expansion

DENVER (AP) — Colorado Gov. Bill Ritter said Saturday he will sign a bill to prevent the Army from buying or leasing land in southeast Colorado for a military training site.

Ritter told The Pueblo Chieftain the bill is a safety net for farmers and ranchers who fear an Army takeover of their land.

"It may not be the last discussion we have on Pinon Canyon, but it's important to put this safety net in place," he said.

Ritter told the newspaper Saturday he will sign the bill as soon as the paperwork is ready.

The bill bars the sale of land from the Colorado State Land Board for Army expansion. About 20 percent of the land the Army wants to use is owned by the land board.

The Army has said it needs to expand its training site near La Junta, about 140 miles southeast of Denver, to accommodate new weapons, tactics and soldiers. The Army's plan, announced more than three years ago, immediately drew the ire of landowners and congressional representatives who have fought the expansion, saying it would hurt the area's agriculture economy and permanently damage the land.

The original plan was to increase the 238,000-acre site by about 414,000 acres.

But the Army has slowly backed off, first saying last year the expansion would be scaled back to 100,000 acres. On Thursday, Army officials said no money would be budgeted next year to buy land at Pinon. Instead, the \$17 million the Army had budgeted for construction at the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site, which is used by Fort Carson soldiers, was transferred to Fort Polk, La.

Despite that, Lt. Col. Martin Downie, an Army spokesman in Washington, said the Army is still interested in future expansion at Pinon.

Ritter and some members of Colorado's congressional delegation have said the Army has failed to make its case for why they need the land.

In addition to the bill Ritter plans to sign, Democratic U.S. Reps. John Salazar and Betsy Markey have said they want to introduce legislation to prevent any future expansion at Pinon Canyon.

Salazar said he was "ecstatic and very happy" to hear that Ritter planned to sign the bill blocking the training site's expansion.

"This puts one more obstacle up against the Army," he said.



Photo by Tim Keller

Raton's Cimino Brothers auto dealership received word Thursday that it is on a list to be dropped by Chrysler.

Cimino Bros. included on Chrysler's drop list

BY TIM KELLER
The Chronicle-News

The historic downsizing of the U.S. auto industry struck home Thursday when the Cimino Brothers dealership in Raton discovered itself on the list of prospective dealers Chrysler intends to drop next month.

Owner Phil Cimino responded, "The list that Chrysler released is not a firm list. It'll be a few days or a couple weeks before we know for sure. We're looking at our options." Cimino is working with the New Car Dealers Association, a division of the New Mexico Automotive Dealers Association based in Albuquerque. Three other New Mexico Chrysler dealers - in Las Cruces, Clovis, and Albuquerque - found themselves on Chrysler's hit list.

Pioneer Motors, the Chrysler dealer in Trinidad, escaped the ax, although nine dealerships in Colorado joined

the 789 nationally that Chrysler served with notice on Thursday.

Cimino feared people might get the wrong impression. "We didn't make the list because we're a bad dealer." In fact, Chrysler seemed to focus its cuts on low-volume dealerships as well as in big cities where their dealers currently compete against each other. Although the 789 listed dealers constitute one quarter of Chrysler's U.S. outlets, they account for just 14% of its domestic sales.

"Chrysler is doing this as a cost-saving measure," Cimino said. "It hurts the dealers and the communities, without costing Chrysler anything." Dealer associations are gearing up to fight some or all of the closures in bankruptcy court, where Chrysler is trying to pare down its size.

Friday, the day after Chrysler released its list, General Motors did the same, listing 1100 dealerships it plans to drop. Raton's United Toyota

was a GM dealer until January 27, 2009, when it beat GM to the punch and severed its own relationship with the carmaker. Choosing to focus on its Toyota franchise, owner Howard Lackey said, "It was a decision of economics. It just did not seem sustainable for what we want to do. There were so many arrows pointing toward a bad ending."

United had been a GM dealer for 82 years. "History doesn't mean much anymore," Lackey said.

Cimino Brothers knows something about history, too. They've been a Chrysler dealer for only 18 years, but their Ford dealership goes back more than a half century. While Phil Cimino hoped Friday to be able to hold onto the Chrysler franchise, he was reassured by the strength of Ford Motor Company and the long-established success of Cimino Brothers Ford in Raton.

New energy company looks to create 150 jobs in Las Animas County

By DAVID SANTISTEVAN JR.
The Chronicle-News

Recently, at the regular meeting of the Las Animas County board of commissioners Jody Hoffpauir, a representative of Ovio Energy, told the board of a new developmental company coming to the county that would create 150 new jobs in the area.

Ovio Energy was started three years ago and is based out of Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Technological advances have made it possible for Ovio to get into the waste energy and reclamation projects to create renewable sources of fuel.

Hoffpauir is a local representative of Ovio Energy, who told the commissioners of the green approach of making coal tailings into reuse able fuels.

Here in Las Animas county Ovio plans to work with coal tailings and make them environmentally safe for plant and wild life in the area. Coal tailings are very small; almost dust like pieces of coal. Large piles of coal

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