

THE FINE PRINT

Arthritis Exercise

Arthritis exercise classes will be held today. The 9 am class will be held at the Corazon Square and the 1:30 pm class will be held at the Early Learning Center. To register or for more information please call 845-1133 ext 224.

Free Seminar

News First 5/30 is hosting "How to Market Your Business in a Challenging Environment," with marketing consultant Jime Doyle at 11:30 a.m., today, at the Sangre de Cristo Arts Center, lunch provide, reservations required, call, 719-544-5781.

Trail Plan Task Group

The next meeting for the Trail Plan Task Group is at 5 p.m. today, at City Hall in the Council Conference Room on the third floor (3rd). For more information call Brad Parker at (719) 846-9843 ext. 136 or email him at brad_parker@historicttrinidad.com

Advisory Meeting

Trinidad High School Advisory meeting will begin at 6 p.m. today in the Trinidad High School library.

Stonewall Fire Protection District public meeting

Notice is herby given that the monthly Board of Directors meetings for the Stonewall Fire Protection District will be held at 6:30 p.m. today at the Stonewall Fire House. Questions please call Kelli at 846-2080.

VFW meeting

The VFW will meet at 7 p.m. today at the Banquet Room of the Trinidad Elks.

Tourism Board

The Trinidad Tourism Board will meet for a work session at 9 a.m. Thursday in the conference room at City Hall.

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WEATHER WATCH

Today: Mostly sunny, with a high near 50. West southwest wind 5 to 15 mph becoming southeast.

Tonight: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 25. Southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Tomorrow: Partly sunny, with a high near 52. West southwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming southeast.

Tomorrow Night: A slight chance of rain before 8 p.m., then a slight chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 26. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

RIVER CALL

Purgatoire River Call as of 3/10/09. Johns priority #9 1/1/1863.

Trinidad Lake accounting: Release, .43 acre ft.; Inflow, 57.84 acre ft.; Evaporation, 6.41 acre ft.; Content, 2,3271 acre ft.; Elevation, 6,184.78; Precipitation, 0.

Downstream River Call, Winter Storage 3/10/1910.

(Provided by Division of Water Resources)



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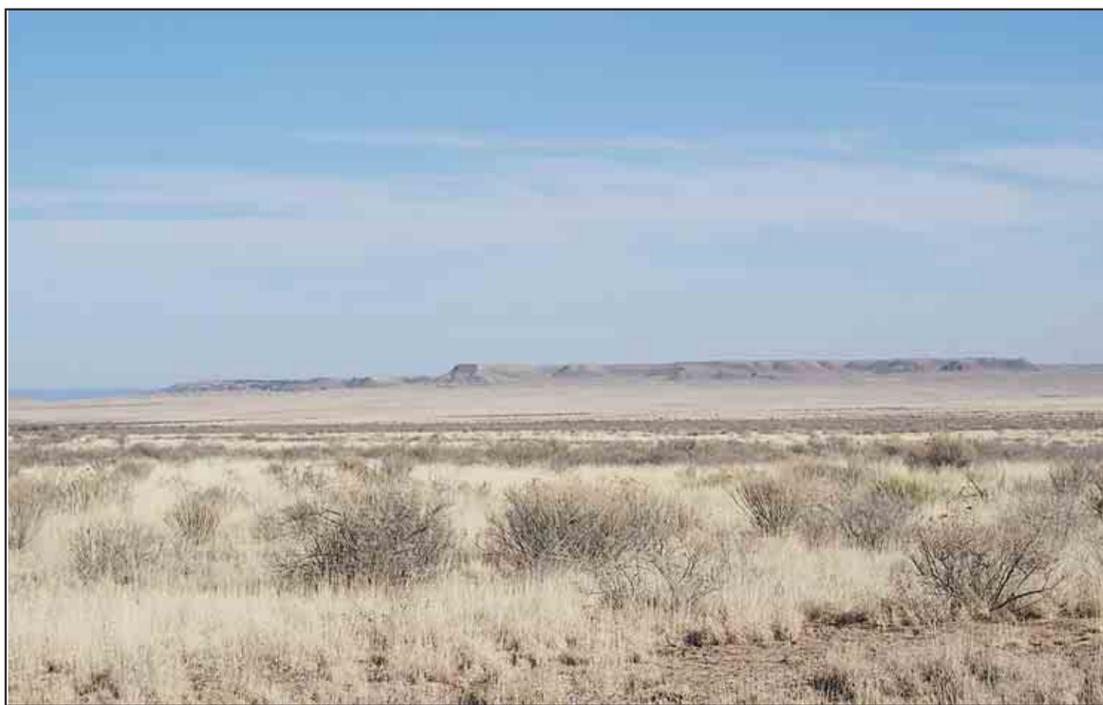


Photo by David Santistevan Jr.

Pictured here is some of the land in question that might be leased or sold to the U.S. Army.

All unwilling Piñon Canyon sellers primed to stop Army tanks dead in their tracks

By **MIKE GARRETT**
And **DAVID SANTISTEVAN JR.**
The Chronicle-News

The Piñon Canyon Expansion final solution may be close at hand depending on whether the U.S. Army and Denver businessman Craig Walker are trying to play a game of hop-scotch or leap-frog with Las Animas County ranchers and farmers.

Local landowners continue to wonder whether they are being caught up in another web of deceit and deception by a rumored land sale or lease agreement between Walker and the U.S. Army is the real deal or it's only another "movie" reel.

Walker emphatically confirmed Tuesday afternoon he is NOT selling his River Canyon Ranch property

south of the current Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site to the Army and will NOT abandon his land for the Army to benefit in any way.

"I can tell you that there has been NO deal arrived at under any circumstances and I AM NOT a willing seller," Walker said. "I am NOT going to let the ranchers and farmers get their land taken away from them. As long as I've got a dollar in my billfold and a breath in my body, I AM NOT going to allow this to happen."

"I love that part of the country. I am a rancholic and there are no clinics for that," he said.

Walker had a lot more to say about where he stands on the Piñon Canyon issue off the record and what stipulations he would demand from the Army before they could even talk to him. He

said he wanted to wait until after Army Assistant Under Secretary Keith Eastin's scheduled appearance in Pueblo Friday when all sides taking stands on the lingering issue can get together to discuss where everybody stands.

"Right now I can not believe anything Clay (Walker) told me personally at the meeting with Colo. Sen. Michael Bennet, to keep up the good fight. I do not believe that Clay would sell out," Las Animas County Commissioner Chairman Jim Montoya told *The Chronicle-News* Tuesday morning.

Walker's exclamation point figures to at least temporarily ground buzzword reports flying all over Las Animas County Tuesday morning as concerned citizens, county govern-

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Photo by Tim Keller

DWI Student Task Force members wear their new Diggity Dave t-shirts to prepare for Friday's fund-raising program. From left, sitting, Christina Harrison, Megan Holland, Amy Grubelnik, Justin Apodaca; standing, Chelsea Chavez, Jordan Valdez, Haley Gansz, Heather Romero, Erin Gansz.

Raton DWI Student Task Force plans big fundraiser Friday

By **TIM KELLER**
The Chronicle-News

Colfax County's DWI Student Task Force is planning a five-day trip to Washington, D.C., for 15 active Raton High School members early next month. To help pay for the trip, the DWI program is selling tickets to a special program at Raton High School Friday at 2:00 pm. Rock musician and MTV star Diggity Dave will speak about his varied experiences, includ-

ing the fact that he has worked in Hollywood for fifteen years without drugs or alcohol abuse.

Diggity Dave has fronted rock bands signed by both Arista and Warners Brothers. Since 2006 he's been a featured host on MTV's hit show "Pimp My Ride". Last year he starred with Ludacris and Motley Crue's Tommy Lee in "Battleground Earth", an environmentally-themed program on The Learning Channel and the Discovery Channel's new net-

work "Planet Green". Dave's most recent project is a reality show, "Dare Devilution", showcasing a family of professional daredevils and stuntmen.

Tickets for Friday's program in the Raton High School gym are available from DWI Student Task Force members and at the Colfax County DWI Program office at 116 S. 3rd Street, across the street from the Raton post office. Tickets are \$3 through Thursday, then \$5 on Friday.

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Citi's good news leads market to best day of '09

By **SARA LEPRO** and
TIM PARADIS
AP Business Writers

NEW YORK (AP) - Wall Street snapped out of its stupor and posted its best performance of the year Tuesday, finding a badly needed glimmer of optimism in the most unlikely of places: Citigroup is actually managing to turn a profit.

The 379-point gain for the Dow Jones industrials, a rally of almost 6 percent, was a welcome break from almost uninterrupted selling. But just as almost nobody expects the banks to snap back to health, almost nobody thinks the market has hit its bottom.

"One day isn't going to make a trend," said Kurt Karl, chief U.S. economist at Swiss Re.

Citigroup Chief Executive Vikram Pandit said in a letter to employees that the bank had operated at a profit for the first two months of this year and was on track, based on historical trends, to make \$8.3 billion for the quarter.

Pandit said the bank has had its best performance since the third quarter of 2007, the last time it booked a quarterly profit.

The news broke a months-long torrent of bad news from the banking industry - particularly for Citi, which had grown so shaky the federal government had to take a 36 percent ownership stake.

Banking stocks led the markets higher all day. The Dow finished at 6,926.49, its highest close since late February. All 30 of the Dow industrial stocks gained ground.

Citi itself finished at \$1.45, a gain of 40 cents. Last week, its stock fell below \$1, a level so stunning it left the bank at the mercy of late-night comedians.

A gain on Wednesday would give the Dow its first two-day winning streak since early February. But Wall Street is used to false starts. The Dow had gained 200 points in a single day five times in 2009 before Tuesday. Each time, it lost ground in the next session, twice by triple digits.

And after they hit their lowest points last year, both the Dow and the Standard & Poor's 500 jumped about 20 percent. But those lows didn't last, and Wall Street is now trading well below those levels.

On Tuesday, the S&P closed at 719.60, still less than half of its value at the market peak in October 2007.

"I would be surprised to see us trade back over 800 in the near term," said Ben Halliburton, chief investment officer of Tradition Capital Management in Summit, N.J. "The news coming out on the economic front will continue to be rather gloomy."

Analysts also suggested that the market's gains, especially among financial stocks, could be attributed in part to covering by short-sellers - investors who bet stocks will fall, and are forced to buy to limit their losses when the market rallies.

Among banking stocks, Bank of America gained 28 percent, JPMorgan Chase gained 23 percent and Wells Fargo & Co. gained 18 percent.

Jon Merriman, chief executive of brokerage Merriman Curhan Ford in San Francisco, said the letter from Citi's CEO shows the bank is lending. Government officials and market analysts alike have said more lending is key to an economic recovery.

"Maybe Citibank is not going to zero, that means it's going to lend again and then the economy will turn," he said. "People today in the stock market are connecting those dots. And the market is up broadly, it's not just the banks."

Reports also surfaced Tuesday that federal regulators are considering a proposal to reinstate the "uptick rule,"

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CASH & NUMBERS

Here are Tuesday's Cash 5 numbers: 1-6-14-24-32.