

# RATON ~ NEW MEXICO NEWS

## Simulcast of Cenerentola at El Raton Theater

*Special to the Chronicle-News*

The Santa Fe Trail School for the Performing Arts will present the simulcast of "Cenerentola", a comic opera, on Saturday, May 9 at 10:30 a.m. at El Raton Theater in downtown Raton. Based on the fairy tale of Cinderella, this opera, which is set in the late eighteenth or early nineteenth century, opens in the run-down mansion of Don Magnifico, Baron of Montefiascone, as his two daughters, Clorinda and Tisbe, try on finery. His stepdaughter, Angelina who is dubbed Cenerentola because of the time she spends cleaning the cinders of the fireplace while serving the household as a maid, is singing a forlorn song about a king who marries a commoner.

Cenerentola was written by Gioacchino Rossini in 1816-17 and was at first received with hostility because of its portrayal of greed and connivance in the high class of society. But, later the opera became very

popular in Italy and the rest of Europe. Rossini took liberties with the classic fairy tale of Cinderella, making it a non-magical solution to the story because of obvious limitations of on-stage effects.

The Metropolitan Opera performance of Cenerentola stars Elina Garanca as Angelina, Cenerentola. Garanca was born into a musical family in Riga, a city in the Baltic region. Just before graduation from the Latvian Academy of Music in Riga, Ms. Garanca, a mezzo-soprano stepped into the role of Giovanna Seymour in Anna Bolena with only ten days' notice. She has since performed in Octavian Der Rosenkavalier, sang the role of Maddalena in Verdi's Rigoletto, at the Savonlinna Opera Festival, and many major opera houses and concert venues around the world. She is considered one of the music world's newest stars and in 2006 she received the European Culture Prize during a gala at

the Semper Opera in Dresden.

The remaining cast of La Cenerentola are: Rachelle Durkin as Clorinda; Patricia Risley as Tisbe; Lawrence Brownlee as Prince Ramiro; Simone Alberghini as Dandini; Alessandro Corbelli as Don Magnifico; and John Relyea as Alidoro. Musical direction is provided by Maurizio Benini.

The simulcast performance tickets for LaCenerentola are \$25 for adults and \$10 for students and are available at the Shuler Theater, Enchanted Grounds, and El Raton. The opera is over 3 hrs long and a light lunch will be available during intermission. English subtitles are a highlight and backstage interviews with the stars make the simulcast more intimate than seeing it live at the Met. The wonderful sound system at El Raton is an added bonus to the overall experience. La Cenerentola is the last Metropolitan opera of the season until next fall. For more information call (575)445-4746.



Photo courtesy of Juanita Duran, Comcast Cares.

Robert and Shawn Horner pick up trash at Comcast Cares Day in Raton.

## Comcast Cares provides service to community

By **LAURA L. BREWER**  
Raton Correspondent  
The Chronicle-News

Comcast Cares, a program which allows Comcast Cable, to give back to the community by working at one location in town to paint, clean up, and generally spruce up the area, or to provide another needed service, spent one day last week at Longfellow School.

About thirty-nine employees and other volunteers that

Comcast recruited painted the wall in front of the school, picked up trash, pulled and cleared weeds, built two shade shelters, provided a cement pad for hopscotch, and re-stripped the parking lot. Labor and supplies for the project were donated by Comcast and other local vendors.

Comcast Cares was implemented in Raton seven years ago, and has included work with the DARE program at Kearny School, a clean-up at

Legion Park and another clean-up at Raton Middle School with Raton Recreation Education Council. Comcast Cares has also worked with Service Organization for Youth to clean and work at Columbian School and the All Saints Catholic School, and to landscape the SOY office. This year Comcast Cares partnered with the junior Diabetes Research Foundation for the work at Longfellow School.



Photo by Tim Keller

Sancho Panza, Don Quixote, and Dulcinea arrive on the Shuler Theater stage this weekend in the musical production "Man of La Mancha" starring Rick Trice, Clint Henson, and Brenda Ferri.

## Man of La Mancha opens at Shuler Theater this weekend

By **TIM KELLER**  
The Chronicle-News

The Raton Choral Society brings a big musical theater production to the Shuler Theater in Raton for the next two weekends. Featuring the song "The Impossible Dream", "Man of La Mancha" opens Friday night at 7:30 pm.

Dale Wasserman's inventive reworking of Miguel de Cervantes's iconic book "Don Quixote" brings Cervantes himself into the story with an episode from his real life in which he suffered a lengthy imprisonment. Taking place during the Spanish Inquisition at the end of the 16th Century, the action takes place in the prison, but also in the imaginations of Cervantes and the other prisoners.

Don Quixote is Cervantes's creation, along with Quixote's squire Sancho Panza. Also pres-

ent is the rough woman Aldonza, whom Quixote sees only as the fair maiden Dulcinea. Quixote is touched, no longer grasping reality, but in his delusions he dares to live the idealistic and brave life we envy and admire. It's a story both entertaining and inspiring.

The Raton Choral Society brings a large cast to the stage, led by Clint Henson as Cervantes/Quixote, Brenda Ferri as Aldonza/Dulcinea, and Rick Trice as the manservant/Sancho Panza. Two dozen other local actors add vibrant supporting roles, most playing both Cervantes's fellow prisoners and characters in the story of Don Quixote.

The dramatic action is lifted occasionally into song; many of the songs have melodies and lyrics so irresistible that the-atergoers find themselves

singing them on the way home. Along with occasional bits of prerecorded music and sound effects, the play is accompanied by a live "pit band" consisting of music director Bill Crary on electric bass, Carmella Barreras on percussion, and Linda Trice on keyboards.

Crory and artistic/stage director Gail Dixon-Willden have assembled a capable cast of local talents who have clearly been enjoying themselves in rehearsals, bringing the renowned story of Don Quixote to the stage in this beloved musical.

Tickets to "Man of La Mancha" are \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors, and \$4 for students. Showtimes are 7:30 pm Friday and Saturday nights, May 8, 9, and 15, 16. There will be one Sunday matinee May 10 at 2:30 pm. The play is presented with no intermission.

## Des Moines School gets a community clean-up

Continued from page 1

the school day. "We'd divide the campus into sections and assign one class to each. They'd compete to see which class did the best job." She said last summer's community clean-up ended up focusing largely on the school. Echoing Bosarge's comments about the community's pride in its school, Graham said, "The school's what it's all about — the love of my life, that's what I tell people."

Sorenson, an RRI member, expressed appreciation to area businesses that pitched in for the project. Farmers and Stockmens Bank donated hot dogs and buns for a big barbecue that capped the work day. Baca Valley Telephone donated ice and paper goods. Studio C opened at 8:00 Saturday morning to provide free gourmet coffee to clean-up volunteers who stopped in throughout the morning.

Sorenson also praised the regular clean-up activities of the Village of Des Moines and the local maintenance division of the New Mexico

Department of Transportation.

Village staffer Carl Wingo stops at the local highway rest area every morning to clean litter and replace trash bags. Raymond Sisneros, of the DOT, provides the bags.

Saturday morning, Frances Green watched all the activity from the bench outside the Des Moines School cafeteria, which was set up for the barbecue. She came to help feed

the volunteers, who had worked up substantial appetites by the time they stopped work and followed the aroma of grilling hot dogs. Green, who brought the grill and made cookies, punch, and tea for the occasion, was ready for them with smiles and abundant food. She and the other volunteers were able to enjoy their lunch while gazing out on the results of a good morning's work.

## COLFAX COUNTY CALENDAR

May

■ May 9 - 10:00 am Simulcast of the Metropolitan Opera performance of "Cenerentola" - a comic opera  
■ May 9 - Simulcast of the Metropolitan Opera

performance of "Cenerentola" - a comic opera - El Raton Theater 10:00 am  
■ May 16 - Girl Scout Troop 1091 Bake Sale in front of International Bank, downtown Raton. 8:00 am.

## RATON POLICE BLOTTER

**ARRESTED:**

■ May 4, 2009 - Jonathan Kreykenbohm arrested for two bench warrants Out of Colorado for failure to pay fines.  
■ May 4, 2009 - Paul Padilla arrested for resisting, obstructing an officer.

**CITATIONS:**

■ April 30, 2009 - Pauline Valdez cited for open container.  
■ April 30, 2009 - Christina Ortiz cited for no insurance.  
■ May 1, 2009 - Maria Martinez cited for dog at large and no city tags.  
■ May 1, 2009 - Vanessa Varela cited for no insurance.  
■ May 1, 2009 - Chanen Eskelson cited for open container.  
■ May 4, 2009 - Jennifer Espinoza cited for illustrative enumeration

■ May 4, 2009 - Bryon Vigil cited for suspended drivers license.

■ May 4, 2009 - Sabrina Jaramillo cited for driver to be licensed.  
■ May 4, 2009 - Veneranda Chavez cited for suspended drivers license.  
■ May 4, 2009 - Daniel Dincan cited for speeding and driver to be licensed.

**INCIDENTS:**

■ April 28, 2009 - City of Raton victim of breaking and entering and criminal damage to property.  
■ April 29, 2009 - Franklin Garcia victim of criminal damage to property  
■ April 29, 2009 - Sam Serna victim of criminal damage to property.  
■ May 4, 2009 - Gloria Neurater victim of criminal damage to property.

## NOTICE

### Second Half 2008 Property Taxes are now due and payable

The Second Half 2008 Property Taxes were due on April 10, 2009 and become delinquent after May 11, 2009.

When making a payment, please include your owner or tax bill numbers with payments. We are not responsible for lost bills.

If a receipt is needed, please send a self-addressed stamped envelope.

The last day to pay the **SECOND** Half Property Taxes without interest and penalty is May 11, 2009.

If you have any questions, please contact the Colfax County Treasurers Office.

Modified Office Hours - Monday thru Friday  
Open through the Lunch Hour

Treasurer's office will be open during the lunch hour from April 13, 2009 through May 11, 2009

Phone: 445-2014

The Raton Choral Society presents



## Man of La Mancha

May 8-10, 15-16, 2009

Adults - \$8, Seniors - \$6, Students - \$4

Friday & Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

Historic Shuler Theater in Downtown Raton  
For Tickets & Info call Shuler Box Office (575) 445-4746