

THE FINE PRINT

Arthritis Exercise

Arthritis exercise classes will start on Monday, and will continue every Monday and Wednesday following. 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.

Housing Authority Resident Council

Housing Authority Resident Council will meet at 6 p.m. today at the Housing Authority Office at 128 W. First Street. All Housing Authority residents are encouraged to attend. The General Public is also welcome. Proposed use of the ARRA (stimulus funds) Grant will be discussed along with other Capital Funds.

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.

Kiwanis luncheon

The next Kiwanis luncheon will begin at 12 p.m. on Tuesday at the Leone Room at TSJC.

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WEATHER WATCH

Today: Sunny, with a high near 70. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 37. North northwest wind between 5 and 15 mph.

Tomorrow: Sunny, with a high near 74. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Tomorrow Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 39. West wind between 5 and 10 mph.

RIVER CALL

Purgatoire River Call as of 4/17/09. Lewelling & McCormick priority #13 1/1/1864.

Trinidad Lake accounting: Release, .14 acre ft.; Inflow, 77.85 acre ft.; Evaporation, 15.71 acre ft.; Content, 2,5831 acre ft.; Elevation, 6188.19; Precipitation, .18.

Downstream River Call, Ninemile 5/10/1887.

(Provided by Division of Water Resources)



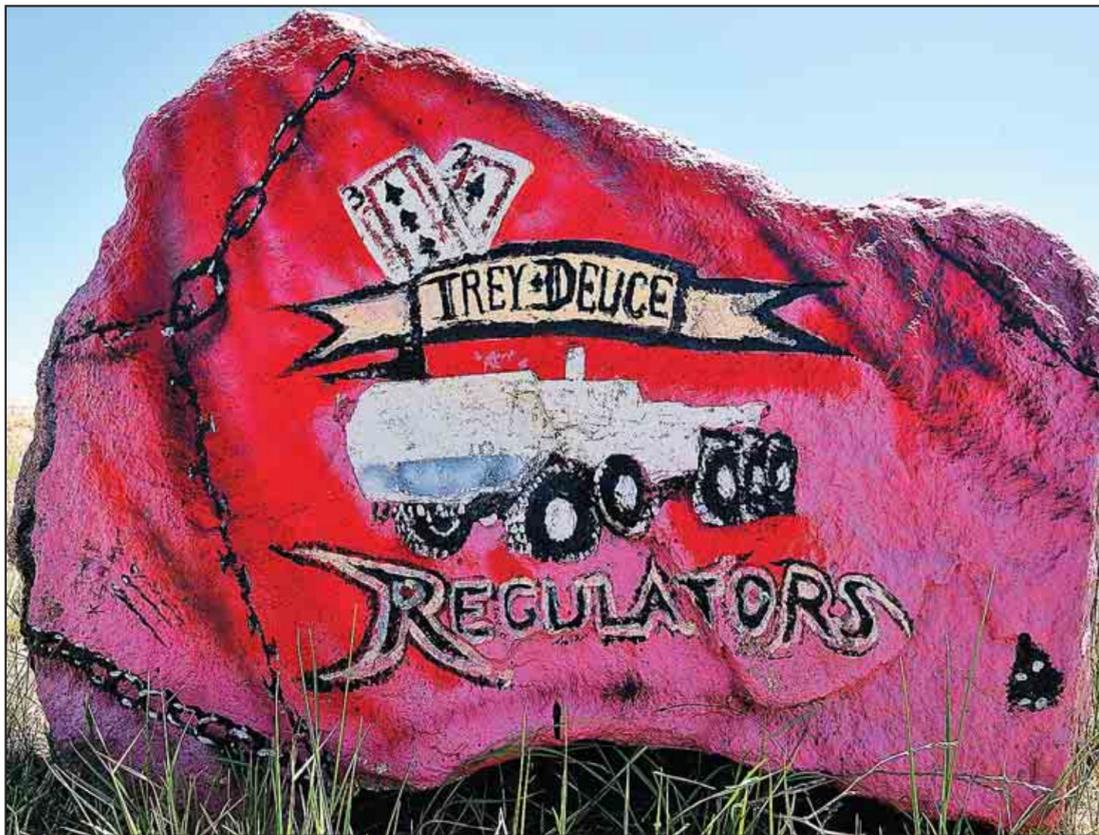
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Photo courtesy of Louis Rino

The Trinidad High School prom was held at the Quality Inn on Saturday night. Pictured here is the Prom Royalty. The students danced until midnight. The prom was a success!



Photos by Tim Keller

Even before the Piñon Canyon Art Project was founded last year, the U.S. Army had decorated the entrance to their Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site with rock art.

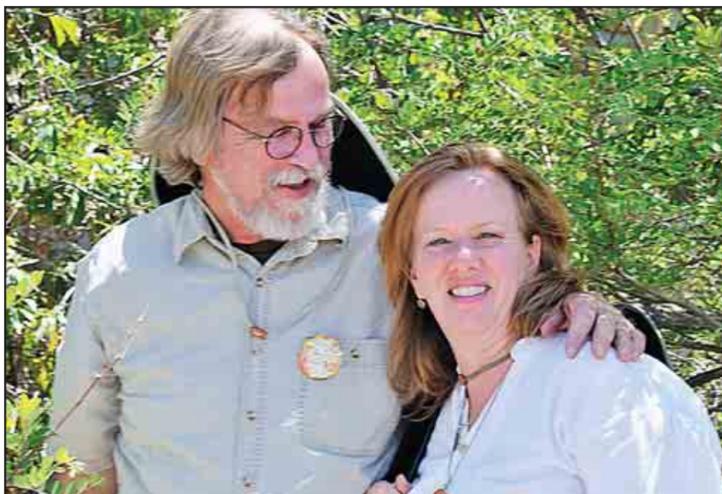
Piñon Canyon Art Project announces 2009 season

By **TIM KELLER**
The Chronicle-News

The Piñon Canyon Art Project announced its 2009 schedule Sunday, built upon the success of its first season last year. The project consists of dozens of the region's artists in various media, from across Colorado and much of northern New Mexico, who assemble on ranches in the Piñon Canyon Expansion area on the last weekend of a month to create art.

In both documenting and creating beauty, the project's artists hope to effectively add their influence to the opposition to the Piñon Canyon Expansion, the U.S. Army's proposed takeover of hundred of thousands of acres of ranchlands for expanding its existing Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site in southeastern Colorado.

Trinidad painter and teacher Doug Holdread, chairman of the TSJC art department, organized the artists' group last year to help build awareness and to raise funds for the Piñon Canyon Expansion Opposition Coalition (PCEOC). Doug's wife Lori Holdread, TSJC Learning Center Coordinator, built a powerful website, www.thislandisourland.org, and the two of them spread the word through e-mails and word of mouth. The number of participating and supporting



Piñon Canyon Art Project organizers Doug and Lori Holdread take an art break at the Mullen Ranch near Thatcher at the organization's first gathering last May.

artists quickly grew to 60.

The artists gathered on four monthly weekends last year at the Hass and Mullen ranches outside Thatcher, Picketwire Canyon and the Wooten Ranch, Apishapa Canyon and the Roberts Ranch near Walsenburg, and the Loudon Ranch near Branson.

Doug Holdread points out that the

names of these places, alone, belies a widespread impression that the Piñon Canyon Expansion area consists of little more than barren grasslands. In fact, most of the affected land consists of family ranches, many of which have been in the same families for a hundred years. As for the diverse and

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TLAC unemployment rate rises another percentage point

By **MICHAEL GARRETT**
The Chronicle-News

Trinidad and Las Animas County's unemployment rate rose another percentage point in March to 8.7 percent with the number of unemployed workers reaching 758 workers compared to 682 who were unemployed in February. The county's unemployment rate now exceeds the state's as a whole.

The county showed a total labor force of 8,674 workers with 7,916 employed during the month. In February, the figures were 8,859 for a labor force, 8,177 employed and a 7.7 percent unemployment rate.

Huerfano and Pueblo Counties' unemployment rates remained relatively stable at 10.1 and 9.1 percent, respectively from February's totals of 10.0 and 8.9 percent.

Although local gasoline pump prices have been inching upward in recent weeks, Raton Basin natural gas industry employers have given little if any indications that well drilling activities will be resuming anytime soon unless gas prices start rising more dramatically.

Colorado's seasonally adjusted jobless rate increased three-tenths of one percentage point to 7.5 percent in March, according to Donald J. Mares, executive director of the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment. "While deteriorating national economic trends continue to adversely impact Colorado's workforce, the state's current jobless rate is still a full percentage point lower than that of the U.S.," he noted. The current rate is the highest since 7.7 percent was registered in May 1987. Last March the share of the labor force unsuccessfully seeking work stood at 4.6 percent.

The number of employed Colorado residents, adjusted for normal labor force movements, fell 13,000 over the month to 2,522,100. Last March an estimated 2,597,400 Coloradans were working. The number of jobless rose 8,300 to 204,800 during the month, up 79,400 from the same period last year.

Unemployment continued to trend upward throughout much of Colorado with 47 counties reporting higher unemployment rates, eleven posting lower rates, and six showing no change over the month. Dolores County, at 15.6 percent, registered the highest rate; Yuma and Cheyenne counties, both at 3.8 percent, recorded the lowest rates.

Wage and Salary Employment

According to the monthly survey of Colorado business establishments, total non-farm employment inched up 1,900 to 2,271,700 during the month. The gain, which fell well short of seasonal expectations, was the smallest March increase since 1975 and only one-tenth of the average March increase over the past five years.

Employment changes were mostly small with the number of gaining and losing industries about evenly split. Government led the gainers with the addition of 2,800 jobs, followed by leisure and hospitality, up 1,400, and professional and business services, up 1,100.

Construction employment usually increases in March with the return of warmer weather, but the still sluggish residential and non-residential segments contributed to the industry shedding 2,100 positions over the month. Employment in manufacturing and financial activities slipped

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LOTTO NUMBERS

Here are Friday and Saturday's Cash 5, Lotto and Powerball numbers.

Friday, April 17 -
Cash 5: 5- 7- 8- 10- 26
Saturday, April 18 -
Cash 5: 2- 21- 24- 25- 28
Saturday, April 18 -
Lotto: 3- 12- 20- 29- 31- 40
Saturday, April 18 -
Powerball: 7- 15- 28- 43- 44;
Powerball: 20; Power Play: 3