



TUESDAY  
MARCH 16, 2010

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# THE CHRONICLE-NEWS

50 CENTS  
TRINIDAD  
COLORADO

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## THE FINE PRINT

Please see page 4 for all SCHOOL EVENTS

### TUESDAY

#### Las Animas Co.

Board of County Commissioner's meets 9 a.m. Tues. @ LA County Courthouse, Room #201, 200 E. First Street.

#### Pastor's Study

Meets 9 a.m. Tues @ Zion's Lutheran Fellowship Hall. All Pastors welcome.

#### Kiwanis

Kiwanis Luncheon 12 p.m. every Tues @ A Little Catering Company, 916 Arizona. Today's Guest Speaker will be George H. Hagen, O.D., local Optometrist of George H. Hagen & Associates.

#### City Council

Regular session meets 7 p.m. Tues in Council Chambers @ City Hall, Third Floor, 135 N. Animas in Trinidad.

#### Relay for Life

American Cancer Society team committee meeting & FREE early team registration 6-8 p.m. Tues @ the Trinidad Community Center, 1309 Beshoar. For more info e-mail Sharon Barrett @ <Sharon.Barrett@pxd.com> or Amy Hedges @ 859-3973

#### PEO

Chapter DE meets 7 p.m. Tues @ the Presbyterian Church Hall, 801 San Pedro.

### WEDNESDAY

#### Angel Food

March orders are due today (Weds) & may be dropped off at Town & Country Realty or Fisher's Peak Community Church. Please call Barbara Krause @ 719-846-3853 for more information.

#### Arthritis Exercise

Free Arthritis Exercise Class every Mon & Wed @ 9 a.m. @ Corazon Square & 1 p.m. @ Early Learning Center. Info call: 845-1133 ext. 224.

#### PAL

Playgroup meets 9:30 - 11 a.m. every Weds at Alta Vista, 415 S. Indiana. Moms & caregivers with infants, ages birth to 3. Playroom is also available for same time use Tues & Thurs. Information: Martina at 846-4400.

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## WEATHER WATCH

**Today:** Sunny, with a high near 58. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.



**Tonight:** Mostly clear, with a low around 28. West wind between 5 and 10 mph.

**Tomorrow:** Sunny, with a high near 62. West wind 5 to 10 mph becoming north.



**Tomorrow Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 29. Southwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

## RIVER CALL

Purgatoire river call as of 3/15/10  
Johns Priority #20 10/7/1865  
Trinidad Lake accounting:  
Release .10 acre feet  
Inflow 109.79 acre feet  
Evaporation 3.69 acre feet  
Content 21391 acre feet  
Elevation 6182.16 feet  
Precipitation .57 inches  
Downstream river call  
JMR 12/31/1948  
(Provided by Division of Water Resources)



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Photo courtesy of Tina Chavez

Ryan and Tina Chavez of Felix Chavez & Son Construction, standing at left, hold the plaques they received after being named Contractor of the Year by Equipment World Magazine and Caterpillar. Standing with them are Wagner Equipment salesman for Caterpillar in Pueblo, Mike Lewis, and his wife, Julie.

## Chavez & Son Construction receives national recognition

Courtesy of MARTY HACKETT  
Trinidad-Las Animas County Chamber of Commerce  
Special to The Chronicle-News

"I've never heard a bad word spoken about the way they do business, the quality of their work or the way they treat their employees," said Las Animas County Commissioner Gary Hill. These are but a few of the qualities that have made a small construction company in the quiet little community of Weston rise to the top.

There's a post office, a general store, a church and a smattering of homes in this small mountain town west of Trinidad on Highway 12; and sitting in their midst is Felix Chavez & Son Construction, which has just been recognized as Contractor of the Year by Equipment World Magazine and Caterpillar, making them a new legend on the Scenic

Highway of Legends.

Owner and managers Ryan and Tina Chavez, their aunt Joan Shannon and Wagner Equipment salesman for Caterpillar in Pueblo, Mike Lewis, and his wife, Julie, traveled to Las Vegas, Nev., recently to attend the ceremony, only knowing that the company made it into the top 12 finishers. They soon found out that this was no small feat as there was a field of 70,000 applications that were weeded through to reach this number. Annually, Wagner Equipment salesmen in both North and South America nominate construction companies that are owner operated, with an annual income of less than \$20 million, whose owners are active in their business and with their employees.

"They call us a dying breed," Ryan Chavez said in a quiet but resolute voice. "It's a constant battle. You have to fight and adapt

your business and keep thinking about how to keep going." His father, Felix, whose name the company bears, knew that, having been in the business most of his life as well as being a rancher and farmer.

"He didn't want to continue in the business," Ryan explained, "but after I graduated from high school, that's what I wanted to do. A friend of mine told me that he remembers ever since I was about 5 years old, I just wanted to play with trucks and dozers and those kinds of toys. I didn't want to go to college, even though I had some scholarships. I've just wanted to operate machinery all of my life."

Felix Chavez & Son Construction officially started up in 1990 and went full swing in 1993 when they began hiring employees. Ryan's sister, Jennifer, is the office manager; his wife, Tina, is

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Georgia Rino

## Trinidad School District #1 announces creation of Georgia Rino Scholarship Fund

Special to The Chronicle-News

Trinidad School District #1 is proud to announce the creation of the Georgia Rino Scholarship Fund in the honor and memory of former Board of Education President and 36-year educator, Georgia Rino, who spent her entire adult life dedicated in educational service to the children of Trinidad.

Each year for many years to come, one Trinidad High School senior that exemplifies excellence in education and community service will be awarded this scholarship in honor of Rino. Interested individuals are invited to join the Georgia Rino family and others in funding this wonderful opportunity for the students of our district.

Please make your tax-deductible contribution to:  
Trinidad School District #1  
Attention: Georgia Rino Scholarship Fund  
215 S. Maple St.  
Trinidad, CO 81082  
Also, please designate if this is a one-time contribution or if the gift will be an annual donation.

## No change in Raton election

C-N STAFF REPORT

**RATON** - Following a Monday morning public recount/recheck of the votes cast in the March 2 municipal election, results showed that the original vote count will stand.

"The returns were publicly canvassed immediately following and the results were certified again indicating no changes to the March 2, 2010, election results," according to a statement released by Raton City Clerk Michael Anne Lannon.

The recount/recheck was conducted at 9 a.m. at the City Commission Chambers, in the presence of the Precinct Board Members, Lannon, County Clerk Rayetta Trujillo, District Court Judge Paternoster, and Magistrate Judge Warren Walton, according to the public notice released by Lannon.

District 3 City Commission candidate Lorenzo Flores filed for the recount after finishing two votes behind incumbent Jesse Johnson. Flores ended up with 482 votes to Johnson's 484 votes, in results that still stand. Fellow candidate Roger Rael received 54 votes.

For District 1 Commissioner, Sandra Mantz won with 481 votes, followed by Christopher Candelario with 320 and Sara Kowalski with 232.

For municipal judge, Roy Manfredi won with 778 votes, followed by Stephen Draper with 184 votes and write-in Omer Horn with 50 votes.



Photos by Tim Keller

Berlin's Kit Kat Klub arrived at the Shuler Theater Friday night.



Actress Oakley Boycott was Sally Bowles, singing the feature song, "Cabaret."

## Shuler crowd comes to the Cabaret

By TIM KELLER  
The Chronicle-News

**RATON** - The Shuler Theater crowd descended into the dark decadence of Berlin's Kit Kat Klub when Windwood Theatricals' national-touring production of the musical Cabaret arrived in Raton Friday night.

Winner of almost two-dozen Tony Awards, including Best Musical, the popular show has enjoyed three long runs on Broadway - in the 1960s, 1980s, and 1990s - though it may be best known for the 1972 film version starring Joel Grey as the Master of Ceremonies and Liza Minnelli as actress Sally Bowles. The Shuler show was brought to town by the Raton Arts & Humanities Council.

The Windwood production featured an impressive ensemble - the company of 40 actors, musicians, and crew is on the road non-stop from January to June, traveling in two full-size buses with one large equipment trailer and an additional 18-wheel semi - led by an extraordinary performance

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