

TRIVIA

Exclusively in The Chronicle-News

Caimiro Barela originally owned the land on which this hotel was built:

- a. Columbian Hotel
- b. Toltec Hotel
- c. Coronado Hotel
- d. Denver Hotel

Yesterday's answer: Temple Aaron

WHAT'S UP TODAY?

Today is Tuesday, May 4, the 124th day of 2010. There are 241 days left in the year.

Highlights in history on this date:

- 1493 - Pope Alexander VI issues edict dividing the New World between Spain and Portugal.
- 1626 - Dutch Governor Peter Minuit lands on what is now Manhattan island.
- 1886 - At Haymarket Square in Chicago, a labor demonstration for an eight-hour workday turns into a riot when a bomb explodes.
- 1961 - A group of "Freedom Riders" leaves Washington, D.C., for New Orleans to challenge racial segregation on interstate buses and in bus terminals.
- 1970 - Four students

- protesting against Vietnam War are killed by U.S. National Guard at Kent State University in Ohio.
- 1980 - Yugoslav strongman Josip Broz Tito dies three days before his 88th birthday.
- 1982 - British destroyer HMS Sheffield sunk by missile fired from Argentine plane off the Falklands.
- 1990 - First free elections held in Croatia. The Democratic Union, led by historian and former communist Franjo Tudjman, wins; Latvia's parliament declares independence from Soviet Union.
- 1999 - The leader of Northern Ireland's major Protestant party meets Catholic protesters for the first time, hoping to prevent the violence that has accompanied a disputed parade in the predominantly

Protestant town of Portadown.

- 2000 - A teen who hijacked a passenger bus in Japan and killed a female passenger is arrested after police storm the vehicle, ending a 15-hour standoff.
- 2001 - The United States is voted off the U.N. Human Rights Commission for the first time in the world body's history.
- 2002 - A passenger plane belonging to Nigeria's private EAS Airlines crashes in a densely populated suburb of the northern city of Kano, killing 148 people.
- 2006 - Ehud Olmert is formally sworn in as Israel's prime minister with his new coalition government, winning parliamentary approval to pursue his goal of drawing Israel's final borders by 2010.
- 2008 - Two unmanned Georgian spy planes are shot down over the country's breakaway region of Abkhazia.

Today's Birthdays:

- Sir Thomas Lawrence, English artist (1769-1830); Emmanuel Robles, Algerian-French novelist/playwright (1914-1995); Audrey Hepburn, Belgian-born actress (1929-1993); Hosni Mubarak, Egyptian president (1928-); Roberta Peters, U.S. opera singer (1930-); Manuel Benitez (El Cordobes), Spanish bullfighter (1936-); Randy Travis, U.S. country singer (1959-).

Answer to previous Word Scrammage

WORD SCRAMMAGE™ SOLUTION BY JUDD HAMBRICK
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|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| U ₃ N ₂ A ₂ W ₂ A ₂ R ₂ E ₁ | 1 st DOWN = | 85 |
| B ₃ O ₂ U ₃ L ₂ L ₂ E ₁ | 2 nd DOWN = | 56 |
| D ₃ E ₁ A ₂ D ₃ P ₆ A ₂ N ₂ | 3 rd DOWN = | 79 |
| G ₃ L ₂ A ₂ C ₆ I ₂ E ₁ R ₂ | 4 th DOWN = | 78 |
| AVERAGE GAME 190-200 PTS | JUDD'S TOTAL = | 298 |

5-3-10

A rival's complaint triggers firing on worker's first day

DEAR ABBY: My wife was hired for an administrative position. On her first day of work, they called her into the human resources director's office and told her she was being "let go" because of her Web site.

The site has photos of her when she worked as a model for a large department store. They are in no way provocative or overly revealing. Photos of our children are also on the site.

The HR director told her that one of the other (internal) applicants had Googled her and had seen the site. An image so upset the other applicant that she made a formal complaint, which caused my wife's dismissal!

We consulted a lawyer and contacted the local Equal Employment Opportunity Commission only to be told that North Carolina is an "at will" employment state and that the employer did nothing wrong. We feel their actions were wrong. Is there anything that can be done? -- YANKEE IN CONFEDERATE COUNTRY

DEAR YANKEE: I'm sorry, but the answer is no. In most states there is a presumption of "at will" employment unless you have a written contract to the contrary. However, the employer cannot terminate an employee for an illegal reason -- such as age, religion, gender, sexual orientation or a disability. It does not appear from your letter that your wife was terminated for an illegal reason, but what happened stinks anyway.

DEAR ABBY: My mother got drunk at a family function and started a fight with me. I ended up leaving before it could escalate, but I feel I ruined the host's day. Would it be appropriate to send an "I'm sorry" note, and how would I word it? -- MAKING AMENDS IN TENNESSEE

DEAR MAKING AMENDS: The person making the amends should be the person who created the scene -- your mother. If you feel something needs to be said by you, and apparently you do, then write your host and say, "I feel ter-

rible about what happened at your party and would like to apologize for my mother's behavior. I left before she could create a scene, but I'm afraid it cast a shadow on your day, and for that I would like to apologize." Sign it with love.

P.S. You'll lead a happier life if you stop feeling that you have to apologize for your mother's behavior. You are responsible only for your own.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been lucky enough to travel all over the world during our long marriage. Over the years, we collected lovely items from every location.

Now that we are older, we have decided to move into a smaller home, and would like to share these lovely souvenirs with our friends. Although I think "Ellen" would love to have one of my silk scarves, and "Peter" would appreciate a pair of my husband's marble bookends, or "Annemarie" would cherish my necklace from India, etc., I'm unsure that my choices would be their choices.

Would it be proper for us to ask our friends to choose among our treasure rather than our making the choice for them? -- WORLD TRAVELER IN MIAMI BEACH

DEAR WORLD TRAVELER: I commend you for your generosity; however, you might run into trouble if several of your friends choose the same item. Were I in your shoes, I would make the selection for each of them. (Include a note with the gift -- i.e., "Ellen, this scarf matches your eyes," "Annemarie, I know you love ethnic jewelry," etc.)

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby - Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Nursing home bill passes House, heads to Senate

Continued from page 1

McKinley's bill, after it was amended, will keep the home state-owned until April 30, 2011.

Also last week, Rep. Jim Riesberg followed Rep. McKinley's bill with HB 10-1426, a late bill that would divorce the Trinidad home from the Veterans 505 Fund.

According to the governor's office, they are committed to using about \$431,000 of the state's general fund money to keep the Trinidad State Nursing Home a state facility until the end of December 2010 under

Riesberg's bill and under HB 10-1426 Riesberg claims the home would get funding from resident payments.

"We lobbied really hard last week with lawmakers to get House Bill 10-1217 passed," said Commissioner Jim Montoya. "Now, Sen. Ken Kester will lead the charge in the Senate. It was really important that they heard from and were face to face with Las Animas County

Veterans. We also talked to them about how important the home is to our community and how important it is to us economically. What I am saying is if our community had a chance to compete for a new company that was going to bring over 130 new jobs and a \$9 million payroll to Las Animas County, everyone at all levels would be working hard to bring it to the county. So we need to get out and get the word out

that we are trying to save 130 current state jobs and save a facility that generates millions of dollars a year to our local economy. We owe it to the residents and we owe it to ourselves," Montoya said.

If McKinley's bill passes through the Senate, "Gov. Ritter and his office wants local government to go out and sell a sales tax to the voters," Rep. McKinley said. "The commissioners in Las Animas

County will also have to come up with a plan "B" and "C" like designating veterans beds and working with Colorado Mental Health Institute of Pueblo to bring in residents and making it a viable entity."

The bill should go before the Senate sometime in the next week.

Lawmakers will have to decide on both bills by the end of their session on May 12.

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| 1 Year | \$72.00 |

Home Delivery Raton

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|----------------|---------|
| 1 Month | \$7.00 |
| 3 Months | \$21.00 |
| 6 Months | \$42.00 |
| 1 Year | \$84.00 |

Las Animas County Mail

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|----------------|---------|
| 1 Month | \$7.00 |
| 3 Months | \$21.00 |
| 6 Months | \$42.00 |
| 1 Year | \$84.00 |

Outside County Mail

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|----------------|---------|
| 1 Month | \$8.00 |
| 3 Months | \$24.00 |
| 6 Months | \$48.00 |
| 1 Year | \$96.00 |

Capulin Mother's Day Brunch closed by new EPA rules

Continued from page 1

"We were notified last week that we will not be allowed to open this season," Jenny Lee Pugh says, "because of new EPA rules and regulation changes that have been implemented."

The EPA now requires the restaurant to have a modern septic system installed; however, the Capulin Country Store property lacks adequate space to install the required leach field. The property is bounded tightly on two sides by state highways - Highway 64/87 connects Raton and Clayton while Highway 325 takes tourists to the popular Capulin Volcano National Monument just three miles from the store, where many tourists stop for souvenirs, supplies and, in the summer tourist season, lunch.

The Pughs don't mind installing a new septic system. In order to gain the required space, they have asked to buy enough land from the neighbors on the other two sides, but neither neighbor is interested in selling. "We can make great food, offer a wonderful dining experi-

ence, provide good service to travelers and local patrons," Jenny Lee says, "but we can't make more land."

The Capulin Country Store has been a landmark at the turnoff to the volcano since the store was built in 1964. Its sunken home-style dining room has been open as a summer restaurant since the beginning, its dark wood walls and huge open fireplace accented with hunting trophies, lariats, old cowboy hats, and display boxes of an impressive collection of old ammunition. Local families feel right at home at the annual Mother's Day brunch buffet.

The restaurant is hardly a high-volume operation: it averages 25 diners each four-hour day, 7 days a week, 4 months each year from Mother's Day through Labor Day.

The Pughs bought the business and property in 1985; they live in the family residence behind the store. Both the store and the residence are "grandfathered" in - the sewage system installed in 1964 does not have to be replaced by a modern septic system unless the

property is sold. But the restaurant, under new EPA rules, must now comply or close.

(EPA rules are enforced locally by the New Mexico Environment Department. The NMED representative in charge, Monica Steinberger, was not permitted to answer questions last week for The Chronicle-News, whose inquiries were diverted to the NMED spokeswoman in Santa Fe, Marissa Bordino; the latter did not respond to messages left on her voicemail Wednesday and Friday.)

"There has never been a food or waterborne illness reported by anyone who has eaten in our restaurant," says Jenny Lee Pugh. "The water quality tests have always been good and approved. Our reputation as a restaurant is unblemished. We are featured in New Mexico travel guides and have been promoted in Sunset Magazine, the Denver Post, and newspapers in Amarillo, Dallas, Clayton, and Albuquerque." Indeed, New Mexico Magazine's proposed featurette on the restaurant's open-faced chili size - the Volcano Burger - will not

see print unless the restaurant finds a way to open.

"We are the only business in Capulin that has employees," Pugh says. "Some of them have worked for us for many years. They will feel the loss of their wages this summer. The loss of revenue will impact our own livelihood. Our vendors will also feel the loss since their goods and services won't be needed. Tax revenue from this area will decline, which will affect Union County, the State of New Mexico, and the federal government."

"We think the EPA should rethink their decision and allow us to open the restaurant based on its performance over the years - not on rules and regulations that have changed since our restaurant opened."

In the meantime, families planning to enjoy this year's annual Mother's Day brunch buffet at the Capulin Country Store should call ahead (575) 278-3900. Unless something changes this week, the news won't be good.

Small business outreach event planned

Special to The Chronicle-News

The Trinidad & Las Animas County Chamber of Commerce and the Office of Economic Development are hosting a Small Business Outreach event Wednesday, May 5 to assist local companies and businesses in identifying government contracting opportunities.

Procurement & Technical Assistance Training counselors educate in such areas as identify-

ing preference eligibility; assisting in completing registrations; assist in completing applicable certifications; providing information on government database identifying opportunities; researching contract award histories; understanding solicitation requirements and terminology; reviewing bids and proposals, and locating specifications and standards.

"I encourage all businesses

and companies to take advantage of this opportunity, whether you cook food, sell pencils, or move dirt. There are opportunities out there to contract with agencies such as the Department of Forestry, Ft. Carson, and the State of Colorado Procurement Office and a host of other government agencies," said the Chamber's Director of Communications Marty Hackett.

The purpose of the Colorado

PTAC is to generate employment and improve general economic condition of the state by assisting all Colorado companies, including those eligible for preferential consideration in obtaining and performing under local, state and federal government contracts.

The PTAC training meeting will take place in the Trinidad State Jr. College Sullivan Center in the Leone Lounge from 1:30-4 p.m. RSVPs are appreciated but not required. Please call the Chamber office at (719) 846-9285 or the ED office at (719) 846-9412.