



WEDNESDAY  
JULY 21, 2010

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# THE CHRONICLE-NEWS

50 CENTS  
TRINIDAD  
COLORADO

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## THE FINE PRINT

Trinidad's Community Calendar is designed to keep you apprized of all upcoming local fun events & important meetings. You won't want to miss a single thing!

### WEDNESDAY 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.

### Chamber Event

Trinidad & LA County monthly "Business During Lunch" meets 12 p.m. 3rd Wed in the Pioneer Room @ TSJC. RSVP to Marty @ 719-846-9285.

### E-911 Meeting

Las Animas County E-911 Authority Board meets 1:30 p.m. 3rd Weds @ City Hall Conference Room, 135 N. Animas. Info call (719) 846-4441.

### LaCasa - Fiesta

Meeting for all members 2 p.m. every Wed @ LaCasa Lodge in Jansen.

### Stroke Survivors

Support Groups of Pueblo meets 2 p.m. 3rd Weds @ Trinidad State Nursing Home, 409 S. Benedicta Ave.

### Aguilar Football

High School Football is back in Aguilar. All Aguilar High School Students who want to participate in Wildcat football this fall need to attend the upcoming camp @ 5 p.m. Wed @ the football field. For more information call Coach Frank Coppa at 719-941-4555.

### FP Fire

Fisher's Peak Fire Protection Board of Directors meets 6 p.m. 3rd Wed @ Fire Station #1 Starkville. Public is invited.

### THURSDAY Rotary Club

Weekly Luncheon & Meeting 12 p.m. every Thurs. @ the Holiday Inn, 3130 Santa Fe Trail Dr.

### Schools

★Aguilar - Early pre-registration for all grades 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. & 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Thurs, July 22, 420 N. Balsam.

### Concerts for Causes

Mitchell Museum hosts Sam Bachicha & Synchrony 7 p.m. Thurs, July 22 @ the museum, 150 E. Main Street. For tickets call 719-846-4224 or \$10 @ the door. Proceeds to benefit the museum & the Kiwanis Youth Arts Academy.

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## WEATHER WATCH

**Today:** Scattered showers and thunderstorms after noon. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 90. Southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent. New rainfall amounts of less than a tenth of an inch, except higher amounts possible in thunderstorms.

**Tonight:** A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 63. Breezy, with a southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

**Thursday:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 91. Southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph becoming calm.

**Thursday Night:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 61. West southwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

## RIVER CALL

Purgatoire river call as of 7/20/10  
Hoehne priority #20 10/7/1865  
Trinidad Lake accounting  
Release 347.06 af  
Inflow 134.49 af  
Evaporation 18.43 af  
Content 21,244 af  
Elevation 6,181.95  
Precipitation .17  
Downstream river call  
Highland Canal 5/31/1866  
(Provided by Division of Water Resources)



Photo by Richard Sitts

Trinidad resident Paula Ozzello, left, expresses her concerns Tuesday morning while Gloria Gutierrez, regional director for U.S. Sen. Mark Udall (D-CO), takes notes. Gutierrez and Loretta Kennedy, southeast regional director for U.S. Rep. John Salazar (D-CO) set up shop from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. upstairs in the Bell Block Building to visit with area residents who came in with questions or ideas.

## Udall, Salazar reps visit Trinidad

By RICHARD SITTS  
The Chronicle-News

Representatives from two different political offices came to Trinidad Tuesday to listen to the concerns of local residents.

Gloria Gutierrez, regional director for U.S. Sen. Mark Udall (D-CO), accompanied by intern Teelin Lucero, and Loretta Kennedy, southeast regional director for U.S. Rep. John Salazar, all came down from their Pueblo offices. They took over a room upstairs in the Bell Block Building in downtown Trinidad for two hours.

First up was Trinidad resident Paula Ozzello, who Gutierrez and Kennedy knew from previous meetings. Ozzello covered three main topics on which Gutierrez took notes. Ozzello also had pages of typed copy that she left with Gutierrez. She talked about the

frustrations that Las Animas County ranchers are having with continuing drought conditions, while weather maps drawn up elsewhere show the county in a "tropical" area.

Next, she shared her concerns about the storage of nuclear waste from nuclear power plants. Construction of new plants should be stopped, she said, until the waste can be safely stored, above ground, in arctic conditions where it can be monitored. She said that Las Animas County was once considered as a dumping ground for underground nuclear waste, where it cannot be adequately monitored in case it leaks and contaminates the water table.

Lastly, Ozzello asked the representatives to help protect the private property of area ranchers against any proposed expansion of the Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site east of Trinidad. Gutierrez

and Kennedy reported that the next meeting on the subject will be held at the site beginning at 11 a.m. on Aug. 5. Ozzello said she was hopeful for Udall's help because he sits on the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Gutierrez and Kennedy both agreed that the involved folks from Washington, D.C., should come out and physically tour the area so that they can learn what they are dealing with. Gutierrez said that Udall's key staff members have been out to tour southeastern Colorado.

Ozzello also mentioned related frustrations that people back east "thought that we were over in Alamosa." And somehow, she added. Trinidad ended up in someone's records as having a California zip code. She told the representatives that there have been some breakdowns in com-

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## Barbara Farrar is no common fool

By TIM KELLER  
The Chronicle-News

**RATON** - Veteran stage actress Barbara Farrar returned to Raton and the Shuler Theater this summer to play the fool.

It's all an act. Farrar has crafted a long career on the stage, acting throughout America and in England. Born in Mississippi and raised in Arkansas, she is often cast as a Southern mother or grandmother - "All I have to do is remember my own mother, my grandmother and all my aunts," she explains - but this summer she plays Lenya Zubritsky, a rural Russian wife and mother of a century ago, in Neil Simon's raucously funny farce, Fools.

Designed and directed by Farrar's husband, Tom Evans, Fools opened July 1 and finishes its season with performances on July 23 and 24.

On stage or in person, it's hard to believe that this lively, energetic woman has been acting before audiences for more than 60 years - since long before her 1950 graduation from Lepanto High School in rural Arkansas. Lepanto was blessed with a talented artist, Mrs. Cothran, who taught "Expression" lessons for young people. Farrar's parents signed her up with the "speech teacher" while Farrar was in the first grade. "They apparently knew that I was a showoff," Farrar smiles. Mrs. Cothran nurtured and trained her all the way through high school, including one-woman shows before 100 people while she was in the 8th and 12th grades.

She carried a drama scholarship - "We were poor" - down to college in Hattiesburg, Miss., where she soon met Tom Evans. They married at the end of her junior year when he graduated; they went on to Ohio State and the University of Wisconsin, where he earned his masters and doctorate degrees in theatre while she stayed home to tend two children - Carley, now 56, and a speech



Photo by Tim Keller

Barbara Farrar is in residence at the Shuler Theater this summer.

pathologist in Charleston, S.C., and Tom III, 50, an independent filmmaker in Denver. Farrar and Evans have five grandchildren.

Evans proceeded to a long and distinguished career at Hanover College in Indiana, which allowed Farrar to finish her own degree in theatre there in 1968. She later went to England, to Shakespeare's home of Stratford-upon-Avon, to earn her masters degree in Shakespeare Text and Performance in 1989.

Never in her life, though, has she stopped acting. Even while

serving as the executive director of the Indiana Theatre Association from 1977-1988, she took acting jobs on stages in North Carolina, Virginia, and Arizona. She became the first theatre artist to be funded by the National Endowment for the Arts for residencies in public schools. She took acting workshops with the Royal Shakespeare Company and studied in Hollywood for eight weeks with legendary acting coach Viola Spolin.

Beginning in the mid-80s,

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## Monthly county furlough days to begin Friday

BY DAVID J. SANTISTEVAN JR.  
The Chronicle-News

On Tuesday the Las Animas County Board of Commissioners approved a local agreement with the United Mine Workers of America Local 6126 for all county employees to take one unpaid furlough day a month for the remainder of 2010.

The furlough days will start this Friday, July 23, for all employees. The other furlough dates announced are Aug. 27, Sept. 24, Oct. 22, Nov. 19, and Dec. 17.

The agreement stipulates that the one unpaid day implemented each month is a reduction in the amount that the county contributes to the retirement for all union members, but the agreement will not affect or change the county's participation in the employees' health insurance package.

Now, if affected employees have to work on established furlough days for any reason, then those workers will be assigned another furlough day to take on a succeeding Monday.

Finally, the reduction in pay to affected county workers will be an eight-hour work day, to be split into four-hour segments, reducing payroll for these affected workers. This will result in less of a financial impact over the two pay periods every month.

When asked by The Chronicle-News why he voted no furlough day, Chairman Jim Montoya replied, "Our budget was already set for the remainder of 2010. I did not think that it was the right thing to do, or for me to vote for. I did not vote against it because I am in my final term. That is the furthest thing from the truth. I voted against it when you are liv-

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## Pro-active bi-county probation department offering lots of new programs

By MIKE GARRETT  
The Chronicle-News

The 3rd Judicial District Probation Department is seeking and implementing more pro-active approaches and programs to reduce crime in the bi-county area rather than take a reactive course after an offense is already committed.

Las Animas-Huerfano County Chief Probation Officer Bernie Fay, nearing his seventh year on the job, gave an extensive overview Tuesday of what the probation department is doing these days to keep in line the 570 people (including 35 juveniles) who are currently out on probation. Those actions include several relatively new rehab programs designed to keep convicted criminals from committing repeat offenses.

Fay noted that of the Trinidad Police Department's recent drug sting operation involving 18 arrest warrants for alleged drug trafficking, only two were served on probationary people.

A common theme prevalent among those arrested for committing a crime in Las Animas and Huerfano Counties is the relationship offenders have had with drugs and alcohol abuse. "A population on probation has a significant alcohol and drug problem. The question then becomes whether that drives the criminal act," Fay said.

Fay estimates "that 50 to 65 percent of our district's population is under the influence of some altering drug when they commit an offense. And there is another high percentage that is committing an offense because of his or her addiction to meth or cocaine.

"We do assessments of people when they come on probation with the substance abuse process and we find that between 80 and 90 percent of those people have a pretty significant substance abuse problem," said Fay. "Alcohol is

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