



TUESDAY  
AUGUST 17, 2010

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# THE CHRONICLE-NEWS

50 CENTS  
TRINIDAD  
COLORADO

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## THE FINE PRINT

Stay on top of your day. Check the Fine Print Feature in your Chronicle-News everyday for upcoming local meetings & events. If you need to submit an item please send it to: cathy@trinidadchroniclenews.com.

### TUESDAY

#### Las Animas Co.

Board of County Commissioner's meets 9 a.m. 1st & 3rd Tues. @ LA County Courthouse, Room #201, 200 E. First Street.

#### Area Home Schoolers

Raton & Trinidad - join us for a weekly playgroup at Round-up Park (Trinidad Fairgrounds) 10:30 a.m. every Tues. This group is for local home schooling families to get to know each other. For more info call 719-846-2019 or e-mail: harthomeschool@yahoo.com.

#### Kiwans

Weekly luncheon 12 p.m. every Tues @ A Little Catering Company, 916 Arizona.

#### Hoehne FPD

Board of Directors meeting 6:30 p.m. 3rd Tues @ the Hoehne Fire Station. All interested persons are invited to attend.

#### City Council

Regular session meets 7 p.m. 1st & 3rd Tues in Council Chambers @ City Hall, Third Floor, 135 N. Animas in Trinidad.

### WEDNESDAY

#### Local Schools

Trinidad High School - New student registration 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Wed (Aug 18). Please call the school @ 719-846-2971 for an appointment.

#### 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.

#### Ave Maria Shrine

Rosary 11 a.m. Wed @ the shrine located directly behind the Mt. San Rafael Hospital. Call Carol Sola @ 719-846-7936 for more information.

#### 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.

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## RIVER CALL

Purgatoire river call as of 8/16/10  
South Side priority #80 4/7/1877  
Trinidad Reservoir accounting  
Release 156.14 acre ft.  
Inflow 275.99 acre ft.  
Evaporation 11.85 acre ft.  
Content 20,126 acre ft.  
Elevation 6,180.33  
Precipitation .0  
Downstream river call  
Nine Mile 5/10/1887  
1 cubic (cfs) foot per second equals one cubic foot of water passing a point in one second of time.  
1 acre-foot equals a quantity of water required to cover one acre of land to a depth of one foot.  
1 cubic foot per second = 1.9835 acre-feet per day (24 hrs)  
(Provided by Division of Water Resources)



## THE CHRONICLE-NEWS

is seeking to hire an experienced **Business Office Manager** with a minimum of 5 years management experience, strong background in bookkeeping, proficient in Microsoft Excel and Word. Must have good people skills, a degree in a business-related field and newspaper experience a plus. Offering competitive wages and comprehensive benefits package.

Email resume to: ayellott@americanpress.com or mail or deliver resume to: **The Chronicle-News**  
132 N. Commercial St., Ste. C  
Trinidad, Colo. 81082  
Attn: Ava Yellott



Photo by Richard Sitts

Trinidad School District #1 employees were honored Monday morning for their years of outstanding service. On hand to pass out the pins were Superintendent Mike Tranter, Board of Education President Linda Vigil and board member Vic Meyers. Following are the number of years and the employees: 25 years - Randy Begano, Marilyn Castillo and Jennifer Kimble; 20 years - Galene Connell and Shonie Pachelli; 15 years - Gerald Armijo, Penny Bueno, Michael Duran and Michael Sciortino; 10 years - Adele Abeyta, Kevin Crosby, Rose East, Lisa Glorioso, David Lucero, Andy Martinez, Sally Santistevan and Belinda Webber; and five years - Regina Morelli, Kristee Coberly, Michael Dasko, Melissa Dixon, Janet Faverino, Marcie Knezel, Michelle Kussman, Roger Lujan, Toni Mangino, Salvador Sanchez, Delfinia Vialpando and Zeb Williamson.

## District welcomes back teachers, staff

By RICHARD SITTS  
The Chronicle-News

Trinidad School District #1, the oldest school district in the state, welcomed back all its teachers and other staff Monday morning by handing out service pins and going through an informational program in the Trinidad Middle School Auditorium.

Superintendent Mike Tranter had principals introduce new staff members and then proceeded to go through the results of an employee survey in which staff were asked whether they approved of certain subjects or issues. Tranter compared the results in percentages, as compared to the same questions asked last year. He went through the positives first.

Concerning the length of the school year, 89 percent of staff approved, up from 73 percent last year. This indicates that most employees are in favor of the switch to a four-day week, Tranter said.

■ Approval of building leadership increased to 84 percent from 73 percent last year.

■ Implementation of school improvement planning increased to 81 percent from 64 percent.

■ Classified: Negotiated agreement increased to 81 percent from 51 percent last year.

■ Certified: Effectiveness of Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) - 63 percent. In its first year, this level of satisfaction is outstanding, Tranter said.

■ Overall satisfaction with the district increased to 80 percent from 70 percent.

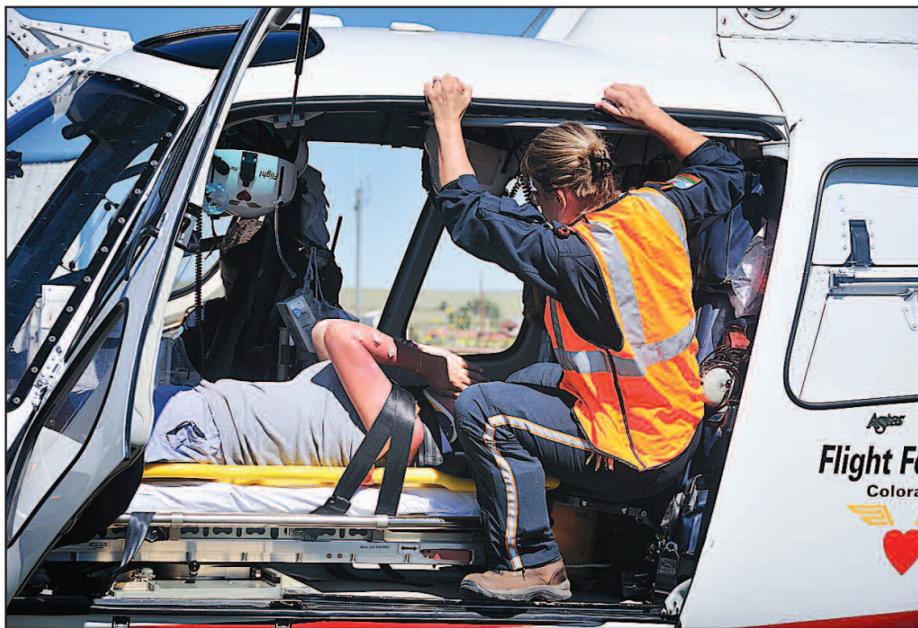
Tranter also went through the negative aspects, which he said presented challenges, and called them "opportunities."

■ Technology: Use in instruction and support - 57 and 62 percent of certified staff are dissatisfied. "As a district, this is one area in which we're really behind," Tranter said.

■ About 47 percent of staff are dissatisfied with the level of parental support, according to the survey. "This is going to require a lot of outreach on our part," Tranter said, adding that parents need to be invited to participate in Math Nights.

■ As for having the resources to get the job done, 39 percent of staff said they are dissatisfied. Staff members have done as well as they can on their

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Photos by Tim Keller

Colorado Flight Nurse Lisa Wagner climbs into the Flight for Life helicopter to treat a burn patient prior to lift-off.

## Mass casualty incident drill tests emergency responders

By TIM KELLER  
The Chronicle-News

DES MOINES - A white 1990 Chevy Suburban carrying six teenagers from an all-night party veered into the oncoming lane of traffic on Highway 64/87 in Des Moines just after 9:30 a.m. Saturday, setting off a chain reaction as four vehicles sustained major damage and 11 passengers were injured, some critically; one small child died at the scene.

When the call went out to area emergency responders at 9:42, it was over their radios rather than through the usual 911 call system, because this incident was an elaborately-planned Multiple Casualty Incident (MCI) drill involving 12 agencies, 13 emergency vehicles, 12 "patients," and 48 emergency responders from as far away as Clayton and Pueblo.

Indeed, the responders were waiting in the parking lot of Farmers and Stockmens Bank, out of sight about a quarter-mile from the scene. They knew something big was coming for this training exercise, but they knew no details until the events unfolded.

The patients arrived at the Des



The Union County MCI Trailer brought triage materials, including color-coded tarps for treatment areas; red is the most serious area short of death - which is black.

Moines EMS building at 7:30 to be briefed on their injuries and receive moulage - the sophisticated makeup simulating those injuries. At 9 a.m. they listened to instructions and further training from six of the event's organizers in succession, even as the emergency responders gathered to receive their instructions in the shade of the bank, where morn-

ing grogginess was rapidly being replaced by adrenaline.

At 9:30 the patients took their positions in and around four wrecked vehicles that had been spilled into position with a backhoe Friday night by Des Moines EMS Director Paul Briesch. When Folsom EMS Director and Medical Operations Manager Kim

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## Police search for suspect after stabbing death

C-N STAFF REPORT

Local police are searching for a suspect after a man died from a stab wound that he allegedly sustained in a Trinidad bar late Sunday night. Kyle William Phillips, 24, of Weston was allegedly stabbed by Trinity Jay Romero, 32, of Trinidad, after a disagreement at the Empty Pocket Saloon at 1810 N. Linden.

Las Animas County Sheriff's Department officers were called to the bar at 11:45 p.m. Upon arrival, authorities found Phillips lying on his back near the entrance to the bar, with a stab wound to the chest. Phillips had stopped breathing but paramedics were able to revive him before he was transported to Mt. San Rafael Hospital, where he later was pronounced dead.

An arrest warrant was issued for Romero Monday afternoon charging Romero with murder in the second degree, a Class Two Felony. Romero was still not in custody by early Monday evening.

The Las Animas County Sheriff's Department is still investigating the incident.

## La Veta man dies in single-vehicle rollover

C-N STAFF REPORT

A La Veta man died Friday night after the vehicle he was driving rolled over on Hwy. 160, four miles west of Walsenburg in Huerfano County.

Henry Sanchez, 55, was not wearing his seatbelt at the time of the crash and was ejected during the rollover sequence, according to the Colorado State Patrol. The sole passenger, Tara Bernal, 30, of Walsenburg also was not wearing a seatbelt and sustained serious injuries, according to police. Alcohol use is being investigated as a contributing factor, police said.

About 8 p.m. Friday, a 1996 Toyota Camry was traveling westbound when it entered a curve and went off the northern side of the roadway. The car then re-entered the roadway and rotated off the southern side before rolling two and one-half times, according to police.

## Several egg brands recalled due to Salmonella contamination

Special to The Chronicle-News

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment Monday announced that Wright County Egg of Galt, Iowa, is voluntarily recalling eggs produced by its farms on specific dates because of possible contamination with Salmonella enteritidis, a foodborne bacteria that can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems.

Eggs affected by the recall were  
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## WEATHER WATCH

Today: A 10 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 85. Northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.



Tonight: A 10 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Partly cloudy, with a low around 58. East southeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west southwest.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 91. Southwest wind between 5 and 15 mph.



Wednesday Night: A 10 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 57. Southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.

# My Two CENTS

It doesn't seem possible. Next week is Justin's birthday. He's been able to rote count for a while, but we have used this new milestone to begin counting



**Nikki Thompson-Arko**  
Special to The Chronicle-News

with one-to-one correspondence. Hence, three candles for his cake this year. Unlike many grandparents who only see their grandkids once in a blue moon, I get to spend every day with Justin. He has been such a big part of my life that I can't imagine a day without him in it. That's not to say that every day has been a walk in the park. Even the apple of my eye has moments that are less than stellar. On those days Justin hears the same question asked as my kids did, "Where are all the child-stealing gypsies when you need them?"

There is no way to sugar coat it. Justin had a rough start. Once he got going in the right direction, he made up for lost time. He met every roadblock head on

## Three candles on the cake

and eventually broke through it or found a way around it. Talking has been by far his biggest challenge to date. It wasn't that he didn't want to talk. That boy can talk up a blue streak! He picked up on how to take turns in a conversation, to change the inflection for questions and even laugh when he said something funny. But his articulation sucks and he sounds like a Japanese auctioneer, especially when he gets excited about what he is trying to tell you.

Speech therapy is helping, but it was signing that got him moving forward again. He caught on to sign language pretty quickly and it eased his frustration some. Truthfully, he caught on faster than I did. We had some opposition by those who thought learning sign language would hinder speech development even further. But as he learned the words, those signs fell by the wayside just as the research data said it would.

While most preschoolers' behavior can be lulled into a stupor with Sesame Street or cartoons, Justin's television tastes are a little different. If you want to immobilize him turn on, "How It's Made." He stands in the middle of the living room floor mesmerized from start to finish. If the commercials seem to take too long he points at the television and says, "Naanaaaaaa!" As if I have any control over it.

It was evident pretty early on that Justin is very mechanically inclined. He wants to know how everything works before he plays with it. He gets mad if you try to show him because he wants to figure it out for himself. My folks bought Justin his first set of tools when he was about 18 months old. He would proudly show you his tools but you weren't allowed to touch them. Over time he has mastered using them. Despite the fact that they are plastic, Justin was able to take off the arm doohickey thing on my front screen

door.

I was a little shocked when he said, "Nana, look," and ran his hand along the door like one of Bob Barker's models. I pushed aside my gut reaction since the pieces seemed meticulously removed and not simply ripped apart. He looked up at me, waiting for me to say something. So I said, "You took it apart so you have to fix it." He did. The time-out timer repair, however, did not go as smoothly. I don't want to start any conspiracy theories, but let's face it, putting that back together was not in his best interest.

Justin doesn't wait for an invitation for his assistance if someone is working on something that involves tools. He gets down in the dirt, picks up a tool, and gets to work. For complex projects he is willing to receive some directions, but his role must include working, not just watching. He isn't a kid who is content to sit on the sidelines and hold the bolts.

But it isn't just boyish mechanical projects he wants to master. Justin loves to cook. When I am working in the kitchen he pulls a chair over and digs right in. When he learned how to make scrambled eggs I turned my back for a second and he had every egg in the house broken into the mixing bowl. That night, everyone ate scrambled eggs, whether they wanted to or not.

The night I showed Justin how to make a grilled cheese sandwich, he insisted on making more than one. After a fierce round of negotiation he settled for two. That was also when he learned about the "five-second rule." To this day Uncle Jon doesn't know he got the sandwich that hit the floor. Well...I suppose if he reads this...he'll figure it out.

Justin "helps" me sew. He likes guiding the fabric across the feed dogs. He likes it even better when I take my machines apart to clean and oil them. "Mario

Andretti's" pedal privileges, however, have been revoked for the time being. Sewing machines were not built to handle that many RPMs.

Since I almost always have knitting in my hands, Justin "helps" with that, too. He puts his hands on top of mine and away we go. The faster I knit the funnier he thinks it is. When I am hand-sewing or working on another needle-art activity he likes to pull the needle through the fabric.

Sometimes he gets impatient with me being particular about my needle placement, but he is a pretty good sport. Sometimes, when no one is looking, he tries to "help" the project along unguided. Years ago, I would have pitched a fit, but the temperance that comes with middle age reminds you that his contribution to the project isn't permanent. No harm, no foul.

Someday, Justin is going to realize how boring and

lame I really am. Until then, I plan to revel in every project we can do together no matter how it turns out. I plan to cherish every good-night and goodbye hug and kiss he has to offer between now and when he thinks it's gross. And I'll count out three birthday candles a million more times if that's what it takes to keep him moving forward.

Your feedback is welcome at [nikkiarko@yahoo.com](mailto:nikkiarko@yahoo.com).

**FOX**  
BOX OFFICE OPENS 7:00  
SHOW STARTS 7:30  
now showing  
**MICHAEL CERA**  
**SCOTT PILGRIM**  
VS. THE WORLD  
PG-13  
423 W. Main • 846-2851

**THE MOVIE PICTURE SHOWHOUSE**  
*The Expendables*  
Mon-Thurs: 7:15/9:20 p.m.  
RATED R - No one under 17 admitted with out parent. ID's required  
*The Other Guys*  
Mon-Thurs: 7:9:10 p.m.  
RATED PG13  
*Cats and Dogs: Revenge of Kitty Galore*  
Mon-Tues: 6:45/8:40 p.m.  
RATED PG  
*Despicable Me*  
Mon-Thurs: 6:30 p.m.  
RATED PG  
*Salt*  
Mon-Thurs: 8:30 p.m.  
RATED PG-13  
STARTS WED., AUG. 18  
*Vampires Suck*  
Wed-Thurs: 6:45/8:40 p.m.  
RATED PG-13  
3600 E. Main • 846-0552

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individual mashed potatoes with gravy | 1 baked biscuit  
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dine in - drive thru - carry out

## Taiko drums liven up serene gardens



Photos by Richard Sitts

In the top photo, professional Taiko drummers Toni Yagami and Lance Acker, on the right, get a kick out of encouraging their two guest drummers during a performance Saturday afternoon in the Baca-Bloom Heritage Gardens as part of the ongoing Celebrate Japan! Joining in on the fun are two 8th grade band drummers from Trinidad Middle School, from left, Josh Paradiso and Joah Hoffpauir. In the bottom photo, the enthralled crowd of about 50 learns the hand and arm movements that go along with the captivating drum and flute music. Iced green tea, tea cakes and Japanese crunchy snacks also were served.

## Mass casualty incident drill tests emergency responders

**Continued from page 1**  
Atwater issued the emergency call, the exercise's dedicated radio channel came to life as, one by one, the various units responded.

Each of the four surrounding areas - Folsom, Capulin, Grenville, and Des Moines - sent its ambulance and multiple fire trucks. Union County Undersheriff Colleen Johnston started from Clayton. New Mexico State Police sent a unit to control highway traffic as emergency vehicles arrived and departed.

Just as in actual emergencies, the radio calls from volunteer responders were staggered over several minutes. Folsom EMS was first, at 9:43: "Folsom 2349 is 10-8

to the accident at Des Moines, three personnel on board." The Union County MCI trailer was next, followed by Capulin Rescue, Grenville Fire, Des Moines EMS, and the others, 13 responding vehicles altogether.

Then, at the accident site, a funny thing happened - absolute stillness and silence. Nothing. As in real life, it takes awhile after the 911 call before those on the scene see anything happen, especially in such a remote area where volunteer responders are dropping everything else - work, dinner, sleep - to don emergency gear and hurry to the EMS or fire building to join their teammates and drive emergency vehicles many miles to the scene.

Saturday's silence was broken by the distant approach of a helicopter from the north as Flight for Life passed over the Des Moines Cemetery on its way from St. Mary Corwin Hospital in Pueblo to a designated landing zone beside the accident site. Pilot Dale Geanetta shut off the engine, then he and flight nurses John Houston and Lisa Wagner stood by to watch the show: in the planned scenario, they would arrive in a half hour, one of the few timings Saturday that weren't remarkably realistic.

Over the next 10 minutes, the silence was

replaced by controlled chaos as ambulances and fire trucks discharged 48 EMTs and firefighters, overseen by an incident commander, Des Moines Paramedic Jan Pryor, who was assisted by Medical Operations Manager Kim Atwater, Safety Officer David McDonald, Logistics Officer Brad Atwater, Triage Officer Paul Briesch, and Union County Emergency Manager Zina Schamber.

While some EMTs set up equipment and triage stations for the multiple casualty incident, others took inventory of the scene and patients. Is the scene safe? How many vehicles are involved? Is there a vehicle missing, out of sight? What specific damage occurred to each vehicle, and how might that affect each occupant?

Did an airbag deploy? Was this patient belted? How many people were in this car? Is anyone missing, perhaps thrown into the bar ditch? Which patient should be treated first? What should be done with the others?

One vehicle is balanced precariously on its sides and has to be stabilized. Patients are still trapped within vehicles. Dressed in full bunker gear on this bright August morning, firefighters hurry to secure the vehicles and gain access for the EMTs.

The EMTs use a universal triage system to sort patients and their care. Each patient is quickly assessed and a triage tag attached with brief notations. A patient with only minor injuries - "the walking wounded" - is designated Green and walked to a safe zone for later treatment. A patient who is dead or almost certain to die is left in place, tagged Black, so EMTs can render aid where they can do more good.

Patients with high respirations, poor blood flow, and/or impaired mental status are designated Red: they get the first treatment. The remaining patients are designated Yellow and escorted to an area where they can get the next available care.

A danger is tunnel vision: a responder easily gets lost in his or her specific response. Accidents can happen. Responders lose track of the big picture. That's why, in real MCIs and in this drill, one experienced responder takes the duty of incident command. That person stands apart, radio in hand, monitoring and directing all activity associated with the scene. As the scene grows, the IC may be joined by a Medical Operations Manager, a Safety Officer, a Triage Manager - even a Public Information Officer to handle media relations.

Fortunately, multiple casualty incidents are rare, but that means the responders have little experience with the carefully orchestrated procedures. They train in classrooms, fire

halls, and EMS buildings, but that's learning by white board, of limited use when the real thing hits the fan. Thus, Saturday's multi-agency emergency drill.

It was over by 11 a.m., all the patients feeling much better and responders cleaning up the scene. By noon, most of the 60-some participants gathered in the Des Moines EMS building for a de-briefing and lunch.

Colorado Flight Nurse John Houston expressed his helicopter crew's admiration for the entire morning's response. He said the drill's four fire departments and four emergency medical services coordinated their efforts with impressive effectiveness. "It was methodical, step-by-step, and by the book. Most important, it was safe," he said.

Flight Nurse Lisa Wagner agreed. "It's easy to see that all these responders are used to working together. They may come from different towns and organizations, but they clearly worked as a single team. I was impressed."

Although at least two firefighters were briefly treated for dehydration and heat exhaustion after working in their heavy bunker gear under the hot sun, there were smiles and laughter all around as participants recounted the morning's events over a lunch of barbecued beef. They now had plenty of reason to believe that if - when - the real thing comes along, their team will do just as well as they did Saturday.

**Attention Businessmen and Women, Bankers, Realtors and individuals interested in starting a business!**  
Learn about the Small Business Administration, the Business Lending Center, who is eligible for 504 SBA or 7(a) loans; get information on business loans, economic development planning, small business loans, SBA Lending, Revolving Loan Funds, USDA Loans and more.  
Presented by:  
**SCEDD Loan Officer Michael Klomp**  
August 19, 2010  
Banker/Businessmen 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. • Realtors 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.  
Trinidad & Las Animas County Economic Development Office  
134 W. Main St. Suite 12  
719-846-9412 or 719-846-9285 for more information  
The day will wrap with an official Chamber of Commerce "Business After Hours" event hosted by the International Bank and SCEDD 5 - 7 p.m. @ the International Bank, 320 N. Convent St., Trinidad, Colorado.  
**Fun - Food - Prizes - WIN Rockies/Dodgers tickets!**  
Sponsored by the Community Development Resource Center, Trinidad & Las Animas County Chamber of Commerce and TLAC Economic Development.  
Don't forget to RSVP for the August Business During Lunch, Aug. 18, TSC/ Leone Lounge Noon - 1 p.m.  
Speaker: Norwest Corporation "Navigating the Maze of Environmental Regulations."

**The South Central Council of Governments (SC COG Transit) will be accepting bids for the sale of the following:**  
• 1999 Dodge 10 passenger van, with wheelchair lift (Minimum bid \$9000)  
• 1997 Ford/Goshen 11 passenger mini bus with wheelchair lift (Minimum bid \$7000)  
• 1999 Ford/Diamond 17 passenger (CDL) Required Minibus with Wheelchair lift (Minimum bid \$4800)  
• 2001 Ford/EI Dorado 17 Passenger (CDL) Minibus (Minimum bid \$8400)  
All vehicles sold "as is" with no warranty expressed or implied  
Sealed bids will be received no later than 4 p.m. on August 25, 2010, in the office of Mr. Tom Allen, SC COG Transit Director, located at 300 Bonaventure Avenue, Trinidad, CO. Appointments are required to view the vehicle(s) by calling 719-845-1133 Ext # 204  
**COG Public Transit**  
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