

INSIDE TODAY



Michael Douglas Takes a Stand

Facing the battle of his life, Hollywood icon Michael Douglas reflects on fame, family, and living for today.

Fall Entertainment Preview

In this year's fall entertainment preview we reveal the hottest movies to see, TV shows to watch, and music to hear.

THE FINE PRINT

FRIDAY

Angel Food

Orders for September are due today (Fri). Distribution will be 11 a.m.- 12 p.m. Sat 25th @ Fishers Peak Community Church on Santa Fe Trail Dr. For more information call 719-846-3853.

Food Pantry

Care & Share Mobile Food Pantry joins with the Open Door Soup Kitchen 1:30 - 3 p.m. every 3rd Friday @ Holy Family, 308 West Church St. First come, first serve & please remember to bring your own boxes & bags.

Long Term Care

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting 12 p.m. 3rd Fri @ 900 South 6th St, Raton, NM. Call Henrietta Romero @ 575-445-3661 for more information.

Foster Parent Training

For persons interested in being a Foster Parent, 2-day training 3-9 p.m. Fri & 8 a.m.- 3 p.m. Sat @ the LAC Dept of Human Services, 204 S. Chestnut, Trinidad. For more information call Frances or Denisa @ 719-846-2276 (ext 7137 or 7129).

Benefit Dinner

Lord's Chapel in Segundo hosting benefit dinner & movie for the Seger Family 6 p.m. Fri. For more information email Barb Holik @ spanishpeak-sarc@yahoo.com.

SATURDAY

Prayer Group

Fisher's Peak Gideons meets for prayer @ 7 a.m. every Sat. For more information & location call 719-680-0290.

Paws in the Park

5K Doggie Walk (Sept 18) to benefit Noah's Ark Animal Welfare Assn. Registration (\$25/per person or family & includes t-shirt & treat bag) begins 8 a.m. Sat & Race starts @ 9 a.m. @ Cimino Park. Call 719-846-3766 for more information.

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RIVER CALL

Purgatoire river call as of 9/16/10
Elmoro ditch priority #8
11/15/1862
Trinidad Reservoir accounting
Release 190.71 acre ft.
Inflow 20.21 acre ft.
Evaporation 10.50 acre ft.
Content 14,857 acre ft.
Elevation 6,171.79
Precipitation 0
Downstream river call
Highland Canal 5/31/1866
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)



Seniors! Inc. in the spotlight



Photo by Mike Garrett

The Trinidad office staff of Seniors! Inc., and Executive Director Dan Blyth, center, who was the keynote speaker, join board members of the Trinidad-Las Animas County Chamber of Commerce at Wednesday's monthly luncheon. Seniors Inc., sponsored the luncheon and received the monthly Comcast-Chamber Business Spotlight free advertising honor after it was donated to the agency, compliments of Karen Malone of the Rehabilitation Center.

An organization that helps seniors live at home

By MIKE GARRETT
The Chronicle-News

If you're a Trinidad area senior citizen or are on disability, chances are your path has crossed with a Seniors! Inc. staff member or volunteer since the agency began serving the local senior population in 1994 with an extensive range of home care and support services.

Seniors! Inc., Executive Director Dan Blyth outlined all the services and programs offered by the Denver-based agency at Wednesday's monthly Trinidad & Las Animas County Chamber of Commerce luncheon in the TSJC Sullivan Center Pioneer Room.

The non-profit Trinidad Seniors! Inc., office at 103 S. Oak St. (846-4414) continues to offer home care services and a variety of programs assisting seniors with employment or helping kids learn to read better as a foster grandparent. The agency also has offices in Pueblo and Canon City and was established in a small basement office in 1969 in Denver.

In all, Seniors! Inc. employs 135 salaried people with a \$1.1 million payroll and 53 volunteers, Blyth said.

"Our mission is to help people

remain in their own homes," said Blyth. "We have nothing against nursing homes or assisted living. We think they are fine, but we think there are not a lot of people who want to go there. With support we know that people want to stay in their own homes, whether it be physical or mental problems like Alzheimer's."

Seniors! Inc., staff volunteers assist seniors or clients with disabilities by keeping their houses clean, preparing meals, transporting them to medical appointments and grocery stores, or with basic home routines, Blyth said. Medication reminders are also a high priority. "One of the reasons people end up going back to the hospital is because they didn't continue taking their medications."

Seniors! Inc., accepts Medicaid and all private pay for services. "We're very careful with the people we send out who go into people's homes and do all kinds of background scrutiny checking," said Blyth. "All of our people are bonded and insured and we are accredited by the state Joint Commission."

"We provide a lot of services but the way we like to think about

it is we first provide a friend and services come later," he said. Trinidad office managers are Curtis Padilla and Tracy Larson.

Seniors! Inc., staff also helps advise people on the kinds of Medicare coverage and different plans they may need and what kinds of prescriptions Medicare plans provide for or help people find free or low-cost prescription medications, Blyth noted. "All of the drug companies give away medications. You just have to know who to talk to. In the past year we've gotten over \$970,000 worth of medications for people."

He said the Seniors Community Service Employment Program under the direction of Program Manager Nina Shain is for those people 55 and older who either want to work or need to work. The agency offers placement in a non-profit, government agency where they can stay up to two years to learn job skills.

"After that time we try to place them into full-time employment, either at the same place they were working or another place," said Blyth. "People who come into this program will be paid a minimum

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School Dist.#1 Superintendent will leave at end of school year

C-N STAFF REPORT

Trinidad School District #1 Superintendent Mike Tranter informed the board of education this week that he will not seek any form of employment with the district after his current contract expires on June 30, 2011.

Tranter sent his message to board members via e-mail earlier this week and then read his letter into the record during Tuesday night's regular board meeting.

Tranter wrote that his decision came after "a whole lot of personal introspection and numerous discussions with my wife." He added that he hoped his notice would give the board "sufficient time to conduct an appropriate search for a new superintendent. You have my commitment that I will give this job my all for the remainder of the contract as many objectives for this year are yet to be accomplished. I have no intentions of leaving the District before the expiration of the contract," Tranter wrote in his letter. He also said that he thought it best that he stay completely out of the search process for a new superintendent.

Explaining his reasons, Tranter wrote, "I have had to weigh a number of both professional and personal issues in reaching this decision. When we

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Hearing set for Romero

C-N STAFF REPORT

Trinity Jay Romero, 32, of Trinidad, appeared in Las Animas District Court Thursday morning and has been charged with first degree murder in the Aug. 15 stabbing death of Kyle William Phillips, 24, of Weston.

Visiting Judge Robert Ogburn set a preliminary hearing for Romero at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 20. Defense attorney Patrick McCarville told the judge that he would prefer up to eight weeks, during which to prepare for the hearing. Ogburn explained to Romero that by law, he was entitled to a hearing within 30 days and could overrule his legal representation and request a hearing within the 30 days. Romero acknowledged that he understood and went along with the Oct. 20 date.

District Attorney Frank Ruybalid had instructed the court to block in a half day in its schedule

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Annual Rowdy-O opens RHS homecoming festivities

By TIM KELLER
The Chronicle-News

RATON - Following tradition, Raton High School kicked off its homecoming week festivities Wednesday afternoon with the annual Rowdy-O in the Tiger gymnasium, pitting each of its four classes in a variety of fun and photogenic competitions.

Freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors each sent representatives into the various competitions. First place in each contest won four points, second place three points, third place two points, and fourth place one point. At the end of the Rowdy-O, the

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Photo by Tim Keller

Seniors cheer on their team from the stands in Raton High School's annual Rowdy-O.



WEATHER WATCH

Today: Sunny, with a high near 90. West wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 51. South wind around 10 mph becoming west.

Saturday: A 10 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon. Mostly sunny, with a high near 82. West wind 5 to 10 mph becoming east.

Saturday Night: A 10 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before midnight. Mostly clear, with a low around 50. Southeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west southwest.

Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 87. Southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Sunday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 51. Southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.

my PHIL LONG
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