



The Chronicle-News
137 YEARS

WEDNESDAY
JUNE 18, 2014

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THE CHRONICLE-NEWS

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50 CENTS
TRINIDAD
COLORADO

THE FINE PRINT

JUNE 18
-Main Street Closure
THROUGH THE END OF THE WEEK the 100 Block of East Main Street will be closed for emergency sewer repair. The street will be closed to through traffic, however business access will remain open. Information: Mike Valentine or Linda Vigil, 719-846-9843, ext. 124.

-FP Fire District
WEDNESDAY (6 p.m.) Fishers Peak Fire Protection District Board of Directors public meeting will be at the Starkville Fire Station. Information: 719-846-6077.

-Hoehne Fire Protection
WEDNESDAY (6 p.m.) District Board of Directors meets at the El Moro Station, 14386 Hwy 23 in Hoehne. All interested persons invited to attend. Information: Dana Phillips, 719-846-2080.

-Purgatoire Watershed
WEDNESDAY (6 p.m.) The Purgatoire Watershed Partnership will meet in the NRCS Office, 3590 E. Main. Information: Karen Wolf, 719-543-8688.

-Trinidad Schools
WEDNESDAY (6 p.m.) Board of Education will hold a special meeting and work session at the Middle School Library, 614 Park St. Information: 719-846-3324.

Today's Quote

"Leaders live by choice,
not by accident."

— Mark Gorman

JUNE 19

~Annual Family Fun Days
THURSDAY-SUNDAY: Join the family-friendly festivities at the 2nd Annual Family Fun Days to be held at the Las Animas County Fairgrounds on N. Linden St. Activities include live bands, food vendors, arts and crafts and carnival rides. Admission to the event is free. Information: 719-680-4677.

-TDOG Park Organizers
THURSDAY (9:30 a.m.) The Trinidad Dog Owners Group will have a meeting at the Trinidad Community Center, 1309 Beschor Drive. Information: Mary Rogers, 719-846-6030. Everyone welcome.

-Senator's Meeting
THURSDAY (5 p.m.) State Senator Larry Crowder R-Alamosa will hold a public question and answer session in the Leone Room of the Sullivan Center at Trinidad State Junior College. Information: 719-846-4875.

-Trout Unlimited
THURSDAY (6 p.m.) Purgatoire River Anglers meeting will be in Pistras Restaurant on Elm Street. Information: Mark Hanson, 970-366-8148. Meetings are always open to the public.

PUBLIC SERVICE
-Free Summer Lunch Program
JUNE 23-AUGUST 8 (11 a.m.-1 p.m.) All kids (18 and under) can eat a free lunch at the Trinidad Middle School Cafeteria, 614 Park St. Adults can join in for \$3. Information: 719-845-2051.

CLOSURE NOTICE
FRIDAY: The county offices at the courthouse will be closed for a mandatory furlough day for all county employees. The Election Office will remain open for voting purposes only.

-Representative's Office
FRIDAY (3-5 p.m.) Doris Morgan, district representative for U.S. Representative Cory Gardner (R), will hold office hours on the third floor of City Hall, 135 N. Animas St., for anyone wanting to address issues about the federal government or share opinions on current issues. Information: 719-316-1101.

-Farmers' Market Opening Day
SATURDAY (8 a.m.-Noon) Come celebrate our 14th anniversary every Saturday in Cimino Park. Continues throughout the summer, until mid-October. Information: 719-846-7386.

-FP Horse Association
SATURDAY (9 a.m.) All Breed Horse Show will be held at the Las Animas County Fairgrounds on N. Linden St. No admission for spectators. Information: 719-680-0666.

-Ave Maria Shrine
SATURDAY: The Rosary will be recited (10:30 a.m.) and Mass will be celebrated (11 a.m.) in the historic Ave Maria Shrine located behind the Mount San Rafael Hospital on Benedicta Ave. Follow the signage. Visitors are always welcome.

-Aguilar American Legion

SATURDAY (11 a.m.-2 p.m.) Post 42 Ladies Auxiliary will host a spaghetti fundraiser dinner at the Aguilar Community Center. Information: Pat Romero: 719-680-1262 or 719-941-4678.

-Branson Fundraiser
SATURDAY (Noon-6 p.m.) The Branson football team and sophomore class will hold a repeat barbecue, garage sale and cake auction (3 p.m.) at the Branson School. Information: 719-946-5355.

-Elks Soccer Shoot
SUNDAY (12 p.m.) Free registration for kids 4-15 who want to join in the fun at annual Elks Soccer Shoot at Los Niños Soccer Field, behind the Post Office. Information: John Garcia, 719-680-2709.

-Carnegie Public Library
Calling all artists who want to exhibit their 2-dimensional artwork at the Library. Information: Mallory Pillard, 719-846-6841 or stop by the Library at 202 Animas St.

RIVER CALL

Purgatoire River Call as of:
06/17/14. Enlarged South Side
ditch: Priority #80 - Appropriation
date: 04/07/1877.

Trinidad Reservoir Accounting:

Release 311.29 AF
Inflow 317.08 AF -- 159.86 CFS
Evaporation 20.79 AF
Content 13,610 AF
Elevation 6,173.29
Precipitation 0

Downstream River Call / Nine
Mile Canal: 05/10/1887.



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ANNUAL SUMMER FESTIVAL

Family Fun Days kicks off Thursday

By Steve Block
The Chronicle-News

Summer festivals provide people with opportunities to have fun outside in the sunshine, to enjoy the company of family and friends and to participate in wholesome entertainment. Trinidad's Second Annual Family Fun Days will kick off from 6 p.m. until 10 p.m. on Thursday, June 19 at the Las Animas County Fairgrounds and will be followed by three more days of excitement.

On Friday, June 20, the festival hours will be from 6 p.m. until 11 p.m.; on Saturday, June 21, the hours will be from 1 p.m. until 11 p.m.; and on Sunday, June 22, families can enjoy the fair from 1 p.m. until 10 p.m. Admission to the fairgrounds is free, and no alcohol will be available at the fair; nor will it be allowed into this family-friendly event.

Sun Valley Rides will provide

many exciting carnival rides for kids of all ages, and this organization delivers a clean, safe environment that is overseen by a professional staff. Armband tickets for the rides cost \$15 apiece prior to the event or \$25 apiece at the festival. The armbands offer admission to any and all of the carnival rides and are good for one person for one day only. They're not transferrable among individuals. Armbands can be purchased in advance until 5 p.m. on Thursday, June 19 from event organizer Tom Davis by calling 719-680-4677, Emily Olgua of Trinidad Cheer at 719-859-2290, or at Tutti Scoops, the SCCOG Early Learning Center, TLAC Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Romero's Liquor and Candy Shop, Corral Pawn and La Confederacion Lodge (La Casa).

"We're getting ready to go. The carnival people will be setting up the rides starting Monday," said event organizer Tom Davis. "And



The Chronicle-News / File Photo

Carnival workers set up the rides for the 2013 Family Fun Days at the Las Animas County Fairgrounds. Local crowds can expect another happy festival atmosphere for this year's event.

what we saw last year was that as soon as word got out that the rides were going up, armband sales went right through the roof. That's what we're expecting this year.

"We'll have some great rides again this year," Davis said.

"They'll be bringing in about 25 rides, and they've added the 'Spinning Strawberries,' which is always a popular ride. They've also got a 'Skytracker,' which they just added this year. They send some of their rides back to the manufacturer to be refurbished each year.

You're going to see some different rides every year. Sun Valley Rides is based in Arizona, and their family has been running carnivals for three generations. Steve Mattfeld

and his family out of Arizona do a really nice job. They have very clean workers and very clean rides. They're safe rides, they run very well and they look good. They custom paint every ride. It's a really clean show."

Free live entertainment from three popular area bands will be featured. The Provenza family hails from the Aguilar area, and the family band, known as "The Outlaws," will go onstage on Friday from 7 p.m. until 11 p.m. "Steele Street" will take to the stage playing classic and country rock music on Saturday from 6 p.m. until 10 p.m., and the "High

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Bruce Leonard / The Chronicle-News

Repair crew hits the bricks . . .

Early on Tuesday morning City workers repair a sewer problem along the 100 block of E. Main Street. Though the street will likely be closed to through traffic for the remainder of the week, according to the City, the businesses along this block will remain open.

THE ARTS

'Cotton Patch Gospel' brings laughter, music to Shuler

By Tim Keller
Correspondent
The Chronicle-News

RATON — What if, instead of being born in Jerusalem 2,000 years ago, Jesus Christ was born in Gainesville, Georgia, in the 1960s and grew up in the American South? Mary Haglar and Joe Davidson are high-school sweethearts confounded when Mary, still a virgin, conceives a child. Their baby is born as they travel to a tax audit in the Atlanta offices of the I.R.S. Young Jesus grows up to be a challenge to his parents and fellow Southerners.

"The Cotton Patch Gospel" — a musical comedy presented as a one-man show accompanied by a four-piece bluegrass band — will open on Thursday night at Raton's Shuler Theater and will run for two weekends.

The show marks the opening of the Shuler's annual summer repertory season, which features five productions that will run through mid-August. Ian McCabe, an immensely talented 26-year-old actor who four years ago delighted Shuler audiences with starring performances in four disparate plays, returns to the Shuler this season. Since leaving Raton, McCabe has been doing comedy in Chicago, so his return to Raton in a comedic role should be seamless.

In the show, Jesus emerges from 40 days and 40 nights alone to have the Devil tempt him by saying, "Man cannot live on grits alone." Songs in "The Cotton Patch Gospel" include "Blind Date with God" and "Spitball," and Jesus meets his end at the hands of the Ku Klux Klan and Georgia Governor Pilate.

The story began as a series of books by southern minister Clarence Jordan, who wanted to communicate the New Testament in the language of the South so that "plain folks" could better understand it. He had fun with it — Jesus is born in an abandoned trailer behind Dixie Delite Motor Lodge — but he kept the story and message intact.

Young actor Tom Key adapted the story into a one-man stage play, assisted by director Russell Treyer. Famed singer-songwriter Harry Chapin pitched in with nearly 20 songs, finishing the project one month before his untimely death in 1981. Key then took the

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Tim Keller / The Chronicle-News

Actor Ian McCabe (left) plays an assortment of characters in "The Cotton Patch Gospel," a reimagining of the Christ story set in the contemporary American South. In this one-man show with a twist, McCabe is accompanied by a four-piece bluegrass band. The band includes, from left, Rick Trice, John Ward, Tom Fitzgerald and Stan Lark.



WEATHER WATCH

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 86. Breezy, with a SW wind 15 to 20 mph increasing to 20 to 25 mph in the afternoon.

Winds could gust as high as 35 mph. **Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 52. Breezy, with a W-SW wind 15 to 20 mph becoming south in the morning.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 80. W-NW wind around 5 mph becoming E-SE in the afternoon. **Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 53. S-SE wind 5 to 10 mph becoming W-SW after midnight.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 83. W-SW wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south in the morning. **Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 56. South wind around 10 mph.

Saturday: A 10 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 88. W-SW wind 5 to 10 mph.

Night: A 10 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 56.



Weather Sponsored by:

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Trinidad's Leading Funeral Home

1804 East Main
Trinidad, CO 81082
(719) 846-3347Owned & operated by:
Mary (Kitsy) Winter**Violet Edith DiPaolo**

Violet Edith DiPaolo, educator, teacher, mentor, loving Sister and Aunt, passed away on June 13, 2014 at the age of 90.

Visitation will be Wednesday from 3pm-7pm at the Comi Chapel.

Funeral Services will be Thursday June 19, 2014 with Rosary at 9am at the Comi Chapel, followed by the Funeral Mass at 10am at Holy Trinity Church.

Interment with Rite of Committal will follow at the Trinidad Catholic Cemetery.

Arrangements made under the direction of the Comi Funeral Home.

62 Memorials

In Loving Memory of your 10th Anniversary in Heaven Nadine Mondragon - Loving Wife, Nanny, Sister and Friend June 27, 1945 - June 18, 2004



You can shed tears that she is gone
Or you can smile because she has lived.
You can close your eyes and pray that she'll come back
Or you can open your eyes and see all she's left.
Your heart can be empty because you can't see her
Or you can be full of love you shared
You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday
Or you can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday.
You can remember home and only that she's one
Or you can cherish her memory and live on.
You can cry and close your mind, be empty and turn your back,
Or you can do what she'd want...
Smile, and Open Your Eyes
Love and go on
Miss you still and Love you More,
Loving husband Raymond Mondragon
Children, Grandchildren & Great Grandsons
Bob & Paula Radine Lucero
Justin, Brittney and Hunter Lucero
Wesley and Gabriel Lucero
Jeremy & Haley Lucero
Brian, Renee, Joshua and Dezirae Mondragon
Michael, Sue and Charlee Ossola



Winning Trindiefest movie to play at TSJC twice this weekend

By Daniel Leonetti
Correspondent
The Chronicle-News

"Lost on Purpose" walked off with a Gold Award for drama and then claimed the Audience Favorite Award at the 2013 Trindiefest Film Festival.

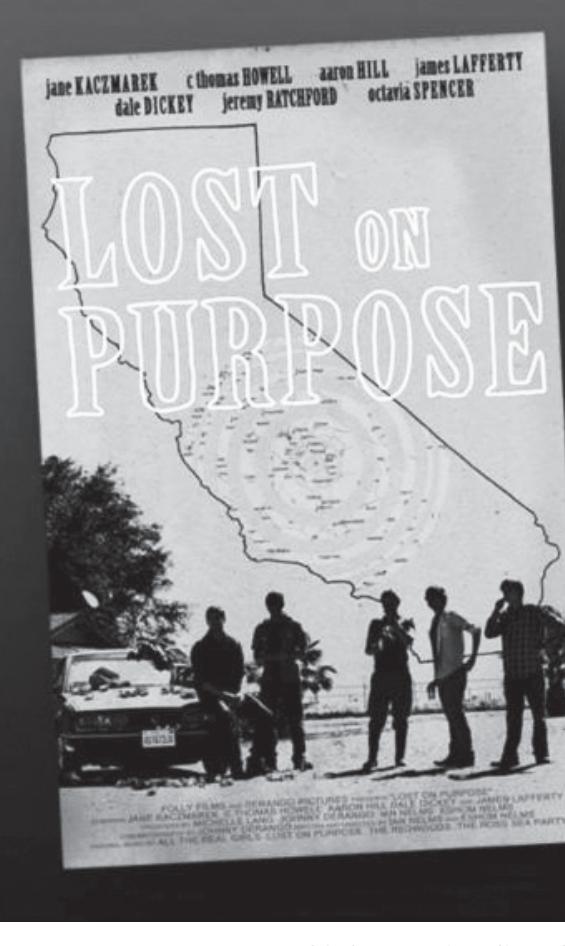
People who missed the award-winning movie by the talented Eshom and Ian Nelms brothers, and moviegoers who would like to see it again, will have a second chance to view this delightful independent film this weekend.

Trindiefest and Trinidad State Junior College will present the film on Saturday, June 21 at 7 p.m. at the Massari Theater on the TSJC campus. A second viewing will be presented on Sunday, June 22 at 2 p.m. Both showings will be free to the public.

"It was selected as the Audience Favorite, and that spurred us to bring it back to Trinidad during the off season for anyone who missed it," said Trindiefest co-founder Julie Loudon from Houston, Texas. "The film is just a taste of the quality films we will present at this year's Trindiefest Independent Film Festival this September 18 through the 21 in Trinidad."

"Lost on Purpose" was also nominated for the Best Feature Film by Hollywood Discovery Award and won the Festival Prize for feature film at the RealHeART International Film Festival in 2013.

The story takes place in the fertile San Joaquin Valley of California. Fueled by gin and sheer determination, Elizabeth James (Jane Kaczmarek)



TRINIDAD INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL

TRUE INDEPENDENT

TRINDIEFEST & TSJC PRESENT

A special screening of Ian and Eshom Nelms' award winning feature film

"LOST ON PURPOSE"

Saturday June 21st At 7:00 PM**AND****Sunday June 22nd At 2:00 PM**

ADMISSION IS FREE!

Screenings will be held at The Massari Theater on the TSJC Campus

This is just a taste of the type of films we will present at this year's Trindiefest Independent Film Festival on September 18th thru 21st, 2014.

For more information please visit our website at www.trindiefest.net

operates a third-generation dairy farm. To help keep the place afloat, she employs five renegade ranch hands, and they fight for love, pride and a vanishing way of life.

Director Ian Nelms does a great job telling this story in a captivating way," said film critic Jory Carroll, "with lots of surprises and twists, which make you wonder what is going to happen next. And just when you think everything will work itself out in the end, Nelms pulls the trigger once again. Along with a clever script and Kaczmarek's great performance, this film boasts

a solid cast of actors from start to finish, which truly makes this film damn good and sure to leave an impact."

The film co-stars C. Thomas Howell and Octavia Spencer. The Nelms brothers also won a Gold Award for a screenplay called "Small Town Crime," and the screenplay is currently in production as a feature film.

"We hope the Nelms brothers will return to Trindiefest with another winner," said Loudon. "Our goal is to entice our local audience to see what kinds of films we show during the festival."

Family Fun Days kicks off Thursday

... Continued from Page 1

Maintenance Band," featuring Raton's Hector Verdeen, will play on Sunday from 3 p.m. until 7 p.m.

"Basically what we do is set up a couple of trailers to work as a stage during the carnival," Davis said. "They'll be playing right in the Midway, so while the families are enjoying the rides, the food and the arts-and-crafts vendors, they can enjoy the live music, with some room if they want to dance. We set up benches for the people who just want to come and enjoy the music."

Davis said the free admission, free music and free parking are designed to allow people who don't have much money to come out and enjoy this outdoor summer event. "They can literally bring their own picnic basket and come enjoy the festival," he said. "We'll also have some free events for kids that are sponsored by local organizations. We'll have food vendors who charge money, and we'll also have

some local nonprofits with booths out there."

Davis said the purpose of Family Fun Days was to boost morale within the community, regardless of people's financial circumstances. Spreading the event out over four days gives working families a better chance to come and enjoy the summer festival over the course of the fair's run.

"Some of the rides are designed only for the people who can handle them, but they have a good variety of rides, including those for the small children and for families. They have a Ferris wheel and a Glass House, which is very popular with the kids. They also have a number of games, and they run their games honestly. They're not trying to cheat you. They like to see kids win and have a smile on their face. The games are cash only."

Davis said buying the armbands in advance is a great way for families to save money and allows

parents and children to enjoy the rides together. He said the height requirement for many of the rides is 39 inches-tall. To include a large number of smaller kids in as many rides as possible, event organizers have made a change this year. Individual tickets, ticket books and family passes will be available for parents of smaller kids who will only be able to handle going on one or two rides.

"There are some options for parents with very young kids, but for the junior high and senior high student, they're going to get their money's worth in the first hour. After that, they're riding for free," Davis said. "The reason I do this is because this community has been very good to me, and it feels good to give something back to the community."

He said that after expenses are paid, most of the profits from the event would go to benefit area nonprofits and youth groups.



Steve Block / The Chronicle-News
Event organizer Tom Davis is inviting the entire community to come out to enjoy Family Fun Days at the County Fairgrounds.

'Cotton Patch Gospel' brings laughter, music to Shuler

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show on the road.

Shuler Theater impresario Bill Fegan then entered the picture. "I booked the national tour with Tom Key for three years," Fegan said. "We'd rent a theater and present eight shows each week. It played San Diego for six weeks, Atlanta for eight weeks. People came in busloads. It's one of the most successful shows I ever booked. I've always wanted to do it here at the Shuler." Fegan directs this new production.

Frequent Shuler actor and director Rick Trice, a minister, is the

production's musical director. Is "The Cotton Patch Gospel" a religious play? Yes and no, Trice said. "Religion is a lot of what's wrong with religion in America today, just as it was 2,000 years ago," said Trice. "The play promotes the same mission Jesus had — to teach a personal relationship with God, versus getting there through the gate of religion. It's more about friendship than membership."

Along with Trice on banjo and guitar, the band includes John Ward on guitar, Stan Lark on upright bass and Tom Fitzgerald on

fiddle and mandolin. Lark is famed as an original member of The Fireballs, still performing 55 years after making their first records at Norman Petty Studios in Clovis, New Mexico. At 20, Fitzgerald is already a Canadian Grand Master fiddler, and his penchant for swing jazz helps propel the band's bluegrass songs through styles as diverse as blues and straight country-western.

At an afternoon rehearsal on Sunday, McCabe and the band laughed and danced, demonstrating a chemistry that suggests a fun

show ahead.

"The Cotton Patch Gospel" opens at the Shuler Theater on Thursday, June 19, at 7:30 p.m. The show continues Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, June 20, 21, 26, 27, 28, plus a Sunday matinee on June 22 at 2:30 p.m. General admission tickets are \$15 for adults, \$13 for seniors and \$5 for children. Books of 10 tickets for any of the summer's five shows are available for \$100. Tickets and further information are available from Bill Fegan at the Shuler Theater at 575-445-4746.