



MONDAY
APRIL 27, 2009

Vol. 133, No. 82

THE CHRONICLE-NEWS

50 CENTS
TRINIDAD, COLORADO

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THE FINE PRINT

Aguilar BOE

Aguilar BOE will hold a work session at 4 p.m. on Monday in the Board Meeting Room.

Community Band

Rehearsals will be at 4 p.m. on Sunday at the T.H.S. Band Room. Membership is open to any brass, woodwind, or percussion player. For more information/schedule contact Duane Zanotelli 846-9558 or Mikey Curro 846-2952.

Kiwanis luncheon

The next Kiwanis luncheon has been canceled because of the Leone Academic Awards.

Community Chorale

The Trinidad Community Chorale rehearsals begin at 6:15 p.m. every Monday at the First United Methodist Church. New members are welcome. No auditions.

Pastor's Text Study

Pastor's Text Study will meet at 9 a.m. at Zion's Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall on Tuesday. All pastors welcome to come and study the texts for Sunday and for support of each other.

Lord's Pantry

The Lord's Pantry will be open from 1-3p.m. on Tuesday to distribute food at Seventh-day Adventist Church, Fellowship Room, 1605 Aiello St. Please bring your own box. Call (719) 846-7894 for more information.

City Council

Trinidad City Council will meet for their work session at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday at the City Hall Council Chambers, third floor, City Hall.

Regular Board Meeting

Trinidad School District No. 1 Board of Education will hold their Regular Board Meeting at 6 p.m. on Tuesday at the Trinidad School District Office in the Board of Education Room.

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WEATHER WATCH

Today: A slight chance of showers, with thunderstorms also possible after noon. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 67. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

Tonight: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 37. South wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west.

Tomorrow: A 10 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 68. West southwest wind between 5 and 15 mph.

Tomorrow night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 37. West southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.



Photos By David Santistevan Jr.

Six local FFA students from Hoehne, Branson, Kim, Rocky Ford, and Fowler made the long trip to Denver to testify and support the passing of House Bill 1317 last week. Six FFA students educated the senate committee about the land, and how important it is for their families to keep the land.



With local FFA students and other community member looking on Lon Robertson and Steve Wooden testified before the Senate Agriculture Committee last week with Sen. Ken Kester R-Las Animas by their side in strong support of HB 1317.

House Bill 1317 unanimously passes a Senate Committee

Assistant Army Secretary Keith Eastin retires

By DAVID SANTISTEVAN JR.
The Chronicle-News

Last week the Colorado Senate Agriculture Committee unanimously passed House Bill 1317, 6-0, which will keep the State Land Board from selling state trust properties to the Army. More than 80 ranchers, farmers, landowners, families, and FFA stu-

dents showed up to listen and testify to the committee in favor of HB1317. There was no one who testified in opposition of the bill, which will now head to the Colorado Senate floor for a debate and vote sometime this week.

This 30 year dark cloud which effects four southeastern Colorado

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Photo by Michael Garrett

Las Animas County Sheriff Jim Casias, left, and his wife Evelyn join hands in front of a candle with a picture of Jesus on the holder in his W. Colorado Ave. house. Casias was given up for dead by his physicians and nurses from the time he went into a coma in January until he pulled out of it Feb. 28 and started speaking again. Casias claims his recovery had to be an act of God.

Prayers, miracles brought Sheriff Jim Casias back to life from death's door

By MICHAEL GARRETT
The Chronicle-News

How do you spell miracle?
JIM CASIAS, sheriff, Las Animas County

If you don't believe that Jim Casias' miraculous recovery is a miracle of God, then check with all of his doctors and nurses at Swedish Medical Center and Porter Hospitals in Denver and what they think happened to Las Animas County's six-year sheriff.

Casias himself gives all the credit to his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ and to the hundreds if not thousands of prayers from the community, state and yes, the country for bringing him back to where he is again a functional sheriff enforcing county laws, even if on a part-time basis as he continues on his road to recuperation and recovery.

This man is proof positive that God's healing powers can heal anybody of anything anytime. But let Casias, who will turn 61 on May 2, tell

his story from what he knows and what others know and told him of what happened to him the night of Jan. 21, 2009, what may have precipitated his near fatal head injury, and how and why he is back on the job today.

A bad headache on that night suddenly led to collapse and unconsciousness on his bed. His son-in-law, Kevin McClintock, who lives next door to Casias at his home on W. Colorado Ave., quickly sensed something was wrong and took him to Mt. San Rafael Hospital. "At that time they thought it was a seizure." Local medical services and Trinidad Fire and Police Departments, quickly followed. "They found that I had a hemorrhage or bleeding in my head."

When the diagnosis was determined to be life-threatening that needed expert, big city hospital medical care, Casias was then quickly air-evacuated to Swedish Medical Center. Casias said he has no memory of anything past his collapse until he reawakened in the hospital on Feb. 28. "At Swedish they decided I was going to need some long-term care so they sent me to Porter Hospital for about three weeks where I was in an induced coma. Then my wife Evelyn had me change back to Swedish."

While at that medical center, doctors performed several head surgeries, drilling four holes in his head, two to push blood into his brain cavity and two to take the flow back out. "In a period of two weeks they took eight pints of blood out of my head that also resulted in some spinal area bleeding.

"They lost me one time and I was without oxygen for about four minutes," Casias said he was told later by his wife. "They thought for that long without oxygen that I would be unable to speak again. The doctor said I am a very lucky man, that I'm a miracle. Some of the nurses came into my room wanting to touch me, thinking that God had put his hand on me."

When Casias came out of his induced coma Feb. 28, he spoke some words to his care unit nurse. "She almost had a heart attack, she thought somebody was playing jokes on her or that somebody was under my bed doing the talking. They didn't expect

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Photo by Laura Brewer

MCMC Auxiliary volunteers, Barbara Cranfill, Patsy Enax, and Director of Volunteers Shirley Faver, enjoy spending time at the health fair looking for more volunteers for their organization.

18th Annual Colfax County Health Fair draws big crowd

By LAURA L. BREWER
The Chronicle-News

The 18th Annual Colfax County Health Fair provided hundreds of visitors with a multitude of screenings, informational pamphlets, and health-related services throughout the day at the Raton Convention Center. This annual event draws a steady stream of

people from throughout the county, and even from neighboring counties, looking for information, free handouts, and the opportunity to win something by entering many of the vendor's drawings.

Several vendors gave out free marketing tools, like pencils, pens, magnets, and other fun items with their

brochures. While other vendors encouraged visitors to enter drawings for free gift baskets. The type of services offered throughout the day ranged from child screenings, glucose, blood pressure, and other health related testing, to complete blood work. Some services were free, others, were offered

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LOTTO NUMBERS

Here are Friday and Saturday's Cash 5, Lotto and Powerball numbers.

Friday, April 24 -
Cash 5: 1- 18- 25- 29- 31
Saturday, April 25 -
Cash 5: 12- 20- 23- 25- 30
Saturday, April 25 -
Lotto: 7- 10- 11- 24- 39- 40
Saturday, April 25 -
Powerball: 8- 26- 30- 42- 52;
Power Play: 5