

SCHOOL NEWS



Pic K-8th: Winners grades Kindergarten - Eighth grade from left to right: Kaitlyn Mantelli (Eighth grade), Courtney Braunns (Seventh grade), KC Lee (Sixth grade), India Hillhouse (Fifth grade), Kayla Torres (Fourth grade), Shianne Armijo (Third grade), Michael Duran (Second grade), Kaylee Armijo (First grade), and Noah Robinson (Kindergarten).

2009 Primero School Spelling Bee winners

Special to the Chronicle

The Primero School Spelling Bee competition was held on Thursday, February 12, 2009. The competition began with grades Fourth - Eighth competing at grade level. The winners from grades Fourth - Eighth are:

Fourth Grade: Kayla Torres

Fifth Grade: India Hillhouse

Sixth Grade: KC Lee

Seventh Grade: Courtney Braunns

Eighth Grade: Kaitlyn Mantelli

Next, the top four spellers from each grade competed in a final competition to determine

qualifiers for the Las Animas County Spelling Bee and the Grand Champion Speller from Primero School.

The 2009 Las Animas County Spelling Bee Qualifiers from Primero School are:

Kaitlyn Mantelli, Eighth grade

Courtney Braunns, Seventh grade

Ellie Hillhouse, Eighth grade

Garrett Simon, Eighth grade

2009 SPELLING BEE GRAND CHAMPION:

Kaitlyn Mantelli, Congratulations!!

On Thursday afternoon grades K - Third competed at grade level to determine top spellers in each grade. The winners from each grade are as follows:

Kindergarten: Noah Robinson

First Grade: Kaylee Armijo

Second Grade: Michael Duran

Third Grade: Shianne Armijo

Primero students showed their pride and talent on Thursday at the competition with an amazing performance. Congratulations, to all the spellers on a spectacular performance on Thursday.



Pic Grand Champ: Primero School 2009 Spelling Bee Grand Champion!! Kaitlynn Mantelli

TSJC student named to All Colorado Academic Team

Courtesy of TSJC

Special to the Chronicle

Trinidad State Junior College student Monica Hanley has been named to the 2009 All Colorado Academic Team by Phi Theta Kappa (PTK), the International Honor Society of two year colleges.

Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher education with a membership of 1.3 million. The national PTK organization selects members in each state for its Academic Teams based on their academic achievement and community service.

Hanley will be honored, along with the other 2009 Colorado Academic Team members, at a March 11th luncheon at the Brown Palace Hotel in Denver during which stipends, scholarships, and special recognitions will be presented to the All-State Team winners.

A TSJC sophomore, who will graduate May 8 earning an Associate of Science degree with a Pre-Physical Therapy Emphasis, she became interested in a physical therapy career after receiving physical therapy herself, as a freshman in high school. Hanley, a 2007 graduate



Monica Hanley

of Trinidad High School, said she chose to attend TSJC because she wanted to "get a good academic foundation and save money."

She currently works part time at Trinidad Physical Therapy and Sports Medicine. "My job has been a great opportunity to improve my learning and understanding of this field of work," she said.

Hanley exemplifies the three hallmark areas of Phi Theta Kappa: Scholarship,

Leadership, and Service. She has a GPA of 3.7 and serves as President of TSJC's PTK Gamma Xi chapter. "Helping others," is an important way of life for Hanley. Three times she has donated 10 inch lengths of hair to be used in making wigs for adults and children who are suffering from hair loss due to medical conditions.

Hanley has also volunteered with the Trinidad Fire Department Toy Drive for the past six years, pitching in with

the other dedicated volunteers wherever needed. She has helped organize and set up the donated toys, wrapped countless packages, and even dressed up as a Santa's elf to help deliver them around Trinidad and the surrounding community.

TSJC Philosophy Professor Steve Griffis, who is the faculty sponsor of the Gamma Xi chapter stated, "Ms. Hanley shows herself to be a dedicated and motivated student member and leader in office for Phi Theta Kappa. She has continued to excel scholastically while maintaining a demanding schedule of school and employment commitments."

Griffis said that Trinidad State Junior College students must earn and maintain a 3.5 GPA or higher to be invited into the chapter and remain a member of the organization.

Hanley plans to transfer to Northern Arizona University where she will first pursue a Bachelor of Science degree, followed by Physical Therapy graduate courses.

Hanley is the daughter of Pete Hanley, DaLonna Hanley, and Pat Sandoval.

Local seniors win DAR Good Citizen award

Courtesy of the DAR, Santa Fe Trail Chapter

Special to the Chronicle

Five seniors, from five area schools, were recognized Saturday, Feb. 14 by The Daughters of the American Revolution Santa Fe Trail Chapter, as recipients of the DAR Good Citizen award. These students were selected by their schools for possessing qualities of dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism in their homes, schools and communities. The chapter treated the students, parents and counselors/principals to a luncheon at The Holiday Inn and presented each student with a certificate, pin and a letter from Gov. Bill Ritter JR.



Left to right; Jean Dochter, Chairman of DAR Good Citizen Committee, Nicole Paradisa from Hoehne High, Kori Martinez from Primero High, Amanda Andrews from Holy Trinity Academy, Justin Barajos from Aguilar High, and not pictured Emma Lawless from Trinidad High.

Three of the students participated in the scholarship contest and read their essays. The winner of the contest was Kori Martinez who received \$100 and

is entered in the state contest. Amanda Andrews and Nicole Paradisa received \$50 each for their participation.

The Santa Fe Trail is proud

of these students and very appreciative of Paula Manini and Bill Horton who were judges for the scholarship contest.

Southern Colorado Reading Series offers second speaker at CSU - Pueblo

Courtesy of CSU Pueblo Special to the Chronicle

Former CSU-Pueblo professor and award-winning poet David Keplinger will offer a matinee performance as the second in the spring Southern Colorado Reading Series. Keplinger's reading will begin at 2 p.m. on Friday, February 20 in the Occhiato University Center Cottonwood Room.

Keplinger is the author of three books of poems, most recently *The Prayers of Others*, which won the 2007 Colorado Book Award. He is the recipient of the T.S. Eliot Prize, a 2003 fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts, and was featured last year on Garrison Keillor's "Writers Almanac." In 2007,

his translations of Carsten Rene Nielsen's *The World Cut Out* with *Crooked Scissors* appeared from New issues Press. Keplinger directs the MFA Program in Creative Writing at American University in Washington, D.C.

The reading is free. All books are on sale at the CSU-Pueblo Bookstore and will be available at the event. Contact Juan J. Morales, assistant professor and director of creative writing if you have any questions at 549-2082 or juan.morales@colostate-pueblo.edu.

The next in the series of presentations will be on Wednesday, March 11.

Pueblo sponsors poetry contest for Women's History Month

Courtesy of CSU Pueblo Special to the Chronicle

Female poets in Southern Colorado are invited to participate in the annual Women's Poetry Contest sponsored by Colorado State University - Pueblo's Women's Studies Program, English Department and University Library in honor of Women's History Month. The contest will consist of four divisions - open/community-at-large, college, high school, and middle school.

Poets may submit up to three poems of any type or length, each on a separate sheet of paper with the author's name, address, phone number, division, and e-mail address or name of school and Language Arts teacher (if applicable) on the back of each entry.

Prizes for the contest, sponsored by the University Library, are \$25 for first place, \$15 for second place, and \$10 for third place in each division. Winners will be announced and prizes awarded at the annual Evening of Women's Poetry, 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 17, in the Occhiato University Center Hearthwell Lounge.

Poets should submit their entries to Margaret Barber, English Department, CSU-Pueblo, 2200 Bonforte, Pueblo, Colo. 81001, or hand deliver them to 100 Psychology Building on the CSU-Pueblo campus. Entries must be received by 5 p.m. on March 9. Questions may be directed to Margaret Barber, (719) 549-2651.

Trinidad food drive

By LACEY WESLEY

Special to the Chronicle

As many people are aware, grocery bags were distributed throughout the whole town in hopes of receiving enough canned goods to support a food drive. This food drive was sponsored by several organizations including many from Trinidad High School.

Lord's Pantry, Trinidad Las Animas County Economic Development, and *The Chronicle-News* were the organizations outside of the school that sponsored this food drive.

Future Business Leaders of America, Student Council, National Honor Society, and Key Club are all sponsors from the high school.

Mrs. Zuech, Mrs. Terry, Ms. Griego with Mr. Gardner, and Mrs. Bowie are all the gracious people who spent time planning for the high school to get

involved.

Also, Linda Nusser from the Lord's Pantry and Michael Aragon from Economic Development spent much time organizing this huge food drive. Sunday, Feb. 1, the grocery bags were circulated by many volunteers including students at Trinidad High School.

Kayla Gagliardi, Felix Lopez, Cherrie Liu, Latisha Martinez, and Ryan Reamy volunteered their time helping gather food for those in need.

The following Sunday, the grocery bags were picked up from all areas in which people contributed.

Last, on Sunday, Feb. 15, all volunteers met and dispersed all canned goods to those in need at 1605 Aiello Street, the Seventh Day Adventist Church. Numerous people put their valuable time into this project to help people in need.

Art contributes to cancer research

By LACEY WESLEY

Special to the Chronicle

Trinidad High School participated in a competition among art students, in which they made and creatively decorated masks. The top three masks were then picked and displayed among the top three middle school winners' masks at the Wal-Mart branch of the First National Bank.

People can vote on the top six for one dollar per vote. The money raised goes to Cancer Research. We are encouraging people to go out and vote, this not only supports the students and encourages all students to

work hard, but it aides in the research of cancer which is very beneficial to thousands of people. Mrs. Holdershaw is the sponsor of this competition and the teacher of both the middle school and high school students.

The top three students from Trinidad High School are, in no specific order, Alicia Campos, Mateo Lopez, and Ashley Tambureli. There will be a reception for the winners at the Wal-Mart branch of the First National Bank on Tuesday, Feb. 24. This will honor the winners and persuade other students to do well and work hard.