

## briefly | PUEBLO WEST & AREA

### Master Gardeners

Having problems with your vegetables, lawns and/or trees? Colorado Master Gardeners will help you find the answers at a diagnostics clinic at the Pueblo West Library, 298 S. Joe Martinez Blvd., from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. the second Saturday of every month.

For more information, contact the Colorado State University Extension-Pueblo County office at 719-583-6566.

## PEOPLE SPEAK

### What do you do to beat the heat?



**Chris Armijo**  
Unemployed  
Pueblo

"Go to a pool and swim."



**Stephen Lawson**  
Unemployed  
Pueblo

"Drink lots of water."



**Megan Gordon**  
Dance school  
instructor  
Pueblo

"Is that possible?"



**Ron Olson**  
Truck driver  
Pueblo

"I've just been cruisin' on my bike until I get home and turn on the air conditioner."



**Andrea Garrett**  
Theatre company  
director  
Pueblo

"I just bought a second air conditioner yesterday to add to the one I already have."



**Chris Hernandez**  
Fisherman  
Pueblo

"I stay inside with the air conditioning or fish with shorts on."



**Josh Porter**  
Street magician  
Pueblo

"Go to a swimming pool."



**Mary Therese**  
Anstey  
Architectural  
historian  
Denver

"Sit in the air conditioning or go to movies."

Asked Thursday at the Robert Hoag Rawlings Public Library.

**AT THE LIBRARY****Fiction**

"Split Second," by Catherine Coulter  
 "Hotwire: A Maggie O'Dell Novel," by Alex Kava  
 "Burnt Mountain: A Novel," by Anne Rivers Siddons  
 "Portrait of a Spy," by Daniel Silva  
 "Private Life," by Jane Smiley  
 "Robert Ludlum's the Bourne Dominion," by Eric Van Lustbader

**Nonfiction**

"The Original Argument," by Glenn Beck  
 "Fire Monks: Zen Mind Meets Wildfire at the Gates of Tassajara," by Colleen Morton Busch  
 "Paris to the Past: Traveling through French History by Train," by Ina Caro  
 "The Three of Us: Growing Up with Tammy and George," by Georgette Jones  
 "Shaped by War," by Don McCullin  
 "Nothing Daunted: The Unexpected Education of Two Society Girls in the West," by Dorothy Wickenden

**Health exchange forum at library**

Puebloans will be asked their opinions about the new health care exchanges at a forum Wednesday at the Robert Hoag Rawlings Public Library.

"We are looking for people from specific income levels to participate," said Graham Smith of JSI, which is coordinating the event.

Those selected for the focus group will receive \$25 for their time.

To participate or for more information, call 1-877-892-099.

• **InfoZone News**  
**Museum**, Robert Hoag Rawlings Public Library, 100 E. Abriendo Ave., is open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free.

## AT THE LIBRARY

### Fiction

"From Barcelona, with Love," by Elizabeth Adler  
"The Secret Mistress," by Mary Balough  
"Split Second: An FBI Thriller," by Catherine Coulter  
"Quinn: A Novel," by Iris Johansen  
"Dragon's Time: Dragonriders of Pern," by Anne McCaffrey  
"Then Came You," by Jennifer Weiner

### Nonfiction

"The Seven Spiritual Laws of Superheroes," by Deepak Chopra  
"The Natural Mystics: Marley, Tosh, and Wailer," by Colin Grant  
"Reading with the Stars: A Celebration of Books and Libraries," by Leonard Kniffel  
"Warren Buffett Invests Like a Girl: And Why You Should, Too," by Louann Lofton  
"William & Catherine: Their Story," by Andrew Morton  
"Not Afraid of Life: My Journey So Far," by Bristol Palin

543-4688

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**Sports, Arts & Craft Books**  
An additional **50% off**  
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As an example: a \$25 book on this sale  
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**FREE PAPERBACK NOVEL**  
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All profits used to benefit the Pueblo Library District

**AT THE LIBRARY****Fiction**

"Escape: A Novel," by Barbara Delinsky  
 "Orchard of Hope: A Novel," by Ann H. Gabhart  
 "Betrayal of Trust," by J.A. Jance  
 "When Passion Rules: A Novel," by Johanna Lindsey  
 "Stagestruck: a Peter Diamond Investigation," by Peter Lovesey  
 "The Dog Who Came in from the Cold," by Alexander McCall Smith

**Nonfiction**

"They Came for Me: A Family's Story of Love, Captivity, and Survival," by Maziar Bahari  
 "The Cave Painters: Probing the Mysteries of the World's First Artists," by Gregory Curtis  
 "Has Modernism Failed?," by Suzi Gablik  
 "What's Next: Unconventional Wisdom on the Future of the World Economy," by David Hale  
 "Chrysalis: Maria Sibylla Merian and the Secrets of Metamorphosis," by Kim Todd  
 "The House in France: A Memoir," by Gully Wells

543-4688

**BOOKS Again**  
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Monday - Saturday  
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**Bios, Memoirs & True Life Books**  
**An additional 50% off**  
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*As an example: a \$25 book on this sale  
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# The Pueblo Chieftain

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May vary outside Pueblo

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PUEBLO, COLORADO

## Ballot drive targets Urban Renewal

**City schools' board president launches campaign to gain voice in decisions.**

By CHRIS WOODKA  
THE PUEBLO CHIEFTAIN

A city ballot issue could challenge how Tax Increment Financing, the major funding source for

the Urban Renewal Authority of Pueblo, is applied to projects.

"What we're asking for is representation," Pueblo City Schools President Stephanie Garcia told the authority's board Tuesday.



Stephanie Garcia

Garcia wants the school districts, county and other taxing entities to have a say in Urban Renewal projects.

Garcia shared a copy of a petition for a city ordinance she has begun circulating this week through the Committee for Transparency in TIF. The ordinance would require the city to furnish written notice to other taxing entities affected by TIF collections and to

negotiate in good faith with other groups to share property tax revenues related to updated plans.

It also would require approval of other taxing entities to create or enlarge a TIF district.

Garcia intends to meet with City Council to discuss whether it would consider adopting an ordinance without an initiative, but noted that a similar proposal was rejected by council in the

past.

She contends TIF collections deprived Pueblo County, city schools, District 70, the Pueblo City County Library District and water conservancy districts of \$4.3 million in property tax revenues last year. The length of the TIF payments and whether they are being applied to blighted areas also are issues.

SEE BALLOT, 2A

### BALLOT / from page 1A

"In 25 years, two generations of students have gone through the schools before they see any benefits," Garcia said. "We want the jobs and other benefits, but we are losing teachers and not seeing other benefits."

Some members of the Urban Renewal Authority disagreed.

"Her arguments are full of holes. The improvements wouldn't happen without Urban Renewal, so I don't see the argument that they're losing tax revenue," said City Councilman Larry Atencio. "Also, what if one of the taxing agencies doesn't go along with it. Does it kill the project?"

TIF funding applies property or sales taxes to improvements in specific

areas as new businesses develop. Taxes above a baseline value are earmarked for public improvements within a taxing district.

The Urban Renewal Authority has used the funding for projects such as the Pueblo Convention Center, the South Main Street parking garage or for a Vestas reimbursement agreement that helped bring 400 jobs to Pueblo.

Current Urban Renewal projects include the Lake Avenue redevelopment, a ramp off Interstate 25 at Pueblo Crossings on the North Side and the renovation of Memorial Hall.

Garcia doesn't dispute the value of the improvements, but said the other taxing entities should have

a say in how the public money is spent.

"No matter how well-intentioned, city officials will always be tempted to use TIF as a vehicle for certain developers," she said. "This puts many developers at a competitive disadvantage, as it distributes public funds from other governmental entities to only a few private companies."

Former City Councilman Al Gurule attended the meeting as well, and said he feels that Urban Renewal has strayed from its mission of addressing blight. He said pouring more money in the Downtown area, shopping centers or projects such as Thunder Village near Colorado State

University-Pueblo takes resources away from more needy areas.

"Dillon Drive? How does that compare to East Fourth Street?" Gurule asked. "I expanded my own business (Pueblo Community Corrections Services) and put in my own infrastructure."

He said there already is another agency for economic development, so Urban Renewal should concentrate on blighted areas.

John Batey, director of the Urban Renewal Authority, said the agency addresses blight under state guidelines, and protects the property tax base in affected neighborhoods by keeping the money close to home.

The TIF focus is on new commercial development, so doesn't impact residential or existing business taxes that are the foundation of revenues to other

districts. The exception is on the East Side corridor, which has a high proportion of rental units, he said.

Batey isn't sure Garcia's figures about the impacts of TIF on other taxing districts are accurate. He said the baseline for calculating TIF is adjusted every two years to make sure the proper amount of taxes are collected.

The length of time for a TIF district, typically 25 years, is also appropriate, he said.

"I understand their perspective, but what they're failing to recognize is that redevelopment takes time. Bonding takes time, and there's a difference between repaying a bond in 10 years vs. 15 years," Batey said. "The most important thing is that revenue is going back into the community."

woodka@chieftain.com



## PEOPLE SPEAK

## How has the poor economy affected you?

**Penny King,**  
**Pueblo,**  
**retired teacher**

"I sell craft items that are not selling, and my husband is unemployed."

**Cathy Lopez,**  
**Pueblo West,**  
**health care provider**  
**and teacher aide**

"It is bad, because of the low employment and no job opportunities."

**Shanda Kersten,**  
**Pueblo,**  
**unemployed**

"I have to go out and get a job now, I can't stay home with my baby anymore."

**Becky Bregar,**  
**Pueblo,**  
**homemaker**

"We have had to make more conscious decisions on spending limits and cut back, just learning to accommodate the change in economy."

**Scott Bean,**  
**Pueblo,**  
**unemployed**

"I've been looking for a job so I can get my own place, but I have been living with my girlfriend."

**David Kochis,**  
**Pueblo,**  
**retired**

"I have traveled less, and am staying home more."

**Richard Montano,**  
**Pueblo,**  
**artist**

"It really hasn't."

**Derek Voll,**  
**Pueblo,**  
**unemployed**

"It has put me in tremendous poverty for years, and it is not fun."

Asked Thursday at the Robert Hoag Rawlings Public Library.

## The past is present

## Second chautauqua festival brings historical figures to life

Four of the western world's great thinkers and writers will be part of the second Voices of the Valley Chautauqua Festival in Pueblo.

The festival will take place July 29 and 30 under a tent on the west lawn at Colorado State University-Pueblo. Kevin Radaker and Brian "Fox" Ellis will perform.

On July 29, Radaker will portray author Henry David Thoreau at 6 p.m. and Ellis will play naturalist Charles Darwin at 7 p.m. The schedule will repeat on July 30, with Radaker playing Christian writer C.S. Lewis and Ellis taking on the role of poet Walt Whitman.

Radaker is a professor and chair of the English department at Anderson University in Indiana; he is a Thoreau scholar. Ellis, an Illinois native, has toured around the world since 1980 portraying multiple characters, including

Brian 'Fox'  
EllisKevin  
Radaker**IF YOU GO**

**WHAT:** Voices of the Valley Chautauqua Festival

**WHEN:** 6 p.m. July 29-30  
**WHERE:** Colorado State University-Pueblo, west lawn

**ADMISSION:** Free

**INFO:**  
[www.pueblolibrary.org](http://www.pueblolibrary.org)

Meriwether Lewis, John James Audubon and Edgar Allan Poe.

Following the performances, Radaker and Ellis will answer questions from the audience — first in character, then as themselves.

The InfoZone News Museum in Robert Hoag Rawlings Public Library, 100 E. Abriendo Ave., will show the following films leading up to the chautauqua festival. Show time is 6:30 p.m.: Monday, "Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the

Witch and the Wardrobe" (rated PG); Wednesday, "Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian" (PG); Thursday, "Creation: The True Story of Charles Darwin" (PG-13).

The festival is sponsored by the Pueblo City-County Library District, CSU-Pueblo and Colorado Humanities.

There is no charge for admission and visitors are welcome to bring their own picnic dinner, organizers said.

— Amy Matthew

# Museum salutes work of Hispanics at mill

'All of us are related to CF&I,' says librarian who coordinated ethnic series.

By ADRIAN GARCIA  
THE PUEBLO CHIEFTAIN



Former steelworker Elmer Espinoza recalls his days at the mill and laments that 'a lot of the old guys are gone.'

CF&I steel mill workers "didn't look like much, but we were a proud bunch," Elmer Espinoza told some 50 people Saturday at the Steelworks Museum. "There was a good work force in Pueblo due to ethnic

origins of all nationalities," Espinoza said.

Hispanic Heritage Day was the fourth and final one to recognize the ethnicities that contributed to steel and Pueblo. Greeks, Germans and Italians had their days, too.

Espinoza, who worked for more than 30 years at the Bessemer mill, got a little choked up as he reflected. "It's kind of sad when you think of all the years, a lot of the old guys are gone," he said.

SEE MUSEUM, 5B

## MUSEUM / from page 1B

He recalled things that former workers and their families know well: the mill whistle that sounded at 12 p.m.; the Bessemer area, where many workers would eat their lunch, and the nickname "the town" because of the smell the mill gave off.

"You look at all the pictures and it kind of overwhels you because there is a legacy of history," Espinoza said.

Chadene Garcia-Simone, the Pueblo City Library genealogy and special collections librarian, coordinated the event, which was sponsored in part by the Fray Angelico Chavez Chapter of the General Federation of Hispanic America.

"All of us are related to CF&I," the librarian said. "We have become a part of Pueblo history."

Alife Salazar had the look of history. Dressed in a period costume, the poetry writer read a brief history of Hispanics' role

in Pueblo's past and the founding of its neighborhood, such as Salt Creek, where she was reared. Her brother and other relatives were born there.

Joe Sandoval, who began working at the mill in 1959, read from his book "Heart of Gold" and talked on his experiences working in the part of the mill that produced wire.

Hispanic Heritage Center, 201 W. B St., displayed antiques of Hispanic culture from its "Legacy" troupe. Ben Guercio and Virginia Vigil spoke about people who came from New Mexico to Pueblo because of the mill.

The pair then closed the day with some Hispanic dances.

city@chieftain.com

**SONG OF  
PUEBLO**  
an oratorio

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a flood of memories**

**NEW VENUE  
WED. JULY 20**  
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**CONCERT STARTS AT 7:00 PM  
DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 PM**

El Pueblo Ensemble, Tom Munch, Johnny  
Watson, Linda Amman and Dave Enke

El Pueblo History Museum  
301 N. 11th Avenue  
Pueblo, Colorado 81003  
719/533-0453

HISTORY Colorado  
www.historycolorado.org

## PEOPLE SPEAK

### What is your favorite summer activity?



**George Lott**  
Sales Manager  
Pueblo

"Chili  
cook-offs."



**Diane Wigner**  
Sales Assistant  
Pueblo

"Going to our  
cabin in Pitkin."



**Scott Chaussee**  
Advertising  
Executive  
San Francisco

"Just biking and  
playing tennis."



**Rick Sindeband**  
Owner of  
Skystone & Silver  
LLC  
Pueblo

"Traveling."



**Gabby Riggsbee**  
Unemployed  
Pueblo

"Hanging out  
with friends."



**Alex Albrecht**  
Student  
Canon City

"Singing."



**Domenique  
Roush**  
Teacher  
Pueblo

"Golf."



**Nancy Cornell**  
Teacher  
Pueblo

"Gardening."

Asked Thursday at Mesa Junction.