

Palmer Lake .5K Fun Run, Oct. 2

Right: On Oct. 2, over 600 paid registrants attended the Palmer Lake .5k Fun Run to benefit the lake and lakeside facilities. Short as the “run” was, there was a donut station midway and festively dressed participants with children, strollers, walkers, wheelchairs, and pooches in tow. They crossed the finish line and then enjoyed beverages at O’Malley’s restaurant after the event. Pictured: Samuel Yount. *Photo by Sarah Yount, caption by Janet Sellers.*



Proposed open space



Above: From left are Drs. Catherine McGuire and Tom Close, owners of the proposed open space property, and El Paso County Parks Planning Manager Elaine Kleckner. Close shared a timeline relating geologically significant ages to the site as well as advertising ephemera, the oral history and local legends of the area, including Chautauqua events and railroad day trips of that era from Denver to Palmer Lake (originally a watery marsh for a train water stop), which helped create interest in the nature and history of the locale for eco-tourism along that part of the Front Range. *Photo by Janet Sellers.*

Blessing of the Pets, Oct. 4



Left: Deacon Doug blesses local pets at the annual Blessing of the Pets at St. Peter Catholic School October 4. From caged geckos and hermit crabs to leashed dogs, cats and birds, the pets and their people received cheerful blessings and many smiles. *Photo by Lisa Hawthorne, caption by Janet Sellers.*

By Janet Sellers
Mary Jo Lewis, of the El Paso County Parks Bear Creek Nature program, led a mid-October hike for the program’s Active Adults Club from the Palmer Lake trailhead along the Santa Fe trail. The two-hour hike brought participants into the candidate open space property known as Elephant Rock Open Space, located near and in view of Elephant Rock, an area the county is working to acquire.

cal accounts, historic ephemera of early advertisements published to create interest in railroad rides to Palmer Lake, and a visual timeline with his own oral legends of the area.

For this potential open space to become part of the county park system, Elaine Kleckner, El Paso County Parks planning manager, added, “... we have a willing seller and it will go through the typical acquisition process with this phase; we also have some funding from the county ballot initiative 18, and we had donations and fundraising from various local groups. We will proceed with the Board of County Commissioners approval to make the offer.”

The hike included an informational chat with Drs. Tom Close and Catherine McGuire on the local history of their family’s land, the subject of the hike. Close entertained hikers with geological and prehistoric data as well as written histori-

Empty Bowls, Oct. 5



Left: Pottery artist Dusty Severn is shown at the pottery bowls table for the Kiwanis Empty Bowls Dinner fundraiser Oct. 5. Bowls were donated by local artists and filled with soup at the kitchen to complete the dinner event. *Photo by Bonnie Nasser. Caption by Janet Sellers.*

Trunk or Treat events a big hit



Above: John and Carrie Manny were just one of the large group of families who offered free treats and lots of fun at the St. Peter Church Trunk or Treat event Oct. 28. The event featured a

safe place for Halloween-themed fun amid decorated car trunks readied with candy and games for costumed trick-or-treaters. *Photo and caption by Janet Sellers.*

Senior center gets equipment

Right: Tri-Lakes Women’s Club (TLWC) Co-Presidents Millie Town, left, and Charlie Ann Hayes demonstrate new exercise equipment at the Tri-Lakes Senior Center. The equipment was purchased with a grant to Tri-Lakes Silver Alliance from TLWC. New chairs for the facility were also made possible by the TLWC. The Senior Center is located at the campus of Lewis-Palmer High School, next to the stadium. TLWC has provided support for local nonprofit, public service, and educational organizations for over 40 years. *Photo courtesy of Tri-Lakes Silver Alliance.*



TLC gets PCs and training



Left: From left are Kim Wisenhut, director of Tri-Lakes Cares, RF Smith, Monument Hill Kiwanis Club president, and Julie Seltz of PC’s for People. Through the coordinated efforts of these groups, local Tri-Lakes Cares clients received personal computers and training Oct. 28 at the Tri-Lakes Cares facility. *Photo by Janet Sellers.*

Right: At a festive autumn-themed trunk station, “Brenda” the harvest maiden hands out some of the many candies of the evening as an exuberant large crowd milled about the Tri-Lakes YMCA Trunk or Treat event. The event included costumed trick or treaters, games, and the movie It’s the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown, all free to the public on Oct. 28. *Photo and caption by Janet Sellers.*

