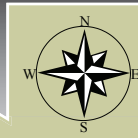


Our 200th issue!

Our Community News

Volunteers reporting on community issues in Monument, Palmer Lake, and the surrounding Tri-Lakes area



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Local Events

See pages 28-31 for details of these and many other local events.

- Palmer Lake Art Group's 44th Annual Christmas Arts & Crafts Fair, Fri.-Sat., Oct. 6-7, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Lewis-Palmer Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, Sat., Oct. 7, 2-4 p.m.
- Black Forest Together Fundraising Event, Sat., Oct. 7, 5-7:30 p.m.
- WMMI Harvest Festival, Sat.-Sun., Oct. 7-8, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Palmer Lake .5K Run, Sun., Oct. 8, 10-11:30 a.m.
- LP Public Hearing: Charter School Expansion, Thu., Oct. 12, 6-7 p.m.
- Local Merchant Celebration at YMCA, Wed., Oct. 18, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
- Shawn Colvin in Concert at TLCA, Wed., Oct. 18, 7 p.m.
- PLHS: Rarely-Seen Rich Luckin Videos, Thu., Oct. 19, 7 p.m.
- Christmas Crafts at the Monastery, Sat., Oct. 21 through Sun., Dec. 10
- Bumper Jacksons Concert & Dance at TLCA, Mon., Oct. 23, 7 p.m.
- King's Deer Golf Club Annual Handmade Art Show, Fri.-Sat., Oct. 27-28
- Trunk or Treat at St. Peter Catholic School, Fri., Oct. 27, 5-7 p.m.
- Creepy Crawl 5 K & 1-mile Kids' Run, Sat., Oct. 28.
- C.S. Lewis at TLCA, Sat., Oct. 28, 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.
- Benet Hill Monastery Chamber Concert, Sun., Oct. 29, 2:30-4 p.m.
- Historic Downtown Monument Safe Trick or Treat, Tue., Oct. 31, 4-6 p.m.
- Black Forest Arts and Craft Guild Fall Show and Sale, Thu.-Sun., Nov. 2-5
- TLCA Annual Resident & Member Artists Exhibition Opening Reception, Fri., Nov. 3, 6-8 p.m.
- Downtown Monument Holiday Open House, Fri.-Sat., Nov. 3-4
- Marty Haggard, Tribute to His Father, Merle Haggard at TLCA, Sat., Nov. 4, 7 p.m. ■



Above: Locals enjoy a day at the firehouse: Sparky welcomed pint-sized hugs at the Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District's open house Saturday, Sept. 9. Area kids had the opportunity to shower affection on their favorite firehouse dog while sipping lemonade, munching hot dogs and snacks, and exploring the district's fire trucks and equipment at Station 1 located at 18650 Highway 105. Parents learned about topics such as "Top Tips for a Safe Home," "Poisoning Prevention Tips," and "Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Tips." Firefighters provided courtesy car seat safety checks for their littlest visitors as well. The district also provided information regarding its mill levy proposal that will be included on the 2017 November ballot. Residents who wish to learn more about the proposal may request a "Frequently Asked Questions and Answers" packet from the district by calling 484-0911 or visiting their website at www.tlmfire.org. *Caption and photo by Jennifer Kaylor.* For additional fire district coverage see page 12-13.

D38 school board candidates answer questions posed by DAAC subcommittee

Provided by Lewis-Palmer School District 38

In preparation for the November election of the Lewis-Palmer School District Board of Education, the Committee for Political Achievement (CPA), a subcommittee of the District Accountability Advisory Committee (DAAC), held a community candidate forum Oct. 5 (after OCN went to press). Candidates were asked questions posed by the community and the event was live streamed. The recording of this live stream can be accessed at www.us-tream.tv/channel/lpsd-live.

Prior to the event, each of the four candidates was sent a series of identical questions and given one week to

respond. Included here are those questions and each candidate's answers, presented in alphabetical order.

Question: District 38 has once again been accredited with distinction, one of only three districts along the Front Range. While maintaining that culture of excellence, how will you make sure that staff and teachers feel supported and are comfortable enough to encourage innovation?

Thomas De Angelis

As a board member, I will treat our skilled and professional educators with the respect they deserve. The board must give the superintendent clear

D38 Q&A (cont. on page 2)

El Paso County Planning Commission, Sept. 5

Rezoning denied for outdoor RV, boat storage

By Helen Walklett

At its Sept. 5 meeting the El Paso County Planning Commission denied approval of a rezoning application for a 3.75-acre parcel of land located north of the intersection of Monument Lake Road and Mitchell Avenue.

The request by David Hellbusch was to rezone the land from RR-5 (residential rural) to CS (commercial service) to allow the operation of an RV and boat storage yard at the site. In 2013, the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) approved a variance of use for the same parcel of land to allow a small engine-repair business to operate legally on the site. A separate variance of use request to allow the outdoor storage business was recommended for approval by the planning commission in 2016 but subsequently denied by the BOCC in July 2016, citing incompatibility with the surrounding area.

Commissioners expressed concern that a rezoning would also allow uses that might not be appropriate to the property and voted 6-1 to deny the application, citing incompatibility. Commissioner Jim Egbert voted no to the denial motion. The application will now be heard at a future meeting of the BOCC.

Helen Walklett can be reached at helen-walklett@ocn.me

El Paso Board of County Commissioners, Aug. 29, Sept. 5, and Sept. 26

Infrastructure project excess revenue ballot measure approved

By Helen Walklett

Following discussion at its Aug. 29 and Sept. 5 meetings, the El Paso Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) voted to put a measure on the Nov. 7 ballot asking voters to allow the county to retain \$14.5 million in 2016 revenues to be used to repair roads, improve parks and trails, and complete the remaining projects from the September 2013 flooding. The BOCC also made decisions relating to the Forest Lakes and Misty Acres developments.

November ballot question

Following the BOCC's resolution, voters in the Nov. 7 ballot will decide if the county can keep and spend \$14.5 million in 2016 revenues above the

BOCC (cont. on page 11)

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