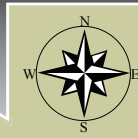


Our Community News

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



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Local Events

See pages 27-31 for details of these and many other local events.

- Foot Care Clinic, Wed., Mar. 8
- Wescott FPD Mill Levy Steering Committee, Wed., Mar. 8, 7 p.m.
- Olivia Mainville & the Aquatic Troupe Concert, Fri., Mar. 10, 7-9 p.m., TLCA.
- NEPCO, Sat., Mar. 11, 10 a.m.-noon. Fire Chiefs' Forum (tentative).
- Shane Koyczan, Spoken Word Artist, Sat., Mar. 11, 7 p.m., TLCA.
- Chamber Concert Series: *Parish House Baroque*, Sun., Mar. 12, 2:30-4:30 p.m. Benet Hill Monastery.
- Monument Library: Quilt Show Art Reception, Tue., Mar. 14, 5-6:30 p.m.
- Seniors: Ensign Mobile Vision Clinic, Wed., Mar. 15, by appointment
- Free Educational Series: *Generational Diversity/Millennials in the Workplace*, Wed., Mar. 15, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
- Wescott FPD Steering Committee Meeting, Wed., Mar. 15, 7 p.m.
- Palmer Lake Historical Society: *An Act of Congress* by Bob Easterly, Thu., Mar. 16, 7 p.m.
- PRHS production of *Purrfect Crime*, Thu.-Sat., Mar. 16-18, 7 p.m.
- Foot Care Clinic, Fri., Mar. 17
- Seniors Aromatherapy Education Workshop, Fri., Mar. 17, 1-2:25 p.m.
- WMMI Family Exploration Day: *Science*, Sat., Mar. 18, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
- D-38 Parent Education Night: *Mindful Parenting*, Mon., Mar. 20, 6:30 p.m.
- Tri-Lakes Community/Centura Blood Drive, Tue., Mar. 21, 2:30-7 p.m.
- Foot Care Clinic, Fri., Mar. 24
- Randy Stonehill Concert, Fri., Mar. 24, 7 p.m., TLCA.
- Monument Library: Bonfils Blood Center Blood Drive, Sat., Mar. 25, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Seniors: Gardening Workshop, Mon., Mar. 27, 1-2:30 p.m.
- Bill Nance Memorial Blood Drive, Thu., Mar. 30, 1-6 p.m. ■



Above: The Lewis-Palmer D-38 Administrative Council stands during a statement from Kilmer Elementary School Principal Drew Francis regarding behavior at board meetings. Photo by Harriet Halbig.

Lewis-Palmer D-38 Board of Education, Feb. 16

Board, citizens discuss meeting behavior

By Harriet Halbig

The Lewis-Palmer D-38 Board of Education and a number of citizens addressed the issue of behavior at board meetings during its Feb. 16 meeting. Also, the board extended the contract of Superintendent Karen Broffitt.

Because citizens' comments have become increasingly disruptive, several citizens and members of the Lewis-Palmer administration found it necessary to comment on the issue.

Former board member and district parent Robb Pike assured teachers and staff that he has their back. He said it is critical to find a way to move forward through disagreement. Naming a small group of individuals (Derek Araje, Gordon Reichal, Traci Burnett, Tammy John, Michael O'Hare and Ana Konduras), he said that they are striving to divide the community. There was an attack against a teacher on social media, which Pike said crossed a line. He urged Director Sarah Sampayo to resign for her efforts to promote negativity.

Kilmer Elementary School Principal Drew Francis, speaking on behalf of the

district's Administrative Council (principals and administrative personnel who stood behind him as he spoke) said that the board should require members of the public to behave appropriately at meetings and elsewhere to model behavior for students. Due to recent meeting disruptions, he suggested that no student performances or demonstrations of learning including students should be part of board meeting. He said that the current climate at meetings has led to attacks through social media.

Many members of the audience stood during these comments.

During the board comment portion of the meeting, Treasurer John Magerko also commented on the climate at recent meetings, saying that it is more important to focus attention on the ability of the district and Monument Academy to work together and on how to deal with funding issues.

Magerko apologized to Superintendent Karen Broffitt for not addressing the issue of last year's lawsuit against the district (mentioned by Derek Araje at last month's meeting, when he suggested that

Broffitt did not inform the board of the suit). He said that he was well-informed on the subject.

Board Secretary Mark Pfoff (formerly board president) also said that he had received frequent updates from Broffitt about the suit and that it was his decision not to address the subject during meetings. He thanked all district staff for their contributions to his children's education and welfare and could not understand why a small group of people would want the district to fail, saying that teachers do not deserve to be bullied. He said that this group of people accuses the board of lack of respect, and yet they practice disrespect for the board. They list names in their accusations and object to having their names used.

Pfoff said that he had sent certified letters to the individuals asking them to stop disrupting meetings and that it was unfortunate to have to spend time discussing this matter.

Several members of the public commented on the value of the Path 2 Empathy program. Karen Heater praised its

(Continued on page 2)

Monument Planning Commission, Feb. 8

Town comprehensive plan approved

By Kate Pangelinan

At a very short Monument Planning Commission meeting Feb. 8, the new draft of the town's comprehensive plan—which was discussed extensively during both January meetings—was unanimously approved, 5-0. The meeting lasted about 15 minutes.

Commissioner David Gwisdalla was absent.

Between this February meeting and the last meeting in January, commissioners contacted project consultant Barb Cole of Community Matters Inc. over the phone to discuss various elements of the plan. She was also in contact with former planner Karen Griffith—who presented proposed changes to the plan at the Jan. 25 meeting—to address concerns.

The Comprehensive Plan draft is available for public view online at the

Town of Monument's website, by going to the "Documents-on-Demand" page and selecting "Planning Commission Packets." Recordings of Monument Planning Commission meetings can now be found there, too, by selecting "Planning Commission Recordings." <https://monumenttownco.documents-on-demand.com/>

The next Monument Planning Commission meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 8 at 645 Beacon Lite Rd. Meetings are normally held on the second Wednesday of the month. Information: 884-8017 or www.townofmonument.org/meetings/

Kate Pangelinan can be reached at katepangelinan@ocn.me.

Additional Monument news starts on page 7

TOWN OF MONUMENT
Comprehensive Plan 2017

Final Draft February 08, 2017

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