

## Chamber seminar, Feb. 8



**Above:** From left are Dustin Kowkle, program manager, speaker Glenn Plagens of North Metro Denver Colorado Small Business Development Center (SBDC), and an intern for the local SBDC. Plagens taught a morning seminar Feb. 8 at the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce on learning a relatively new and more visually based business planning methodology. This allows business owners to describe, design, challenge, invent, and pivot their business model. It was also helpful for writing business plans and documenting and describing existing business models. *Photo by Janet Sellers.*

## RMMA Concert, Feb. 25



**Above:** On Saturday, Feb. 25, the Rocky Mountain Music Alliance (RMMA) provided a piano concert held at Tri-Lakes United Methodist Church. This concert featured Dr. Michael Schneider and Dr. Zahari Metchkov, who performed Brahms' *Piano Concerto No. 1* and Massenet's *Piano Concerto*.

## Value Up, Feb. 12



**Above:** "You matter! We want you to know how beautiful and valuable you are." Monument resident Mike Donahue, left, and Columbine High School shooting survivor Craig Scott are among those sharing this message through the El Paso County Value Up initiative. Organizers hope to present an assembly called "Walk a Mile in Their Shoes" to the 50,000 middle and high school students in El Paso County. Over the next several years, they hope to reach the thousands of students who may be dying on the inside. "Never give up on your dream. Get back up!" is Donahue's message to teenagers. Kids face so much pressure and feel the need to act like everything is OK when really they are in pain and terribly lonely. They act like they don't care when, actually, they are scared to fail. The world is shallow, and because of social media, kids never get a break from relentless judgment. "They are not apathetic toward school. It is fear!" The Value Up nonprofit organization works with kids in middle and high school to help them deal with pressure in other ways than self-medicating by using drugs or alcohol, cutting themselves, bullying, entering bad relationships, or committing suicide. "When kids experience success toward their dream, they will value and respect themselves," Donahue said to over 100 people at a community meeting at Tri-Lakes United Methodist Church on Feb. 12. "I will be a person who shines a light and doesn't just curse the darkness," he said. "Speak life into them! Take the time to speak vision and value into people's lives!" For information or to donate, see <https://value-up.org/> or write to [info@value-up.org](mailto:info@value-up.org). *Caption by Lisa Hatfield. Photo by Charlie Searle.*

RMMA is a nonprofit organization with the purpose of bringing fine classical music to the Tri-Lakes area and promoting the study of classical music. It does this by bringing highly distinguished musicians to perform in the area as well as teach master classes free of charge. Also, RMMA offers scholarships for local students. The next RMMA concert will take place on May 6 at 7 p.m. and will feature Filip Fenrych on the violin, Gina Ford on the oboe, and Metchkov on the piano. For more information about RMMA, go to [www.rmmaonline.org](http://www.rmmaonline.org) or contact RMMA President Coleen Abeyta at [Coleen.Abeyta@gmail.com](mailto:Coleen.Abeyta@gmail.com) or 630-8165. *Photo by Lauren Jones.*

## Our Community Notices

*By Judy Barnes, Events Editor*

*Although we strive for accuracy in these listings, dates or times are often changed after publication. Please double-check the time and place of any event you wish to attend by calling the information number for that event.*

### MVEA warns members about recent scamming attempts

Scammers are pretending to work for or represent area utilities. In one case, a scammer requested that an MVEA member pay their bill using a pre-paid Visa card. When the member said they felt like the call was a scam, the caller threatened to shut off their power. MVEA will never request a pre-paid payment card over the phone for an account balance. If a member wants to pay their balance with a payment card over the phone, the member will be transferred to an automated-pay-by-phone system so the payment and information remain secure.

In a second incident, an MVEA member reported that two men came to his door and stated they were contracted through MVEA and needed to check his electrical panel inside the home. MVEA does not require access to electrical panels inside members' homes. Any MVEA employee who would require access to a members' outside property would have an MVEA identification badge, MVEA clothing, and an MVEA vehicle. If you are ever in doubt, call MVEA immediately at 1-800-388-9881.

Scammers can be very convincing, and MVEA wants their members to protect themselves with the following tips:

- Do not assume the name and number on your caller ID are legitimate. Caller IDs can be spoofed.
- Never share your personal information if someone is threatening to disconnect your service, including date of birth, Social Security number or banking account information.
- Never wire money to someone you do not know.
- Do not click links or call numbers in unexpected emails or texts, especially those asking for your account information.
- MVEA accepts many forms of payment, but will NOT require a specific type of payment for account balances.
- If you receive a call, or in-person visit, that you believe

is a scam, call the police and also report the incident to MVEA at 1-800-388-9881.

### Tri-Lakes Youth Spring Sports, register now

Practices begin March 27 for outdoor soccer, volleyball, and flag football; April 8 for indoor soccer. Financial assistance is available. Register at [www.ppymca.org](http://www.ppymca.org) or at the Y, 17250 Jackson Creek Parkway, Monument.

### Tri-Lakes Little League, register now

Boys and girls ages 4-14 can sign up for baseball and softball. Register online, [www.trilakeslittleleague.com](http://www.trilakeslittleleague.com).

### ACT II thrift shop now open

ACT II is a unique community thrift shop to benefit Tri-Lakes area nonprofits. The shop is located at 245 Jefferson St., next to Tri-Lakes Cares and across the street from Northland Community Church. Act II is now open for donations and sales Tue.-Fri., 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sat., 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Volunteers and donations of gently used articles and money are needed. For more information, visit the website, [www.mynorthlandchurch.org/act-ii](http://www.mynorthlandchurch.org/act-ii), or contact Executive Director Cara Vanderkolk, [cara@mynorthlandchurch.org](mailto:cara@mynorthlandchurch.org) or 487-3268.

### Misty Acres Open Bid for Trail and Lawn Maintenance

The Misty Acres Metropolitan District is seeking bids to mow, trim, mitigate weeds, and do routine maintenance of the green open spaces, drainage areas, and trail system that runs through Misty Acres neighborhoods. The company or individual must be insured and bonded. If you are interested in walking the area to better understand the scope of the job, please contact:

**Mr. Chet Sawyer at [chsawyer1@comcast.net](mailto:chsawyer1@comcast.net) or Mr. Johnny Conder at [j\\_rexx25@msn.com](mailto:j_rexx25@msn.com)**

Bids must be submitted in writing by **April 1, 2017** to **Misty Acres Metro District, P.O. Box 1094, Monument, Colorado 80132.**

### Tri-Lakes Women's Club announces 2017 grant process, apply by March 15

The Tri-Lakes Women's Club's (TLWC) grant application for 2017 will be available through March 15 on the TLWC website, [www.tlwc.net](http://www.tlwc.net). Eligible organizations include nonprofit and public service organizations and public schools that serve the Tri-Lakes area. Special program and project requests are welcomed. The application package includes the instructions

### Alan Eugene Miller



For those who were lucky enough to know Alan, his love, his peace and his humor will be dearly missed. He was how everyone always wanted to be, but too often forgot how to be. He was free of anger, free of distrust – a humble man with no ill-will towards anyone, as he truly got along with everyone. He showed this with his unconditional love for his wife, his children, and all of his friends and family. His sense of modesty and faithfulness live on in those who knew him. They are ever-grateful to him for the astonishing example that he set. It is impossible to think of Alan and not picture him smiling back. There are so few people in this world that never left a painful scar behind, but that's just who he was. His example of humility and tenderness is but one of the many things he leaves behind. So, let us take a note from Al's book to not take ourselves, or our lives, too seriously.

Alan is survived by his loving wife, Constance, their two sons, Matthew and Andrew, and his beautiful daughter-in-law Carla.

A memorial service for Alan was held at the Palmer Lake Town Hall Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup>.

Memorial gifts may be made to the Historic Monument Merchants Association (HMMA) in care of Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce P.O. Box 147 Monument CO, 80132 in Alan's name.