

## Conexus Community Forum, Dec. 5



**Above:** On Dec. 5, the Tri-Lakes Chamber and Economic Development Corp. hosted a Community Forum to learn about a potential new 23-acre commercial development going on Old Denver Road, north of Baptist Road and east of the Santa Fe Trail to I-25. The development would be called Conexus and would be a business park with offices, light manufacturing, and minimal retail. Steve Schuck of Schuck Communities and Andrea Barlow, co-owner of land planning firm NES, gave an overview of what they envision and addressed community concerns. Schuck said they understand this is the front door to Monument, and they are trying to attract primarily major employers who will provide jobs to Monument residents and contribute to the tax base. He noted that there would be future development on 150 acres

of land north of this area depending on the success of this first phase. Barlow noted the sensitivity of the visual impact of any development when viewed from the highway. About 60 community members attended this meeting and raised concerns about water availability, traffic on Old Denver Road, impact to Santa Fe Trail use, compliance with the Dark Skies initiative for lighting and design guidelines, and coordination with the Wagons West residential development on the west side. Triview Metropolitan District will provide water and sewer; the developer is responsible for providing turn lanes into the site. The types of businesses will be defined on the development plan but there will be no marijuana businesses, which are prohibited by the town. The development will come to the Planning Commission in a special meeting on Jan. 24



and is expected at a Board of Trustees meeting in February. The developers hope to break ground in August or Sep-

tember with initial building construction happening in late fall. *Photos by Jackie Burhans.*

## John Adams at TLCA



**Above:** On Dec. 8, John Adams and his John Denver tribute band returned to the Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts. Once Adams heard *Leaving on a Jet Plane* in the mid-1960s, it not only changed the course of his music listening but also his musical career. Adams met Denver 12 or more times throughout his life and thus could impart background into Denver and his songs. Introducing the song *Perhaps Love*, Adams said Denver “could write songs anywhere, in the shower, having tea in Shanghai, and this one while sitting in a parking lot in Utah.” Along with other well-known Denver songs such as *I Guess He’d Rather Be in Colorado*, Adams performed lesser-known ones such as *Whispering Jessie* from an album released in Australia. Adams also complimented the audience, saying, “Palmer Lake, you sing beautifully” as they sang along with a number of songs during the evening. *Photo by David Futey.*

## Ice Carving at Gallery 132



**Above:** Donning rubber boots and a similarly coated apron, ice carver Julian Drummond entertained a small crowd by transforming an ordinary—and very large—block of ice into a stout snowflake under unusually summerlike temperatures. Drummond’s equipment consisted of a small chainsaw and numerous shaving tools, all of which created varying degrees of chunks, chips, and spray when they were applied to the ice. The ice carver’s wife, Linda Drummond, assisted by clearing carved ice chunks from underfoot and showing Julian the carving pattern from which he was working. The Drummonds’ efforts were sponsored by Gallery 132, a local artisan cooperative, located at the shops of 251 Front St. *Photos and caption by Jennifer Kaylor.*