

**“Regulate Palmer Lake”—more to the story**

Recently, local marijuana wholesalers sent mail requesting the citizens of Palmer Lake to vote “yes” for petitioned items 300 and 301 in the November election. Please! Before you vote, read this letter.

The petitions want to open a retail marijuana store in Palmer Lake. Please go to their listed website in the mailer and read what it says in detail. Then please go to the Palmer Lake Administration building and ask for copies of the petitions these people have submitted and read them very carefully. There could be lots of problems in them for our town. For example:

A vote of “yes” for recreational MJ would cause Palmer Lake to be limited to one Recreational retail seller per 2,000 citizens. It also says that the all town MJ-eligible wholesalers as of a certain date would automatically become recreational retailers in Palmer Lake unless our population grows over 4,000. Go ask Town Hall how many wholesalers there are in Palmer Lake. This could give one MJ recreational retail store in Palmer Lake a monopoly. Could this mean lawsuits against Palmer Lake from other people who want to open an MJ retail store, too?

In 2014, the Palmer Lake voters declared a moratorium on any voting on establishment of recreational marijuana store(s) in Palmer Lake for three years. That vote passed by 710-634. This petition seeks to nullify that vote of the people. If you vote for this petition, you are voting to nullify the vote that we already passed in 2014.

The federal government says sales of recreational MJ are illegal. The petitioners say the taxes they pay will help fund our town’s needs. Do we really want a major tax contributor in Palmer Lake to be a seller of drugs that are illegal under federal law? If you pass it, then they could become the only recreational retailer between Manitou Springs and Denver. Think about that. What negative impacts can you see for our small town?

The petitioners only have listed one way to protect our children from the increased availability of MJ in our town and that would be to sell the MJ and its products in “childproof containers.” Teenagers are also our children!

The petitioners have no way to control who ends up using the products they sell. That responsibility falls on your town government and could be very hard and expensive to control.

**Bob Mutu**

**A thank you and a clarification**

Thank you to Janet Sellers in her October *OCN* High Altitude Natural Gardening article for addressing the efforts that have been made toward noxious weeds eradication. I tend to obsess on noxious weeds, sharing bits of information regarding every plant I see.

In the reservoir trailhead area, knapweed flower head weevils and root weevils are doing an exceptional job eradicating knapweed, the only species they will ever consume. They are migrating to other knapweed areas that are calling for their assistance. Knapweed is allopathic, exuding a toxic substance which inhibits growth of other surrounding plants, and is spread primarily by seed which is estimated to be viable for five or more years. The larvae stage of the flower head weevil consumes the seeds, thereby diminishing the seed bank. The root weevil weakens the plant by feeding on the roots.

Bouncing bet, Canada thistle, Common tansy, Leafy spurge, and Toad flax, also noxious weeds, are spread by rhizomatous root systems, as well as seed, making them difficult to eradicate. Seeds of Common mullein, another Colorado noxious weed, are viable for 100 years.

All noxious weeds are non-native plants which produce thousands of seeds, allowing them to aggressively invade and diminish native ecosystems and biodiversity, are harmful or poisonous to humans and animals, and they increase wildfire potential as ground and ladder fuels. (Poison ivy is a native plant, therefore is not a noxious plant.)

Thanks to everyone who has joined in this effort to protect our native biodiversity by eradication noxious weeds. Additional information is available from the Colorado Department of Agriculture and Colorado Weed Management Association. The El Paso County guide to Identification and Control of Noxious Weeds is available in limited quantity at the Palmer Lake Post Office, town

office, and library. We can be contacted at plnoxiousweedsteam@gmail.com.

**Phyllis Head**

**Vote on principle**

In this election, the fate of the Supreme Court and our entire nation hangs in the balance. The most vulnerable and innocent, the unborn child’s fate will rest upon this decision. Beginning as early as 24 weeks’ gestation there is viability outside the womb. Despite this fact there are those seeking laws to allow abortions to birth.

Democrat Hillary Clinton supports access to abortion and is an outspoken defender of Planned Parenthood, which is the largest provider of abortions in the U.S. and also offers other health services.

Republican Donald Trump, who in the past was a supporter of abortion rights, now says he isn’t, although he’s been somewhat inconsistent in his campaign statements on abortion. Numerous anti-abortion leaders, initially wary of Trump, now support him because of his pledge to nominate Supreme Court justices who are open to curtailing abortions and his choice of Mike Pence, a staunch abortion foe, as his running mate. [www.yahoo.com/news/why-matters-abortion-054108979--election.html](http://www.yahoo.com/news/why-matters-abortion-054108979--election.html)

On Jan. 22, 1973, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled its historic *Roe v. Wade* decision making abortion legal in this country.

In June 1969, Norma McCorvey alleged rape, although untrue, to obtain a legal abortion but gave birth prior to a case decision. Years later, she wrote a book titled *I Am Roe*, declaring she was the “Roe” in *Roe v. Wade*.

“I was sitting in O.R.’s offices when I noticed a fetal development poster. The progression was so obvious, the eyes were so sweet. It hurt my heart, just looking at them. I ran outside and finally, it dawned on me. ‘Norma,’ I said to myself, ‘They’re right.’ Seeing the picture of that tiny, 10-week-old embryo and I said to myself, ‘That’s a baby!’ I suddenly understood the truth—that’s a baby! Abortion—at any point—was wrong,” McCorvey said.

Vote on principles! Pro-life!

**Tammy John** ■

**Between the Covers at Covered Treasures Bookstore****New and exciting titles from our regional trade show**

*By the staff at Covered Treasures*

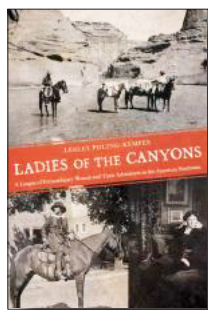
Every year we look forward to the fall and winter new releases at the Mountains and Plains Booksellers trade show. We meet authors, talk with both publishers and authors about their new releases, and we select those that might be of interest to our customers. We’re excited to share some of our discoveries with you.

First, the three winners of the Reading the West Book Awards:

***Ladies of the Canyons: A League of Extraordinary Women and Their Adventures in the American Southwest***

*By Lesley Poling-Kempes (The University of Arizona Press) \$24.95*

The true story of a group of remarkable women whose lives were transformed by the people and landscape of the American Southwest in the first decades of the 20th century. They share their adventures with the likes of Theodore Roosevelt, Charles Lummis, Chief Tawakwaptiwa of the Hopi, and Hostiin Klah of the Navajo. It’s the story of the personal challenges experienced by women and men during the emergence of the Modern Age.

***A Series of Small Maneuvers***

*By Eliot Treichel (Ooligan Press at Portland State University) \$14.95*

For 15-year-old Emma Wilson, everything is changing. Uncomfortable at home and in school, Emma’s growing up and feels isolated from her friends and family. Things go from bad to worse when Emma inadvertently causes an

accident that kills her father on a spring break canoe trip meant to bring them closer together. Suddenly, Emma’s efforts to reconcile must happen without him, and she must confront her guilt and her grief to begin moving forward.

***Black River***

*By S.M. Hulse (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt) \$14.95*

Wes Carver returns to his hometown—Black River, Mont.—with two things: his wife’s ashes and a letter from the parole board. The convict who once held him hostage during a prison riot is up for release. For years, Wes earned his living as a corrections officer and found his joy playing the fiddle. But the riot shook Wes’s faith and robbed him of his music; now he must decide if his attacker should walk free. S.M. Hulse shows us the heart and darkness of an American town, and one man’s struggle to find forgiveness in the wake of evil.

***My Beer Year: Adventures with Hop Farmers, Craft Brewers, Chefs, Beer Sommeliers, and Fanatical Drinkers as a Beer Master in Training***

*By Lucy Burningham (Roost Books) \$16.95*

As a journalist spurred by curiosity and thirst, Lucy Burningham made it her career to write about craft beer, visiting as many taprooms, breweries, and festivals as possible. She decided to make it her goal to become a certified beer expert. As Lucy studies and sips her way to becoming a Certified Cicerone, she meets an eclectic cast of characters, including brewers, hop farmers, beer sommeliers, pub owners, and fanatical beer drinkers. Her journey into the world of beer is by turns educational, social, and personal—just as enjoying a good beer should be.

***Rich People Behaving Badly***

*By Dick Kreck (Fulcrum Publishing) \$16.95*

Take a trip back in time to revel in the scandal, murders, infidelities, financial misdeeds, and just plain bad behavior from Colorado’s past. Former *Denver Post* reporter Dick Kreck looks back at Colorado’s history and shows that the foibles of people—rich or poor—remain the same. Included are socialites such as Louise Sneed Hill, who created and ruled over Denver’s “Sacred 36” Circle of society; Jane Tomberlin, who met and fell in love with a “prince” in an elevator at the Brown Palace Hotel; Irene Nolan, who cavorted late into the night with her family priest; and prominent Denver clubman Courtland Dines, who was wounded during a frolic with two silent-screen stars in his Hollywood apartment.

***I Wish My Teacher Knew: How One Question Can Change Everything for Our Kids***

*By Kyle Schwartz (Da Capo Lifelong Books) \$19.99*

Kyle’s book tells the story of the I Wish My Teacher Knew movement, with dozens of students’ handwritten emotional and insightful responses throughout. Kyle shares real stories from students, teachers, and family members that shed light on how we can all help students tackle challenges and grow as individuals. She shares strategies that can work in classrooms across America, presenting a practical guide to adapt the I Wish My Teacher Knew exercise to suit any classroom’s needs or educator’s teaching style.

Stop by and browse through our new selections. Choose some to enjoy yourself during these cool fall nights, or find some special gifts for the readers on your list. Until next month, happy reading.

*The staff at Covered Treasures can be reached at [books@ocn.me](mailto:books@ocn.me).*

**November Library Events****Celebrate National Novel Writing Month at the library**

*By Harriet Halbig*

*Please note that all Pikes Peak Library facilities will close at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 23 and remain closed Nov. 24 in observance of Thanksgiving.*

November is National Novel Writing Month. Come to the library to write with a friend or on your own. See below for times.

**Family programs**

November’s Fun for the Family program on Saturday, Nov. 12 from 2:30 to 3:30 is a visit from Cool Science