

- **Wescott Fire Department Santa Patrol**, Sat., **Dec. 16**, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Meet Santa on his fire truck with the Wescott firefighters. See the schedule map at [www.wescottfire.org](http://www.wescottfire.org). Info: 488-8680.
- **Annual Palmer Lake Yule Log Hunt**, Sun., **Dec. 17**, 1 p.m., Palmer Lake Town Hall, 28 Valley Crescent. Trek up the mountain in search of the Yule Log. Hunt participants should arrive 11 a.m.-noon. The winner will ride the Yule Log back to town and get the first cup of wassail. Non-hunters can stay warm indoors with carols and stories. See ad on page 2. Info: 481-2953.
- **Holiday Make & Take: Last-Minute Gift Classes at Sew-In-Tune**, Sun.-Mon., **Dec. 17-18**, 10 a.m-4 p.m., 252 B Front St. (in the alley), Monument. Cost: \$12 each 90 min. session. See ad on page 11. Info: 310-5363.
- **D-38 District Middle School Band Concert**, Mon., **Dec. 18**, 7 p.m., Palmer Ridge High School, 19255 Monument Hill Rd., Monument. Info: 867-8600.
- **D-38 District Band Concert**, Tue., **Dec. 19**, 7 p.m., Lewis-Palmer High School, 1300 Higby Rd., Monument. Info: 488-4720.
- **Silver Alliance Christmas Party**, Thu., **Dec. 21**, noon-2:15 p.m., Senior Center . Free lunch, games, gifts, and prizes for all. Reservations are required and space is limited. Sign up at the Senior Center, lunch at the Mennonite Church, or call Sue at 330-0241.
- **Santa on Patrol**, Sat., **Dec. 23**, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. The Monument Police Department, Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District, and the Palmer Lake Police Department will team up to deliver toys and good cheer to many children in the Tri-Lakes area. Info: 481-3253.
- **Cathedral Rock Church Christmas Eve Service**, Sun., **Dec. 24**, 10 a.m., Tri-Lakes YMCA, 17250 Jackson Creek Pkwy, Monument. See ad on page 11. Info: [www.cathedralrockchurch.org](http://www.cathedralrockchurch.org).
- **Fuel Church Christmas Service**, Sun., **Dec. 24**, 10 a.m.; fellowship with free donuts and coffee, 9:30 a.m.; 14960 Woodcarver Rd. (just west of I-25 off Baptist Road). Non-denominational, spirit-led. See ad on page 10. Info: [info@fuel.org](mailto:info@fuel.org), [www.fuelchurch.org](http://www.fuelchurch.org).
- **St. Matthias Episcopal Church Christmas Eve Services**, Sun., **Dec. 24**, 5 p.m. and 9 p.m. 18320 Furrow Rd. (1/2 mi. N of 105). Traditional music and Holy Eucharist. See ad on page 5. Info: 426-9809, [www.saint-matthias.org](http://www.saint-matthias.org).
- **Tri-Lakes United Methodist Church Christmas Eve Services**, Sun., **Dec. 24**, 10 a.m., 3 p.m., 5 p.m., 7 p.m. & 9 p.m., 20256 Hunting Downs Way, Monument. See ad on page 18. Info: 488-1365, [www.tlumc.org](http://www.tlumc.org).
- **County's Annual Treecycle**, Sat.-Sun., **Dec. 30-31; Jan. 6-7**, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Baptist Road trailhead, Baptist Road & Old Denver Hwy. Recycle your Christmas tree. Trees are ground into mulch that is given away free. Remove all decorations from your tree before dropping it off. Bring your own tools and containers for mulch. Cost: \$5, benefits community youth sports programs. Info: 520-7878, [www.TreeCycleCOS.org](http://www.TreeCycleCOS.org).
- **Town of Monument Workshop: Planning 101, An Overview of the Planning Process from Start to Finish**, Mon., **Jan. 8**, 5:30 p.m., Town Hall Board Room, 645 Beacon Lite Rd., Monument.. The public is invited to this workshop of the Board of Trustees, Planning Commission, and Board of Adjustments. Info: 884-8017, [www.townofmonument.org](http://www.townofmonument.org).

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- **Monument Police Department Active Shooter Class**, Wed. **Jan. 10**, 10 a.m.-noon, Tri-Lakes Chamber Of Commerce, 166 Second St., Monument. Chief Jacob Shirk will present ways to respond to an active shooter situation. RSVP & Info: Laura, 481-3282, [www.trilakeschamber.com/events-calendar.htm](http://www.trilakeschamber.com/events-calendar.htm).
- **Rocky Mountain Music Alliance Concert**, Sat., **Jan. 20**, 7 p.m., Tri-Lakes United Methodist Church, 20256 Hunting Downs Way, Monument. Award-winning soprano Tsvetana Bandalovska collaborates with pianist Dr. Zahari Metchkov. Tickets: adults \$10 online at [www.rmmaonline.org](http://www.rmmaonline.org) or \$12 at the door. Students with ID, and children 12 and under are free. Info: Coleen Abeyta, 630-8165, [Coleen.Abeyta@gmail.com](mailto:Coleen.Abeyta@gmail.com), [www.rmmaconcerts.org](http://www.rmmaconcerts.org).

*Our community calendar carries listings on a space-available basis for Tri-Lakes events that are sponsored by local governmental entities and not-for-profit organizations. We include events that are open to the general public and are not religious or self-promotional in nature. If space is available, complimentary calendar listings are included, when requested, for events advertised in the current issue. To have your event listed at no charge in Our Community Calendar, please call (719) 339-7831 or send the information to [calendar@ocn.me](mailto:calendar@ocn.me) or P.O. Box 1742, Monument, Colorado 80132.*

Look for our next issue  
**Saturday, January 6**

Ad space reservations due: **Fri., Dec. 15**  
Finished ad artwork due: **Fri., Dec. 22**  
Calendar items due: **Fri., Dec. 29**  
Letters to the editor due: **Fri., Dec. 29**

Visit our website to read, download, and search all the back issues at  
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Letters to Our Community

*Our Community News* welcomes letters to the editor on topics of general interest to readers in the Tri-Lakes area. We do not knowingly print letters that are substantially the same as letters that have been submitted to other publications. To ensure that *OCN* contains a variety of viewpoints, each letter writer is limited to a maximum of six letters within any twelve month period. To submit a letter, please:

- Identify your submission as a letter to the editor and confirm that it has not been submitted to any other publication.
- Include a suggested headline or title.
- Limit letters to no more than 300 words.
- Include your full name, home address, day and evening phone numbers, and email address, if you have one.
- Email your letter to [editor@ocn.me](mailto:editor@ocn.me) or mail it to P.O. Box 1742, Monument, CO 80132-1742.
- Send your letter at least 10 days before the “first Saturday of the month” when the paper is published.
- If you are not at least 18 years old or an emancipated minor, provide a written statement from a parent or legal guardian that you have permission to submit the letter.

If, after two business days from the date of your submission, you have not received an acknowledgement of your letter, please contact Lisa Hatfield, Managing Editor, at (719) 339-7831 or [editor@ocn.me](mailto:editor@ocn.me). Letters may be edited for length, grammar, and accuracy.



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*The Rabbi's Corner*  
**The Most Important Commandment—Part III**

*By Oswald Garagorry*

We have established through the two previous articles that neither Jew nor Christian know the most important commandment in its entirety. Yet, both segments of these populations assume and are ready to defend their partial knowledge as if it were a full understanding of the subject.

So today I'd like to begin analyzing why this sad partial knowledge of the subject is occurring. From the Jewish perspective, the teachings of the Torah are elevated and for this subject they will quote the Shema as if it was the most important commandment. (*Deut 6:4*) “Hear Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one...” Yet, this passage is misread as if, after the word “one” there was a final period putting an end to the subject. To the contrary the next word after “one” is the conjunction “AND” the same conjunction that exists in the Hebrew text as “VE.” The function of a conjunction is to unite what was stated preceding it with what is stated following it. In general, the Jewish person has never learned what is united to it by the conjunction “ve.” I am not sure of why; but I think that the Jews like to deal more with facts than feelings, and what comes after and is united to it by the conjunction deals more with feelings than with facts. Therefore what comes after the conjunction “and” or “ve” is ignored. So this is what comes after the ve... and we quote verbatim, (*Deut. 6:6-9*) “...and (ve) you are to love Adonai your God with all your heart, all your being and all your resources.” Moshe then went further and stated, “These words which I am ordering you today are to be on your heart and you are to teach them carefully to your children. You are to talk about them when you sleep at home and when you are traveling on the road, when you lay down and when you get up. Tie them on your hand as a sign, put them at the front of a headband around your forehead and write on the door frames of your house and on your gates.” Dear Mishpaha, let me ask you, what have you done in light of these instructions from our Torah? We have chosen the first part and we have ignored the last part. We affirm that HaShem is One and we have our mezuzahs with only the first part of the entire set of instructions from our Torah, placed at our front doors. Why don't we take the entire text of instructions literally and practice these instructions given to us from HaShem through Moshe in the same way we do with the first part before the conjunction “ve”? May we propose in our heart to love HaShem and to practice the instructions found in his Torah.

Therefore, as we quoted above, the Most Important Commandment is *Deuteronomy 6:4-9*.

In the next issue of *OCN* we will analyze the Christian perspective of the Most Important Commandment. Shalom to you.

*Dr. Garagorry is the Rabbi of Aliyah Congregation that meets on Saturdays at 10 a.m. at the Mountain Community Mennonite Church,*

*643 Highway 105, Palmer Lake, CO 80133*  
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*Visitors are welcome!*



**Content**

Articles in *Our Community News* focus on the deliberations of Tri-Lakes area governmental bodies such as the Monument Board of Trustees, Palmer Lake Town Council, and many of the local water, sanitation, fire, and school district boards.

Unlike papers that try to figure out what the “story” is and then get quotes on each side to presumably lead the reader to conclude what the “truth” is, *OCN's* role is to report in detail on public meetings of local governmental entities. We report what was talked about and what was decided. By reading *OCN*, you can find out what you might have learned if you had attended those public meetings. In this context, “truth” is that the articles accurately represent what transpired at the meetings.

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