

ducive to cold and snow for us. This did bring plenty of snow to the mountains, but mainly partly cloudy skies for us. As the main piece of energy with this storm moved through the area during the afternoon of the 29th, a band of good old rain showers developed from 3:30-4 p.m. This is very unusual for November and was much more reminiscent of winter weather in the Pacific Northwest. Temperatures during the rain showers were in the mid 30's, but the atmosphere was saturated meaning evaporative cooling did not help turn the rain into snow as it began to fall which usually happens this time of the year. As the area of low pressure associated with this system moved over Colorado and into Nebraska, very windy conditions developed across the region. This results in gusts over 70 mph west of I-25 overnight on the 29th and into the 30th. This also created hazardous travel conditions with blowing snow in the mountains and many ar-

reas along the Front Range north of the Palmer Divide into Wyoming and Nebraska. This storm continued to move away from the region with quiet conditions finally returning by the afternoon and evening of the 30th.

A Look Ahead

The month of December can be a cold one around the region, when daytime highs often stay below freezing and overnight lows can drop well below zero. The month is generally dry however, with several light, fluffy snowfalls. Gusty winds are also a common nuisance during the month, especially west of I-25. The chance for a white Christmas is fairly common for the area with either snow on the ground or snowfall on Christmas Eve or Christmas day.

November 2019 Weather Statistics

Average High	47.4° (-1.2°)
100-year return frequency value max	55.5° min 38.5°
Average Low	20.3° (+0.1°)
100-year return frequency value max	27.5° min 14.1°
Monthly Precipitation	1.68" (+0.99")
100-year return frequency value max	3.80" min 0.16"
Monthly Snowfall	28.0" (+18.8")
Highest Temperature	70° on the 9th
Lowest Temperature	-2° on the 27th
Season to Date Snow	54.6" (+32.8")
<i>(the snow season is from Oct 1 to Sept 30)</i>	
Season to Date Precip.	3.33" (+0.91")
<i>(the precip season is from Oct 1 to Sept 30)</i>	
Heating Degree Days	933 (+67)
Cooling Degree Days	0 (0)

Bill Kappel is a meteorologist and Tri-Lakes resident. He can be reached at billkappel@ocn.me.

Letters to Our Community

Guidelines for letters are on page 31.

Disclaimer: The information and opinions expressed in Letters to Our Community are the responsibility of the letter writers and should not be interpreted as the views of OCN even if the letter writer is an OCN volunteer.

Note: The letters this month are arranged in alphabetical order by the submitter's last name.

Tri Lakes, you were a fantastic chapter in my book of life!

I will be closing my chapter at the end of November 2019 with great appreciation and a sense of honor to this area which has been my home since August of 1981. I got to live in two places in historical Monument, two places in Palmer Lake and one place in Woodmoor. My two sons and I had super neighbors in each community to whom I am forever grateful. My path started as a substitute teacher for District 38 elementary schools. It developed into middle school teaching, YMCA coaching of volleyball and baseball and being part of the first experiment of mainstreaming challenged students. Tangential paths included volunteering for parks and landscaping committees and Planning Commission.

Thanks to the many people with whom I created relationships during those years. I was supported in becoming the first massage therapist in the area in 1985. I am so thankful for every client who trusted my education and intuition through all these 35 years of change through touch. It has been a most powerful symbiotic relationship of growth and I wouldn't be who I am today without you!

2003 began my career of yoga teaching. Every class has nudged me in developing my self-fulfilling potential as I hope each student felt the same nudging. Again, symbiosis wins!

Although I will continue giving massage treatments and offering private yoga sessions at my home in Colorado Springs, I am closing the Yoga For Health Studio and Massage For Health office with the fullness that comes from experiences covering such magnitude and variety that my heart is in a constant THANK YOU!

Sue Buell

Thank you!

The Palmer Lake Historical Society wishes to thank our presenters, calendar advertisers, volunteers, and program attendees for making 2019 a most successful

year. Happy holidays to you and yours,
PLHS President Michele Laurie-Munro

Thanks to Dr. Somers

November 14th, 2019 marked a turning point in D38 community interaction.

The Town Hall-What Next for D38 meeting was a success, the first in years, and I credit it to his leadership effectiveness. 70 citizens met with Dr. Somers and D-38 Admin to discuss the contentious 4A bond failure and where our community now stands in restoring a culture of trust. Most agreed there are growing community educational needs, and we must get past confrontational relations negating effective community support. I saw Thursday's meeting as a very good start.

We have a new chance to grow wisely and to work together as an inclusive district proud of our past, working towards a better future meeting all educational needs, and finally having a leader worthy of our full community trust and confidence.

That long elusive better day for D-38 is here. What a great Christmas present we just received.

Gordon Reichal

Between the Covers at Covered Treasures Bookstore

'Tis the Season for Great Books

By the staff at Covered Treasures

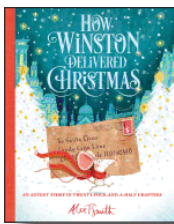
"Never trust anyone who has not brought a book with them."—Lemony Snicket

The holidays are bursting with exciting new books that make great gifts.

How Winston Delivered Christmas

By Alex T. Smith (Silver Dolphin Books) \$17.99

When a mouse named Winston finds a lost letter addressed to Santa Claus on Christmas Eve, he sets off on an unforgettable journey to personally deliver the letter to Santa. Children can read a chapter a day and each chapter is followed by a fun and festive holiday activity to complete. This illustrated advent story tells of the adventures of an adorable mouse and how a good deed can lead to a very happy ending.



The Little Snowplow Wishes for Snow

By Lora Koehler (Candlewick) \$16.99

The little snowplow loves his job on the Mighty Mountain Road Crew, but the work he loves best is plowing snow. Throughout the year, he wishes for snow to come, but winter begins without a single flake in sight. As the weeks pass and the little snowplow's birthday approaches, he starts to wonder whether it will snow at all. Will the little snowplow's birthday dreams come true?

Pages & Co.: The Bookwanderers

By Anna James (Philomel Books) \$16.99

This enchanting story about the magic of books and the power of imagination is soon to be a major television series. Since her mother's disappearance, 11-year-old Tilly Pages has found comfort in the stories at Pages & Co., her grandparents' bookshop. But, when her favorite characters start showing up at the shop, Tilly discovers that not only can she follow them into their books, but she can bookwander into any story she chooses. Tilly's new ability leads

her to fun and exciting adventures, including looking for her mother. This charming and exciting story about a bookish young heroine, a mysterious librarian, and a magical bookshop will delight book lovers everywhere.

White Bird: A Wonder Story

By R.J. Palacio (Knopf Books for Young Readers) \$24.99

R.J. Palacio makes her graphic novel debut with the heartrending story of Julian's grandmother, Grandmère. It tells how she, a young Jewish girl, was hidden by a family in a Nazi-occupied French village during World War II, and how the boy she and her classmates once shunned became her savior and best friend. It's the story of the power of kindness to change hearts, build bridges, and even save lives.

All About Dinner: Simple Meals, Expert Advice

By Molly Stevens (W.W. Norton & Company), \$40

These are Molly Stevens' delicious, time-tested recipes made from easy-to-find ingredients and collected for the first time. Each recipe is designed to impart solid kitchen skills while encouraging home cooks to expand their personal repertoires by mastering everyday favorites. It reminds us that dinner can be uncomplicated, packed with flavor, and a whole lot of fun.

Me

By Elton John (Henry Holt and Company) \$30

In his first and only official autobiography, music icon

Elton John reveals the truth about his extraordinary life, from his roller-coaster lifestyle to becoming a living legend. John also writes powerfully about getting clean and changing his life, about finding love and becoming a father. In a voice that is warm, humble, and open, this is John on his music and his relationships, his passions and his mistakes.

The Winter Army

By Maurice Isserman (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt) \$28

This is the epic story of the U.S. Army's 10th Mountain Division, whose elite soldiers broke the last line of German defenses in Italy's mountains in 1945, spearheading the Allied advance to the Alps and final victory. The U.S. Army developed a unique military fighting force, the 10th Mountain Division, drawn from the ranks of Ivy League students, park rangers, Olympic skiers, and European refugees. It formed the first specialized alpine fighting force in U.S. history. Ranging from the ski slopes of Colorado to the towering cliffs of the Italian Alps, this is a true saga of an unlikely band of soldiers forged in the heat of combat into a brotherhood whose legacy lives on in U.S. mountain fighters to this day.

"Let's be reasonable and add an eighth day to the week that is devoted exclusively to reading."—Lena Dunham

Until next month (and next year!), happy reading.

The staff at Covered Treasures can be reached at books@ocn.me.

December Library Events

Enjoy puppet shows and make last-minute gifts at your library

By Harriet Halbig

Please note there are schedule changes during December due to school holidays.

Enjoy some time away from your holiday bustle to make a greeting card or last-minute gift!