

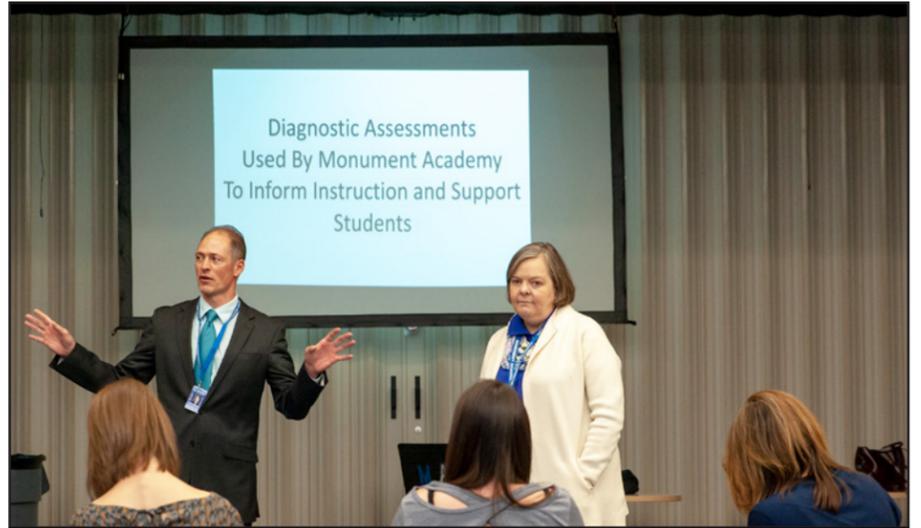
## Snapshots of Our Community

### Red kettle bell ringers collect \$50K



**Above:** On Jan. 26, the Monument Hill Kiwanis Club (MHKC) presented a \$50,000.01 check to Erin and David Kauffman of The Salvation Army for the Pikes Peak region. Every year the men and women of MHKC deliver over 700 hours of bell ringing at local businesses at no cost to the Salvation Army. Families, churches, students, the Boy Scouts, the Northgate Community Service Group, and the high school Kiwanis Key Club and middle school Builders Club members assisted MHKC. MHKC thanks the citizens of the Tri-Lakes community for its kindness and generosity. Pictured from left are David Kaufman, Quin Robinson, Erin Kaufman, MHKC Red Kettle Project Manager Mark Zeiger, MHKC President Larry Young, and MHKC Director of Member Recognition Ron Mangiarelli. Quin, a high school student, was given special recognition for serving 23 one-hour shifts this year. Though not a member of the MHKC, Quin set an example of unselfish service. *Photo by Warren Gerig.*

### MA presents assessments, Jan. 30



**Above:** On Jan. 30, Monument Academy (MA) discussed the assessments it administers and how it uses the data. Assessment Coordinator Marty Venticinque described his role as facilitating assessments while minimizing impact on instructional time by improving efficiency through upgraded infrastructure. He described diagnostic and standardized assessments required for all public schools. Some are used directly to drive instruction, some are adaptive to student performance, some are standardized for all students, and some are aligned to state standards. Teachers have expressed concern that very low participation on some tests and delayed results make it difficult to inform instruction. Venticinque noted that it would be helpful if kids who did take the tests would try their best. Principal Elizabeth Davis noted that MA coordinates with the Lewis-Palmer School District by opting into early reading assessment in order to access grant funds. She also stated that MA has a moral obligation to ensure kids are reading and to provide intervention services. She described her role in maintaining the reliability and validity of assessment results by maintaining the testing calendar. For more information, including information on assessment refusal, see <http://bit.ly/ma-assess>. *Photo by Jackie Burhans.*

### State of Tri-Lakes, Feb. 1

**Right:** The Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce held its annual state of the Tri-Lakes region luncheon on Feb. 1 at Great Wolf Lodge. Several people spoke at the event, including Monument Mayor Don Wilson, Palmer Lake Mayor John Cressman, and District 3 County Commissioner Stan VanderWerf. New District 1 County Commissioner Holly Williams is pictured here telling the audience about some great I-25 Gap communication tips. The tips include texting I25GAP to 21000 for text alerts about the project. She also described a free new app in El Paso County called EPCCitizenConnect that provides up-to-date information on the Gap project. *Photo by Allison Robenstein. See page 28 for information about CitizenConnect.*



### Amateur radio exam, Feb. 2



**Above:** Twenty-five students were successful in passing their ham radio exam, qualifying for either a new license or an upgraded license on Feb. 2 at the Monument library. The event was an FCC exam session for amateur (ham) radio licenses, administered by the Tri-Lakes Monument Radio Association. Volunteer ham operators can provide non-commercial emergency communications during time of manmade or natural disasters. For more information on the association, see [w0tlm.com](http://w0tlm.com). *Photo by Bob Witte.*

### Paws N Hooves meet & greet, Feb. 9



**Left:** Volunteers for the Paws N Hooves Black Forest Animal Sanctuary held a special pet adoption fundraiser Feb. 9, sponsored by the Monument Wag N Wash. They will hold meet-and-greet events every Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for people to meet and adopt dogs or learn about the sanctuary and foster programs. Animals needing homes are dogs, horses, puppies, cats, kittens, rabbits, and more. The adoptable pets have been carefully vetted, observed, tested, and trained and are ready for their forever homes. The sanctuary is also in need of food donations such as hay, dog food, cat food, as well as

foster families to help socialize and keep the animals in a loving home while they are up for adoption. More information is at [www.bfasfarm.org](http://www.bfasfarm.org), or contact them at [PawsNHoovesRescue@gmail.com](mailto:PawsNHoovesRescue@gmail.com), office: 719-494-0158. *Photo by Janet Sellers.*

### I-25 gap open house, Feb. 7



**Above:** On Feb. 7, the Colorado Department of Transportation hosted a community meeting on the I-25 South Gap project at The Barn in Woodmoor. Stations were set up with information about various aspects of the project including timelines, how express lanes function, project funding, project phases, and alternative commuting options. Representatives from the general contractor Kraemer NA answered questions and demonstrated the technology they use to monitor conditions in the Gap and provide real-time construction and traffic information on portable electronic signs. *Photo by Jackie Burhans.*