

Personal safety seminar, Feb. 20



Above: On Feb. 20, Monument Chief of Police Jake Shirk presented to a crowded room at the Chamber of Commerce a two-hour seminar on personal safety. The chief showed slides as he spoke and even demonstrated actions everyone should take in the case of an active shooter. Shirk called upon audience members in response to some of his direct questions on what to do in certain cases. *Photo by John Howe.*

Handbell concert, Feb. 24



Above: The Sisters of Benet Hill hosted a quartet handbell concert on Feb. 24. Colorado Springs-based Forté performed music primarily written for handbells, playing over 150 bells and chimes at this event. The group played a beautiful version of Meditations on the theme of peace by Hakes. From left are Megan Reishus, Tory Marting, Dillon Ekle, and musical director Luke Nabeta. For more information on Benet Hill concerts, see <https://www.benethillmonastery.org/concert-series>. *Photo by Allison Robenstein.*

Our Community Notices

By Judy Barnes, Events Editor

Although we strive for accuracy in these listings, dates or times are often changed after publication. Please double-check the time and place of any event you wish to attend by calling the information number for that event.

Tri-Lakes Women's Club's 2019 grant process, apply by Mar. 15

Tri-Lakes Women's Club's (TLWC) grant application for 2019 is available online until **Mar. 15** on the TLWC website, www.tlwc.net/a-tradition-of-philanthropy/grant-awards. The application package includes instructions and other important qualifying information. Eligible organizations include nonprofit and public service organizations as well as public schools that serve the Tri-Lakes area. Special program and project requests are welcomed.

In 2018, TLWC awarded nearly \$45,000 in grants. Recipients included the Monument Police Department, the Palmer Lake Fire Department, Tri-Lakes Cares, and numerous District 38 schools. Since 1977, the organization granted over \$940,000 to nonprofit, public service, and public education programs through fundraising efforts.

TLWC was named the 2017 Non-Profit of the Year by the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce. Go to www.tlwc.net to join or click on the donate button to help make a difference.

Kiwanis Coolest St. Patty's Dog Contest, vote by Mar. 20

Help fight youth suicide by voting online, \$1 per vote. Enter your dog at <https://monumenthillkiwanis.org>. See ad on page 15.

Monument Hill Kiwanis grants, apply Apr. 1-May 15

The Monument Hill Foundation, the charitable arm of the Monument Hill Kiwanis Club, has an annual granting program. Grants are awarded to charities as defined by the IRS, to various qualifying youth activities, and to schools for various educational activities and scholarships. Applications will be accepted **April 1 through May 15**. The grant application is available at www.monumenthillkiwanis.org/forms/mhf_grants. See ad on page 12.

Tri-Lakes Y Youth Spring Sports, register now Practices begin April 1 for indoor/outdoor soccer, volleyball, and flag football. Financial assistance is available. Register at www.pymca.org or at the Y, 17250 Jackson Creek Parkway, Monument.

Lewis-Palmer School District Hall of Fame, nominations accepted through Apr. 19

The community is invited to nominate a person who has made significant, ongoing contributions to the excellence of D-38 schools. More information and nomination forms are posted at www.lewispalmer.org under the Community tab. See ad on page 14.

Tri-Lakes Women's Club's Spring into Vintage, Apr. 28-29

Tri-Lakes Women's Club began its popular Pine Forest Antique Show in 1977, bringing its annual bake sale into that event. The Pine Forest show grew so much that the event had to move from the middle school to the high school in 1986. In the late '90s, the club added the home & garden element, which began with the sale of geraniums only, and invited vendors offering additional items for the home that weren't antiques. In 2015, it added an emphasis on artists. Last year the club invited a couple of vintage vendors and quickly realized this is the future now. So in 2019, it is including more vintage, calling the event *Spring into Vintage*. The show will be at Lewis-Palmer High School from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. **Apr. 27** and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. **Apr. 28**. Tickets are \$6 at the door. All proceeds from the show benefit nonprofits and public schools in the Tri-Lakes area. The Tri-Lakes Women's Club has given almost \$1 million to aid local

schools and charities. For more information on the club, go to www.tlwc.net.

MVEA board nominations open, apply by Apr. 29

The board election will take place during the annual meeting **June 13**. There is a vacancy in District 3, which includes a portion of the Black Forest. If you are interested in being a candidate, find application details at www.mvea.coop. For more information, phone 719-494-2528 or email candidate@mvea.org. See ad on page 14.

Volunteers needed for new nature trail

Black Forest's award-winning School in the Woods began work on an extensive nature trail system that will educate students and the community about the plants and animals found in Colorado's higher-altitude life zones. One of the trails will be handicap-accessible and include signs with Braille symbols. School in the Woods needs to obtain, plant, label, and care for plants throughout the trail system. Volunteers are needed to support the project through public relations, fundraising, donations, assisting on planting and maintenance days, and other resources. If you want to get involved, contact Jon Wuerth, School Coordinator, at jon.wuerth@asd20.org or 719-234-4330.

Closure of Monument Hill Road continues

El Paso County Department of Public Works continues safety and drainage improvements along the southern portion of Monument Hill Road. Due to weather delays and materials shortage, the road will remain closed from the intersection of Woodmoor Drive to the south entrance of the Monument Hill Church into April. Woodmoor Drive and Deer Creek Road continue to serve as the detour route for access to the northern portion of Monument Hill Road and Palmer Ridge High School. Upon completion of Phase I, work will transition to the north. Phase II will require closure of Monument Hill Road from the south entrance of Monument Hill Church to the south entrance of Palmer Ridge High School, eliminating access from Monument Hill Road to Deer Creek Road. Monument Hill Church will be accessible at its south entrance on Monument Hill Road. Transition from Phase I to Phase II is expected to occur in April. For Phase II, Woodmoor Drive, Furrow Road, and County Line Road will serve as the detour. For more information, visit www.elpasoco.com or email dotweb@elpasoco.com. Also, see the article on page 20.

Got spare trees to share with Black Forest?

Do you have too many tree seedlings sprouting close together in your yard? Please consider donating them to www.Trees4Tomorrow.com, a new mission of Black Forest Together. Trees that would have been lost to development or mitigation can now be transplanted to devastated areas within the burn scar. For more information, contact 495-2445 or email ResourceCenter@BlackForestTogether.org.

Pikes Peak Library District eliminates overdue fines

In February, the library officially ended fines for overdue items. The library will roll out automatic renewals as long as no other patron placed a hold on the material.

Cadet chapel to close June 17

The Air Force Academy Cadet chapel renovation has been delayed, giving the public until June 17 to visit the iconic landmark before it closes for four years. Visitors can see the chapel from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. until the June closure. Visitors need valid ID and vehicle documents and can expect a search. For more information, visit www.usafa.edu/academics/facilities/cadet-chapel/

Roundtrip bus service to Denver Tech Center on Bustang

Bustang, the Colorado Department of Transportation's (CDOT) interregional express bus service, began service

between Colorado Springs and the Denver Technological Center (DTC) in December. The new circulator route will run four times each weekday, twice in the morning from Colorado Springs to the DTC and twice in the afternoon from the DTC to Colorado Springs. It will stop at 16 locations between Arapahoe Road/Yosemite Street and the RTD Light Rail Belleview Station. A one-way fare between El Paso County and the DTC will be \$9. For more information, including route schedules and fares, and to purchase tickets, visit www.ridebustang.com or download the Bustang mobile app, JustRideBustang, for iOS or Android.

Free tutoring in reading at the library

Children's Literacy Center offers free one-to-one tutoring for children reading below grade level. Tutors are volunteers from the community, 14 years of age and older. Tutoring is held every Tuesday and Thursday, 5:30-6:30 p.m., at the Monument Library. For more information, go to www.childrensliteracycenter.org, call 471-8672, or contact Liz Eden at Liz@childrensliteracycenter.org.

Free grief group forming

The Church at Woodmoor, 18125 Furrow Road, Monument, is forming a group for people who have struggled with grief for six months or more. This group will meet for six weeks with a trained leader who will provide a safe place to process the grief resulting from the loss of a loved one, or grief due to a change in health or finances. Participation is limited to 10 individuals on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, contact Rick Jackson, 488-3200, rjackson.tcaw@gmail.com.

Protect pets from coyotes

Woodmoor Improvement Association vice president Peter Bille noted that it's coyote mating season. He urged residents to be careful with their pets as coyotes are known to lure dogs away from their homes and attack them in packs. He said there are no wolves in Colorado but residents are really seeing very healthy coyotes.

County launches Citizen Connect

Citizen Connect is a new tool that allows citizens to report problems and put in service requests with the click of a mouse or touch of a button. Citizens can download this app, EPC Citizen Connect, for I-Phone or Android phone. For more information visit www.elpasoco.com/county-launches-citizen-connect.

Yoga classes at Woodmoor Barn

Raleigh Dove is now teaching three weekly yoga classes at the Woodmoor Barn. Classes are open to everyone, and each class is a different level. For more information, visit www.yogapathwaysstudio.com. See ad on page 4.

USAFA construction project at South Gate Bridge through June 2019

The New Santa Fe Regional Trail will remain open through the construction site; all trail users must use the metal conex box tunnel. All bicycle and horseback riders must dismount before entering the tunnel. Periodic trail closures at the South Gate Bridge will be scheduled and posted in advance; the trail will be blocked and closed only at the South Gate Bridge. For more information, contact Construction Superintendent Fred Langan, 213-1332 or Fred.langan@Tepa.com; or El Paso County Project Manager Jason Meyer, 520-6985 or jasonmeyer@elpasoco.com.

Senior Beat newsletter—subscribe for free

Each monthly *Senior Beat* newsletter is full of information for local seniors, including the daily menu of the senior lunches offered Monday through Friday at the Mountain Community Mennonite Church, 643 Highway 105, Palmer Lake. It also contains the schedule of the classes and events for the month at the Senior Citizens Center and senior-friendly library programs. To subscribe, send an email with your name and mailing address to SeniorBeat@TriLakesSeniors.org. *Senior Beat* can also be viewed online at www.TriLakesSeniors.org. ■