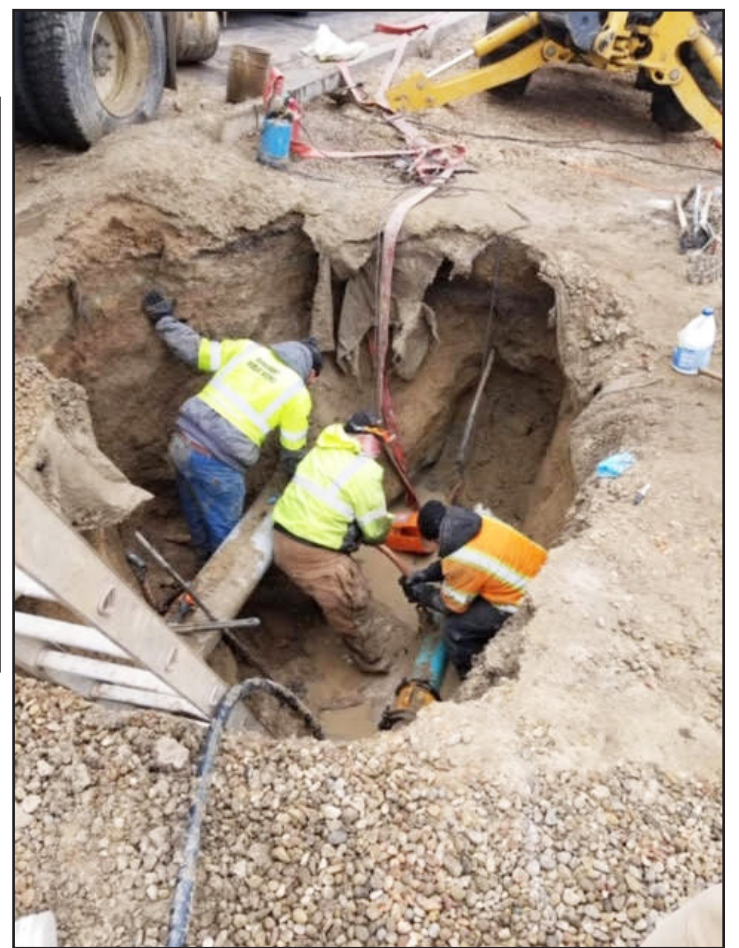


Monument water line break repaired



Above: Late in the evening on March 1, a 10-inch water line cracked on Mitchell Avenue in Monument and thousands of gallons of water poured forth until it was repaired on March 4. Tom Martinez, left, and Steve Sheffield of Monument Public Works oversaw the work of Global Underground Corp. Three homes were affected. Public Works employees were exhausted after working 31 hours over the weekend on a waterline break behind Columbine Gardens. Public Works Director Tom Tharnish encouraged the Board of Trustees to approve annual replacements to the aging water system one block at a time. One trustee asked how much it would cost to replace the whole system at once and Tharnish said it would be more than the town's entire budget. *Photo above by John Howe. Photo on right from the Town's website.*



Coffee with a Cop at Buzz N' Bagels



Above: The new Buzz N' Bagels in the Jackson Creek shopping center hosted Coffee with a Cop on March 15. Residents talk with members of the El Paso County Sheriff's Office, including Undersheriff Pete Carey and deputy Courtney Norman, as well as Monument police detective Amanda Molnar. *Photo by Allison Robenstein.*

Fox Run Park group advocated



Above: On March 28, Aaron Rogers of the Trails and Open Space Coalition (TOSC) talked with interested neighbors near Fox Run Park at the Southwinds Fine Art Gallery to help start up a Friends of Fox Run Park group. TOSC supports efforts that include "helping craft the future for our public spaces, with our partners in government, other nonprofits and community groups, and our members and partners" and helps get volunteers in action, such as for Fox Run Park, which has the highest attendance rate in the county. But there is no volunteer friends group to advocate and help on issues for the park's current and future needs. TOSC representatives attend every public meeting where policy, funding or planning for parks, trails and open spaces is discussed or decided—be it City Council, the El Paso Board of County Commissioners, Parks Advisory boards, master plan work sessions, the TOPS Working Committee, the Trails Team, Colorado Springs Utilities, etc.—and is a respected voice for our public spaces, weighing in on the issues and reporting back to the public regularly. The public is invited to the next Friends of Fox Run Park meeting at 5 p.m. April 25 at the Southwinds Fine Art Gallery upstairs meeting space, 16575 Roller Coaster Road. Contact Marlene Brown or Janet Sellers at JanetSellers@ocn.me for details. *Photo by Janet Sellers.*

Drumming at Yoga Pathways



Above: The drumming group at Yoga Pathways met March 20. The group dedicated the evening to the first day of spring and the beauty of the "super" moon. Drumming night is free and open to all ages. Participants can bring any kind of drum or other hand percussion instrument. Drums or percussion instruments will be provided to those who don't have one. Beginners are welcome. The group meets once a month on the third Wednesday of each month at Yoga Pathways and sometimes at local parks. See the calendar entry on page 30 for details. *Photo by Janet Sellers.*

AARP Driver Safety Course



Above: From the podium, Stephen Blucher, AARP Driver Safety Course instructor, enlightens 24 attendees at the Black Forest Lutheran Church on March 21. On a chilly spring morning at the Black Forest Lutheran Church, attendees learned how to be a smart driver as they age. The course is open to anyone, AARP members and non-members, and offered in various locations. Black Forest AARP typically holds the course in March and October. Information on upcoming courses in your area can be found by calling 1-888-227-7669 or visiting www.aarp.org/drive. Blucher can be reached at (719) 597-5683 or email: sblucher@juno.com. *Photo by Natalie Barszcz.*