

ington said the resolution would need to be drafted in early July to get the issue on the ballot in November.

Liquor license transferred to 105 Social House; special events approved

In its role as the Palmer Lake Liquor Licensing Authority, the council approved the transfer of the liquor license previously used by The Villa restaurant to Justin Kaye, who has opened the 105 Social House in the building that previously housed The Villa. Kaye said his new restaurant would be eclectic and family oriented. He said there would be live music, but he would be careful to manage it so that it would not disturb the community.

The council also approved two running events, both organized by resident Lindsey Leiker and both

fundraisers. The first is a Fun Run on the Fourth of July, which will benefit Palmer Lake Elementary School; the second is a YMCA Creepy Crawl 5K to be held on Oct. 26.

Finally, the town approved a wine festival proposed by Michael Hexter, owner of a winery in Palmer Lake. The wine festival is scheduled for Sept. 14 at the lake. Tickets will be \$35, with \$10 going to Tri-Lakes Cares.

Fourth of July fireworks on track

Speaking on behalf of the Palmer Lake Fireworks Committee, Jennifer Coopman updated the council on the planning being done for a fireworks display on the Fourth of July. Coopman asked if the town's insurance would cover the event but was told the commit-

tee would have to provide its own insurance.

The council voted to approve the permit for Fourth of July fireworks, with the condition that Coopman meet with the fire and police departments to get their input.

The council is scheduled to hold two meetings in June, on June 13 and on June 27 at 6 p.m. at Town Hall, 42 Valley Crescent. Meetings are normally held on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month, with the second meeting organized as a working session. Information: 481-2953.

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Woodmoor Improvement Association, May 22

Board acts on outstanding dues, wildfire concerns

By Jackie Burhans

The Woodmoor Improvement Association (WIA) board met on May 22 to discuss the next steps on unpaid dues and actions being taken on wildfire prevention. Board member Per Suhr was absent.

Action on unpaid dues

WIA Treasurer Lee Hanson noted there are still 66 residents with unpaid association dues and that WIA has provided sufficient notification to those residents about late payments. Residents were sent a letter reminding them of the May 15 due date. WIA plans to file liens on June 1 for any properties with unpaid dues from 2019 or earlier. President Brian Bush stated that WIA feels it owes it to residents who have paid on time.

Preventing wildfires

The board discussed several initiatives to help prevent wildfires, including a Wildfire Preparation Day, increased covenant enforcement around fire prevention, and a series of chipping days available at no cost to residents.

Board member and Forestry Director Ed Miller and WIA covenants and Forestry Administrator Matthew Nelson are organizing a Wildfire Preparation Day for Wednesday, June 5 from 2 to 6 p.m. at The Barn. They will send an email blast out to residents and provide information in the upcoming June newsletter. To sign up for emails and newsletters, submit

your address at the bottom of the page at <http://www.woodmoor.org>.

Due to potential wildfire, Woodmoor Public Safety (WPS) will take a more active approach to covenant violations related to vehicles. They have been proactive on open fire concerns but will add focus on vehicles parked off driveway where engines can ignite tall dry weeds or vehicles parked on the street causing traffic hazards for fire vehicles. They will also focus on excess vehicles and recreational vehicles parked for too long.

Chipping days were announced for three Saturdays: June 15, July 13, and Aug. 3. All chipping days will be held at the southeast corner of the Lewis-Palmer High School parking lot near the baseball field. All are encouraged to attend and drop off slash on these days. The service is free to Woodmoor residents; non-residents are asked for a donation of \$5 to \$10. With the recent storms, WIA expects more slash than usual from trees that were downed from the recent storms. There has been good progress to date on removing downed trees, but a reminder may be sent out ahead of the chipping days.

Board highlights

- WIA is working with The Ascent Church to ensure that its Run for Hope event on July 20 provides proper notification to residents, maintains access for residents, and pulls county permits

properly.

- WPS completed its road survey in Woodmoor and rated roads from 1 (no issue) to 5 (immediate attention required) as well as five gravel roads in South Woodmoor which require a grader rather than a snowplow for snow removal. Thirteen roads are scheduled for chip seal or paving in 2019. The county determines this based on traffic use as well as condition.
- The building plans for the Barn extension for WPS is awaiting final review and is looking good to break ground this summer.
- Bob Pearsall, WIA commons area administrator, determined the source of excess water use was an additional program that was set to water daily. This has been reset, a security box for the sprinkler controller has been ordered, and the system will be checked weekly going forward.

The WIA Board of Directors usually meets at 7 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month in the Barn at 1691 Woodmoor Drive, Monument. The next regular meeting will be on June 26.

The WIA calendar can be found at <https://www.woodmoor.org/wia-calendar/>. WIA board meeting minutes can be found at <https://www.woodmoor.org/meeting-minutes/> once approved and posted.

Jackie Burhans can be reached at jackieburhans@ocn.me.

May Weather Wrap

By Bill Kappel

May continued the trend of wet, cold, and snowy conditions that we have experienced since October. The overall monthly temperatures were near a record for at least the last 100 years in the region, averaging 6 degrees below normal. As is so common along the Palmer Divide, we really only had a few days of spring, as winter didn't want to let go. Of course, we are still waiting for summer-like conditions, but they are sure to arrive quickly in June.

Temperatures for the month were well below average, and precipitation was above average. This included total snowfall, which was bolstered by the heavy snowstorm May 20-21. The fact that temperatures never reached higher than the mid-70s and more than half of the mornings saw temperatures dip below freezing was an example of how cool the month was overall.

Not surprisingly, the month started on the cool side with highs reaching only the upper 40s and low 50s on the 1st and 2nd with scattered drizzle and flurries. This was a continuation of the cool and unsettled conditions that ended April. However, mild and dry conditions moved in over the next few days, with temperatures reaching the 60s to low 70s from the 3rd through the 6th.

This was quickly followed by a return to cool and unsettled conditions from the 7th through the 11th. This was signified by a line of thunderstorms that developed over Elbert and Douglas Counties along the initial cold front. During this period, temperatures averaged 10-20 degrees below normal, with highs in the 30s and 40s from the 7th through the 10th. High temperatures did not break above freezing for most of us on the 9th. During this period, about a half-inch of liquid equivalent precipitation accumulated, with 1-4 inches of snowfall helping to remind us that winter wasn't quite ready to give up yet.

The warmest temperatures of the month returned after this period, with highs reaching the low to mid-70s from the 13th through the 17th. During the period



Above: On the morning of May 21, a lone car makes its way along Gleneagle Drive as the Tri-Lakes area woke to a foot of snow. The late spring snowstorm caused school closures and slick driving conditions while trees and other plants bent over from the weight of the wet snow. This contrasted with the weather from only a week earlier when temperatures were in the 70s. Photo by David Futey.

no precipitation occurred, providing our one period of nice spring weather. However, as is common, these dry and mild conditions were ahead of an approaching storm system moving through the western U.S.

The first signs of the changes to come were associated with an initial frontal passage during the evening of the 17th. Temperatures were about 10-15 degrees colder the next afternoon, with highs reaching only the mid-50s. Mostly cloudy skies prevailed as well, with a few rain showers that afternoon and evening. Cool conditions stuck around the next day as the atmosphere recharged ahead of a stronger storm moving through the southwestern U.S. This storm strengthened over the Four Corners region and began to pull in colder air from the north. This combination set the stage for a historic snowfall event around the region.

The first signs of the cold and snow that was to come was in the form of some graupel showers dur-

ing the mid- to late-morning hours of the 20th. These showers quickly changed to heavy wet snow, with periods of accumulating snowfall occurring late that morning and again early afternoon, mainly above 7,000 feet. Then, as the storm became more organized, precipitation was pulled in from the south and east and combined with the cold air that was forced against the Front Range and Palmer Divide. This resulted in heavy snowfall starting right around 6 p.m. and lasting through the night.

Snowfall rates were extreme, 2-3 inches per hour at times, and this resulted in hazardous driving conditions. Many roads were not treated or plowed that evening because the amount of snowfall and the rate of accumulation was far beyond what was forecast. After a brief break just after midnight, another round of heavy snow developed that morning. In all, 10-20 inches of snow accumulated, enough to break branches and close schools.

Of course, the storm wasn't all bad, as most of us picked up around 2 inches of moisture which is very beneficial to all the plants just starting to grow and of course helps to lower our chances for fire later this spring and summer.

Once this storm departed, more normal conditions returned, with highs reaching the 60s to low 70s from the 24th through the 27th. A summer-like line of thunderstorms developed on the 26th, dropping our first significant hailstorm of the season.

But the cool and unsettled conditions weren't done with us yet as another area of low pressure was moving through the Southwest, bringing more moisture and cool temperatures over the last few days of the month.

A look ahead

By June we can usually say goodbye to our chance of snowfall but hello to frequent afternoon and evening thunderstorms. The majority of the time we can expect warm, sunny days with afternoon and evening thunderstorms.