

Our Community News

Volunteers reporting on community issues in Monument, Palmer Lake, and the surrounding Tri-Lakes area



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Local Events

See pages 28-31 for event locations and other details of these and many other local events.

- Chautauqua in Palmer Lake, Sat., Aug. 3, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Palmer Lake Try-athlon, Sat., Aug. 3, 10:30 a.m.
- Tri-Lakes Cruisers Car Show, Sun., Aug. 4, 7 a.m.-3 p.m.
- D-38 Home School Enrichment Academy, Tue., Aug. 6, 5-7 p.m.
- National Night Out, Tue., Aug. 6.
- Bill Nance Memorial Blood Drive, Thu., Aug. 8, 1-5:30 p.m.
- Paradise Villas Community Garage Sale, Fri.-Sat., Aug. 9-10
- King's Deer Community Garage Sale, Fri.-Sun., Aug. 9-11
- Monument's Free Movie Night: *Surf's Up*, Fri., Aug. 9, 7 p.m.
- Black Forest Festival, Sat., Aug. 10, 6:30 a.m.-9 p.m.
- WMMI Artisans & Machinery Faire, Sat.-Sun, Aug. 10-11, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
- BFFRPD/AARP Blood Drive, Sat., Aug. 17, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Pickin' on the Divide, Sat., Aug. 17, 11 a.m.-6:30 p.m.
- Concerts in the Park, Wed., Aug. 7 and every Wed., thru Aug. 21, 7-9 p.m.
- FOMP Trail Work Night, Tue., Aug. 13, 6-9 p.m.
- WMMI: Colorado's Women '59ers", Tue., Aug. 13, 6:30-8 p.m.
- Art Hop, Thu., Aug. 15, 5-8 p.m.
- Community Volunteer Fair at Tri-Lakes Y, Thu., Aug. 22, 4-7 p.m.
- Fox Run Park Volunteers, Thu., Aug. 22, 5-6 p.m.
- Taste of Palmer Lake, Sat., Aug. 24, 1-4 p.m.
- Tom Rush Concert at TLCA, Tue., Aug. 27, 7 p.m.
- Tri-Lakes Chamber Free Education Series: HR, Thu., Aug. 29, 9-11 a.m.
- Indie Band Fest at WMMI, Sat.-Sun., Aug. 31-Sep. 1
- Phil Keagy Concert at TLCA, Fri., Sep. 6, 7 p.m.
- Front Range Open Studios, Sat.-Sun., Sep. 7-8, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

In this issue

Palmer Lake News 1-6
 Water & San District News 1, 6-10
 Monument News 10-13
 Fire District News 14-16
 D38 School District News 16-17
 County News 17-18
 WIA News 18-20
 Weather and Letters 20-21
 Columns 21-23
 Snapshots 23-27
 Notices and Calendar 28-31
 OCN Information 27, 31

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Our free circulation area now includes over 1,600 mailboxes in Black Forest!

Palmer Lake Town Council, July 17

Board agrees to work on ballot tax issue to keep Fire Department



Above: Many town residents attended the Palmer Lake Town Council meeting July 17 and used the public comment portions of the meeting to express their support for the Palmer Lake Volunteer Fire Department (PLVFD), and to argue the department should remain part of the town instead of merging with Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District. At times, the comments grew heated, with one resident demanding the recall of Mayor John Cressman. Photo by Jackie Burhans.

By James Howald and Jackie Burhans
 The Palmer Lake Town Council held a special session July 17 to plan for the future of the town's volunteer Fire Department. Initially, the final item on the agenda for the meeting was "consideration for approval of an interim governmental agreement (IGA) between the Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District (TLMFPD) and the Town of Palmer Lake for fire protection and emergency medical services."

Many town residents attended and used the public comment portions of the meeting to express their support for Palmer Lake Volunteer Fire Department (PLVFD), and to argue the department should remain part of the town. At times, the comments grew heated, with one resident demanding the recall of Mayor John Cressman.

Resident Shana Ball, previously the fire chief of PLVFD, presented a plan to keep the department local to the community and to use a tax increase to pay for the necessary changes. Rich Kuehster, who served as the

council's liaison with the Fire Department when he sat on the Town Council, argued the council should make some short-term improvements to the existing facility and take its time developing a long-term plan.

Meeting takes a new direction in opening minutes

When the agenda was presented for approval at the beginning of the meeting, Trustee Glant Havenar moved to make two changes to the agenda: first, to give Shana Ball and Weston Oesterreich, one of the departments' paid firefighters, 20 minutes to present a plan to keep the Fire Department local to the town, and, second, to remove the vote on the IGA from the agenda. The council voted unanimously in favor of Havenar's motion, sending the meeting in a new direction.

Following that vote, Cressman said the goal of the council was to draft a ballot issue that would go to the voters in November, stressing that his in-

PLVFD (Cont. on 2)

Palmer Lake Town Council, July 11 and 25

Council hears update from Awake the Lake, audit report

By James Howald and Jackie Burhans
 The Palmer Lake Town Council met twice in July—on July 11 and again on July 25. At the first meeting, the council heard an update from Awake the Lake, hired an engineer to oversee that project, and heard a presentation on allowing dogs on the trail to the town's reservoir. The council also promoted the interim town manager to a full-time position.

At the July 25 meeting, the board heard an audit report for the town's 2018 finances, voted on a special event permit for a wine festival, and considered a conditional use permit for a commercial development at Illumination Point. Finally, Rich Kuehster, a former member of the Palmer Lake Town Council, reported to the council on his

efforts to remediate ventilation and housing concerns in the town's current fire station.

Bridge project faces obstacles

Representing Awake the Lake, Jeff Hulsmann began his presentation by recounting the lengthy history of the project.

Hulsmann told the council inaction on the part of the town was impeding progress, and he hoped they would sign contracts at the meeting. He said Awake the Lake had contracts with Big R Manufacturing to build the bridge and with SEMA construction company to install it, and he was ready to move forward. Hulsmann said he recommended the town hire Roland

PLTC (Cont. on 5)

Triview Metropolitan District, July 16 and 23

Jackson Creek Parkway widening project started

By Jennifer Kaylor

The Triview Metropolitan District Board of Directors met for a special meeting in lieu of its regular July 16 board meeting to receive Kiewit Infrastructure Co.'s final design and bid information on the Jackson Creek Parkway (JCP) widening project. The altered meeting schedule allowed the district and Kiewit to begin construction on the planned timeline. The regular board meeting was rescheduled for the following week, July 23, during which the board received the 2018 audit report and discussed strategy to address future financial challenges.

Water attorney Chris Cummins and Director Anthony Sexton were excused.

Triview is a Title 32 special district within Monument that provides road, landscaping, and open space maintenance, and water and wastewater services to Jackson Creek, Promontory Pointe, Sanctuary Pointe, and several commercial areas.

The July 16 and 23 board packets may be accessed via www.triviewmetro.com/boardDocuments.

Construction plan and improvements outlined

Kiewit Project Manager Joe Houtz explained that the improvements are specific to two different sections of the parkway and, consequently, construction will be conducted in two phases. Phase one, with a start date of July 29, began work on JCP north—the stretch of the parkway between Leather Chaps

TRIVIEW (Cont. on 6)



Above: Triview Metropolitan District approved a contract with Kiewit Infrastructure on July 16 to widen the Triview-owned section of Jackson Creek Parkway from two lanes to four and install several amenities. The project was started July 29, and widening will extend from just north of the Leather Chaps Drive intersection to the Higby Road juncture. A second phase of repair work is intended for Triview's southern section of the parkway, Baptist Road to Leather Chaps Drive. The district's contract includes a final phase in which new asphalt overlay and striping are planned for the north and south sections, from Baptist Road to Higby Road. The anticipated completion date is Dec. 2. Photo by Jennifer Kaylor