- port group. Monument Branch Library, 1706 Lake Woodmoor Dr. Now meets quarterly. Info: Margaret, lumargaret@aol.com; Jim, jimdjs22@gmail.com.
- Amateur Radio WØTLM (Tri-Lakes Monument Radio Association), Mon., Jan. 20. All amateur radio operators or those interested in becoming amateur radio operators are welcome. Meets 3rd Mon. Check the website for details. Info: Joyce Witte, 661-9824, Joycewitte@gmail.com; www. W0TLM.com.
- Outpouring: TLUMC Supporting our Community, Tue., Jan. 21, 7 p.m., Pikes Peak Brewing Company, 1756 Lake Woodmoor Dr., Monument. Everyone is welcome. Meets 3rd Tue. each month. Info: LWeber1971@aol.com; for current speaker info go to http://tlumc.org/outreach/outpouring.
- Senior Social, Wed., Jan. 22, 1-4 p.m., 12455 Black Forest Rd. Meets 4th Wed. each month except Nov. & Dec. Info: aarpchapter1100blackforest.weebly.com.
- Friends of Fox Run Park, Thu., Jan. 23, 5-6 p.m., Southwinds Fine Art Gallery upstairs, 16575 Rollercoaster Rd. (corner of Baptist and Rollercoaster Roads). Join the growing group to learn about volunteering and supporting the park for safety, trails, trees, education, more. Guest speaker each month. Meets 4th Thu. each month. Info: 719-492-0355, janetsellers@ocn. me.
- Chess Nuts, Tue., Jan. 28, 5-9 p.m., Silver Alliance Senior Center, across the street from the YMCA. Any age, any skill. Learners welcome. Drop in and leave when you want. Bring your own board and pieces if you have them. Meets 2nd & 4th Tue. each month. Info: www.TriLakes-Seniors.org/chess.
- Foot Care Clinic, Fri., Jan. 31, Silver Alliance Senior Center located across the street from the Tri-Lakes YMCA, on the Lewis-Palmer High School campus. A registered nurse examines feet and provides foot care advice, toenail trimming. Cost: \$35 for a 30-min. visit. Meets 2nd Wed., 3rd and last Fri. each month, by appointment only. Info & appointments: call the Visiting Nurse Association, 577-4448.
- **Lupus Support Group.** If you suffer with an autoimmune disease and want to connect with others, you are welcome to join this group. Info: dmbandle@hotmail.com.
- Myasthenia Gravis Association of Colorado Support Group. Location varies. Info: Carolyn, 488-3620, www.4-mga.org, 303-360-7080, 4mga@4-mga.org.

SPECIAL EVENTS

- Western Museum of Mining & Industry (WMMI) Family Day: Geology, Sat., Jan. 4, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., 225 North Gate Blvd. (I-25 Exit 156 A). Learn about Colorado's minerals and mining, try your luck at "Keep What You Find" gold panning. Cost: \$10 adults, \$9 military/AAA, \$8 seniors & students, \$6 children 3-12, free to children under 3 & museum members. Info: 488-0880, info@wmmi.org, www.wmmi.org. See ad on page 5.
- County's Annual TreeCycle, Sat.-Sun., Jan. 4-5, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Baptist Road trailhead, Baptist Road & Old Denver Hwy. Recycle your Christmas tree. Trees are ground into mulch that is given away free. Remove all decorations from your tree before dropping it off. Bring your own tools and containers for mulch. Cost: \$5, benefits community youth sports programs. Info: 520-7878, www.TreeCycleCOS.org.
- Sew Inspiring: A Juried Fiber Art Exhibition Opening Reception, Wed., Jan. 8, 6-8 p.m., Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts (TLCA), 304 Hwy 105, Palmer Lake. This exhibition highlights the art, skill, and heritage of traditional and contemporary quilts and fiber arts. Runs Jan. 7-24. Info: 719-481-0475, www.trilakesarts.org.
- CASA Volunteer Informational Hour, Fri., Jan. 10, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., 418 South Weber St., Color. Springs. Find out how you can be the voice for a child who is involved in the court system due to abuse, neglect, or domestic violence. Light lunch included. RSVP & Info: 719-447-9898, urikos@casappr.org, www.casappr.org.
- Black Rose Acoustic Society: Blue Canyon Boys, Fri., Jan. 10, 7 p.m., doors open at 6:15. Black Forest Community Center, 12530 Black Forest Rd. at Shoup Road. Cost: \$10 general, \$5 BRAS members, \$5 non-member students with

- ID. Info: Joe Maio, 528-6119, jrmtn@comcast. net, www.blackroseacoustic.org.
- Speakeasy Casino Night Benefit for Bryson's Chase, Sat., Jan. 11, 6-10 p.m., Country Club at Woodmoor,18945 Pebble Beach Way, Monument. Dress for the Roaring 20s. Dinner, starting chips, dancing, prizes, silent auction, cash bar, and more. Cost: \$100. Proceeds benefit Children's Hospital Colorado Pediatric Mental Health Institute. Info: Lindsey Kangas, 904-742-1273; Tickets: www.brysonschase.org/events.
- Sisters of Benet Hill Monastery Chamber Concert: *Parish House Baroque*, Sun., Jan. 12, 2:30-4 p.m., 3190 Benet Lane, Colo. Springs. Cost: \$25. Buy tickets online: www.benethillmonastery. org. Info: 633-0655, ext. 132.
- Lewis-Palmer High School Tour, Fri., Jan. 17, 8 a.m., 1300 Higby Rd., Monument. Repeats Feb 7. RSVP & Info: Ms. Verrie, 719-488-6186; www. lewispalmer.org/Page/9. See ad on page 9.
- Sisters of Benet Hill Monastery with Rocky Mountain Women's Film Institute Film Series, *Breakfast at Ina's* and *Pickle*, Fri., Jan. 17, 6:30 p.m., 3190 Benet Lane, Colo. Springs. Free, online registration is requested: www.benethillmonastery.org. Info: 633-0655, ext. 132.
- Bryan Duncan Concert at Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts, Fri., Jan. 17, 7 p.m., doors open 6:15 p.m., 304 Hwy 105, Palmer Lake. Tickets & Info: 481-0475, www.trilakesarts.org.
- Monument Hill Farmers Market Winter Indoor Market, Sat., Jan. 18, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Grace Best, 66 Jefferson St., Monument. Shop all your old favorites. Meets every 3rd Sat. through April. Info: 592-9420. See ad on page 5.
- Palmer Ridge High School Open House, Tue., Jan. 21, 6-7:30 p.m., 19255 Monument Hill Rd, Monument. Talk to representatives from the academic departments, view available athletic and club activities. Info: www.lewispalmer.org/enroll. See ad on page 9.
- Palmer Ridge High School Tour, Fri., Jan. 24, 1 p.m., 19255 Monument Hill Rd, Monument. Repeats Feb. 6. RSVP & Info: Mrs. Nam, 719-867-8600, www.lewispalmer.org/enroll. See ad on page 9.
- Black Rose Acoustic Society: *Guardrail*, Fri., Jan. 24, 7 p.m., doors open at 6:15. Black Forest Community Center, 12530 Black Forest Rd. at Shoup Road. Cost: \$10 general, \$5 BRAS members, \$5 non-member students with ID. Info: Joe Maio, 528-6119, jrmtn@comcast.net, www.blackroseacoustic.org.
- Wendy Woo w/Robin Hoch Concert at Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts, Fri., Jan. 24, 7 p.m., doors open 6:15 p.m., 304 Hwy 105, Palmer Lake. Tickets & Info: 481-0475, www.trilakesarts.org.
- Covered Treasures Bookstore Booksigning, Sat., Jan. 25, 1-3 p.m., 105 Second St., Monument. Kelli and Peter Bronski sign *No Gluten, No Problem Pizza, a cookbook.* They will bake pizzas for your enjoyment. Info: 481-2665, www. coveredtreasures.com.
- St. Peter School Open House, Sun., Jan. 26, 12:30-2:30 p.m., 124 First St., Monument. Find out about education for Preschool through 8th grade. Info: 481-1855; www.petertherock.org. See ad on page 2.
- Sisters of Benet Hill Monastery Human Trafficking Series: A Survivor's Story—from Captivity to Catalyst, Mon., Jan. 27, 6:30-8:15 p.m., PPLD 21C, Venue Room, 1175 Chapel Hills Dr., Colo. Springs. This 4-session series addresses the cultural and systemic brokenness that feeds and fuels human trafficking locally, nationally, and globally. Free. RSVP & Info: 633-0655, ext. 132; sroseann@benethillmonastery.org; www.benethillmonastery.org. See ad on page 10.
- Lewis-Palmer High School 8th Grade Open House, Wed., Jan. 29, 1300 Higby Rd., Monument. Talk to representatives from the academic departments, view available athletic and club activities. Sign up at www.lewispalmer.org/Page/9. See ad on page 9.
- Palmer Lake Art Group Winter Art Show & Sale Opening Reception, Fri., Jan. 31, 6-8 p.m., Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts, 304 Hwy 105, Palmer Lake. Come celebrate the opening of the show and meet the local artists. The show runs Jan. 29-Feb. 22, Tue.-Sat., noon-4 p.m. Proceeds benefit art scholarships for School District 38 high school seniors. Info: www.palmerlakeartgroup. com or email plaginfo@palmerlakeartgroup. com. See ad on page 31.
- Sisters of Benet Hill Monastery Human Traf-

- ficking Series: Connecting the Dots: Cultural and Systemic Ills that Fuel Human Trafficking, Mon., Feb. 3, 6:30-8:15 p.m., PPLD 21C, Venue Room, 1175 Chapel Hills Dr., Colo. Springs.This 4-session series addresses the cultural and systemic brokenness that feeds and fuels human trafficking locally, nationally, and globally. Free. RSVP & Info: 633-0655, ext. 132; sroseann@benethillmonastery.org; www.benethillmonastery.org. See ad on page 10.
- 7, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Great Wolf Lodge, 9494 Federal Dr., Color. Springs. Review the past year, look forward to the new year: views of what is going on in our area and predictions for the future. Info: 719 481-3282. Register on line: www. trilakeschamber.com/state-of-the-tri-lakes-region.html.
- Dion Pride: A Tribute to Charley Pride Concert at Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts, Fri., Feb. 7, 7 p.m., doors open 6:15 p.m., 304 Hwy 105, Palmer Lake. Tickets & Info: 481-0475, www.trilakesarts.org.
- Community Emergency Response Training (CERT), Tue.-Sat., Feb. 18-22, 6-10 p.m. Tue.-Thu.., 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Sat.; Tri-Lakes United Methodist Church, 20256 Hunting Downs Way, Monument. Learn how to be resilient and "what to do when 911 can't get there" in a disaster or emergency in this free course given by the El Paso County Office of Emergency Management. See www.EPCCERT.org. Register at http://ppcertfeb20.eventzilla.net. Info: Robin, 575-8858.

Our Community News is a member of the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce. Visit the chamber at www. trilakeschamber.com



Letters to Our Community

Our Community News welcomes letters to the editor on topics of general interest to readers in the Tri-Lakes area. We do not knowingly print letters that are substantially the same as letters that have been submitted to other publications. To ensure that OCN contains a variety of viewpoints, each letter writer is limited to a maximum of one (1) letter per issue and six (6) letters within a twelve (12)month period. To submit a letter, please:

- Email your letter, preferably as an attached Microsoft Word document, to editor@ocn.me or mail a copy to Our Community News, P.O. Box 1742, Monument, CO 80132-1742.
- Identify your submission as a letter to the editor and confirm that it has not been submitted to any other publication.
- Include a suggested headline or title that summarizes the topic you are addressing.

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- Limit your letter to no more than 300 words including your suggested headline and closing.
- Include your full name, home address, phone numbers, and email address, if you have one. Only your name will be published.
- Submit your letter so we receive it no later than midnight, Friday, two weeks prior to the publication date.

If you have not received an acknowledgement two days after your email submission or one week after you mailed your letter, please contact Jennifer Kaylor, Managing Editor, at (719) 488-3455 or editor@ ocn.me. At OCN's sole discretion, we may ask you for clarification of your statements. Include references, such as website links, in your letter for any facts and figures you cite. OCN does not guarantee every letter will appear in print or on-line and does not guarantee a publication date. Depending on the space available, the number of letters printed in an issue may be limited to the first 12 received. Letters containing personal attacks or endorsements for or complaints about individually-named commercial products or services will not be published.

Support Our Community. Volunteer with OCN!

Please join us today! Meet a group of interesting and committed people. Learn new skills—use your enthusiasm and creativity to benefit our community and celebrate unfiltered information. Please call John Heiser, Publisher, at (719) 488-3455, or email johnheiser@ocn.me to see how you can contribute. Contact us today!