

Monument Election Results, April 7



Above: Election Judges Pat Horn, John Howe, and Michael Weinfeld count ballots cast in Monument’s municipal election. Before ballots were counted, judges had to verify voter signatures. They made sure to work at least 6 feet apart to comply with social distancing recommendations. The room in the town hall, computers, pens and tables were sanitized each day. Gloves and masks were also available. *Photo by Laura Hogan. Caption by Michael Weinfeld.*

By Michael Weinfeld

On April 7, voters elected three people to sit on the Monument Board of Trustees and approved a ballot question relating to high-speed internet.

The winners were newcomers Mitch LaKind and Jamy Unruh and returning Trustee Jim Romanello. LaKind got 1,145 votes, Romanello 1,008 votes and Unruh 834 votes. They defeated Ann M. Howe, who received 584 votes, and Allison Thompson, who got 568 votes.

A total number of 7,265 ballots were sent to registered voters. About 22 percent of them cast votes.

Even though Romanello was already on the board, this is considered to be his first term because he was originally appointed to fill a vacancy. LaKind and Unruh will fill the seats previously held by Jeffrey Bornstein and Greg Coopman. Each will serve a four-year term.

A ballot question concerning broadband services passed. There were 1,044 yes votes and 504 no votes. This means the town opted out of a Colorado state senate bill that was passed in 2005 and prohibited towns from joining with private broadband companies to provide high-speed internet and other cable services. More than 100 other Colorado cities and counties have also opted out, including El Paso County.

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Meals-on-Wheels delivers, Apr. 8



Above: Richard Lindberg, Silver Key Meals-on-Wheels volunteer, waits for drivers picking up meals to deliver to clients. The Meals-on-Wheels program is considered an essential service and is delivering meals to senior citizens. Usually seniors are transported to the Mountain Community Mennonite Church for luncheons but due to the pandemic, lunches are being delivered. *Photo by Kim Statham.*

Even a horse is wearing a mask



Above: To help combat the coronavirus, Gov. Polis has asked people to wear masks when they go to a store or other places where they’ll encounter a lot of people. Apparently even horses need to comply. This horse statue created by Jodie Bliss stands in front of the Flying Horse Medical Center on Third Street. *Photo by Michael Weinfeld.*

Masks for the front-line workers



Above: On April 11, Red Cross volunteers Bob and Pam Munson stopped at Sew-In-Tune in Monument to collect some of the fabric masks made by Tri-Lakes residents. The Pikes Peak Regional Office of Emergency Management procured hundreds of yards of fabric, elastic, and bendable nose pieces to support this effort to provide 6,000 masks to front-line staff out working during this crisis, and it will continue to coordinate materials donations, mask sewing, and distribution to community organizations supporting the COVID-19 response. Landlord John Dominowski also donated finances so that Sew-In-Tune could give away kits so volunteers could make another 1,000 masks for those who need them. Contact RobinAdair@elpasoco.com or hello@sewintuneservicing.com. Organizations in need of hand-sewn masks for work in the community may request them at <http://ppmasklist.eventzilla.net>. Volunteers interested in sewing may sign up at <http://samsam.eventzilla.net>. *Photo by Lisa Hatfield*

Home Depot barricade, Apr. 8



Above: The entrance to Home Depot on Jackson Creek Parkway has changed since the coronavirus arrived in Colorado. Stacks of bagged soil covered in blue plastic surrounded the entrance April 5 to create two lines to control crowds—one for regular customers and one for contractors. Once inside the store, everyone was asked to keep at least 6 feet apart to comply with social-distancing recommendations. *Photo by Michael Weinfeld.*