

# Ruth Anne Steele fundraiser



**Above:** From left, Kay and Lynn Stricklan display a photo of Ruth Ann Steele at the Black Forest Backyard Farmer's Market on Oct. 9. The Stricklans held a booth to promote a GoFundMe page for a "Ruth Ann Steele Memorial Bench" in the hope of raising enough funds for a memorial bench to celebrate and honor the legacy of Ruth Ann Crook Steele. Her legacy includes founder of the Slash and Mulch Program, beloved teacher, conservationist, noxious-weed warrior, bluebird lady, musician, composer, founder and kingpin of the forest chorus, and Black Forest "Keeper of the Keys." The 35-acre Black Forest property owned by Ruth and her husband Jim for 55 years will continue as a conservation easement. The bench design will reflect the passions Ruth Ann shared with the Black Forest community and will be handcrafted at Bliss Studio and Gallery. The bench will eventually be installed near the playground and the pavilion at the Log School Park, on the corner of Shoup and Black Forest Roads. To donate, visit GoFundMe—Ruth Ann Steele Memorial Bench. *Photo by Natalie Barszcz.*

# Pumpkin giveaway, Oct. 16



**Left:** From left, Keeley O'Brien and Jack, Laney and Maura Petrie with Sparky the Fire Dog attend the Local 4319 Pumpkin Giveaway on Oct. 16. At the fourth annual giveaway, 923 pumpkins from Cooksey Farms in Longmont were neatly positioned at the Monument Marketplace clocktower for selection. This year, Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District's Fire Chief Andy Kovacs introduced the first annual pumpkin carving competition between each shift for the chance to receive a glass pumpkin trophy and a meal cooked by the chief. "C Shift" won the day with its trio of carved pumpkins, complete with a highly detailed "Smokey Bear" carved pumpkin. The event also featured

Lori Lynn's Cookies & Cream treats and a live performance from Manitou Strings. The Monument Police Department also participated, and attendees explored the many first responder vehicles on site. The annual event is sponsored by Dianna Goodfellow of Mutual Security Mortgage Ltd. and made possible by a donation from Skyline Moving Co. and the members of the L4319 and their families. *Photo by Natalie Barszcz.*

# 100+ Women Who Care, Oct. 20



**Above:** 100+ Women Who Care contribute \$100 two times a year to local Tri-Lakes charities, which positively impacts the community by giving \$20,000 annually. It's a "big impact, without a big commitment." On Oct. 20, the group met at the Woodmoor Barn to hear presentations and decide which of the nominated charities would receive all the donations from that meeting. The choice was between Awake the Lake, Rocky Mountain Youth Leadership Conference (RMYLC), and Wild Blue Cats. After a first and second vote were tied, the board decided to split the donations between RMYLC and Wild Blue Cats. Previous recipient Tri-Lakes Silver Alliance provided snacks and wine and described how it used the funds it received. Board member Cathy Wilcox leads the meeting. The next meeting will be on April 20, 2022. See [www.100womenwhocaretrilakes.com](http://www.100womenwhocaretrilakes.com). *Photo by Jackie Burhans.*

# WMMI Oct. events



**Above:** The Western Museum of Mining & Industry (WMMI) held two events during October: the annual Harvest Festival on Oct. 2-3 and Miners Pumpkin Patch held on those days and subsequent October Saturdays. The festival included gold panning, blacksmith demonstrations, live music, and the operation of WMMI machinery. For the price of admission, the Miners Pumpkin Patch offered a hay maze, apple press demonstrations, hayrides, games such as sack races, tether ball, a tube slide and pumpkin patch, where attendees had their choice of pumpkins. WMMI Executive Director Grant Dewey said the museum's biggest fundraisers offered "tech-free family fun with a variety of old-time games and other activities" and was appreciative of the great turnout the events received. Information on events at the WMMI is at [www.wmmi.org](http://www.wmmi.org). *Photo by David Futey.*

# Awake Palmer Lake .5K, Oct. 10



**Above:** Awake the Lake held the Seventh Annual Palmer Lake .5K "race" on Oct. 10. This year's run started on the east side of Palmer Lake and incorporated the new pedestrian bridge. "Runners" were treated to donuts at the "rest" stop just before climbing the east ramp to the bridge and to either beer or root beer at the finish line where vendors and sponsors had set up displays. Awake the Lake contributes to maintaining and improving parks and recreational areas in the town. The 765 participants—715 humans and 50 dogs—helped with these costs. *Photo by Steve Pate.*

# Glen Park Trail work, Oct. 16



**Above:** Members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Monument Ward, volunteered with the Palmer Lake Parks Commission on Oct. 16 to perform maintenance on trails in Glen Park. They also spread mulch on the playground and helped establish a second wildlife refuge on the lakeshore. *Photo by Michael Pietsch.*

# Business Expo, Oct. 21



**Above:** The Tri-Lakes YMCA and the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce partnered to present the Business Expo on Oct. 21. About 97 local businesses, nonprofits and community services explained and talked to residents of the Tri-Lakes vicinity. After nearly two years of cancellations and suspensions of events, Tri-Lakes residents enjoyed the free event and speaking to business leaders of the area as they showcased their products and services. For future events, go to the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce website [www.trilakeschamber.com](http://www.trilakeschamber.com). *Photo by Marlene Brown.*