

EIS volunteers help fire victims



Above: Emergency Incident Support volunteers helped the Red Cross feed 50 people who were evacuated when their apartment in Colorado Springs caught fire on Nov. 24. The residents were taken to a Red Cross shelter at Cheyenne Mountain High School. EIS volunteers come from Palmer Lake, Monument, Black Forest, Jackson Creek, all the way to Security and Fountain. EIS volunteers help Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District and Wescott Fire Protection District. They also respond to El Paso County Sheriff and Office of Emergency Management alerts and help El Paso County Public Health with vaccine clinics. From left are EIS President Gary Nelson and board members Mary Williamson and John Hildebrant, who is also TLMFPD board chair. Photo by Gary Nelson.

Anderson book signing, Nov. 27



Above: Retired El Paso County Sheriff turned artist, sculptor, author, and historian, John Wesley Anderson signed copies for admirers of his newest book *A to Z Colorado's Nearly Forgotten History 1776-1876* on Nov. 27 at the Covered Treasures Bookstore in Monument. In the book, he researched and created 26 stories of forgotten history of the Colorado Territory from Native American oral history to the pioneers that settled in the frontier and contributed to its shared history. Photo by Marlene Brown.

Chili and Star Lighting, Nov. 27



Above: Every year since 1935, excluding the years during WWII, the Star lighting has been a holiday tradition in Palmer Lake. On Nov. 27, the tradition continued with the Palmer Lake Fire Department chili supper at the Palmer Lake Elementary School. As usual, hayrides were available, as was Santa. Over 1,000 people purchased tickets in advance for the chili supper. Proceeds go toward maintaining the Star. Following the Star lighting, an official ribbon-cutting ceremony took place at the new pedestrian bridge over the railroad tracks. Pictured at right are PLFD Chief Chris McCarthy with some of his staff and his two 12-year-old sons, one of whom intends to become a firefighter. Photos by Steve Pate



Why advertise in OCN?

- OCN is mailed FREE to every resident and business in the Tri-Lakes area. We mail more than 21,400 copies every month and put another 700 copies in stacks throughout the area. OCN has the largest mailed circulation and the third-largest circulation among local newspapers in El Paso County after The Gazette and The Colorado Springs Independent. We put copies of OCN into the hands of those people most likely to buy your products or services: local residents and businesses.
- OCN is a primary source for Tri-Lakes area news. Since its founding in 2001, OCN has been presenting unbiased, detailed coverage of Tri-Lakes area governmental entities and their deliberations and actions. Credibility is key. Advertising in a credible medium typically rubs off on the advertisers in that media.
- OCN gives preference to Tri-Lakes area businesses. As part of OCN's long-standing commitment to encouraging the economic health of the Tri-Lakes area, we offer a significantly discounted ad rate to Tri-Lakes area businesses as a way to help local businesses like yours succeed.
- OCN's low ad rates and monthly publication schedule help stretch your ad budget. OCN has one of the lowest ad costs per printed copy of any local publication. Since OCN is a monthly publication, your ad is out there for a month—more than four times longer than other local papers. Many of our advertisers tell us they're still getting calls in the third and fourth week of the month.
- OCN doesn't use contracts. You aren't tied down. Adjust your advertising month-to-month to meet your changing needs. Our advertisers advertise with us because they see benefit in it, not because they're bound by a contract they signed months before. To reward frequent advertisers, OCN has a Frequent Advertiser Bonus (FAB) rewards program. You earn up to 10% of your ad cost as a reward you can use to reduce the cost of future OCN advertising. The more you advertise with OCN, the more you save. Thanks to our FAB rewards program, OCN advertisers have saved more than \$94,800!
- You are supporting a good thing. Your advertising dollars support a unique all-volunteer, Tri-Lakes-focused effort to present factual, comprehensive news to all Tri-Lakes area residents and businesses.

And the best reason of all: It works!

Crystal Wright, Crystal's In-Home Training - "I have had the best success with advertising in the Our Community News for my business. 95% of my new clients are coming from this local paper, and I couldn't be more pleased. If you are thinking of advertising in the Monument area, I recommend you advertise with this paper."

Mike Smith, Woodsmith Custom Creations - "OCN is the only paper that works for me. I've tried other newspapers, one that comes out daily and another that comes out weekly. Compared to the results I get from advertising in the OCN the other papers are flops. I get a fairly priced ad in my targeted area with calls referencing my ad every month. It can't be beat!"

Randi and Dale Sehestedt, Woodmoor Handyman and Snow Plowing - "OCN is the only paper we advertise in and it consistently brings us plenty of good local customers. Great paper and great people to work with."

Mary Sue Hafey, Fringe Benefits Custom Interiors - "Since I starting advertising with OCN years ago, it has helped brand my company while consistently increasing my exposure and sales!"

Elba D'Asaro, Spa Medica - "OCN ads work!"

Mike Reaster, Guitar Lessons - "Ads in OCN work great for me. I tried other local papers and got no response. Thanks to my ads in OCN, I can work from home and make a decent living. All my work comes from my ads in OCN."

For more information on advertising, go to www.ocn.me/advertise.htm or contact John Heiser at (719) 488-3455 or ads@ocn.me.