

## Black Forest Festival, Aug. 13



**Above:** From booths to the parade to the return of the outhouse races, the Black Forest Festival on Aug. 13 lived up to its theme this year of “Strong Community Roots.” The pancake breakfast started at 6:30 a.m. and there were music, live demonstrations, kids’ games, and food trucks. With close to 5,000 people attending the festival this year, it added up to be the best yet. *Photo by Marlene Brown.*



**Above:** This is a view of the Black Forest Festival. The AARP Chapter 1100 booth is one of the white tents at left in the photograph. People made generous donations for the cookies, houseplants, chilled water, frozen pops, and other items that the AARP Chapter made available to festival attendees. Proceeds will go to a local charity. Two chapter members also contributed their day to support the festival. Lavonne Hidy demonstrated the art of wool rug braiding, and Ray Rozak gave hayrides all day. *Photo by Stanley Beckner.*



**Above:** Volunteers with the Emergency Incident Support (EIS) First Responder crew took part in the Black Forest Festival parade on Aug. 13 in partnership with members of the Pikes Peak Regional Emergency Management and Community Emergency Response Team. The crew handed out about 200 free emergency blankets as well as pamphlets on fire prevention and EIS community volunteer activities. From left are Dennis Dong, Deborah Scheimann, Shelley Pruett, and Amos Scheimann. *Photo by Robin Adair.*

## Furrow Road extension postponed



**Above:** Residents attended a community meeting on Aug. 17 to follow up on discussions about the Furrow Road extension project. Attending from El Paso County were county Engineer Josh Palmer and Traffic Engineer Chris Bland along with consultants Brent Hynarowski and Dave Krauth of Stantec. Krauth reviewed a study Stantec provided for the county on traffic volumes, issues, deficiencies, and recommendations. He recapped information from the Nov. 4 community meeting and previewed sketch concepts on traffic-calming methods including roundabouts, center medians, and upgraded signage. Based on the result of the study, Stantec said they did not recommend extending Furrow Road at this time. Palmer anticipated the extension might be needed by 2040 per the Major Transportation Corridors Plan (MTCP) or in case of a long-term significant emergency, or an increased pace of development required traffic relief. Given the nearby Grandwood Ranch development, the road needs to function as secondary emergency access, Palmer said, but would have a barrier or a locked and coded gate. The road would not be extended, he said, without implementing calming measures like those in the sketch plans. Some residents indicated they would be happy to see the road extended so long as the calming measures were implemented, because it would give them an alternative to Highway 105. *Photo by Jackie Burhans.*

## Fox Run Park Concert, Aug. 18



**Above:** The Free Concert series at the Gazebo in Fox Run Regional Park sponsored by the El Paso County Community Services Department continues on Sept. 8. The Aug. 18 show featured Joe Sciallo and the Deep End and Peak Big Band (pictured). For more information about the free concerts and other events in the park, contact Ryan Dorough, recreation program planner, El Paso County Recreation & Cultural Services, Community Services Department, or [www.elpasoco.com](http://www.elpasoco.com). *Photo by T. McKinsey. Caption by Marlene Brown.*

## Black Forest Concert, Aug. 18



**Above:** In August, the Black Forest community presented evening concerts under the pavilion next to the Community Center at Black Forest and Shoup Roads. Area musicians volunteer their time to present jazz and big band music free to anyone willing to bring their lawn chairs and view the sunset performances. The Swing Factory Big Band from Woodland Park, conducted by Craig Harms, musical director, is shown on Aug. 18. The band Colorado Saxophone Quartet + 1 performed Aug. 11. *Photo by Steve Pate.*