

Planned Fox Run Nature Center



Above: Several people from El Paso County Parks and Community Services, TDG Architecture firm, Studio Tectonic, and interested members of the community met May 17 at Antelope Trails Elementary to discuss the design and vision of the new Fox Run Nature Center. Projected to open in summer 2024, the project has been included in the county Master Plan since 2013. The Nature Center will provide indoor interpretations of the natural setting of the forest and an understanding of the ecosystem beyond. A media room will be available to the public for gatherings of all kinds, such as lectures, meetings, and parties (www.tdg-fnc.com/project-info). For more information regarding Fox Run Nature Center, contact Jason Meyer, Park Planning Division manager at jasonmeyer@elpaso.com. *Building rendition photo courtesy of TDG Architecture. Photo by Marlene Brown.*

Smoke from Canadian wildfires



Above: You could hardly see Mount Herman from Old Denver Road in Monument on May 23 because of the smoke from wildfires in Canada. It was like that for several days toward the end of May as dozens of wildfires burned in the Canadian province of Alberta. The National Weather Service issued air quality alerts for many of those days. The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment advised people with heart or lung disease, older adults, and children to avoid staying outside for long periods. The smoke cleared out by May 26. *Photo by Michael Weinfeld.*

Monument storage tank update



Above: On May 24, the final grade to level the base of the excavation site for the 2-million-gallon Monument water storage tank was in process to completion for pouring the concrete floor during the first week of June. This expansive storage tank project site began early in 2022. The project is closely bordered by established residential properties of Forest View Estates, adjacent to the Red Rock Ranch area. On-site pouring and casting of the concrete panels for the storage tank have already been started. Erection of the tank panels will begin later in June. Trenching for the water pipeline has already been done through the Forest View Estates and Red Rock Ranch residential roads. Continuation of laying the pipeline is progressing along Highway 105 into downtown Monument. *Caption by Sharon Williams. Photo courtesy of Adams Brien.*

Arthop, May 18



Above: After an afternoon downpour, sunshine burst through the clouds just in time for visitors to enjoy the Monument Art Hop. Here, artist and gallerist Daryl Muncey (far right) engaged with visitors at his gallery on May 18. Muncey has renovated the building and grounds over the last few years to be his art studio and decided to open it as a friendly, enjoyable art gallery as well. Muncey specializes in faith-based and abstract artworks. *Photo by Janet Sellers.*

Claude Bourbon at TLCA, May 19

Right: Claude Bourbon and his exemplary guitar style returned to the Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts (TLCA) stage on May 19. Along with his unique and dynamic singing, Bourbon captivated the TLCA audience by seamlessly changing musical genres such as classical, folk, blues, Spanish, between and within songs. Bourbon's sets included Cold River, the title track from his 2018 album release, Did Somebody Make a Fool out of You, Last Train to Arkansas, a cover of Tony Joe White's The Guitar Don't Lie and Frederic Chopin's Prelude No. 4. Information on upcoming events at the TLCA is at www.trilakesarts.org. *Photo by David Futey.*



TLC STABLE graduation, May 23



Above: Tri-Lakes Cares strives to promote stability for its clients with an eight-week workshop called Secrets to a Better Life (STABLE). The program focuses on financial stability, time management, and social skills, encouraging participants to examine their past, learn about resources, and build public speaking and negotiation skills. The graduation celebration on May 23 included friends, family, and supporters as well as El Paso County commissioners and representatives from the Monument Town Council. After speeches by guests and a former graduate, current graduates received their certificates and shared what they learned and their goals for the future. *Photo by Jackie Burhans.*



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