

Water Authority (EPCRLWA). For more on NEPCO, see the article on page 18.

- The board unanimously approved spending \$1,150 to replace batteries for WPS' Motorola radios.
- Nielsen reported that WPS will no longer provide traffic control for Lewis-Palmer Middle School and Palmer Ridge High School due to risk and

liability issues. He asked that residents drive carefully and watch for kids as school starts back up.

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The WIA Board of Directors usually meets at 7 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month in the Barn at 1691 Woodmoor Drive, Monument. The next meeting will be on Aug. 23.

The WIA calendar can be found at [www.woodmoor.org/wia-calendar/](http://www.woodmoor.org/wia-calendar/). WIA board meeting minutes can be found at [www.woodmoor.org/meeting-minutes/](http://www.woodmoor.org/meeting-minutes/) once approved and posted.

Jackie Burhans can be reached at [jackieburhans@ocn.me](mailto:jackieburhans@ocn.me).

## July Weather Wrap

By Bill Kappel

It was back to normal in July after a couple months of record cold and wet conditions. Temperatures averaged right at normal for the month with a mix of below and above normal conditions. Precipitation was slightly below average, but we are well above normal for the year overall.

The first week of the month was a continuation of June, with below normal temperatures and wet conditions. Temperatures were below normal every day from the 1st through the 8th, with the coldest day occurring on the 5th when high temperatures didn't reach 600F.

A warmer and relatively dry period then took hold for the next week, with highs getting back to normal from the 9th through the 16th. Highs reached the upper 70s to upper 80s each afternoon, with most days just seeing afternoon clouds build up. But a lack of moisture in the region meant thunderstorms were not common as storms produced rainfall only on the 10th and the 15th.

The pattern finally began to shift to more monsoon-like conditions during the third week of the month as high pressure built in over the region from

the southwest. This meant both an active pattern with daily thunderstorms each afternoon and evening and warmer temperatures before the storms formed. Temperatures were consistently in the mid-80s to low 90s from the 16th through the end of the month. Our hottest period occurred from the 24th through the 26th, with highs topping out at 93 on the 25th. This is right on cue for the warmest temperature of the month, with the third week of July representing the time of the year when temperatures are warmest on average overall.

Rainfall from the daily rounds of thunderstorms was hit and miss, with some areas receiving nearly an inch in an hour while just a few miles away only a few tenths of inch accumulated. The month ended with a bang, as several rounds of thunderstorms and heavy rainfall developed during the evening of the 31st, producing 1-2 inches of rainfall for most locations.

### A look ahead

August is the last true "summer" month for the region. We are often greeted with sunny, pleasant mornings that turn into afternoon and early evening thunderstorms. Highs during the month range from the mid-

80s at the beginning of the month to mid-70s at the end. Temperatures at night get more comfortable as well, often dipping into the 40s.

### July 2023 Weather Statistics

Average High	81.5° (-1.0°)
100-year return frequency value max	87.6° min 75.3°
Average Low	52.2° (+1.2°)
100-year return frequency value max	56.2° min 46.9°
Highest Temperature	93°F on the 25th
Lowest Temperature	42°F on the 1st
Monthly Precipitation	3.15"

(-0.22" 6% below normal)  
100-year return frequency value max 6.03" min 0.98"

Monthly Snowfall 0.0"  
Season to Date Snow 0.0"

(the snow season is from July 1 to June 30)  
Season to Date Precip 20.21"

(+4.53" 40% above normal)  
(the precipitation now season is from Jan 1 to Dec 31)

Heating Degree Days 33 (+22)  
Cooling Degree Days 91 (+1)

Bill Kappel is a meteorologist and Tri-Lakes resident. He can be reached at [billkappel@ocn.me](mailto:billkappel@ocn.me).

## Letters to Our Community

Guidelines for letters are on page 25.

Disclaimer: The information and opinions expressed in LetterstoOurCommunity are the responsibility of the letter writers and should not be interpreted as the views of OCN even if the letter writer is an OCN volunteer. The letters are arranged in alphabetical order based on the last name of the author.

### Thank you, School District 38

On behalf of the Monument Hill Kiwanis Club, I want to thank Lewis-Palmer School District 38 for the contribution of time and efforts to help make the Monument Hill Kiwanis 2023 Fourth of July Parade a huge success. Specifically, I would like to thank D38 Transportation Supervisor Julie Abeyta and district drivers David McDaniel, Tom Rainy, Guadalupe Leonard, David Schindel, Michael Schad, David Bane, Tom Bliss, Winston Brower, Michael Drew, Esther Aniesta, Eric Sullivan, and Hope Lowe for safely and patiently using school buses to shuttle parade-goers from the

Lewis-Palmer High School (LPHS) parking lot to and from the parade. Ricky Vestal, Maintenance and Grounds supervisor, and his crew did an excellent job mowing and preparing the parade lineup areas for over 90 events.

Mary Anderson, custodian at Grace Best Elementary, graciously provided her time to open the school to access all the Monument Hill Kiwanis parade signs and equipment before and after the parade. The district also allowed use of the water tap at the bus barn, so the Renaissance Festival folks and animals had water both before and after the parade. Finally, Bridgette O'Connor, principal, and Nick Baker, athletic director, granted Kiwanis the use of the LPHS parking lot for parade-goers to park vehicles, to ride the shuttles to the parade, and to return to their cars on a shuttle back to the high school. It takes many community members to facilitate the success of this parade, and District 38 was certainly a big contributor. Thank you District 38.

Ted Bauman  
Monument Hill Kiwanis Club  
Parade Line-up Chair

### Kudos to Monument board and management for Artsites 2023

Since 2003, the not-for-profit group Tri-Lakes Views has brought the arts to Monument. With the cooperation of the town and the Lewis-Palmer School District board, that became an annual rotating display of sculpture along with a permanent collection of public art. That relationship is again being exhibited on the multiple pedestals throughout our community. I encourage you to take the time to enjoy the pieces along with our wonderful installations at the entrances on Baptist Road (Aspen Grove) and Second Street (Ice Harvest).

Dr. Elizabeth Konarski

### Between the Covers at Covered Treasures Bookstore

## All-time great children's reads

By the staff at Covered Treasures

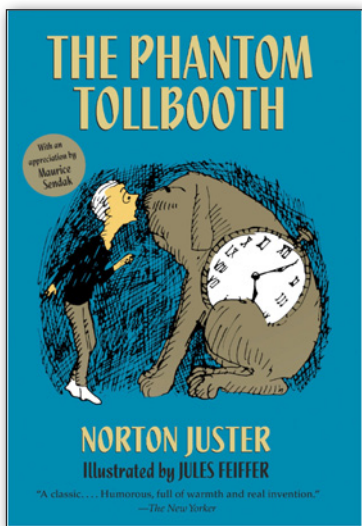
"There is more treasure in books than in all the pirate's loot on Treasure Island."—Walt Disney

These award-winning books are full of treasure, have stood the test of time, and are still some of the best to foster the love of reading in a child.

The Phantom Tollbooth

By Norton Juster  
(Yearling) \$8.99

For Milo, everything's a bore. When a tollbooth mysteriously appears in his room, he drives through only because he's got nothing better to do. But on the other side, things seem different. Milo visits the Island of Conclusions (you get there by jumping), learns about time from a ticking watchdog named Tock, and even embarks on a quest to rescue Rhyme and Reason. Along the way, Milo realizes life is far from dull. In fact, it's exciting beyond his wildest dreams!



Julie of the Wolves

By Joan Craighead George (HarperCollins) \$7.99

To her village, she is known as Miyax; to her friend in San Francisco, she is Julie. When her life in the village becomes dangerous, Miyax runs away only to find herself lost in the Alaskan wilderness. Miyax survives

by copying the ways of a pack of wolves and soon grows to love her new wolf family. The first in a trilogy, this edition features original illustrations, an introduction by the author's children, her Newbery acceptance speech, selections from her field notebooks, discussion guide, and further reading guide.

Old Yeller

By Fred Gipson (HarperCollins) \$9.99

When his father sets out on a cattle drive, 14-year-old Travis is left to take care of his family and their farm. Living in frontier Texas Hill Country during the 1860s, Travis comes to face new and often perilous responsibilities. A particular nuisance is a stray yellow dog that shows up and steals food from the family. But the big canine who Travis calls "Old Yeller" proves his worth by defending the family from danger. And Travis ultimately finds help and comfort in the courage and unwavering love of the dog who comes to be his very best friend.

Rascal

By Sterling North (Puffin) \$8.99

Nothing's surprising in the North household, not even Sterling's new pet raccoon. Rascal is a baby when Sterling brings him home, but soon the two are best friends, doing everything together—until the spring day when everything suddenly changes. This special anniversary edition includes classic illustrations restored to their original splendor, a letter from the author's daughter, and material from the illustrator's personal collection.

Anne of Green Gables

By L.M. Montgomery (Puffin) \$8.99

The Cuthberts are in for a shock. They are expecting an orphan boy to help with the work at Green Gables, but a skinny red-haired girl turns up instead. Highly spirited Anne Shirley charms her way into the Cuth-

berts' affection with her vivid imagination and constant chatter, and soon it's impossible to imagine life without her.

In the Heart of the Rockies

By G.A. Henty (Dover) \$11.95

Determined to improve his struggling family's financial situation, 16-year-old Tom Wade leaves England in 1860 and sets out for the untamed wilderness of the American West. Arriving in the small western outpost of Denver to mine for gold, he soon encounters Native American warriors, takes part in big-game hunts, and learns how to survive a mountain winter with nothing but resourcefulness and perseverance. Young readers get valuable, exciting lessons in history from the "Prince of Storytellers," George Henty, in a grand adventure classic that weaves together the story of a teenage fictional hero and real-life episodes of exploration.

The Castle in the Attic

By Elizabeth Winthrop (Yearling), \$7.99

William is devastated to learn that his favorite caretaker, Mrs. Phillips, is leaving. But then she gives him her parting gift—a mysterious model castle that has been in her family for years. The castle is perfect in every way, with a drawbridge, a moat, and a finger-high knight to guard the gates. It's almost too real. Sure enough, when William picks up the tiny silver knight, Sir Simon comes alive in his hand and tells William a mighty story of wild sorcery, wizards, and a kingdom in need of saving. William embarks on a fantastic quest to another land and another time.

Until next month, happy reading.

The staff at Covered Treasures can be reached at [books@ocn.me](mailto:books@ocn.me).

### August Library Events

## Summer Adventure ends, All Pikes Peak Reads announced

By Harriet Halbig

The library district's Summer Adventure program ended on July 31 with a tremendous number of participants. Thank you for joining us.

The Monument Library will sponsor three family-friendly concerts in Limbach Park on Aug. 11, 18, and 25 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. The park is located at 151 Front St. in Monument. Remember to bring a lawn chair or

blanket! For information on the performers, please see the district website, [ppld.org](http://ppld.org), and look under programs by location.

The title for this year's All Pikes Peak Reads program has been announced. It is The Girls Who Stepped Out of Line: Untold Stories of the Women Who Changed the Course of WWII by Maj. Gen. Mari Eder. The author will visit Library 21c at 3 p.m. on Oct. 7 when she will

give a presentation, answer questions, and offer copies of her book for sale.

Please note that all Pikes Peak Library District facilities will be closed on Monday, Sept. 4 in observance of Labor Day.

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