

Snapshots of Our Community

Neighborhood Watch, Jun. 29



Left: Brent Ambuehl, coordinator of Crime Prevention for the El Paso County Sheriff's Office, presented an informal report to about 45 people on how to protect against

various types of criminal activity at a Neighborhood Watch event on June 29 at Wesley Owens Coffee & Café. Actions by residents can reduce risk of home and vehicle break-ins, including signage indicating your home is protected with a security system and/or cameras, exterior lighting, locking all doors including the entrance from your attached garage to the house, not leaving garage door openers on the visor of your vehicle parked outdoors, etc. We've all heard the admonition to lock your vehicle and don't leave valuables visible from outside your vehicle. Ambuehl once conducted a test at a local trailhead and found 14 cars unlocked. For useful information, see www.EPCSheriffsOffice.com, including how to file non-emergency crime reports online. *Photo by Steve Pate.*

Stallsmith's 100th, July 1

Right: About three dozen friends and relatives helped Palmer Lake resident Joseph Stallsmith celebrate his 100th birthday on July 1. Stallsmith told *Our Community News*, "There's not too many around here" who have

reached that milestone, "so, I guess it's a big deal. I never thought when I was going to school that I'd make 100." Stallsmith says he feels "all right." Asked if he had any advice on how to live to 100, Stallsmith said, "Stay out of trouble." Did he follow his own advice? "Not always," he admitted, smiling. This has been a big year for Stallsmith. In addition to turning 100, the Palmer Lake Sanitation District dedicated its building to him in March. Stallsmith created the district 45 years ago. He also helped set up the sanitation system at the U.S. Air Force Academy. *Photo by Michael Weinfeld.*



July 4th Festivities Photos by David Futey

Palmer Lake Fun Run

Right: The 41st Palmer Lake Fun Run started off the Fourth of July festivities in the Tri-Lakes area. Race Director Kelsey Belsher said over 800 in-person and virtual runners from across the country participated in this year's race. Belsher said the race is "100% volunteer led and organized" and she "thanks the community for having the race as an integral part of the Fourth events." Belsher added, "All of the proceeds go to the Palmer Lake Elementary School (PLES) PTO who uses the funds to enrich the PLES student environment in the classroom, through field trips and teacher grants." Andrew Bel (20:32) and Aubrey Surage (23:42), both from Colorado Springs, were the top male and female finishers. **Pictured:** Colorado Springs resident Susan Cassell, left, and Cinnamon Lepore of Monument.



Pancake Breakfast



Left: Knights of Columbus Council 11514 of St. Peter Church hosted its annual Fourth of July Pancake Breakfast. Grand Knight Alan Feldkamp coordinated the event with volunteer assistance from council members, Boy Scout Troop 17, students from St. Peter, and Monument Hill Kiwanis members. Feldkamp said, "We really enjoy doing this every year. We started serving at 6:30 a.m. to first responders and others and expect over 1,500 to take part including finishers of the Fun Run." The breakfast choices were pancakes, eggs, two types of sausage, coffee, and orange juice. This is the Knights' largest fundraiser of the year. Feldkamp said the Knights "donate to over 60 organizations including Eagle Scout Colin Sager's P-51 monument project."

Parade



Grayson Merriam, left, and Cameron Stathan have their bikes adorned with festive Fourth of July decorations as they await the start of the Monument Hill Kiwanis Children's Parade.



Mitch LaKind, Monument mayor.



Glant Havenar, Palmer Lake mayor.



WWII Navy veteran Jim Swanson



WWII Army veteran Ed Beck



OCN volunteer and Colorado Front Range Unicyclist Audrey Burkart jumps rope while unicycling.



Greg Bielanski, Kiwanis president.



Makena Norton of Monument, Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo Girl of the West.



Excited parade spectators yelling, "U.S.A.! U.S.A.!"



WWII Army Air Force Veteran, Jim Akin



Monument Fire Department



Palmer Ridge High School football team.



Lewis Palmer High School football team.