

November and December library events

Enjoy harp music and meet Santa at the library

By Harriet Halbig

The engaging presentation by local author Kevin Anderson was well attended in November.

The AfterMath tutoring program that began in November has also been well received and will continue into December. See the information below.

Children's programs for December

Family Fun for December will be Colossal Cookies and Santa. Come to the library on Saturday, Dec. 8, from 11 until 3 to enjoy some traditional family activities. Enjoy combining cookies with icing and sprinkles during that time, and greet Santa and one of his elves from 1:30 to 3. They will hear wish list requests, pose for pictures, and distribute candy canes. The holiday goodies are provided by our wonderful Tri-Lakes Friends of the Library.

The Legos Club will meet from 10:30 to noon on Saturday, Dec. 15. Bring your creativity and a camera, because all parts used remain the property of the library.

Teen programs

December's Crafty Teens for ages 12 and up will be Ornamental Flair on Wednesday, Dec. 5, from 3:30 to 5. Enjoy snacks while you create crafts with holiday flair. Registration is required at 488-2370.

Book-eaters is a club for teens grades 7 and up. Come have a snack with your friends and discuss *Stravaganza: City of Flowers* by Mary Hoffman. No registration is required. You have a chance to win a book, too!

Adult programs

All regularly scheduled adult programs will continue during December, including Senior Synergy on Wednesdays from 10 until noon and the Socrates Café on Tuesdays from 1 to 3.

The Monumental Readers will meet on Friday, Dec. 21, from 10 to noon to discuss David Baldacci's *The Christmas Train* and share favorite books. No registration is required and new members are welcome.

Programs for all ages

On Saturday, Dec. 1, enjoy the soothing sounds of Holiday Harps, a group of local harpists who will provide beautiful seasonal music from 2 to 3:30.

AfterMath free math tutoring for all ages will con-

tinue each Monday evening from 4 to 8 p.m. Students of all ages are welcome to sit down with our volunteer math tutors in two-hour shifts. No appointments necessary. The program continues through Dec. 17.

On the walls during December will be charcoal drawings by Susan Cottle Leonard. In the display case will be ornaments from the Tri-Lakes Women's Club.

Palmer Lake Library events

December's Family Fun at the Palmer Lake Library is Colossal Cookies. All are invited on Saturday, Dec. 15, from 10:30 to noon to decorate cookies with icing, sprinkles, and good wishes. Decorate and take with you!

The Palmer Lake Book Group meets at 9 a.m. on the first Friday of each month. Please call 481-2587 for the current selection.

The Palmer Lake Library Knitting Group meets each Thursday from 10 until noon. Bring your own project and enjoy the fellowship of knitters of all skill levels. No

registration is required. Call 481-2587 for further information.

Enjoy the nature photography of local artist Claudia Godec on the walls of the library. In the children's area will be a selection of art by the students of Palmer Lake Elementary School.

All Pikes Peak Library District facilities will be closed on Dec. 24 and 25. Libraries will close at 4 p.m. on Dec. 31 and remained closed on Jan. 1.

Are you looking for gift ideas for a booklover? Support the Tri-Lakes Friends of the Library by purchasing a durable red canvas book bag with the Friends logo or a book lover's desk calendar. These memorable gifts are \$8 each or three for \$20 and available at the Monument and Palmer Lake libraries.

Happy holidays!

Harriet Halbig can be reached at harriethalbig@ocn.me.

Mining museum adopts new burro



Left: The burro at right is Chism, the newest addition at the Western Museum of Mining and Industry. Chism arrived Nov. 7 through the Longhopes Donkey Shelter. Nugget, the museum's longtime resident burro and mascot, is at left.

Photo by the WMMI.

Western Museum of Mining & Industry, Nov. 8

Uranium workers as victims of the Cold War

By David Futey

On Nov. 8, Ron Elmlinger presented a lecture on *Uranium Mining, Health and Help* at the Western Museum of Mining & Industry. Elmlinger is vice president of Professional Case Management and a member of the advisory council for Cold War Patriots, an advocacy organization that assists workers exposed to uranium. He provided background on the uranium mining boom and the related weapons industry in the United States, the health impacts of uranium on miners and other workers during that time, and present-day assistance available to them as a result of their exposure.

Elmlinger said uranium was first discovered in Colorado in 1898. Nazis developed nuclear fission in 1939, and the U.S. subsequently developed nuclear bombs through the Manhattan Project. Mining of uranium escalated after World War II. As a result, the U.S. has produced over 70,000 warheads, with 5,113 currently in some form of deployment, he said. There are over 4,000 uranium mines throughout the U.S., with the majority in the four-corner states.

Exposure to ionizing radiation and radon gas caused a variety of worker health problems. These include lung cancer, heart disease, renal (kidney) disease, and ovarian cancer. The federal government responded with the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program (EEOICP), which became law in 2001. The EEOICP was enacted to assist Department of Energy and related subcontractor workers and their eligible survivors to receive compensation and medical benefits.

Information on Cold War Patriots is at www.coldwarpatriots.org. Information on the EEOICP is www.id.doe.gov/eoicpa.htm. Information on WMMI is at www.wmmi.org.

David Futey can be reached at dfutey@ocn.me.



Above: Museum Executive Director Richard Sauers, left, is shown with lecturer Ron Elmlinger. Elmlinger talked about the history of uranium mining during the Cold War and the effects of radiation exposure on workers. This was the final lecture of the year as part of the museum's Heritage Lecture Series. Photo by David Futey.

PRESCOTT'S WAYGU BEEF FOR SALE

Christmas Special!

Sensational Hamburger Package

WAYGU, all-natural, grass-fed
hamburger patties.

Forty eight -1/3 lb patties per box, 16 lbs, Net
Off season Price only \$124.95



prescotttranchbeef.com
Prescott Ranches LLC
(719) 541-5024

Around The House, Inc.

Home Maintenance & Repair Phone: 719-482-5885
Licensed and Insured E-mail: kirtab33@yahoo.com

Kirt Byerly, Owner

Call today for your honest, reliable,
efficient and prepared handyman!
Free estimates

