

defensible space surrounding their structures by thinning trees and shrubs to reduce the spread of fire. Spreading mulch on the forest floor holds moisture, delays the spread of weeds, and provides nutrients to the forest. For more information visit [bflash.org](http://bflash.org) or call Ruth Ann Steele 495-3107, Carolyn Brown, 495-3127, Jeff DeWitt, 495-8024, or the county Environmental Division, 520-7878.

#### A Taste of Tri-Lakes Cares, May 7

Come enjoy the creations by local chefs given specific food items from the TLC pantry, similar to the TV show Chopped. Cost: \$10 per person plus one donated item from the following list: powdered laundry detergent, toilet paper, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, feminine products, deodorant, and child diapers (size 3-6). Children 10 and under free with paid adult. For more information, call 481-4864.

#### Willow Springs Ranch steering committee forming, reply by May 7

Commissioner Darryl Glenn will chair the Willow Springs Ranch steering committee that will develop a purchasing/fundraising strategy for consideration by the Park Advisory Board and the Board of County Commissioners. The committee will probably meet twice a month on a weeknight in the Monument area through the remainder of 2012. If you are interested in serving on the steering committee, email [timwolken@elpasoco.com](mailto:timwolken@elpasoco.com) by **May 7**. For more information, Call Tim Wolken, 520-6981 or email [timwolken@elpasoco.com](mailto:timwolken@elpasoco.com).

#### Forest View Acres Water District election, May 8

The Forest View Acres Water District will conduct a mail ballot election **May 8**. If you are designated as an "active" elector in the El Paso County records, you will receive a ballot by mail. Ballots will be mailed April 16-20. "Inactive" electors will not receive a ballot automatically, but can request a ballot from the Designated Election Official (DEO), Sue Blair, (303) 381-4960, (303) 381-4961, or email [sblair@crsofcolorado.com](mailto:sblair@crsofcolorado.com). A ballot drop-off location is being provided on Election Day only (**May 8**) at the Town of Monument, 645 Beacon Lite Road, Monument, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. In order for your ballot to be counted you must sign the affidavit provided on the return envelope, and it must be received at the offices of the DEO no later than 7 p.m. on May 8. You are required to place postage on the ballot return envelope.

#### Volunteers needed for Community Services Block Grant Advisory Board, apply by May 18

The newly created Community Services Block Grant program serves low-income communities and makes recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners. Applications are due by **May 18**. Further information and volunteer applications are available at the website, [www.elpasoco.com](http://www.elpasoco.com). Click on the "Volunteer Boards" link at the top of the page. For more information, call 520-6436.

#### Mail-in primary election, June 26

The election process is not over in Colorado. The next step for voters is to participate in the June 26 Primary Election. Last year legislation was passed to change Colorado's Primary Election from August to June. This will be the first June Primary Election under the new law. Also, another first for El Paso County is that this Primary Election will be conducted as an all mail ballot election. Unlike past primaries that were polling place elections, voters will have to cast their ballot by mailing it or by dropping it off at one of the designated drop-off locations.

The County Clerk and Recorder's Election Department will notify all voters who are unaffiliated that they must declare an affiliation in order to receive a mail ballot for the June 26 Primary Election. Voter Information Cards (VIC) will be mailed mid-May. Voters who currently are affiliated with a political party and wish to change parties have until **May 25** to change their affiliation to another political party. To verify your voter record and check your affiliation, visit [www.GoVoteColorado.com](http://www.GoVoteColorado.com). Voters can change their affiliation at [www.GoVoteColorado.com](http://www.GoVoteColorado.com) or by completing a Voter Registration form and returning it to the El Paso County Election Department, PO Box 2007, Colorado Springs, CO 80901. Voter Registration forms are available on the Clerk and Recorder's web page, <http://car.elpasoco.com/elections>, or at any of the Clerk and Recorder's offices. For information contact Alissa Vander Veen at 351-9626 or [AlissaVanderVeen@elpasoco.com](mailto:AlissaVanderVeen@elpasoco.com).

#### Stuart Little auditions, workshop, production

Spotlight Community Theatre's Fifth Annual Summer

Musical Theatre workshop and production will be E.B. White's children's classic Stuart Little. Auditions and casting are scheduled for **May 30-31**. The workshop, rehearsals, and performances will be in June. Minimum age is 10. Every workshop participant will be cast in the production! Register now as spaces are limited. For more information, call 488-0775 or visit [www.SpotlightCommunityTheatre.com](http://www.SpotlightCommunityTheatre.com).

#### Hooked on Palmer Lake Kids' Fishing Derby, June 2

This community event is sponsored by the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce, El Paso County Parks, and the Colorado Division of Wildlife. A limited number of free poles are available. If you received free gear in the past or have your own, please bring it. Recommended bait, if you can bring it, includes salmon eggs and worms. Lots of free stuff will be given away. Children 10 and under must be accompanied by an adult, no exceptions. No child will be denied admission for lack of ability to pay. Tickets are \$3 in advance and can be purchased at the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce (481-3282), or \$4 at the lake. For more information, call 481-3282.

#### Calling all drivers: It's Soap Box Derby time, June 10

Calling all young drivers, ages 7 through 17, for the greatest amateur racing event in the world. This year's Pikes Pike Soap Box Derby race is **June 10**. The mission of the derby is to educate its young contestants and inspire fair and honest competition. Mentors are available to help with vehicle design and construction. This year's derby is proudly sponsored by several local and national businesses and by Kiwanis and Sertoma clubs. Registration deadline for the regional Pikes Peak Soap Box Derby race is **May 12**. For more information, visit the derby's website, [ppsd.com](http://ppsd.com), or contact Glenn Scott, director, at 488-8808 or [derbyguy@comcast.net](mailto:derbyguy@comcast.net).

#### Tri-Lakes Cruisers 10th Anniversary Car Show, June 10

The annual car show, a benefit for Tri-Lakes Cares, will be held **June 10** in Historic Downtown Monument, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Free participant breakfast, show T-shirts, trophies, door prizes, great DJ music, Air Force Academy falcon display, food, vendors, police and fire department displays. For more information, visit [www.tlcruisers.org](http://www.tlcruisers.org).

#### Griffith Golf Tournament, June 25

Bring your friends, family, or business associates to the Golf Club at Bear Dance in Larkspur, **June 25**. Shotgun start is at 8 a.m. Play a challenging course, enjoy great food, and have a chance to win prizes while you help the Griffith Center change the life of a child. For more information, contact Jamie Sachtjen, [jamie.sachtjen@griffithcenters.org](mailto:jamie.sachtjen@griffithcenters.org) or 719-327-2031, or visit [www.griffithcenters.org](http://www.griffithcenters.org).

#### Get volunteer help for your non-profit

Due to popular demand, the Lewis-Palmer School District is adding a list of volunteer opportunities to its Youth Activities Directory online. Many students are required to participate in community projects for credit and others are just looking for ways to serve. If your non-profit has a need for volunteers for a one-time project or an ongoing effort and can use volunteers under age 18, obtain a directory listing form at <http://library.constantcontact.com/download/get/file/1101174229838-940/YAS+directory+form.pdf>. Non-profits may list their volunteer needs in the directory free of charge. For more information, contact Robin Adair, P.O. Box 40, Monument, CO 80132; call 785-4223 or email

[radair@lewispalmer.org](mailto:radair@lewispalmer.org).

#### Local host families needed for foreign teens

Foreign high school students are scheduled to arrive soon for academic year "homestay" programs, and Pacific Intercultural Exchange (PIE) needs a few more local host families. The students are all 15 to 18 years old, are English-speaking, have their own spending money, carry accident and health insurance, and are eager to share their cultural experiences with their new American families. To learn more about student exchange or arrange for a meeting with a community representative, call PIE, toll-free, at 1-866-546-1402. The agency also has travel/study program opportunities available for American high school students as well as possibilities for community volunteers to assist and work with area host families, students and schools.

#### Master Gardeners help desk summer hours

Colorado Master Gardeners volunteers are ready to assist you with your lawn and gardening questions Monday-Thursday during the following hours: Monday, 9 a.m.-noon and 1-4 p.m.; Tuesday, 1-4 p.m.; Wednesday, 9 a.m.-noon and 1-4 p.m.; and Thursday, 9 a.m.-noon. If the new hours don't match your schedule, you can call and leave a message any time at 520-7684, or email your questions to [CSUm2@elpasoco.com](mailto:CSUm2@elpasoco.com).

#### Commissioners meeting opens renovated auditorium

The Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) held its first regularly scheduled meeting in more than 20 years in the Centennial Hall Auditorium (200 S. Cascade Ave.) on April 3. In recent years the technologically obsolete auditorium hosted fewer public meetings and served as a training room for election workers and county volunteers. But with the recently completed installation of the updated technology required for live streaming of meetings from the auditorium, all regularly scheduled meetings of the BoCC will now be at Centennial Hall. Low-cost covered parking is available in the garage directly behind Centennial Hall on Sahwatch Street, with easy access to the Auditorium. Free parking is available along Sahwatch and metered parking spaces are available on both Cascade and Vermijo Avenues. The BoCC regular meetings are held Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9 a.m. All meetings can be viewed live online at [www.elpasoco.com](http://www.elpasoco.com) and are rebroadcast the following evening at 9 p.m. on Comcast Channel 17, the Pikes Peak Library Channel.

#### Volunteer drivers needed for seniors transportation service

Mountain Community Transportation for Seniors is a nonprofit, grant-funded organization that provides free transportation to Tri-Lakes seniors 60 years old and over. It is the only transportation service in the Tri-Lakes area to take seniors to medical appointments, the grocery store or pharmacy, the bank, legal appointments, senior lunches,

#### Help Wanted—Grounds Maintenance

The Triview Metropolitan District, located in Monument Colorado, is accepting applications for a seasonal employee. The position is responsible for mowing, landscaping, and grounds maintenance. Pay for the position is \$10.00 per hour. You may pick up a Triview Metropolitan District application at 645 Beacon Lite Rd., Monument, CO 80132. Please send your application and resume to Triview Metropolitan District, PO Box 849, Monument CO 80132 or FAX to (719) 488-6565. The application deadline is **May 16, 2012**. Triview Metropolitan District is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

#### Help Wanted—Water Operator

The Triview Metropolitan District, located in Monument Colorado, is accepting applications for a full-time Water Operator. The District is seeking a qualified candidate to join the Water Department. This position will be responsible for day-to-day operations and maintenance of the treatment facilities and the distribution and collection systems. The ideal candidate shall possess a Colorado Level C Water Treatment certification and a Class 2 Distribution and Collections certifications. Experience in minor electrical, I&C and mechanical skills is highly desirable. This position requires the ability to work weekends and be on-call on a rotating basis. The District offers an excellent benefits package with salary range of \$15.00-\$21.00 per hour depending on qualifications. You may pick up a Triview Metropolitan District application at 645 Beacon Lite Rd., Monument, CO 80132. Please send your application and resume to Triview Metropolitan District, P.O. Box 849, Monument CO 80132 or FAX to (719) 488-6565. The application deadline is **May 16, 2012**. Triview Metropolitan District is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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