

UNION QUESTIONS MOTIVES (Cont. from page 1)

board's decisions, we question the rationale and motives of Mr. Bill Ingram and Mr. Rod Wilson. They in conjunction with a very minor faction of the community seem to be working hard to continue to create animosity and

disharmony within the District. Their actions and accusations present a negative image of our department, officers, firefighters and staff. We respectfully demand that this public disdain of our department stop immediately." There was no definitive explanation of the term "actions and accusations." And while the letter did not specify the actions of Ingram and Wilson, the two directors cast the lone votes against firing Chief Robert Denboske at a special meeting in June.

The letter continues, "Those who would tarnish our image do not represent the best interest of the district or our community. We highly encourage Mr. Ingram and Mr. Wilson to get on board with the direction that the district is heading or recognize that they no longer represent the best interest of this department or our community. Their inability to work towards providing the highest level of fire protection for the community has become clouded by their personal vendettas toward other board members, the battalion chiefs, and certain officers working very hard to right what has been wrong for many years. Our confidence in their leadership to provide the support this department expects is significantly diminished and questions their motives as a board member."

The letter describes the union's perceived need for transparency in the district and requests a copy of the executive summary provided by the Mountain States Employers Council, which presumably details reasons for Chief Robert Denboske's termination. The summary reportedly contains privileged testimony and the identities of those who gave that testimony, which would violate the confidentiality that district employees were promised.

The letter continues with an explanation of the union's view of the district and its future. (The union supports passage of the 3-mill tax levy increase that voters will face later this year.)

The letter is signed by Roger Lance (son of district Director Roger Lance), president of Local 4319 and a Wescott firefighter; Jason White, vice president; Curt Leonhardt, secretary; Shannon Balvanz, treasurer; and Mike Rauenzann and Sean Pearson, both listed as mem-

bers-at-large.

Ingram responds to letter

Following the reading of the letter, Ingram remarked in a reference to union members, "If any of them would have the courage to come forward and speak to me, I would appreciate it." If anyone in the district or the union has any questions about his vote, "I'd be more than happy to talk at length."

Ingram described his attempts to contact the signers of the letter and was only able to reach Pearson. But Pearson told him, "I don't know what's in the letter," Ingram said.

Ingram asked the board, "What do we do about this? Who's running the show? The union?"

Director John Hildebrandt agreed. "The point is, who is running the show? I'm not a union person. I think that some of the public sector unions have ruined this country. Some of the things that they have requested and demanded of the public—and now their retirement is bankrupting a lot of places." He later added that he did not like being threatened by an outside source, apparently referring to the firefighters union, and that he thought Wilson and Ingram were doing what they thought was best for the district.

Pocock summarizes events

Board President Charlie Pocock reviewed how this all started. He stated that the three battalion chiefs approached him to come to a Saturday morning meeting because the "situation" (working conditions in the district) had become intolerable. He did not say why other board members were not present when he made a unilateral decision to have a third party investigate.

At a special meeting in May, the board approved \$10,000 for an investigation by Mountain States Employers Council and later raised it to \$12,000. Pocock did not mention that the board never authorized the investigation. He noted that every one of the 29 employees who would give a statement for the investigation signed a confidentiality statement so that they could say "everything that was on their mind without fear of losing their job."

**the X TRI-LAKES Y!**

**Fall Into Some Fun!**  
Register now for Fall Programs

**NEW A LA CARTE SWIM LESSONS**  
Now offering a flexible swim lesson schedule to fit your busy schedule.

**FALL YOUTH SPORTS**  
Soccer, ages 3-12  
Flag Football, ages 6-11  
Volleyball, 1st-8th grade  
Basketball, ages 3 years - 8th Grade  
\*Registration begins August 27


**SAVE THE DATE!**  
Creepy Crawl 5k Run/Walk  
October 27 - Costumes Encouraged!

Register online, stop in to see us or call 481-8728 for more information. [ppymca.org](http://ppymca.org)

Join today with the Family Program Package and save 25-50% on qualifying programs.

Dr. Bud Gerathy

**monument family dentistry**




We care about you.

[www.monumentfamilydentistry.com](http://www.monumentfamilydentistry.com)  
325 Second St., Suite A  
719-481-4949

**CB**

**Christian Brothers**  
AUTOMOTIVE

Complete automotive repair  
Complimentary shuttle service  
Service all makes and models  
Locally owned and operated



Jonathan & Kathy Specht  
Owners

Nice difference.  
Mon - Fri: 7am - 6:00pm Sat - Sun: Closed  
(719) 488-8030  
6130 Jackson Creek Parkway, Monument, CO 80132  
[ChristianBrothersAuto.com](http://ChristianBrothersAuto.com)

**HANDCRAFTED CONSTRUCTION INC.**

"YOUR project should be HANDCRAFTED!"

Additions • Decks • Remodels/Basement Finishes  
Garages & Barns • Custom Homes

15 years experience in El Paso & Douglas Counties  
Licensed & Insured • BUILT GREEN CERTIFIED

Call today for a **FREE Estimate: (719) 481-6170**  
[handcraftedinc@aol.com](mailto:handcraftedinc@aol.com) [www.handcraftedinc.com](http://www.handcraftedinc.com)

Piano Lessons By Becky

- 40 years of teaching experience
- Bachelors of Arts in Music
- King's Deer area
- Recitals twice a year

Call 559-3837



**Need A Handy Man for your Honey-Do List?**

Interior & Exterior  
Painting, Carpentry,  
Refinishing, Winterizing,  
Installations, Repairs,  
Furniture and Toy Assembly

**434-1804**

**Larry Blasgen**  
Over 30 Years' Experience in  
Home Remodeling & Building

**PREMIER VISION**

SEE BEYOND YOUR LIMITS™

**We Match Faces and Frames!**

**488-9595**

- Children and Adult Eye Exams
- Laser Vision Consultant
- Contact Lenses & Eyeglasses

Photograph by: Kirkland Photography

Woodmoor's own Lauren Smith, Monument Academy 4th Grader, shopping aficionado, avid swimmer and tennis player, and aspiring teacher is frame-styled to suit her very active lifestyle!

**New Patient Special**  
**\$40 OFF**  
Comprehensive Eye Exam  
Must present coupon when service is provided  
May exclude some insurance plans  
Good through August 30th, 2012

**\$50 OFF**  
Complete Pair of Prescription  
Glasses (Frame & Lenses)  
May exclude some insurance plans  
Excludes Oakleys  
Good through August 30th, 2012



Dr. William Hallmark, O.D.

Located In Monument, next to Monument Academy  
[www.PremierVision.com](http://www.PremierVision.com)