

Our Community News

Volunteers reporting on community issues in Monument, Palmer Lake, and the surrounding Tri-Lakes area



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Free

Local Events

See pages 28-31 for details of these and many other local events.

- Monument Fall Festival: Kinetic Sculpture Derby & Street Fair, Sat., Oct. 5, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.**
- 40th Annual Christmas Arts & Crafts Fair, Sat.-Sun., Oct. 5-6, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sun.**
- Direction 38 Public School Education Forum on Amendment 66 and the D-38 Mill Levy Override on the November Ballot, Tue., Oct. 8 & 16, 7-8:30 p.m.**
- Empty Bowls Dinner and Silent Auction, Wed., Oct. 9, 5-7:30 p.m.**
- John DeFrancesco Exhibit Free Opening Reception, Fri., Oct. 11, 6-8 p.m.**
- Reynolds Ranch Harvest Festival, Fri.-Sat., Oct. 11-12, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.**
- Ice Cave Creek Trail Project, Sat., Oct. 12, 8 a.m.**
- Mill Levy Override Public Forum, Thu., Oct. 17, 6 p.m.**
- American Red Cross Disaster Classes, Sat., Oct. 19, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. & 1-5 p.m.**
- Green Lecture Series: How to Winterize your Home, Sat., Oct. 19, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**
- Merry Bear Craft Fair, Sat.-Sun., Oct. 19-20; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sat., 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sun.**
- Chamber Concert: Unsung Voices-Women in Music, Sun., Oct. 20, 2:30 p.m.**
- Rocky Mountain Music Alliance (RMMA) Free Concert: Latin Flavor, Sun., Oct. 20, 3 p.m.**
- Wine, Roses and More, Sun., Oct. 20, 5-8 p.m.**
- D-38 High School Jazz Concert, Tue., Oct. 29, 7 p.m.**
- Safe Trick-or-Treat sponsored by the Historic Monument Merchants Association, Thu., Oct. 31, 4-6 p.m.**
- John Denver Tribute with the John Adams Band, Fri., Nov. 1, doors open at 6 for the 7 p.m. concert ■**



Above: Honorees at the Lewis-Palmer Hall of Fame on Sept. 24 are, left to right, Frank Royal, Dr. Ray Kilmer, Don Breese, Norma Lavelett, and Charlotte Rubenking, Grace Best's daughter. *Photo by Mic Garofolo.*

Five recognized for contributions to D-38

By Harriet Halbig

Five individuals were recognized for their contributions to the Lewis-Palmer School District 38 Hall of Fame at a ceremony held at the administration building on Sept. 24.

The honorees were:

- Grace Best, a teacher with the district for 24 years at Palmer Lake Elementary School, where she spearheaded intergenerational activities and introduced the concept of addressing the whole child, a continuing focus in the district. Best passed away in 1995. Her award was accepted by her daughter. A district building is named in her honor.
- Don Breese, who was with the district from 1962 until 1990, first as a physical education, American history and drafting teacher and coach of the basketball team. During his career in the district, he served as a principal and superintendent when Woodmoor was being developed, and the district grew quickly. The stadium at Lewis-Palmer High School is named for him.
- Dr. Ray Kilmer who, as superintendent beginning in 1973, helped shape the core values of the district and set goals to meet community demands. He emphasized the relationship between the district and the community, and college and workforce readiness. Kilmer left the district in 1987 to become deputy commissioner of the Colorado Department of Education. An elementary school was named in his honor.
- Norma Lavelett, a graduate of the Lewis-Palmer district when there was one school in the current administration building, began at the district as a secretary in 1966. She served as secretary of the combined junior and senior high school from when it had a population of 200. She was the secretary and bookkeeper for Breese, the superintendent and the secondary principal. She later transferred to Palmer Lake Elementary and served there until her retirement in 1992. Breese said that he considered her the most valuable employee in the district.
- Frank Royal moved to Monument in 1970 after serving for 30 years in the Air Force. He attended a Board of Education meeting just to see what it was about and learned of the challenges the board was facing. Royal

was appointed to the board in 1971. Royal's goals were to achieve national certification and state accreditation for the district. He said the growth of Woodmoor provided families who valued quality education for their children. The first priority was to find a good superintendent, and he hired Kilmer in that capacity. He was instrumental in informing the community about the needs of the district and the passage of a bond issue in 1971, which funded the building of Lewis-Palmer Elementary and an addition to the school. When his term ended in 1979, he continued to serve the district as a volunteer.

Superintendent John Borman, who served as master of ceremonies for the evening, said that this recognition was long overdue and should help the community to understand the effort involved in bringing the district to its fine present standing. A reception followed the ceremony.

A booklet with biographical material can be downloaded from the district website at lewispalmer.org under the Community tab.

Harriet Halbig can be contacted at harriethalbig@ocn.me

Lewis-Palmer D-38 Board of Education, Sept. 19

Board backs plan for spending if MLO succeeds

By Harriet Halbig

The Lewis-Palmer School District 38 Board of Education approved a list of uses for mill levy override funds during its Sept. 19 meeting.

The board passed an endorsement specifying the use of mill levy override (MLO) funds in the event of passage of the initiative on the November ballot. These uses include:

- \$1.3 million to replace 22 teaching positions cut over the past five years.

- \$1 million to ensure the district attracts and retains the best teachers.
- \$900,000 to be used to restore counselors, teachers who support students struggling in math and reading, teachers for gifted and talented students, technology teachers, and elementary summer school teachers.
- \$720,000 to Monument Academy, proportionally based on the number of students enrolled in the charter school.

- \$450,000 to provide updated technology for students.
- \$130,000 to be used to enhance the safety and security environment for students and staff.

None of the funding is earmarked for administration staff or construction of new schools. To view the wording of the ballot initiative, please go to lewispalmer.org.

Superintendent John Borman said that this is the spending plan for the first

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