

Snapshots of Our Community

Mine Rescue



Above: On Sept. 12, Brandon Burden and Jon Northern presented a history of mine rescue teams at the Western Museum of Mining & Industry. Burden, left, and Northern, shown with a breathing apparatus, said that five or more fatalities constitute a mine disaster. Highlighting particular mine disasters, such as those at the Farmington and Upper Big Branch in West Virginia, Crandall Canyon in Utah, and the Sunshine Mine in Idaho, they discussed how mine disasters usually result from a complex sequence of problems and the role of mine rescue teams and procedures in those situations. Teams are used for rescue and body recovery. Mine rescue teams are composed of five roles: captain, gas man, map man, first aid, and co-captain, with each role having a specific duty in the process. Burden and Northern are members of the Front Range Mine Rescue Team. They ended their presentation with a description of their team's recovery of a miner who died in a mine collapse. Information on upcoming events at the museum is at www.wmmi.org. *Photo by David Futey.*

Ham Radio Tech Day



Above: The W0TLM Amateur Radio Club and the Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Radio Association hosted the second annual Amateur (Ham) Radio Tech Day on Sept. 14 at Prairie Winds Elementary School. Workshops and hands-on displays included ham shack setup 101, soldering copper pipes to make antennas, and portable radio installation. High school student Ian Russell, left, said he uses his ham radio to listen to people around the world, and he collects QSL postcards from them to confirm his communication with them. Steve Galchutt, right, explained how QRP/Mountaintop operations can be set up using self-contained emergency radios "when all else fails." Backpackers can take portable radios with solar panels (shown here) to charge the batteries and get short wave radio coverage where cell phones don't work "miles from nowhere" or when "the grid" is not working, Galchutt said. Emergency responders and the Red Cross enlist the help of hams in the American Radio Emergency Service to communicate during emergencies. Contact Joyce Witte at 488-0859 for W0TLM meeting information to get involved. *Photo by Lisa Hatfield.*

Patriot Golf Tournament



Above: Firefighters from the Donald Wescott Fire Protection District were among the six Patriot Teams from local military, police, and fire protection agencies at the 12th Annual Patriot Golf Tournament at the Flying Horse Golf Club. From left are firefighter Brian Crawford, Lt. Shannon Balvanz, Capt. Sean Pearson, and firefighter Brenden Hoglund. This tournament is held annually by the Gleneagle Sertoma Club around Sept. 11 to memorialize those who served and lost their lives in the disasters inflicted by terrorists in 2001. This year the event also honored police and fire protection agencies that served in the Waldo Canyon and Black Forest Fires. The tournament had 132 players including teams from Fort Carson, Peterson AFB, the Air Force Academy, the Colorado Springs Fire Department, the Wescott Fire Protection District, and Home Front Cares. Net proceeds from the event, expected to exceed \$6,000, will include support to local Sertoma charities including Home Front Cares and Tri-Lakes Cares. *Photo by Dean Jones.*

Gleneagle Sertoma honors first responders



Left: Sept. 16, President Bob Figgie (right) of the Gleneagle Sertoma Club, awards Deputy Chief Al Harmon of the El Paso County Sheriff's Office a commemorative photo of firefighters taken during the Black Forest Fire. Other officials awarded photos for their leadership during the Black Forest and Waldo Canyon Fires were Commander Fletcher Howard of the Colorado Police Department, Falcon District; and Deputy Chief Ted Collas of the Colorado Springs Fire Department. *Photo by Dean Jones.*

Family History Day Event



Above: The Family History Day directors and assistant stand in front of one of several displays at their event held at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on Sept. 27-28. This annual event is held to encourage interest in family history by seeing ancestors as real people and recognizing the things they accomplished

instead of looking at history as just a set of names and dates. Many visitors attended both days of the event. From left are Stephanie Moore, Antony Reynolds, Maryn Carpenter, Phil Savage, Betsy Grovenburg, and Bruce Horton. *Photo by Emma Gaydos*

Pankratz retrospective



Above: On Sept. 6, the Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts (TLCA) hosted the opening reception for a retrospective and 70th birthday party for renowned artist Richard Pankratz. His wife Linda and he are shown with his work *Prairie Moon*, one of the many cast bronze pieces featured in this exhibit. Through his 50-year career, Pankratz initially become known for his stoneware, ceramics and raku, a Japanese pottery, creating items that were distinctive and functional. His career eventually evolved into creating magnificent sculptures using bronze. The show ran through Sept. 28. Information on upcoming events at the TLCA is at www.trilakesarts.org. *Photo by David Futey.*