

service club organization is now in Tri-Lakes! Meets 3rd Thu. each month. Info: David Prejean, 434-7031.

- **Ladies Auxiliary to V.F.W. Post 7829**, Thu., Feb. 21, 6:45 p.m., Sundance Mountain Lodge, 1865 Woodmoor Dr., Monument. New members welcome. If you are a female relative of a veteran who served on foreign soil during war or other military action, you may be eligible. Meets 3rd Thu. each month. Info: Martine Arndt, 231-5323 or email: Martine.Arndt@yahoo.com.
- **Senior Social**, Wed., Feb. 27, 1-4 p.m., Fellowship Hall of the Black Forest Lutheran Church, 12455 Black Forest Rd. The Black Forest Lutheran Church and the Black Forest AARP Chapter 1100 invite area seniors for an afternoon of socializing. All are welcome; bring a friend and enjoy chatting, doing handwork, or playing Mexican train dominoes. Light refreshments will be served. Meets 4th Wed. each month. Info: Lavonne, 495-4021.
- **Legacy Sertoma Dinner meeting**, Thu., Feb. 28, 6:30 p.m., Monument Hill Country Club, 18945 Pebble Beach Way, Monument. New members and visitors welcome. Meets 2nd & 4th Thu. each month. Info: Ed Kinney, 481-2750.
- **MOMS Club of Monument and Colorado Springs North**. Meet other stay-at-home moms and kids in our area for weekly activities such as play dates, lunch out, park days, and even Mom's night out. Info: email monumentmomsinfo@gmail.com.

SPECIAL EVENTS

- **Use Healthcare Reform to Your Advantage – Own Your Own Health Workshop**, Sat., Feb. 2, 1-2:30 p.m., Monument Library, 1706 Lake Woodmoor Dr. Learn your rights. This free workshop will teach you how the Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act, Colorado Health Benefit Exchange, and Colorado Hospital Repayment Act may affect your family. Learn tips for using these laws to help your family. Seats are limited. RSVP: info@oyoh.org or (303) 995-8275. Info: www.oyoh.org.
- **Black Rose Acoustic Society Open Stage headlined by Colorado College Bluegrass Ensemble**, Fri., Feb. 8, opening act at 7 p.m., doors open at 6:15. Black Forest Community Center, 12530 Black Forest Rd. at Shoup Road. Cost: \$7 general, \$4 BRAS members, \$5 nonmember students. Info: Joe Maio, 528-6119, or email jrmtn@comcast.net, or visit www.blackroseacoustic.org.
- **Willy Porter in Concert**, Fri., Feb. 8, 7 p.m., doors open 6 p.m., Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts, 304 Hwy 105, Palmer Lake. Featured at Nashville's famous Bluebird Cafe. Tickets in advance, \$18 members, \$20 non-members. At the door: \$20 & \$22. Tickets & info: 481-0475 or www.trilakesarts.org.
- **Etiquette Classes For kids**, new series starts Sun., Feb. 10, 1650 Moveen Heights, Monument. Classes for ages 6 and up include first impression confidence builders, dining etiquette, what to wear, and much more. Adult classes also available. Info: 440-4949 or visit: socialsurvivalskills.net.
- **Western Museum of Mining & Industry (WMMI): Exhibit Opening & Lecture Event: The Geopolitics Of Rare Earth Minerals**, Thu., Feb. 14, 5:30 p.m., 7 p.m. lecture. Free and open to the public. Rare earth minerals (REMs) are used in many 21st century technologies such as lasers, satellites, microwaves, superconductors, tablet computers, laptops, smart phones, and much more. Currently, China controls 97% of global rare earth production.

Letters to Our Community

Our Community News welcomes letters to the editor on topics of general interest. The OCN editorial board has established a policy that we do not knowingly print letters that have appeared in substantially the same form elsewhere. Please identify your submission as a letter to the editor and include your full name, home address, and day and evening phone numbers. A limit of 300 words is recommended. Letters may be edited for length, grammar, and accuracy. Send your letter to editor@ocn.me or mail to Our Community News, P.O. Box 1742, Monument, Colorado 80132-1742. In response to problems receiving e-mail, if you send your letter by e-mail, we will send an e-mail acknowledgement. If you do not receive an acknowledgement, please call Susan Hindman at 481-8511 to confirm that we have received your letter.

This has allowed China to drive up the price of REMs and to use this near monopoly as a geopolitical tool in countries with which it has disputes. This lecture by Dr. Terrence W. Haverluk will explore these critical issues. Reservations required. WMMI is located at 225 North Gate Blvd. (I-25 Exit 156 A) in Colorado Springs. RSVP & info: 488-0880, rsvp@wmmi.org, or www.wmmi.org.

- **Heartsaver CPR/First Aid class**, Sat., Feb. 16, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Tri-Lakes United Methodist Church, 20256 Hunting Downs Way, Monument. Open to the public. Includes CPR/AED for infant, child, and adult, conscious/unconscious choking, and all areas of first aid. Class size limited to 12. To reserve a spot, call Carley at 719-502-3242 and pay \$10 in advance for the cost of the certification card and a CPR facemask. For information about future emergency preparedness training, email lhatfield0786@msn.com.
- **Black Rose Acoustic Society Open Stage headlined by Cahalen Morrison & Eli West**, Fri., Feb. 22, opening act at 7 p.m., doors open at 6:15. Black Forest Community Center, 12530 Black Forest Rd. at Shoup Road. Cost: \$7 general, \$4 BRAS members, \$5 nonmember students. Info: Joe Maio, 528-6119, or email jrmtn@comcast.net, or visit www.blackroseacoustic.org.
- **Western Museum of Mining & Industry (WMMI): PUBLISH! History and Science Writing for Teachers and Learners of All Ages**, Sat., Feb. 23, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Writing about history and science offers exciting opportunities to learn, teach, and be published! Steven Veatch, geologist and educator, can teach you how. Topics include basic research, writing techniques and tips, using illustrations, science photography, and publication issues. Cost: \$20 adults, \$10 students (ages 13-21); WMMI members get \$5 off adult admission, and \$2 off student admission. Space is limited to 30 people. Advance registration required. WMMI is located at 225 North Gate Blvd. (I-25 Exit 156 A) in Colorado Springs. RSVP & Info: call 488-0880 or email rsvp@wmmi.org.

Our community calendar carries listings on a space-available basis for Tri-Lakes events that are sponsored by local governmental entities and not-for-profit organizations. We include events that are open to the general public and are not religious or self-promotional in nature. If space is available, complimentary calendar listings are included, when requested, for events advertised in the current issue. To have your event listed at no charge in Our Community Calendar, please call 488-3455, or send the information to calendar@ocn.me or P.O. Box 1742, Monument, Colorado 80132.

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The Rabbi's Corner
Gun Control

By Oswald Garagorry

The debate goes on and on no matter what time of day or night it is. Several issues are involved and many opinions are expressed. It divides people into groups and it divides people on how our Constitution is viewed. Is our Constitution a historical unchanging document or is it a living guideline subject to change as our society changes? Do we go by what is written or do we rewrite it? Do we leave the 2nd Amendment as it is...do we ignore or even eliminate its' authority?

How about you my dear reader? Which side do you take? Please tell me how you arrive at such a position. It doesn't matter if people go to church or to synagogue you will hear them say, "I think"...or "in my opinion"....

For us who practice Tanakhee Judaism (the life style religion given by HaShem/Lord in the Torah) we will bring the question to the Torah. What does it say about people arming themselves? Whatever it says that's our view, no ifs, ands, or buts about it. As I was studying the Torah portion called B'shallach (After he had let go). Exodus 13:17 – 17:16. I found my answer, "the people of Israel went up from the land of Egypt fully armed" v.18. It does not say that the army was fully armed, but that the people were fully armed.

Think about this for a moment, well over a million people "fully armed" wandering in the desert for 40 years; experiencing all kinds of stress and daily challenges. Yet there was not even one event like what we have seen in the last few years. WHY? There are several answers; I'll give you just a few. Among the people it was not illegal to teach their children about the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Mothers did not abort or kill their babies. Much to the contrary, read how hard Moses' mother tried to save her baby. Children were taught to obey their parents and that was not child abuse, it was an expression of their love for them. The Torah provided a solution for a rebellious child...the child was to be brought before the leaders of the community who investigated if the allegation was true. If it was so, the child would be stoned to death (dear reader, there was never a recorded incident of this punishment being enforced, but the threat was an attention getter).

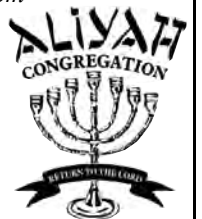
God Himself was not used as a means to make money or get votes. God was part of the people's daily lives; His instructions were to be observed and not made into a mockery. No individual placed his hand on two Bibles and soon thereafter, proclaimed blasphemous views that both of those very same Bibles condemned. I remember the words of Neil Diamond, "Look how far we came; How far from where we used to be..."

Shalom to you.

Dr. Garagorry is the Rabbi of Aliyah Congregation that meets on Saturdays at 10 a.m. at 19925 Monument Hill Road.

www.aliyahcongregation.com • (719) 330-2382

Visitors are welcome!



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

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John Heiser, President
 719-488-3455 (ofc & FAX) 488-9031 (hm)
 johnheiser@ocn.me

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 Monument, Colorado 80132-1742
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