

- **Black Rose Acoustic Society Open Stage: Rob Ickes & Jim Hurst, Fri., Apr. 26**, 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, www.blackroseacoustic.org.
- **Lewis-Palmer High School presents Alice in Wonderland, Fri.-Sat., Apr. 26-27**, 7 p.m., school auditorium, 1300 Higby Rd., Monument. Tickets, \$6 general, \$5 students & seniors, on sale starting **Apr. 15** at showtix4u.com or at the door. Info: Robin Adair, 785-4223 or radair@lewispalmer.org.
- **"Tackle the Trash," Sat., Apr. 27**, 9 a.m., New Santa Fe Regional Trail & Baptist Road. Check-in at Baptist Road Trailhead (Old Denver Highway & Baptist Road). Civic organizations, churches, scout groups, schools, and individuals are invited to participate in this county-wide "spring cleaning" event. Volunteers should bring personal gloves and a bottle of water. Young people age 16 and under must be supervised by an adult. Info & registration: www.elpasoco.com, 520-7871.
- **Black Forest Slash-Mulch Program Annual Community Meeting, Sat., Apr. 27**, 9-11 a.m., Black Forest Community Hall, 12530 Black Forest Rd. (northwest corner of Shoup and Black Forest Roads). Come and bring your neighbor, newcomers welcome. Great door prizes will be distributed throughout the meeting, including chain saws and much more. Info: www.bfslash.org; Carolyn Brown, 495-3127; Ruth Ann Steele, 495-3107; Jeff DeWitt, 495-8024; or the County Environmental Division, 520-7878.
- **How to Evaluate and Apply Defensible Space Around Your Home, Wed., May 1**, 7 p.m., Woodmoor Barn, 1691 Woodmoor Dr. Jim Woodman will explain science-based principles showing how structures are ignited by burning shrubs, trees, and other vegetative fuels. Free. Open to the community. Info: WIA office, 488-2693.
- **Black Forest Arts & Crafts Guild Spring Show & Sale, Thu.-Sun, May 2-5**, 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Thu.-Sat.; 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Sun., Black Forest Community Center (Black Forest Road just north of Shoup Road). More than 80 artisans offer hand-made jewelry, ceramics, soaps and candles, baby items, jams and jellies, baked goods, and much more. Admission is free. The Black Forest Arts & Crafts Guild is a Colorado nonprofit organization. A portion of sale proceeds will benefit the Guild Scholarship Fund and the Black Forest community. Wheelchair accessible. Because of fire regulations, no strollers, please. Info: 495-3217 or visit www.BFACG.org..
- **Wescott FPD Chipping Project Day, Sat., May 4**, Station 3 on Highway 83. DWFPD will provide the wood chipper and the manpower, and Wescott residents should bring slash and trees they have cut. Info: 488-8680.
- **Gleneagle Sertoma Club's Spirits of Spring Wine and Beer Tasting and Auction, Sat., May 4**, 6-9 p.m., ProRodeo Hall of Fame, 101 Pro Rodeo Dr., Colorado Springs. Highlights include specialties from local chefs, dozens of wine and beer tastings, a silent auction, and a professional auctioneer for a live auction that includes an African Photo Safari, Escape to Ireland, and much more. Proceeds from this event directly benefit Home Front Cares, Pikes Peak Hospice, and Tri-Lakes Cares. Tickets are \$55. Tables for 8 may be reserved before the event for \$400, a \$5 per ticket discount. Bring your friends, neighbors, and co-workers for a fun evening! Info: 488-9879, www.SpiritsofSpring.org, GleneagleSertomaClub@gmail.com.,
- **Southwinds Fine Art Spring Show, Thu.-Fri., May 4-5**, 1-6 p.m., 16575 Roller Coaster Rd., Colorado Springs. This free show will showcase local artists.

Info: 481-6157, jclarkwiderart@msn.com.

- **Armed Forces Day Celebration at Spring Valley Cemetery, Sat., May 18**, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., 13944 Spring Valley Rd., Larkspur. The Larkspur Historical Society, the Castle Rock Civil War Unit (2nd Colorado), and the 79th Highlander Pipe Band will honor our veterans with a program including battle skirmishes, musket demonstrations, mounted cavalry, cannon firing, bagpipes, kids' march with wooden rifles, and more. Info: http://historycolorado.org/archaeologists/events/armed-forces-day-spring-valley-cemetery.
- **Wescott FPD Safety Fair, Sat., June 1**, Station 1, 15415 Gleneagle Drive. The Flight for Life helicopter, Monument Police Department, hospitals, veterinarians, search and rescue team, wildland firefighting team, and Pikes Peak Wildfire Prevention Partners are some of the invited guests for the fair. Info: 488-8680.
- **Ice Cave Creek Volunteer Trail Project, Wed., Jun. 8**, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Palmer Reservoir Trailhead, Old Carriage Road, Palmer Lake. The Colorado Mountain Club is re-routing the lower part of the trail along Ice Cave Creek from Lower Palmer Reservoir. This will result in a safer and more sustainable trail, creating better opportunities for loop hikes from Palmer Lake. Bring food, water, gloves, boots. No experience necessary (over age 10 only). Register at www.cmc.org/stewardship and search for June 8 project. Info: 303-996-2764, stewardship@cmc.org.
- **Annual FireWise Community Day, Sat., Jun. 29**, 9:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m., Woodmoor Barn, 1691 Woodmoor Dr., Monument. Demonstrations and exhibits on fire resistant landscaping, "hardening" homes against burning embers, and replacing decks with fire resistant materials will teach you how to make your home safer for your family. Fun activities for kids of all ages. Sponsored by Woodmoor FireWise Committee. Info: WIA office, 488-2693.

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.

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 acknowledgment. If you do not receive an acknowledgement, please call Lisa Hatfield at 719-339-7831 to confirm that we have received your letter.

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The Rabbi's Corner Divorce

By Oswald Garagorry

According to the most recent data from the National Health Statistics (NCHS) the divorce rate in America is 43.5%. Most Christians see divorce from three different perspectives. For example, there are a very small percentage of people for whom divorce is totally unacceptable. There are those that see adultery as the only God-given grounds for divorce and yet another group will embrace divorce after counseling avenues have been explored. Among Jews, the Jewish family is an area of great importance; it is the means of preservation and transmitter of religion and community. According to Larry Bumpass and James Sweet "Differentials in Marital Instability," *American Sociological Review* 37: "Jews are less likely to divorce than any other Americans." For us who practice Tanakhee Judaism and base our views only in the Holy writings we see three aspects of divorce:

- "God hates divorce." *Malachi 2:16*
- Divorce was given to humanity by Moses. *Deuteronomy 24:1-4*
- Messiah explained the only acceptable reason for divorce (and that was not adultery as the Christian teaching goes), in *Matthew 19:8* "because of the hardening of your heart," divorce was permitted. This hardening of the heart is manifested in actions that include: selfishness, cruelty, disrespect, arrogance, cowardly behavior, and inflexibility.

We know that God's original intention was for humanity to live in the Garden of Eden. In it, there was no sin, but we were expelled from there and out here there is sin. One of the side effects of sin is the "hardening of the heart." Having one spouse with a hardened heart is a God-given cause for the other spouse to go and get a divorce. When a husband or wife has a "hardened heart," normally the ones who suffer the most are the children.

I grew up in a family structure where my Father assumed he was the "King of the House," therefore demanding complete obedience and unquestioned authority. We tried to live under these conditions and when it was not possible anymore my Mother with ten kids (most minors at that time) had the courage to leave him and in so doing opened a better future for all of us.

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!



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Look for our next issue

Saturday, May 4

Ad Reservations: Fri., Apr. 19

Finished ads in electronic format are due by Fri., Apr. 26

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WWW.OCN.ME