

Palmer Lake Historical Society, June 20

# Chief Manitou, a one-man tourist attraction

By Bernard L. Minetti

Researcher and lecturer Robert Cronk presented an evening of history and information concerning Pedro Cajete, commonly known as Chief Manitou, at the June 20 Palmer Lake Historical Society presentation. This session had been postponed from February. About 66 history devotees attended.

Cronk became interested in Chief Manitou while exploring a cave known as Pedro's Cave near the Cave of the Winds in the Colorado Springs area.

Cajete came from Santa Clara Pueblo in New Mexico, an area known for its poverty. Eventually he migrated to the Manitou Springs area and entertained tourists with his dancing and story telling. In the early 1900s, he became a highlight of the area and was a well-known tourist attraction in his own right. Cronk displayed many photos and discussed events in the life of Cajete.

Society Board President Al Walter discussed the upcoming "One Nation Walking Together" powwow to be held July 20 in the Colorado Springs Freedom Financial Expo Center. Walter said Native Americans from all



Above: Historian and author Robert Cronk. Photo by Bernard Minetti.

tribes will join in dancing, singing, and other cultural

expressions. It will be co-sponsored by the Palmer Lake Historical Society.

Local historian and author Jim Sawatzki said the Chautauqua will be held Aug. 2 to 4. For more information on this annual event, call Sawatzki at 719-481-3963.

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The next meeting of the Palmer Lake Historical Society will feature a presentation about the Western Mining Museum. Owner Rick Sauer will explain the origins of the museum and its history. The public is invited to the meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday, July 18, at the Palmer Lake Town Hall, 28 Valley Crescent, Palmer Lake.

Bernard Minetti may be contacted at [bernardminetti@ocn.me](mailto:bernardminetti@ocn.me).



## Special Events and Notices

By Judy Barnes, Events Editor

Although we strive for accuracy in these listings, dates or times are often changed after publication. Please double-check the time and place of any event you wish to attend by calling the info number for that event.

### Wednesday Senior Lunch at Big Red July Menu

**July 10:** Raspberry chipotle chicken, roasted potatoes, and salad.

**July 17:** Spaghetti and meatballs, garlic bread, and Caesar salad.

**July 24:** Chicken Dijon, garlic mashed potatoes, and salad.

**July 31:** Italian sausage sandwich, tater tots, and cole slaw.

Rolls and butter are served with each meal except sandwiches. Dessert is also provided.

An activity of Tri-Lakes Health Advocacy Partnership. Meals are provided by Pinecrest Catering, Palmer Lake; Nikki McDonald, executive chef, 481-3307.

### Free workshop to answer insurance questions for Black Forest fire survivors, July 8

El Paso County has invited United Policyholders, an experienced non-profit consumer group, to host one of its nationally recognized "Roadmap to Recovery" workshops to help residents get started on clean up and recovery from the Black Forest wildfire. The workshop will held **July 8**, 6 p.m., at Woodmen Valley Chapel, 8292 Woodmen Valley View, Colorado Springs. This is a non-profit educational event; no commercial solicitations are permitted. The workshop will cover what to expect during the claims process, common problems and how to avoid them, and where to look for and how to identify trustworthy help and support. Attendees will receive free Roadmap to Recovery organizers, handbooks, and flash drives to help them organize and move forward toward recovery. Mountain Shadows resident Steve Price will share strategies that were helpful as his family began the rebuilding process following the 2012 Waldo Canyon wildfire. The workshop is free and open to the public, and will be followed by survivor-only support group "break-out" sessions that will allow neighbors to connect in an

informal and confidential setting. For Black Forest Fire Assistance Information, visit [www.bffassistance.com](http://www.bffassistance.com). For more information about United Policyholders, visit [www.uphelp.org/BlackForestFire](http://www.uphelp.org/BlackForestFire). For more information about this event, contact Dave Rose, 520-6540, [DaveRose@elpasoco.com](mailto:DaveRose@elpasoco.com).

### County Assessor warns of imposters posing as county employees

The El Paso County Assessor's Office has received reports that residents in the Black Forest fire area have been contacted by imposters who claim to represent the El Paso County Assessor's Office. Residents should not provide information to anybody without proper identification. County appraisers have completed property inspections and will only go out again at the request of a property owner. Employees of the County Assessor's Office have county ID's and business cards and drive official vehicles marked with the words "Assessor's Department" on the doors. Impersonating a public official to gather information for personal benefit is a felony. For more information, contact: Dave Rose, 520-6540, [DaveRose@elpasoco.com](mailto:DaveRose@elpasoco.com).

### Stage I Fire Restrictions are in effect

Stage I fire restrictions are in effect for unincorporated areas of El Paso County. The following activities are prohibited during Stage I restrictions:

- Open burning (except in permanently constructed fire grates in developed campgrounds and picnic grounds), charcoal grills and wood burning stoves (except at private residences in areas cleared of all flammable materials), the use of explosives, outdoor welding or use of acetylene or other torch with open flame other than in an area cleared of all flammable materials. Fires contained within liquid-fueled or gas-fueled stoves are permitted.
- The sale or use of fireworks of all kinds.
- Outdoor smoking except within an enclosed vehicle or building, in a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable materials.

Violation of Stage I restrictions can result in a fine up to \$600.

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**Saturdays 8 am-1 pm**

Behind the D-38 Administration Building at Second and Jefferson St. in Downtown Monument. Park in the administration building parking lot.

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For information, call 592-9420.