

17250 Jackson Creek Pkwy, Monument. This free 12-week class for adults 60 years and older is open to nonmembers also. The class incorporates 8 Tai Chi forms and other specific exercises for improving balance. Info: Melinda, 649-3535. To register, call the YMCA, 481-8728.

- **Lupus Support Group.** If you suffer with an auto-immune disease and want to connect with others, you are welcome to join this group. Info: dmbandle@hotmail.com.
- **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: monumentmomsinfo@gmail.com.

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

- **Free Christmas Tree Recycling, Sat.-Sun., Jan. 5-8 and Jan. 11-12,** 10 a.m.-3 p.m., 225 North Gate Blvd. (I-25 Exit 156 A). Western Museum of Mining & Industry (WMMI) and Boy Scout Troop 78 will take your natural Christmas tree for recycling. Info: 488-0880, info@wmmi.org, www.wmmi.org.
- **TreeCycle Program, Sat.-Sun., Jan. 4-5 and Jan. 11-12,** 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Baptist Road Trailhead at Baptist Road and Old Denver Hwy. This county program offers safe and convenient disposal and recycling of natural/grown Christmas trees. Remove all decorations before dropping off a tree. The trees are ground into mulch at the TreeCycle site. For free mulch, bring your own tools to load into your vehicle. A tax-deductible donation of \$5 per tree supports community youth sports programs. Info: www.TreecycleCOS.org.
- **Annual TLCA Members Meeting, Tue., Jan 7,** 6 p.m., 304 Hwy 105, Palmer Lake. Meet with the Executive Director of Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts and several board members to discuss the current status and the future of the TLCA. Please RSVP, as refreshments will be served. Info: 481-0475, www.trilakesarts.org.
- **Lord Science Universal Exhibit Opening Reception at Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts, Fri., Jan 10,** 6-8 p.m., 304 Hwy 105, Palmer Lake. Celebrate the opening of the "Colossal Archives" exhibit that runs Jan. 7 - Feb. 1. Info: 481-0475, www.trilakesarts.org.
- **Black Rose Acoustic Society Open Stage headlined by Chuck Pyle, Fri., Jan. 10,** 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.
- **His Brain, Her Brain, Fri. eve-Sat., Jan. 10-11,** Glen Eyrie, Colo. Springs. Walt (MD) and Barbara Larimore, authors of *His Brain, Her Brain*, will explain how men's and women's brains are different and how understanding these differences can contribute toward a more satisfying marriage, family, and professional life. Cost: \$175 per couple (overnight accommodations may be purchased separately). Sponsored by Little Log Church. Reservations & Info: call the church office, 481-2409.
- **Western Museum of Mining & Industry (WMMI) Family Exploration Day: Geology, Sat., Jan. 11,** 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Learn about ice age fossils, see what it is like to run a mining company with 'Cookie Mining,' try your hand with 'Keep What you Find Gold Panning,' take part in some hands-on mineral identification, and discover how geologic processes have and continue to shape the Pikes Peak Region. In addition to other special guest presenters, Olympus will be there with their one-of-a-kind Delta Hand-Held XRF portable geochemical analyzer, a laser gun that instantly reads and reports the mineral content of any rock you find. So, bring down your mystery mineral discovery (one per family please), and find out exactly what it is. Cost: \$8 adults, \$7 military/AAA, \$6 seniors & students, \$4 children 3-12, free to children under 3 & museum members. WMMI is located at 225 North Gate Blvd. (I-25 Exit 156 A). Info: 488-0880, info@wmmi.org, www.wmmi.org.
- **Restorative Yoga Workshop with Raleigh Dove, Sun., Jan. 12,** Yoga Pathways, 755 Hwy 105, Palmer Lake. Info: www.YogaPathwaysStudio.com, 481-4137.
- **Learn to Skate, Mon., Jan. 13,** 4:30 & 5 p.m., ages 3 to adult, 16240 Old Denver Hwy, Monument. Olympic Special, 8 classes for \$80. Session starts Jan. 13. Info: www.RockyMountainSkatingAcademy.com, or Deb at Sk8CoachDeb@gmail.com.

- **Paula Cole Concert at Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts, Thu., Jan. 16,** 7 p.m., doors 6 p.m., 304 Hwy. 105, Palmer Lake. Grammy winner; great songwriting, great voice. Advance tickets: members, \$25; non-members, \$30; \$30 and \$35 at the door. Info: 481-0475, www.trilakesarts.org.
- **Palmer Lake Town Council Special Public Meeting: Palmer Lake Volunteer Fire Department, Sat., Jan. 18,** 9-11 a.m., Palmer Lake Town Hall, 28 Valley Crescent. Residents are invited to discuss a possible mill levy increase ballot initiative, possible inclusion in Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District, and other ideas to insure that Palmer Lake has fire and ambulance coverage. Info: 481-2953 (then press 0) or www.ci.palmer-lake.co.us.
- **Rocky Mountain Music Alliance (RMMA) Free Concert: Aeolus String Quartet, Sun., Jan. 19,** 3 p.m., lecture on concert music at 2:30 p.m., Sunrise United Methodist Church, 2655 Briargate Blvd., Colo. Springs. Robert Schumann Piano Quintet and string quartet masterpieces. Tickets are free but you must reserve in advance at www.rmmaonline.org or by contacting Pam Brunson, 646-2791, Concerts@RMMAOnline.org.
- **Tri-Lakes Cares Blood Drive, Tue., Jan. 21,** 3-7 p.m., 235 Jefferson St., Monument. License ID required. No appointment necessary. Sponsored by Tri-Lakes Health Advocacy Partnership (HAP). Info: Nurse Jackie Sward, 481-4864 x 103.
- **Black Rose Acoustic Society Open Stage headlined by Moors and McCumber, Fri., Jan. 24,** 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.
- **Heartsaver CPR/First Aid Class, Sat., Jan. 25,** 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., 20256 Hunting Downs Way, Monument. Class includes CPR/AED for infant, child, and adult, conscious/unconscious choking, and all areas of first aid. Class limited to 12 students; to reserve a spot, call Carley at 719-502-3242. Cost: \$10 (required in advance) for the cost of the certification card and a CPR facemask for each student. Info: www.tlumc.org.
- **St. Peter Catholic School Open House, Sun., Jan. 26,** 11:30 a.m. -1 p.m., 24 First Street, Monument. Preschool-8th grade, dedicated to Catholic values, Core Knowledge curriculum, limited class size. Info: 481-1855, www.petertherock.org.
- **Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Volunteer Informational Meeting, Thu., Jan. 30,** 5:30-6:30 p.m., 701 S. Cascade Ave., Colo. Springs. You can make a profound difference in the life of an abused or neglected child in the New Year. More than 500 children are waiting for a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteer who will fight for their rights. No special experience is needed to be a CASA. All volunteers are thoroughly trained and supported. Info: Kelly, 447-9898 x1033, kellyp@casappr.org, www.casappr.org.
- **30 Years of Love Benefit Concert featuring Colorado's own FireFall, Sun., Feb. 16,** 3-7 p.m., Douglas County Events Center, 500 Fairgrounds Dr., Castle Rock. Proceeds to benefit the Douglas/Elbert Task Force. Buy tickets at www.modtickets.com/detaskforce. Info: 720-648-5558.
- **Fuel Church Coming Soon, Sun., Feb. 23,** in Monument. Info: www.fuelchurch.org, info@fuel.org.
- **From Survive To Thrive with Raleigh Dove, Sun., Feb. 23,** Yoga Pathways, 755 Hwy. 105, Palmer Lake. For those who have had breast cancer plus others. Info: www.YogaPathwaysStudio.com, 481-4137.

*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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**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. To ensure that *OCN* contains a variety of viewpoints, each letter writer is limited to a maximum of one (1) letter to the editor per issue and six (6) letters per calendar year. 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.

**Look for our next issue**  
**Saturday, Feb. 1**  
**Ad Reservations: Fri., Jan. 17**  
**Finished ads in electronic format are due by Fri., Jan. 24**  
**Letter Due Date: Fri., Jan. 24**  
Visit our website to read, download, and search all the back issues at  
**WWW.OCN.ME**

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

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