

Our Community News

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



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Free

Local Events

See pages 24-27 for details of these and many other local events.

Lewis-Palmer School District 38 Pre-K and Kindergarten Registration Events, Wed., Feb. 5

The Heart of Monument, Sat., Feb. 8, 9 a.m.-noon

HAP-py Feet Foot Care Clinic, Wed., Feb. 12

Free Stroke and Heart Attack Recognition Class, Wed., Feb. 12, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

WMMI - Social Life in Western Mining Camps, Thu., Feb. 13, 5:30 p.m., 7 p.m. lecture.

El Paso County Hazardous Materials & Recycling Collection Facility, Sat., Feb. 15, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Monument Library: AARP Smart Driver Course, Sat., Feb. 15, 1-5 p.m.

30 Years of Love Benefit Concert featuring Colorado's own FireFall, Sun., Feb. 16, 3-7 p.m.

Palmer Lake Historical Society: Tom VanWormer presents Tri-Lakes Ice Production, Storage, and Delivery, Thu., Feb. 20, 7 p.m.

WMMI - PUBLISH! History and Science Writing for Teachers and Learners of All Ages, Sat., Feb. 22, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Formal Wear Fashion Show, Sat., Feb. 22, 6-8 p.m.

Meet the Finalists, Fri., March 7, 5-6:30 p.m.

Pi = Pie Fun Run, Sat., Mar. 15, check in 1:30 p.m., race at 2 p.m.

38th Annual Pine Forest Antiques, Home Décor & Garden Show and Sale, Sat., Apr. 26 and Sun., April. 27.

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Above: On Jan. 16, Grammy Award winner Paula Cole won over a sold-out and enthusiastic audience at the Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts (TLCA). Accompanied by a drummer and guitarist and playing a grand piano and guitar, Cole mixed songs from the first album, including *Manitoba* and *Strong Beautiful Woman*, with the familiar like *I Don't Want to Wait*, used as the theme song on the TV show *Dawson's Creek*, and a couple of the "hundreds of songs that were once lost to basements and attics because of moving around so much" early in her career. Throughout the evening, Cole displayed the vocal range that propelled her from small town Massachusetts to stages around the world. Information on upcoming events at the TLCA is at www.trilakesarts.org. Photo by David Futey. David Futey can be reached at dfutey@ocn.me.

Palmer Lake Town Council, Jan. 9

April ballot: trustees, mayor, and recreational marijuana

By Lisa Hatfield

The Palmer Lake Town Council voted to include the recreational marijuana retail sales question on the April mail-in ballot. Residents will also determine who the town's next mayor and trustees will be on the same ballot. On Jan. 9, the trustees also talked about the need for each household to do more fuel mitigation work to reduce the town's risk of a major wildfire, asked for resident input on sources of revenue for the town, and approved a business license for Helping Everyone Recover Colorado Inc.

Town Clerk Tara Berreth was excused from the meeting.

April marijuana ballot item

Background: In September 2013, because of a successful citizens' petition, the Town Council repealed the recreational marijuana sales prohibition ordinance it had approved in August. Then it enacted a moratorium on sales of recreational marijuana, planning to submit the question to Palmer Lake residents this April. See <http://www.ocn.me/v13n10.htm#pltc> for more information.

On Jan. 9, the trustees unanimously

approved adding the recreational marijuana sales question to the April ballot. Berreth will work on specific ballot question language with Town Attorney Larry Gaddis. Specific town regulatory language for the sale of recreational marijuana will be developed if needed, once the results of the election are known.

During public comments, Palmer Lake medical marijuana business owner Dino Salvatori asked that the town write the regulations before the election "just in case," so that if sales are approved by Palmer Lake's voters, he and other potential recreational marijuana retailers could be better prepared to meet demands "as soon as it would be allowed." He discussed the short window of opportunity for the town of Palmer Lake to "make money (from fees and taxes on recreational marijuana sales) before the state will take over in 2016."

April election of new trustees and mayor

Deputy Town Clerk Bob Radosevich explained to OCN after the meeting that all six trustee seats, as well as the mayor position, are up for election in 2014. (Continued on page 2)

An important message for our readers

Our Community News needs you now!

For 13 years, our volunteers have provided unbiased reporting on important local issues, including real estate development, fire departments, school districts, and water availability.

We have provided a platform for advertising local businesses without competition from larger markets.

We have published letters to the editor to allow you to express your opinions on events in the Tri-Lakes area.

Now we find that we have more tasks than we have volunteers. Some vital jobs where we could use your help:

- Helping keep track of advertisers and following up with potential advertisers via phone and email.
- Laying out ads.
- Reporting on local meetings. You get down what they talked about and what they decided and our skilled copyeditors will help prepare your articles to run in the paper.
- Taking photos of local events.
- Putting together the layout of the paper. We use Adobe InDesign, so if you have prior experience with that program that would be a plus!
- Boxing papers to take to post offices and local businesses.
- Updating our website (www.ocn.me) using FrontPage.

The time involved varies greatly from job to job. OCN will provide whatever equipment and training you need.

Please join us today! Meet a group of interesting and committed people. Learn new skills – use your enthusiasm and creativity to benefit your community and celebrate unfiltered information.

If you can spare some time to help ensure that OCN continues to provide a vital service to our wonderful Tri-Lakes community, please contact us by **Friday, Feb. 7**.

Please call or text Lisa Hatfield, managing editor, at 339-7831, or email editor@ocn.me to see what you can contribute. Contact us today! We are waiting to hear from you. ■



Above: Monument Town Hall, Sept. 6, 2011, OCN received a certificate of appreciation. OCN volunteers (L to R) Ronald Henrikson, Jim and Paula Kendrick, Bernard Minetti, John Heiser, Janet Sellers, Dave Futey, Susan Hindman, Chris Pollard, Candice Hitt, Natalie Barszcz, and Joyce Witte. OCN volunteers not pictured include Jim Adams, Judy Barnes, Wayne and RaeJean Claybaugh, Ann and Emma Gaydos, Elizabeth Hacker, Harriet Halbig, Lisa Hatfield, Kalyne Holm, Bill Kappel, Kate Wetterer, Mike Wicklund, Marv Young, and the staff at Covered Treasures Bookstore. Photo by Carolyn Henrikson.