

Historical Society names officers, directors

By Bernard L. Minetti

The Palmer Lake Historical Society installed officers and directors for 2014 at its January meeting. They are President Tom VanWormer, Vice President Pat McCarthy, Secretary Bernard Minetti, and Treasurer Barb Arbuthnot. Directors at large are Rogers Davis, Georgia Follansbee, Tom Dickinson, Jack Anthony, Al Walter, Susan Adams, and Palmer Lake Volunteer Fire Chief John Vincent.

Retired Colorado Springs Police Officer Dwight Haverkorn gave a short history of the unsolved

murder of Officer Burchfield. He described the suspect and his associates and the history of each. The mystery has not been solved.

The Feb. 20 meeting of the Palmer Lake Historical Society will feature a free presentation on "Tri-Lakes Ice Production, Storage, and Delivery" by Tom VanWormer. The Society invites the public to the event at 7 p.m. at the Palmer Lake Town Hall, 28 Valley Crescent, Palmer Lake.

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Above: The Palmer Lake Historical Society Board of Directors for 2014 are, from left, Al Walter, Tom VanWormer, Barb Arbuthnot, Palmer Lake Volunteer Fire Chief John Vincent, Georgia Follansbee, Pat McCarthy, Tom Dickinson, Susan Adams, and Bernard Minetti. *Photo by Ron Heard.*
Left: Retired Colorado Springs Police Officer and local historian Dwight Haverkorn gave the January presentation. *Photo by Bernard Minetti.*

Our Community 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

Feb 5: Baked ziti with sausage, Caesar salad, garlic bread

Feb 12: Chicken Caesar salad, rolls

Feb 19: Roast pork with apple cider sauce, roasted potatoes, rolls

Feb 26: Lemon chicken, mashed potatoes, salad, rolls

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.

Lewis-Palmer School District 38 Choice Enrollment for all grades is now open

Did you know that you may attend any school you choose, regardless of where you live? The Lewis-Palmer School District is consistently among the top districts in Colorado and in Colorado's top 10 percent for college entrance and state exams.

High school tour dates:

- Lewis-Palmer High School, 1300 Higby Rd., Monument, Fri., **Feb. 7**, 2 p.m.
- Palmer Ridge High School, 19255 Monument Hill Rd., Monument, Fri., **Feb. 14**, 1:30 p.m.

These tours are intended for out-of-district students considering attending school in the Lewis-Palmer School District. For tours for grades K-8, contact individual schools. For more information, phone 488-4700, email info@lewispalmer.org, or visit www.lewispalmer.org.

Free income tax filing assistance by AARP

The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) is offering free income tax filing assistance in the Tri-Lakes area. Trained AARP volunteers will be available to answer questions and to assist filers in completing their federal and state income tax returns every Monday and Thursday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., at Tri-Lakes Cares, 235 Jefferson St. in Monument, until **April 14** (except Feb. 17, Presidents' Day). Free e-filing of both federal and state returns is available. Taxpayers with more complicated returns should seek the advice of a paid professional. Filers are asked to bring their W-2s, 1099-INT, 1099-DIV, etc. needed to complete their 2013 tax returns, plus a copy of last year's (2012) tax return. A photo ID and copy of your Social Security card are also required. For more information or to make an appointment, call 481-4864 EXT 118. Leave your name and number and someone will return your call.

Register now for spring sports

at Tri-Lakes Y, sessions begin March 24

Sign up now for volleyball, grades 1-8, **March 24-May 9**; soccer, ages 3 years-6th grade, **March 24-May 10**; or flag football, ages 6-14, **March 24-May 10**. Register at ppymca.org or at the Y, 17250 Jackson Creek Parkway, Monument. Financial assistance is available for those who qualify. For more information, call 481-8728 or email ppymca.org.

Host a foreign exchange student

Host families are needed for the 2014-15 school year. For more information, contact Sheryl Ellis, Monument, 321-

536-9504; Sheryl.Ellis@EFFoundation.org.

Monument Marketplace Facebook page

Tri-Lake residents can sell their used items, trade items, and chat about anything local goings on at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/monumentmarketplace/>.

Adult Reading Program underway, ends March 12

Library patrons can win prizes after reading four books and again after reading eight books. Books on CD, audiobook players, eBooks, and eAudiobooks count, too. At the end of the program, finishers will be entered in prize drawings for each community library and in a district-wide grand prize drawing. Reading logs are available, or keep track of the books you've read using your own method. To register, bring your library card to any Pikes Peak Library District library and sign up at the information desk or visit www.ppld.org.

Tri-Lakes HAP receives

Griswold Cares Foundation grant

Tri-Lakes Health Advocacy Partnership (HAP) received a grant of \$1,000 from the Griswold Cares Foundation to help HAP continue efforts to support local seniors to live independent, healthy lives. HAP is an all-volunteer organization with no paid staff; all contributions directly support HAP programs for community health and senior citizens. For more information about HAP, visit www.TriLakesHAP.org.

DVD documentary of the Black Forest Fire

The Black Forest History Committee has produced *The Day the Forest Burned*, a DVD documentary of the fire last June. The DVD includes more than 250 pictures and six video clips with narration and music. The cost of \$15 includes three paper maps of different scales to show the burn area and homes burned. An accompanying 28-page booklet is \$3 and includes the narrative plus additional information. All proceeds go to Black Forest Together to help people affected by the fire. The DVD is available at Keepsakes Unlimited, 251 Front St., Monument; Rockin-B Feed Store and R&R Café in Black Forest; and Ayer Feed Store at Meridan and Latigo. To obtain the DVD, maps, and booklet by mail contact Terry Stokka, 495-0895 or tstokka@juno.com.

Online survey for Black Forest Fire victims

United PolicyHolders has a short online survey to collect information so the organization and its partners can continue to provide support to the Black Forest-area residents impacted by last summer's disastrous fire. Residents are encouraged to respond to the survey as soon as possible at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BlackForestFire>.

New Discount Card to benefit Black Forest Fire survivors and local businesses

A new program from Black Forest Together will help Black Forest families and local businesses recover together from last summer's devastating wildfire. The Black Forest Together Discount Card will be offered to all residents in the ZIP codes 80908, 80106, 80132, or 80831. Cardholders will save money on the goods and services they need to rebuild or repair their homes, and they'll also get discounts on sporting goods, meals, or other amenities. Cards will be issued Mon. to Thu., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; and 9 a.m.-noon on Fridays at the Black Forest Together Resource Center, located at Fire Station 1, 11445 Teachout Rd. For more information, visit www.BlackForestTogether.org.

Free Senior Safety Handyman Services

Senior Safety Handyman Services is a unique program funded by the Pikes Peak Area Agency on Aging. It is designed to help seniors (age 60 and over) in northwest El Paso County with safety-related handyman projects. Dedicated, paid contractors and volunteers install grab bars, wheelchair ramps, railings, steps, etc., to help seniors to continue to live independently in their own homes. For service, call 488-0076 and leave a message for Cindy Rush. For more information, visit TriLakes-mcts-sshs.org.

Tax savings for wildfire mitigation work

Taxpayers with property located in a wildland-urban interface area can receive a subtraction from their Colorado taxable income, up to \$2,500, for performing wildfire mitigation measures. Information regarding community wildfire protection plans and wildfire mitigation measures can be found online at www.wescottfire.org and www.csfs.colostate.edu. For information, check www.taxcolorado.com.

Free help line for fire victims

Optum, a health and behavioral health services company, is offering a free emotional-support help line to those affected by wildfires. The service is free and open to anyone. Specially trained Optum mental health specialists help people manage their stress and anxiety so they can continue to address their everyday needs. Callers may also receive referrals to community resources to help them with specific concerns, including financial and legal matters. The toll-free number, 866-342-6892, will be open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, for as long as necessary.

Reverse 911

With the heightened concern for fire danger along the Front Range, many people want to sign up their home or cell phone for reverse emergency notification. The El Paso-Teller E-911 Authority Emergency Notification System is used to notify residents of any potential emergencies in their neighborhood. To sign up, go to <https://elptc911.onthealert.com>.

Tri-Lakes HAP Senior Center programs

The Tri-Lakes Health Advocacy Partnership Senior Citizens Center is next to the Lewis-Palmer High School Stadium (across from the YMCA) and is open 1-4 p.m., Tue.-Fri., and earlier for scheduled activities. The facility has a lounge, craft room, game room, and multipurpose room. Programs include pinochle, National Mah-jongg, line dancing, tea time, bingo, and more. Ping-pong, Wii video games, puzzles and board games, refreshments, a lending library, computers with Internet connections, and an information table are also available. For information about programs for seniors, visit www.TriLakesSeniors.org.

Senior Beat newsletter—subscribe for free

Each monthly Senior Beat newsletter is full of information for local seniors, including the daily menu of the senior lunches offered Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays in Monument. It also contains the schedule of the classes and events for the month at the Senior Citizens Center. To subscribe, send an email with your name and mailing address to SeniorBeat@TriLakesSeniors.org. Senior Beat can also be viewed online at www.TriLakesHAP.org.