



Above: Lt. Steve Burk (right) swore in new Monument Police Officer Darion Ives on Dec. 15. Burk said Ives' family has had a long line of law enforcement members and that Ives put himself through the necessary training, since Monument has no police academy. Many of the new officer's family and friends witnessed the swearing-in. *Photo by Lisa Hatfield.*

the website. Pesicka explained that parking and striping of nine angled public spaces on Washington Street north of Second Street was complete. The center yellow line in the road was moved to give a few extra feet to west-side parking. On the east side of Washington Street north of the Chapala Building, there is no longer parking on the street, since if cars parked parallel to the new sidewalk, they would block a lane of travel on the road.

Pesicka reiterated that phase one of the downtown sidewalk project was complete and that after a walkthrough with representatives of the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) on Nov. 19, "CDOT had no concerns with the project, and they gave Tom Martinez a real thumbs up for what he had to improvise on out in the field. He did a great job. They really liked what he did."

Dominquez asked if the issue of railing and benches in front of Monument Sanitation District (MSD) had been resolved. At issue is a new section of sidewalk with a drain pipe embedded in it, creating a step across the middle of the sidewalk on the southeast corner of Washington Street and Second Street.

Smith said that the town met the engineering requirements for the sidewalk and that their engineers and inspector both agreed it was not a safety issue and that the drain pipe would not get blocked or create an icing hazard. Pesicka said the analysis was done by Jacobs Engineering, the town's contract engineer for the sidewalk project and that it gave the town a written response that was forwarded to MSD Manager Mike Wicklund. See www.ocn.me/v14n12.htm#msd1120.

Pesicka said a local artist is creating a railing to be installed across the step, hopefully in

early January. One bench will remain in place, he said.

Jacobs Engineering will start the second phase of the sidewalks project in late spring or early summer 2015, Pesicka said.

Public works report

Public Works Director Tom Tharnish's comments included:

- Paving on Old Denver Road was completed.
- The new parks plan is in progress.
- Monument water production for November was 7.6 million gallons, which was 5.7 percent above November 2013.
- Two budgeted waterline looping projects and associated engineering work and design are nearing completion.
- The department is still working with CDOT to get the street lights on the south-bound Exit 161 ramp operating reliably.

Police report

Chief Jake Shirk's report included:

- Be aware of phone scams claiming to be from the IRS, utilities, or local police and demanding gift cards to avoid jail time. One scam is using the Monument Police Department phone number on the caller ID.
- Thanks to the Board of Trustees for getting matching money from Walmart for Santa on Patrol board contributions, enabling the town to get nine more bicycles to give away. We are spreading joy for a lot of children in the Tri-Lakes area.
- Toys for Tots is a great program, but those donations go out of our local area; we have a huge need within our community for these toys.
- One arrest for theft was made at Home Depot in December.
- The combined Fountain-

Monument SWAT team served a search warrant in Fountain.

Town manager's report

Smith's comments included:

- Madeline VanDenHoek was appointed to the Tri-Lakes Cares Board of Directors and will volunteer her time.
- This year's tree lighting ceremony at Limbach Park included an ice carving, dancers, a fire truck, carolers, and trees lit all over the north end of the park.
- In the 2014 election, the El Paso County Election Voter Service and Polling Center at Monument Town Hall received 463 voters in person and 8,795 mail-in ballots were dropped off at the drop box. The Monument location was one of 25 such voter service centers set up in El Paso County for the election.
- See www.facebook.com/TownofMonument and www.townofmonument.org for information about community events.

Dominguez said he has joined the State Transportation Advisory Committee to represent the Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments with the goal of speeding up repayment of the Baptist Road Rural Transportation Authority bonds. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Due to the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday, the next Board of Trustees meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 20 at Monument Town Hall, 845 Beacon Lite Road. Meetings are usually held the first and third Mondays of each month. Check <http://monumenttownco.minut.esondemand.com/> to see future meeting agendas and packets. Information: 884-8017.

Lisa Hatfield can be reached at lisahatfield@ocn.me.

- neering
- Spradley Barr Ford, \$24,944 – new vehicle for Police Department
 - National Meter & Automation, \$8,495
 - Churchich Recreation Inc., \$8,000 (Lions Club will donate \$5,000 toward this cost) – Lavelett Park gazebo.

Smith said that annual net budgeted sales tax collections earned were 1.2 percent below the expected amount for the end of the year. Net sales tax to general fund for October 2014 was 2.9 percent below budget. Gross sales tax collected through December 2014 was ahead of December 2013 by 2.3 percent and was 2.8 percent, or \$69,000, above the expected amount.

Planning Department report

Planning Director Mike Pesicka's comments included:

- The Planning Commission approved items concerning the proposed new Natural Grocers store and Service Street Automotive that would be heard by the board on Jan. 5.
- Village Center at Woodmoor Filing 3A broke ground a few weeks ago. 75 homes proposed.
- New single-family residential land use permits issued this year: 74 total, 66 in Triview.
- Lake of Rockies finished grading, now is installing utilities.
- Triview is reviewing the first submittal of a Preliminary/Final PD Site Plan for a new commercial development east of King Soopers on West Baptist Road.
- Planning staff attended the HMMA meeting Dec. 3 to discuss clarifications to signage regulations for downtown businesses.
- Held a neighborhood meeting on Nov. 20 at Bear Creek Elementary for input on the sixth amendment to the Regency Park Zoning and Development plan.

(The area proposed to be amended is between Higby Road and Leather Chaps Road, and from Jackson Creek Parkway almost to Fairplay Road. This revision realigns roads within the northern area of the development, consolidates parcels along Jackson Creek Parkway, and rezones portions of the PRD-2, PRD-4, PCD and PID parcels to align with current market demands. The proposal will be heard by the Monument Planning Commission on Jan. 14 and the Monument Board of Trustees on Feb. 2.)

- The Development Services department website is being updated so that information is more accessible and the required steps in the permitting process are easier to follow. Pesicka welcomes more feedback from people using

RE/MAX
PROPERTIES, INC.

Columbine Properties is your one-stop source for real estate services covering Colorado Springs to Castle Rock!
Call Kim today!

CLOSE OUT SALE!

Only 2 left! Both located in quietest corner of this lovely patio home community. Prices start at \$312,900. Call soon!

ONLY \$175,000!

Ideal Woodmoor investment property – one level living in quiet townhome complex close to schools, library, and more.

Happy New Home!

PALMER LAKE!

Spacious rancher with walkout basement on half acre of mountain views. Only \$239,900 – hurry!

GLENEAGLE ELEGANCE!

Gorgeous setting, mountain views and open, flowing floorplan – this home is perfect. Move right in! Just \$359,900!

CALL KIM ROSSBACH (719) 330-3277 OR VISIT COLUMBINEPROPERTIES.COM