

## 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 information number for that event.

### Wednesday Senior Lunch at Big Red January Menu

**Jan. 14:** Chili, Fritos, salad, dessert

**Jan. 21:** Lemon chicken, rice, salad, dessert

**Jan. 28:** Chicken Caesar salad, garlic bread, dessert  
Rolls and butter are served with each meal except sandwiches. Dessert is also provided.

Lunch is at 11:30 a.m. at 146 Jefferson St., Monument (the School District 38 Administration Building, "Big Red"). \$3 voluntary donation. Entertainment follows lunch. For more information, call Judy, 487-9067. An activity of Tri-Lakes Health Advocacy Partnership. Meals are provided by Pinecrest Catering, Palmer Lake; Nikki McDonald, executive chef, 481-3307.

### Academy North Gate bridge work through summer

Two bridges outside the U.S. Air Force Academy's North Gate will be under repair through August 2015. To ease congestion, the academy will make the gate a one-way, entrance-only road in the mornings. From 7-9 a.m., no outbound traffic will be allowed through the North Gate, and travelers exiting the academy during those hours will have to use the South Gate.

### County now enrolling students for 2015 Citizens College, apply by Jan. 12

Citizens College participants receive an up-close look at county government functions and services. Elected officials, administrators, and agency partners serve as instructors and tour guides. Classes will be held Jan. 24 and Jan. 31, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. "Field trips" include a tour of the Criminal Justice Center and El Paso County coroner's laboratories where students can learn first-hand about criminal investigations and criminal prosecution. For more information and to apply online, visit [www.elpasoco.com/citizenscollege](http://www.elpasoco.com/citizenscollege).

### Mountain View Electric Association scholarships, apply by Jan. 15

Mountain View Electric Association (MVEA) awards 14 scholarships of \$1,000 to graduating high school seniors. Requirements and applications are available at both MVEA offices, high school counselors' offices, or online at [www.mvea.coop](http://www.mvea.coop). For more information, call 494-2622.

### Register for D-38 2015 kindergarten and preschool, Feb. 4

Registration events will be held at all D-38 elementary schools Feb. 4. Students entering kindergarten next fall, or anyone interested in reserving a spot in the preschool program, should attend. Times and locations are posted on each school's website. More information is available online on the preschool page at [www.lewispalmer.org](http://www.lewispalmer.org) or by calling 488-4700.

### Choice enrollment now open, tours offered

Choice enrollment for all grade levels is now open through Feb. 20. This is the time for residents and non-resident students to apply to attend any D-38 school. Details and forms are posted on the district website, [www.lewispalmer.org](http://www.lewispalmer.org). Both D-38 high schools are offering tours for families on the following dates. January tours: Palmer Ridge, Jan. 23, 1:30 p.m.; Lewis-Palmer, Jan. 30, 1:30 p.m. February tours: LPHS, Feb. 13, 1:30 p.m.; PRHS, Feb. 20, 1:30 p.m. Please contact Palmer Ridge at 867-8600 or Lewis-Palmer at 488-6186 to sign up. These tours are intended for district or non-resident students wishing to choice enroll or for new families moving to our area. Check with individual schools for additional open houses and tours.

### Tri-Lakes Women's Club announces 2015 grant process, apply by March 15

Tri-Lakes Women's Club (TLWC) grant application for 2015 will be available Jan. 15 until March 15 on the TLWC website, [www.tlwc.net](http://www.tlwc.net). Eligible organizations include nonprofit and public service organizations and public schools that serve the Tri-Lakes area. Special program and project requests are welcomed. The application package includes the instructions as well as other very important qualifying information. For more information, contact the committee chair, Donna Wagner, at [granting@tlwc.net](mailto:granting@tlwc.net). TLWC is proud to continue supporting the Tri-Lakes community.

### D-38 receives state awards

The Colorado Department of Education awarded the Lewis-Palmer School District with Accreditation with Distinction and the Colorado Excellence Award for highest English language proficiency and academic growth among English learners. In addition, four District 38 schools were named John Irwin Schools of Excellence for the 2013-14 school year. Lewis-Palmer High School, Palmer Ridge High School, Prairie Winds Elementary, and Monument Academy were all honored for exceeding expectations in academic achievement. Schools receiving this award are in the top 8 percent of all schools in Colorado. For more information, visit [www.lewispalmer.org](http://www.lewispalmer.org) and click on "Announcements."

### Awake Palmer Lake receives \$349,893 GOCO grant

Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) invests a portion of Colorado Lottery proceeds to help preserve and enhance the state's parks, trails, wildlife, rivers, and open spaces. The \$349,893 in grant money awarded for Palmer Lake can only be used for improvements around the lake, not for the lake itself. Based on a survey of Palmer Lake recreational users, improvements would include a pedestrian bridge over the railroad tracks, improvements to the playground, a bandstand, and possibly a soccer field. The Awake Palmer Lake committee still needs \$30,000 to complete the work on the lake. Donations can be made to [Awakepalmerlake.org](http://Awakepalmerlake.org), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.

### Robert "RF" Smith selected as Monument Hill Kiwanis Club Kiwanian of the Year



RF Smith joined the Monument Hill Kiwanis in 2011 and has been a dedicated member, managing and serving on numerous projects including the Fourth of July parades, Empty Bowls Dinner, Soap Box Derby program, bingo, and holiday bell ringing. Smith's dedication, commitment, and concern for the community make him well-deserving of the honor of Kiwanian of the Year.

### Emergency Notification System update

If you registered for the Emergency Notification System (reverse 911) prior to July 2013, you may need to create a new account. Go to [www.elpasoteller911.org](http://www.elpasoteller911.org) and select "sign up" on the registration page. If you are able to log in in using your existing user name and password, no further action is needed. If you get an error message indicating your email or password is invalid, press the sign-up button and create a new account. If you need assistance, dial 785-1971 and a staff member will return your call.

### St. Peter Catholic School enrolling for preschool-eighth grade

The school offers full and half-day preschool, Core Knowledge Curriculum with small class sizes, Christ-centered education. NCA accredited, state licensed, financial aid available. Call or visit: 124 First St., Monument; 481-1855; [www.petertherock.org](http://www.petertherock.org).

### Free transportation and safety services for seniors

Mountain Community Senior Services offers free transportation and safety services to Tri-Lakes seniors. If you need a ride to a medical appointment, grocery shopping, or the local senior lunches, a volunteer driver will be happy to help you. The number to call is 488-0076 to leave a message for the dispatcher. If you are in need of grab bars

in the bathroom, a ramp to your door, or repair of stairs or railings, please call Cindy Rush, 488-0076, and leave a message.

### CASA volunteers needed

Become a CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate). CASA offers a volunteer opportunity like no other. As appointed representatives of the court, CASA volunteers are empowered to make a lifelong difference in the lives of abused and neglected children. Learn more at <http://www.casappr.org/volunteer-colorado-springs/> or contact Kelly at 447-9898, ext. 1033 or [kellyp@casappr.org](mailto:kellyp@casappr.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](http://TriLakes-mcts-sshs.org).

### Volunteer drivers needed for seniors' transportation service

Mountain Community Transportation for Seniors is a nonprofit, grant-funded organization that provides free transportation to Tri-Lakes seniors 60 years old and over. The program needs additional volunteer drivers. For information, email MCTS at [mcseniorservices@gmail.com](mailto:mcseniorservices@gmail.com) or call the MCTS dispatch hotline at 488-0076.

### LEAP—Help for heating bills

The Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP) is a federally funded program that provides cash assistance to help families and individuals pay a portion of winter home heating costs. The eligibility period for LEAP runs through April 30. Application packets will automatically be mailed to residents who received LEAP assistance last year at the address where they were living at that time. To find out if you qualify for LEAP, call 1-866 HEAT-HELP (1-866-432-8435) or visit [www.colorado.gov/cdhs/leap](http://www.colorado.gov/cdhs/leap).

### Donala's Customer Assistance Program

The Donala Water and Sanitation District offers a Customer Assistance Program in conjunction with Tri-Lakes Cares to help Donala customers in financial hardship, unable to pay their water and sewer bills. Applications can be picked up at the Donala office at 15850 Holbein Dr. in Gleneagle or at Tri-Lakes Cares in Monument. For information call 488-3603.

### Monument Marketplace Facebook page

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

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For more information, contact John Heiser at (719) 488-3455 or [ads@ocn.me](mailto:ads@ocn.me) or visit [www.ocn.me/advertise.htm](http://www.ocn.me/advertise.htm).