

# Our Community News

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



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Issue #176— Volume 15 Number 10 — Saturday, October 3, 2015

Free



## Local Events

See pages 27-31 for details of these and many other local events.

Palmer Lake Art Group 42nd Christmas Arts & Crafts Fair, Fri.-Sun., Oct. 2-4, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Community Meeting on the New Santa Fe Regional Trail, Mon., Oct. 5, 6 p.m.

Monument Hill Kiwanis Empty Bowls Dinner & Silent Auction, Wed., Oct. 7, 5-7:30 p.m.

D-38 School Board Candidate Forum, Thu., Oct. 8, 6:30 p.m.

Palmer Lake needs Volunteers for Weed Removal, Sat., Oct. 10 & 24, 8-11 a.m.

Reynolds Ranch Harvest Festival, Sat.-Sun., Oct. 10-11, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Inaugural Palmer Lake .5K Run, Sun., Oct. 11, 9:30 a.m.-noon

Foot Care Clinic, Wed., Oct. 14

D-38 School Board Candidate Forum, Wed., Oct. 14, 6:30-9:00 p.m.

Palmer Lake Historical Society: George Washington, Thu., Oct. 15, 7 p.m.

Joshua Davis of "The Voice" Live at TLCA, Thu., Oct. 15, 7 p.m.

AARP Smart Driver Course, Wed., Oct. 21, 12:45-5 p.m.

Wine & Roses 2015, Fri., Oct. 23, 6-9 p.m.

Foot Care Clinic, Fri., Oct. 30

Creepy Crawl 5 K & 1-mile Kids' Run, Sat., Oct. 31, 5K begins 9:30 a.m., 1-mile free Kids Run begins 10:30 a.m.

Downtown Monument Safe Trick or Treat, Sat., Oct. 31, 4-6 p.m.

Downtown Monument Holiday Open House, Fri.-Sat., Nov. 6-7 ■

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## Circulation

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**Above:** On September 12, The Awake Palmer Lake Committee and Tri-Lakes Little League sponsored a cooperative effort to restore and improve the Ballpark at Palmer Lake with a celebration and fundraiser. UpaDowna, one of the event sponsors, offered free demos on stand up paddling on the lake which were enjoyed by participants. UpaDowna provides access to outdoor adventures to empower individuals, create healthier communities and foster a respect for the environment. *Photo by Jackie Burhans*

## Lewis-Palmer D-38 Board of Education, Sept. 10 Board passes resolution opposing methadone clinic, approves policies

By Harriet Halbig

The Lewis-Palmer D-38 Board of Education passed a resolution in opposition to opening a methadone clinic in downtown Monument, approved several policies, and recognized members of the staff, a teacher, and a student during its Sept. 10 meeting.

### Resolution regarding methadone clinic

Following discussions at past board meetings and acknowledging a number of public rallies and meetings, the board discussed and passed a resolution in opposition to locating a methadone clinic in downtown Monument in the former post office building across the street from Limbach Park.

In discussing the resolution, board Treasurer John Magerko commented that he had researched other clinics opened by the same company and found that they were not located in similar areas.

Board Vice President John Mann said that he initially was reluctant to offer a resolution as it would appear the board was imposing its will on the town government. However, he said that the location of clinic is the primary issue and that other, larger communities may have a greater need of such services. He acknowledges the need for such services, but not the location.

Board President Mark Pfoff said that, since the issue is not yet finalized, he felt it appropriate that the board express an opinion. He supports efforts to keep the community as it is.

The resolution is worded as follows: *Whereas the Lewis-Palmer School District is committed not only to providing a quality education for our students but also to supporting our communities in providing a safe and healthy environment in*

*which our schools are located; and*

*Whereas the Lewis-Palmer Board of Education supports community members' efforts to preserve our community values and environment by placing schools and other businesses in locations that are consistent with sound zoning and planning standards and the adopted plan of the community; and*

*Whereas the Lewis-Palmer Board of Education is supportive of individuals seeking treatment for addictions, it questions the rationale of locating a methadone clinic in a small town, directly across the street from a popular park utilized by young children, and in very close proximity to a building utilized by our students; and*

*Whereas the Lewis-Palmer Board of Education believes that placing a methadone clinic within the community and particularly in the proposed location will be inconsistent with sound school-community planning standards and have a negative impact on our schools, our students, and our school community,*

*Now, therefore be it resolved that the Lewis-Palmer School District 38 Board of Education hereby expresses its opposition to the establishment of a methadone clinic in the Town of Monument or within the Tri-Lakes Community.*

*Adopted this 10th day of September 2015.*

### Board comments

Mann commented that he has received emails and read letters from candidates for the board enumerating "what I will do if elected." He stressed that the board as a whole is an entity and that an individual member cannot implement change un-

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## Monument Board of Trustees, Sept. 21 Citizens' tips lead to multiple arrests in Monument drug operation

By Lisa Hatfield

The Sept. 21 Monument Board of Trustees meeting was preceded by a two-hour workshop on water rates and fees with Will Koger of Forsgren Associates. The official meeting then convened and immediately went into a two-hour executive session.

When the public session resumed, Police Chief Jake Shirk explained about a series of arrests in Monument in September, and he emphasized how important it was that witnesses call police with information about what and whom they saw, even if police have already arrived on the scene, because citizens can add vital new data to investigations potentially leading to arrests. The trustees also approved a resolution to hire land use attorney Carolynne White to assist the town with zoning ordinances.

**Trustees consult with attorneys**  
As soon as the meeting convened at 6:32 p.m., the board went into executive session to consult with Town Attorney Gary Shupp and Colorado Intergovernmental Risk Sharing Agency (CIRSA) Attorney

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**Above:** On Aug. 22, four Donala water operators repaired a 250,000 gallon water main leak on Jessie Drive, adjacent to the Antelope Trails Elementary School. This photo shows where the ruptured 10-foot portion of the 8-inch 100 psi water main was removed. A new segment of pipe was subsequently installed to replace the damaged portion of the existing main, using cast iron couplers at each end of the splice. Note the depth of the water main and the substantial amount of undercutting of the road, sidewalk, and school property that the Donala repair team replaced by 4:30 p.m. on Aug. 23. *Photo courtesy of Ronny Wright, Donala Water and Sanitation District.* See article on page 16.