

Black Forest Rd. Info: aarpchapter100blackforest.weebly.com.

- **Lupus Support Group.** If you suffer with an autoimmune disease and want to connect with others, you are welcome to join this group. Info: dmbandle@hotmail.com.
- **Myasthenia Gravis Association of Colorado Support Group.** Location varies. For information, call Carolyn, 488-3620, www.4-mga.org, 303-360-7080, 4mga@4-mga.org.

SPECIAL EVENTS

- **Monument Hill Kiwanis Club's 10th Annual North Pole at Tri-Lakes Arts and Crafts Fair & Tri-Lakes United Methodist Church Cookie Walk,** Sat., Dec. 5, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Grace Best, 66 Jefferson St., Monument. Browse handcrafted items perfect for holiday gifts and stocking stuffers. Holiday music by D-38 school groups throughout the day and the Tri-Lakes United Methodist Church Cookie Walk. Admission is free with nonperishable food items, toys, or cash donations for Tri-Lakes Cares. Info: www.monumenthillkiwanis.org or Bob Nissen, 304-8705, Bob@mifigroup.com.
- **Small Town Christmas,** Sat., Dec. 5, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Celebrate the season with a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus along with activities and crafts for children, hayrides, open houses, and other special events in Historic Downtown Monument. Tree-lighting at Limbach Park 5-6 p.m. Info: 425-8889, info@monumentmerchants.com.
- **Small Town Christmas at Covered Treasures Bookstore,** Sat., Dec. 5, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., 105 2nd St, Monument. Refreshments, books and gifts, children's authors. 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Janelle Diller and Lisa Travis will sign "The Pack-and-go-Girls;" Leslea Wahl will sign The Perfect Blindside. Carmella LaVigna Coyle will visit 1-3, p.m. (author of Do Princesses Make Happy Campers?) Info: 481-2665, www.coveredtreasures.com.
- **Santa Fe Trail Jewelry Trunk Show: Darlene Armstrong,** Sat., Dec. 5, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., 215 Chapala Plaza. Info: 481-0250.
- **Holiday Sale at Peak Ranch's Alpaca Boutique,** every Sat., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (for Fri. & Sun., call ahead); 19850 Beacon Lite Rd., Monument. Goat milk soaps & lotions, buy 2, get 1 free; 20% off everything. Info: 232-8509.
- **Psychic Fair and Christmas Sale at The Open Door Books and Gifts,** Sat., Dec. 5, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., 251 Front St., Suite 8, Monument. Info: 487-9076.
- **Monument Tree Lighting Festivities & Ceremony,** Sat., Dec. 5, 4:30-6 p.m., Limbach Park, Front Street at Second Street). The Sundance Dance Studio performance, 4:30 p.m.; visit with Santa and caroling, 5-6 p.m., tree lighting, 6 p.m. Hot cocoa and popcorn. Bring a new, unwrapped toy for Santa on Patrol and/or holiday food items for Tri-Lakes Cares. Info: www.monumentcolorado.org.
- **Tri-Lakes Y Parents Night Out,** Sat., Dec. 5 & Dec. 12, 4:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m., 17250 Jackson Creek Pkwy., Monument. For ages 3-10, must be potty trained. Dinner, bounce house, gym games, crafts, a movie, swimming for ages 7 up. Cost: Members \$18, non-members \$28. RSVP & Info: 481-8728.
- **Bob Bennett Christmastide Folk Concert,** Sat., Dec. 5, 7-9 p.m., Holy Trinity Anglican Church, 13990 Gleneagle Dr. Register at AnselmSociety.org. Info: 505-8021.
- **Palmer Lake Yule Log Pot Luck Dinner,** Tue., Dec. 8, 6 p.m., Palmer Lake Town Hall, 28 Valley Circle. Please bring a potluck dish to share and place settings for your family. Info: 481-2953.
- **12th Annual 11-Day Costa Rica/Panama Outward Bound School Adventure Informational Meeting,** Thu., Dec. 10, 4 p.m., Community Room, D38 Admin. Building, 146 N. Jefferson St., Monument. Find out more about the trip for ages 15-18, May 27-June 6, 2016. Info: Deb Breazzano, 440-4957 or breazzano@aol.com.
- **Black Rose Christmas Concert & Potluck: The Instant Family,** Fri., Dec. 11, 7 p.m., Black Forest Community Center, 12530 Black Forest Rd. at Shoup Road. Cost: \$10 general, \$5 BRAS members, \$5 students with ID. Info: Joe Maio, 528-6119, jrmtm@comcast.net, www.blackroseacoustic.org.
- **An ASHTōNZ Christmas at Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts,** Fri., Dec. 11, 7 p.m. (doors open 6 p.m.), 304 Hwy 105, Palmer Lake. An evening of music and merriment. Tickets: \$8.50 in advance, \$12 at the door. Net proceeds to benefit Tri-Lake Cares and HER

- (Helping Everyone Recover). Tickets & Info: www.trilakesarts.org, 481-0475.
- **Yarn Bird Fibers Open House & Ribbon Cutting,** Sat., Dec. 12, noon-2 p.m., ribbon cutting at 1 p.m., 174 N. Washington St., Monument. Info: 466-9665, www.yarnbirdfibers.com.
- **Annual Handbell Christmas Concert,** Sat., Dec. 12, 7 p.m., Monument Community Presbyterian Church, 238 Third St., Monument. Bells, chimes, organ, brass, saxophones, recorders, and vocal selections. Free; everyone is invited! Info: Betty Jenik, 488-3853.
- **Annual Palmer Lake Yule Log Hunt,** Sun., Dec. 13, 1 p.m., Palmer Lake Town Hall, 28 Valley Crescent. Trek up the mountain in search of the Yule Log. The winner will ride the Yule Log back to town and get the first cup of wassail. Non-hunters can stay warm indoors with carols and stories. Info: 481-2953.
- **Learn to Skate Open House: Skate Free,** Sun., Dec. 13, 2:15-4 p.m. Next session starts Mon., Jan. 11, 5 and 5:45 p.m., 16240 Old Denver Hwy, Monument. Ages 3-adult, 8 classes for \$99 (plus rental skates). Info: 651-0360, sk8coachdeb@gmail.com, www.cosportscenter.com.
- **Santa Fe Trail Jewelry Trunk Show: Richard Lindsay,** Fri.-Sat., Dec. 18-19, 215 Chapala Plaza. Info: 481-0250.
- **Christmas Concert at Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts (TLCA),** Fri., Dec. 18, 7 p.m., doors open 6:30 p.m., 304 Hwy 105, Palmer Lake. Nationally-recognized artists/songwriters Sally Barris & Rebecca Folsom perform beautiful harmonies, new original Christmas songs, and old favorites to sing along with. Advance tickets: TLCA members \$16, non-members \$20. Day of show: TLCA members \$20, non-members \$24. Tickets & Info: www.trilakesarts.org, 481-0475.
- **Tri-Lakes Music Association (TLMA) Annual Choir and Orchestra Concert, "The Glory of Christmas: Experience the Season,"** Fri.-Sun., Dec. 18-20, 7 p.m. Fri.-Sat., 2 p.m. Sun., Palmer Ridge High School, 19255 Frontage Rd, Monument. Admission is free; a free will donation will be collected to benefit Tri-Lakes Cares and the TLMA Scholarship Fund. Park in the lower parking lots, enter at the auditorium entrance. Info: www.trilakesmusic.org, 232-4114, rwmanning@comcast.net.
- **Wescott Fire Department Santa Patrol,** Sat., Dec. 19, 10 a.m., Antelope Trails Elementary, 15280 Jessie Dr.; 10:40 a.m., Big R, 840 Spanish Bit Dr.; 11:10 a.m., Ridge Pointe Apts., 13631 Paloma Heights; 11:40 a.m., Bella Springs Apts., 1050 Milano Point; 12:10 p.m., Angel Mist Park, 13509 Silverton Rd., in Flying Horse. Meet Santa on his fire truck with the Wescott firefighters. Info: 488-8680.
- **2015 Monument 'ery' Tour,** Sat., Dec. 19, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. For drink specials, prize giveaways, and a good time, visit your local: winery, Catriona Cellars, 243 Washington St., 481-3477; distillery, 3 Hundred Days of Shine, 279 Beacon Lite Rd., Ste G, 488-2858; brewery, Pikes Peak Brewing Co., 1756 Lake Woodmoor Dr., 208-4098; and cidery, Ice Cave Hard Cider, 174 Washington St., Unit C, 510-1636. See ad on page 15.
- **Tri-Lakes Community Youth Ballet presents An American Nutcracker Ballet,** Sat., Dec. 19, 1:30 and 4:30 p.m., Lewis-Palmer High School, 1300 Higby Rd., Monument. Cost: \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door. Tickets & Info: DanceArt Academy, 13866 Gleneagle Dr., 487-9271.
- **Holy Trinity Anglican Church: Christmas Eve Candlelight Services,** Thu., Dec. 24, 4:30, 7, 11 p.m. Children's choir at 4:30 p.m. Christmas Day single service, Fri., Dec. 25, 10 a.m., come casual, eat coffee cake. Lessons & Carols, Sun., Dec. 27, 8:30 & 10:45 a.m. 13990 Gleneagle Dr. Info: 505-8021, www.HolyTrinityAnglicanChurch.org.
- **Wescott FPD chipping Christmas Trees,** Sat., Jan 2 & Sat., Jan 9, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wescott Station 3, 15000 Sun Hills Drive. Colorado Springs, CO 80921. Recommended \$5 donation when dropping off your trees. Please remove all decorations including tinsel before bringing trees to the station. Info: (719) 488-8680.
- **Western Museum of Mining and Industry (WMMI) Family Exploration Day: Geology,** Sat., Jan 2, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., 225 North Gate Blvd at 1-25 Exit 156A. Learn about mining and minerals in Colorado, try gold panning, dig for fossils, meet the burro mascots, and more. Cost: adults \$8, military/AAA

- \$7, seniors/students \$6, children 3-12 \$4, free to children under 3 & museum members. RSVP to rsvp@wmmi.org or 488-0880. Info: www.wmmi.org.
- **Wisdom Tea House Holiday Afternoon Tea, Fri.,** through Jan. 16, 65 Second St., Monument. Cost: \$30. RSVP & Info: 481-8822, www.wisdomteahouse.com.

Our community calendar carries listings on a space-available basis for Tri-Lakes events that are sponsored by local governmental entities and not-for-profit organizations. We include events that are open to the general public and are not religious or self-promotional in nature. If space is available, complimentary calendar listings are included, when requested, for events advertised in the current issue. To have your event listed at no charge in Our Community Calendar, please call (719) 339-7831 or send the information to calendar@ocn.me or P.O. Box 1742, Monument, Colorado 80132.

Our Community News is printed by Signature Offset in Colorado Springs using post-consumer waste recycled paper and soy bean-based water-soluble inks. For more information, visit www.definingsustainableprinting.com.



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Letters to Our Community

Our Community News welcomes letters to the editor on topics of general interest. We do not knowingly print letters that have previously appeared in substantially the same form elsewhere, and our editorial board limits each letter writer to a maximum of six letters per calendar year to ensure that OCN contains a variety of viewpoints. To submit a letter, please:

- Identify your submission as a letter to the editor.
- Include a suggested headline or title.
- Limit letters to 300 words or less.
- Include your full name, home address, and day and evening phone numbers.
- Email your letter to editor@ocn.me or mail it to P.O. Box 1742, Monument, CO 80132-1742.
- Send your letter at least 10 days before the "first Saturday of the month" when the paper is printed.

If you have not received an acknowledgement of your letter, call Lisa Hatfield, Managing Editor, at (719) 339-7831. Letters may be edited for length, grammar, and accuracy.

Look for our next issue Saturday, January 9

Ad space reservations due: **Fri., Dec. 11**
 Finished ad artwork due: **Fri., Dec. 18**
 Calendar items due: **Fri., Dec. 25**
 Letters to the editor due: **Fri., Dec. 25**

Visit our website to read, download, and search all the back issues at WWW.OCN.ME

Our Community News

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

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