

# Our Community News

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



PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
MONUMENT, CO  
PERMIT NO. 32

\*\*ECRWSS\*\*

Postal  
Customer

Issue #169— Volume 15 Number 3 — Saturday, March 7, 2015

Free



## Local Events

See pages 28-31 for details of these and many other local events.

**Monument Library: Charles Fox Gardiner, Colorado Medical Pioneer,** Sat., Mar. 7, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

**HAP-py Feet Foot Care Clinic,** Wed., Mar. 11

**Monument Board of Trustees Special Meeting: Meet and Greet with Town Manager finalists,** Sat., Mar. 14, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

**El Paso County Hazardous Materials & Recycling Collection Facility,** Sat., Mar. 14, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

**NEPCO Meeting,** Sat., Mar. 14, 10 a.m.-noon

**Monument Library: "Voices of Cripple Creek" movie,** Sun., Mar. 15, 2-3:30 p.m.

**Tri-Lakes Cares Blood Drive,** Tue., Mar. 17, 3-7 p.m.

**Palmer Lake Historical Society: Kid Curry's Last Ride,** Thu., Mar. 19, 7 p.m.

**Western Museum of Mining & Industry (WMMI) mini camps,** Mon.-Fri., Mar. 23-27, 9-11:30 a.m.

**Gleneagle Community Blood Drive,** Thu., Mar. 26, 1-6 p.m.

**HAP-py Feet Foot Care Clinic,** Fri., Mar. 27

**Monument Library: Fire Mitigation,** Sat., Mar. 28, 10-11:30 a.m.

**Protect your Home from Wildfire Community Event,** Sat., Apr. 18

□

## In this issue

Fire District News 1  
Monument News 1-6, 20  
Palmer Lake News 7-9  
Water & San District News 1, 10-16  
D-38 News 17-19  
Woodmoor News 20  
Weather 20  
Letters 21  
Books, Library, Garden, Arts 22-23  
Snapshots 23-25, 27  
Our Community Notices 28  
Our Community Calendar 29-31  
OCN Info 26, 31

## Circulation

Print Run: 16,800  
Mail Delivery: 16,148  
Stacks: 652



**Above:** From left, Donald Wescott Fire Protection District Assistant Chief Scott Ridings and Donald Wescott Fire Protection District Chief Vinny Burns congratulate Luke Jones, a Wescott firefighter, on earning a Life Saving Medal for his actions in December 2014. The medal is given when an individual's actions are extremely noteworthy and directly contribute to efforts that result in saving a life. *Photo by Jennifer Green-Lanchoney.*

## Donald Wescott Fire Protection District, Feb. 17 Firefighter Luke Jones receives Life Saving Medal

*By Jennifer Green-Lanchoney*

A Wescott firefighter received a Life Saving Medal during the Donald Wescott Fire Protection District monthly Board of Directors meeting at Fire Station 1 Feb. 17.

The meeting was called to order by District Director Greg Gent at 7:03 p.m.

District Directors Harland Baker and Joyce Hartung were present, as were the executive staff, Chief Vinny Burns, and Assistant Chief Scott Ridings. Director John Fredell was excused from the meeting and Director Bo McAllister also was absent.

Luke Jones, a Wescott firefighter, was awarded the Life Saving Medal for his actions in December 2014. The medal is given when an individual's actions are extremely noteworthy and directly contribute to efforts that result in saving a life.

Assistant Chief Ridings presented Jones with the medal and Chief Burns presented him with an accommodation certificate.

The meeting continued as Stacey Popovich, Wescott administrative assistant, informed the board of the January financial statement. Baker questioned a \$104,052 deficit in a Wells Fargo Public Trust account, and was told by Burns that the account was used for the district and employees' salaries. January's financial statements were then ap-

proved.

The monthly run report, a report of total call volumes for the month, increased 50 percent with 230 total calls in January 2015. The station responded to 153 calls in January 2014.

Following a brief discussion, it was agreed that there was no new or old business on the table. District directors and the executive staff then approved the Jan. 20 minutes unanimously.

Before adjourning, Gent said that after an executive session the board had decided to keep Station 3, and not sell it, until further discussion and a plan is put into place.

As a result of being a "well-oiled machine," said Burns, the meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m., one of Wescott's shortest meetings.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Donald Wescott Fire Protection District Board of Directors' next meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. March 10 at 15415 Gleneagle Dr. Please call 488-8680, a non-emergency number, for more information, or visit [www.wescottfire.org](http://www.wescottfire.org). The district is also on Facebook.

*Jennifer Green-Lanchoney can be contacted at [jenlanchoney@ocn.me](mailto:jenlanchoney@ocn.me).*

## Monument Board of Trustees, Feb. 2

## Developer requests industrial/ commercial zone immediately south of LPHS; board extends public comments to March 16

*By Nancy Wilkins*

At the Feb. 2 Monument Board of Trustees meeting, Jeff Trent, Tanja Smith, Patty Kathmann, Scott Blum, Jim Blazek, Lam Tram, and Michelle Glover asked the board to turn down Vision Development's request to rezone large portions

of Regency Park, to a higher density. Sky Hall requested \$10,000 for a permanent art piece to be displayed in the center of a future traffic circle. A special permit was approved for the 14th Annual Tri-Lakes Cruisers Benefit Car Show, Town Manager

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District, Feb. 12 Study proposes \$256 million to supply renewable water

*By Nancy Wilkins*

At the Feb. 12 Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District (WWSA) Board of Directors meeting, Will Koger from Forsgren & Associates proposed an infrastructure plan to transport renewable water. The board approved a non-potable water irrigation policy, voted to approve a contract with SePRO for aquatic weed control, and approved a re-vegetation contract for the J.V. Ranch. Director Jim Taylor reported the results of his recent inspection of Chilcott Ditch.

### Proposed infrastructure located through Black Forest area

Directors Jim Taylor, Rich Strom, Secretary Beth Courrau, Treasurer Tommy Schwab, and President Barrie Town listened to the proposed plans needed to transport renewable water. Koger from Forsgren & Associates proposed a three-phase plan consisting of three separate areas of construction for eventually bringing renewable water to WWSA from the Arkansas River Basin. Members of the Pikes Peak Regional Water Authority (PPRWA) requested the study, and WWSA is one of eight water districts that are members of the PPRWA. See map of the proposed area.

### Increasing the number of wells brings diminishing returns

Koger presented a graph from page 21 of the "Citizen's Guide to Denver Basin Ground Water" from the Colorado Foundation for Water Education showing the "law of diminishing returns" whereby each additional well in the same area increases the cost of water pumped. The graph depicts the productivity of each additional well diminishing, using a theoretical 100-year life of the Denver Basin Aquifer. The graph illustrates the increasing cost of producing more wells to produce an even supply to account for the water level lowering. Koger also estimates the cost of building a new well is somewhere between \$1.2 million to \$1.5 million. The "Citizen's Guide to the Denver Basin Ground Water" can be found at [www.dewater.org/pages/cfwe/cg-groundwater.pdf](http://www.dewater.org/pages/cfwe/cg-groundwater.pdf).

*(Continued on page 10)*

## OCN needs volunteer ad coordinator

This position involves about 45 hours per month with lots of emailing and phone calls with local businesses to finalize ad graphics and costs. Experience with Excel would be a plus. Training is available. Please contact Lisa Hatfield at 339-7831 or [editor@ocn.me](mailto:editor@ocn.me) if you'd like to become one of our enthusiastic and committed OCN volunteers! □