

at Palmer Ridge, comes to the district from Cheyenne Mountain. Bridget O'Connor at Lewis-Palmer comes to the district from Pine Creek High School.

The board voted to approve the appointment of Peggy Griebenow as principal of Palmer Lake Elementary School. Griebenow is currently principal of Copper Mesa Elementary in Douglas County.

Wangeman announced that Julie Stephen is the new public information officer for the district. Stephen has been employed by the district for several years.

Preliminary budget discussion

Wangeman explained some minor funds to the board, including those involving sports fees and gate receipts for sports events, and drama presentations and one memorial fund created to benefit Bear Creek Elementary.

Wangeman also proposed a capital reserve fund of \$323,000 for the 2015-16 year to include such items as smoke detectors, doors, mowing equipment, curbs, sidewalks, water lines and skylights in various facilities. The board approved the fund with the understanding that each project will be presented for a vote when a contract has been negotiated.

Wangeman also said that requests for proposal have been issued for drainage planning, financial advisor, and environmental services.

She also noted that facility utilization and planning services are necessary in light of the fact that land between the highway and the YMCA and between Lewis-Palmer High School and Highway 105 is being proposed to be rezoned from commercial to residential, which could result in a much larger student population than anticipated.

Policy discussion

Director of Personnel and Student Services Bob Foster led a discussion of policies regarding memorials, staff use of technology resources, public conduct on school property, and education research projects. Policies may be viewed on the district website under the Board of Education tab at www.lewispalmer.org. Each includes the date of its most recent revision.

Special recognitions

The board recognized national finalists from the Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) as they anticipate the International Career Development Confer-

ence in Orlando in April. Courtney Bushnell is the sponsor for Palmer Ridge High School and Mike Diamond is the sponsor for Lewis-Palmer High School. Diamond explained that participants take a written test and participate in role playing to demonstrate their abilities. They are presented with a situation and given a brief amount of time to prepare a solution to a situation.

The board recognized the Lewis-Palmer High School men's basketball team and congratulated them on reaching the final four in the state 4A championships.

The board passed a consent agenda including minutes of past meetings, personnel matters, ratification of closures and delays and a monthly budget summary.

The Lewis-Palmer D-38 Board of Education meets at 6 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month in the districts learning center, 146 Jefferson St., Monument. The next meeting will be on April 16.

Harriet Halbig can be reached at harriethalbig@ocn.me.

March 2015 Weather Wrap

By Bill Kappel

Most of March was on the mild side, with a couple of shots of snow and cold mixed in. Overall, the month was warmer than normal, with precipitation, including snowfall, right about normal. Temperatures ranged from below zero on the morning of the 5th to the mid-70s on the afternoon of the 28th, a pretty normal range for us in March, as we usually see a battle between winter and spring several times in a typical March.

The first few days of March continued the trend of snowy and cold weather that ended February. The first day of the month stayed below freezing with high temperatures reaching the upper 20s. Fog and low clouds stuck around, with a brief period of light snow occurring during the evening. This only produced about an inch of new snow, adding to the substantial snowpack already on the ground. Winds kicked up the next day, blowing some of the snow around but also helping to briefly warm up our temperatures. We reached the low 40s that afternoon, but of course that was short-lived as the next cold front moved in on the morning of the 3rd.

The next in a series of storms that had been affecting the region since the third week of February arrived, accumulating 2-5 inches of snow on the 3rd-4th. Also, a final surge of Arctic air invaded the region. This kept temperatures a good 30°F below normal on the 4th. The high temperature of 37°F was reached at midnight on the 3rd, then fell through the 20s and into the teens that afternoon with light snow. The next day wasn't any better, with "high" temperatures only reaching the mid- to upper teens. Overnight lows were also chilly, especially as the clouds cleared out.

Clearing skies combined with fresh snow allowed temperatures to drop below zero on the morning of the 5th. However, the cold air was replaced by milder conditions over the next few days. The warm-up was slowed, however, because much of the energy was used to melt the snow first. Therefore, highs were in the 40s to low 50s from the 5th through the 8th. But, the stronger March sunshine made things feel more spring-like.

Mild conditions persisted for the week of March 9th. Temperatures hovered right around normal for the first few days of the week, with highs in the low to mid-50s each day from the 9th through the 14th. However, warmer air moved in quickly on the 15th, with highs reaching into the upper 60s and low 70s that afternoon. The temperatures were near daily record highs. This was in response to a strong ridge of high pressure moving in from the desert Southwest. With high pressure generally in control for the week, we saw plenty of sunshine with areas of high clouds at times. The stronger March sunshine and mild temperatures also helped to melt most of the remaining snow in the region, adding lots of moisture to the soil.

The week of March 16th started warm and dry, with record high temperatures occurring around the

region. Highs reached into the low 70s even up on the Palmer Divide. Of course, it's March, so the next day was much different, as a cool push of air allowed low clouds and fog to move in, holding temperatures in the low 40s for highs. Sunshine returned the next day, and high temperatures reached back into the upper 50s and low 60s that afternoon. The rollercoaster ride continued as another cold front moved through that evening. Rain showers developed that evening, then changed to snow overnight. This system was wet, originating from the south, so heavy, wet snow fell across the region through the morning of the 19th. Anywhere from 2 to 8 inches of new snow accumulated, with amounts very dependent on your elevation. Areas below 7,000 feet received far less snow than areas above this elevation. Dry, mild air moved in behind this storm, with highs reaching into the 50s and low 60s through the weekend, quickly melting the snow.

The month ended much like it had begun, with mild weather briefly interrupted with a shot of cold and snow. Temperatures reached into the 50s on the 23rd and 24th, before the final storm of the month rolled through on the 25th. Snow developed during the morning of the 25th, with 2-6 inches of new snow accumulating throughout the region by early that afternoon. This also held temperatures a good 20 degrees below average for the date, with highs in the low to mid-30s. However, like most of the other storms in March, high pressure quickly moved in behind this storm and temperatures rebounded nicely. Highs reached the low 50s on the 26th, then soared into the 60s on the 27th, and reached daily record high levels in the mid-70s on the 28th. Mild conditions stuck around through the last few days of the month as well, with temperatures in the 60s to low 70s.

A look ahead

April is known for a wide range of weather conditions in the region and is on average our snowiest month of the year. We can see 70° temperatures one afternoon and blizzard conditions the next. Several recent years have seen over 50 inches of snow accumulate during the month. Of course, it also melts very quickly, often adding very beneficial moisture to the soil and helping the vegetation that is just getting started. We can hope this year will bring abundant moisture and hopefully make up for some of the dry conditions we've experienced over the last year.

March 2015 Weather Statistics

Average High	52.5° (+2.3°)
100-year return frequency value	max 57.9° min 38.0°
Average Low	22.5° (+1.6°)
100-year return frequency value	max 27.0° min 12.0°
Highest Temperature	75° on the 28 th
Lowest Temperature	-3° on the 5 th
Monthly Precipitation	1.40"
	(-0.21", 13% below normal)
100-year return frequency value	max 4.29" min 0.22"
Monthly Snowfall	17.4"

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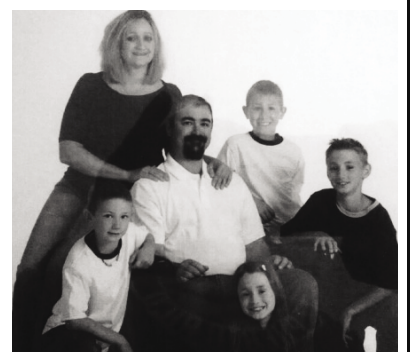
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Susan Humphreys
Piano Teacher

susan.lohr54@gmail.com

Mickey Hampton Memorial Event
Sun., April 26, 11 am – 4 pm

At Si Sibell's Barn, behind 231 Front St. Monument.
\$10 per person.



Brisket, Ribs, Margaritas, Beer, and Music.
50/50 raffle drawing. All proceeds will be donated to Mickey's surviving wife and four children. For info, call 339-1570.