

Our Community News

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



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Free



Local Events

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

- July 4 Festivities. See page 27.
- Foot Care Clinic, Wed., Jul. 8
- Concert in the Park, Wed., Jul 8., 7-9 p.m.
- Volunteers Needed in Black Forest, Sat. Jul. 11
- El Paso County Hazardous Materials & Recycling Collection Facility, Sat., Jul. 11, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
- NEPCO Meeting, Sat., Jul. 11, 10 a.m.-noon.
- Western Museum of Mining & Industry (WMMI): Museum Anniversary & Membership Appreciation, Sat., Jul. 11, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Nepal Earthquake Relief Project at TLCA, Tue., Jul. 14, 7 p.m.
- Concert in the Park, Wed., Jul 15., 7-9 p.m.
- Palmer Lake Historical Society: Navy Ships Named USS Colorado, Thu., Jul. 16, 7 p.m.
- Art Hop, Thu., Jul. 16, 5-8 p.m
- Dotsero Concert at Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts (TLCA), Fri., Jul. 17, 7-9 p.m.
- Woodmoor Chipping Day, Sat., Jul. 18, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Tri-Lakes Community Blood Drive, Tue., Jul. 21, 3-7 p.m.
- Monument Parks Plan Open House, Tue., Jul. 21, 4-7 p.m.
- Concert in the Park, Wed., Jul 22., 7-9 p.m.
- Concert in the Park, Wed., Jul 29., 7-9 p.m.
- Foot Care Clinic, Fri., Jul. 31
- Return of the Rocky Mountain Chautauqua, Sat., Aug. 1, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

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Above: At the 74th annual meeting of members of Mountain View Electric Association, MVEA linemen offered co-op members rides in the bucket truck used for line maintenance on overhead “energized” lines. The bucket is 55 feet high when fully extended and is strong enough to lift electric lines that weigh about one pound for every foot of line, said Claud Hugley, Operations manager, who is retiring this year after 42 years of service. *Photo by Lisa Hatfield*

Mountain View Electric Association, June 4

MVEA directors re-elected

By Lisa Hatfield

The 74th Annual Meeting of the Mountain View Electric Association (MVEA) Board of Directors met June 4 at the Palmer Ridge High School auditorium. Hundreds of co-op members listened to reports, participated in an interactive poll, won thousands of dollars in door prizes, and enjoyed a dinner prepared by Lewis-Palmer District 38 Nutritional Services. Wayne

Hammerstadt and the Palmer Ridge High School Chamber Singers provided entertainment before the meeting. The quorum for the meeting was 50 members, and overall the cooperative has 42,491 members in eight counties.

Board President Joseph Martin from District 1, Milt Mathis from District 4, and Barry Springer from District 6 were all re-

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Donala Water and Sanitation District, June 11

Water sales lag during wet year; capital projects may be postponed

By Jim Kendrick

The wet weather in the Tri-Lakes area is not causing just a shortfall in available replacement sump pumps as basements flooded due to continued saturation of the ground in this alpine desert region. On June 11, General Manager Kip Petersen

advised the directors of the Donala Water and Sanitation District (WSD) board of a substantial water revenue shortfall after the first five months of 2015, with water sales at only 21.2 percent of the amount of revenue budgeted for the year.

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Left: Through the end of July, the Western Museum of Mining & Industry is partnering with Bricks4Kidz to bring weeklong Lego-based camps to the museum. From left, Gray Cullen, Matt Cullen, Jaden Cotton, and Quinten Luttrell show off some of the projects they and their fellow campers made

at the Bricks4Kidz Mining & Crafting camp at the museum. Among the camp themes guided by Bricks4Kidz staff is Mining & Crafting, Superhero Academy and Remote Control Mania. The format of the camps enables educational play through the building of models and kits. Information on events and upcoming Bricks4Kidz camps at the museum is at www.wmmi.org (see calendar of events). *Photo by David Futey.*

Why is the Tri-Lakes map so complicated? June 2015 version

Learn about special service districts; prize drawing in July

By Lisa Hatfield and Jim Kendrick

Is this you?

- I thought I lived in Monument (or Colorado Springs), but I just found that is just my mailing address ZIP code and that I really live in unincorporated El Paso County!
- What fire district do I live in?
- What is a “metro district”?
- What rules, ordinances, and taxes apply to me?
- What special districts and other government entities serve my home?

Test your knowledge of municipalities and special districts

The Tri-Lakes area is a collection of government entities that all in uence your comfort and your wallet. *Our Community News* would like to challenge you to locate the organizations in each category that serve your home.

Disclaimer: this is an *incomplete* list of service entities in the *OCN* coverage area; for example, we haven’t attempted to list the homeowners associations.

We would like to offer a *prize* to one of our readers. If you complete the list below, please send an email to editor@ocn.me by July 24 and let us know you did it and what you learned that surprised you, or send a note to *OCN* at P.O. Box 1742, Monument, CO 80132-1742 no later than July 24. Also please write to us (as well as to these entities) with your questions!

From among those who submit feedback or questions by July 24, we will randomly select a winner of a gift certificate to a local business.

(Continued on page 5)

July 4th information, see page 27



Above: Firefighters received cheers during the 2014 parade.

This year, Monument Hill Kiwanis, the Town of Monument, and the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce present “A New Birth of Freedom” on Independence Day, July 4th. See page 27 for details on this year’s festivities.