

lated during the period. From the 8th through the 9th, a brief break in the active weather arrived. Both days were dry and temperatures jumped into the upper 70s. Of course, this didn't last long, with more moisture and active weather returning from the 10th through the 12th. Again, 1-2 inches of rain accumulated in most areas over this three-day period, with temperatures in the mid-60s to the low 70s. After a dry day on the 14th, another uptick in moisture and rainfall activity returned from the 15th through the 18th. This time, the heaviest rain was farther south, with parts of southern Colorado Springs and the Fort Carson area receiving several inches of heavy rain in a short time on the 16th.

Finally, a warm up with dry weather moved in for a few days from the 19th through the 22nd. This brought a feel of summer to the region and allowed us to dry out a little. High temperatures finally reached into the mid and upper 80s, maxing out at 89°F on the 21st.

Typical early summer conditions were then common over the next few days, with quiet mornings giving way to afternoon thunderstorms from the 22nd through the 25th.

Some of the storms dropped brief heavy rainfall, but nothing unusual. Highs were in the upper 70s on the 22nd, then mid-80s on the 23rd and 24th, and back to the 70s on the 25th.

This "normal" pattern continued through the end of the month, with daily rounds of thunderstorms and brief rain showers. Temperatures remained slight cooler than normal, with 70s each afternoon.

A look ahead

July can be an active weather month around the region as the Southwest monsoon season gets going. Afternoon and evening thunderstorms are a common occurrence, and when they are able to tap into higher levels of moisture, ash ooding can result. Hot, stagnant weather can also take hold for a few days at time, with highs hitting well into the 90s.

June 2015 Weather Statistics

Average High **76.3°** (-1.1°) 100-year return frequency value max **82.5°** min **66.3°**
 Average Low **50.0°** (+5.6°) 100-year return frequency value max **50.7°** min **40.2°**

Highest Temperature **89°F on the 21st**
 Lowest Temperature **42°F on the 7th, 8th**
 Monthly Precipitation **3.07"** (+1.22" 40% above normal) 100-year return frequency value max **6.94"** min **0.15"**
 Monthly Snowfall **0.0"** (-0.1" 100% below normal)
 Season to Date Snow **116.5"** (-6.2" 5% below normal) (the snow season is from July 1 to June 30)
 Season to Date Precip **33.44"** (+13.27" 40% above normal) (the precip season is from July 1 to June 30)
 Heating Degree Days **88** (-60)
 Cooling Degree Days **35** (+7)

Bill Kappel is a meteorologist and Tri-Lakes resident. He can be reached at billkappel@ocn.me.

Letters to Our Community

Guidelines for letters to the editor are on page 31.

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in Letters to Our Community should not be interpreted as the views of OCN even if the letter writer is an OCN volunteer

Thanks to helpful firefighters



The Palmer Lake Volunteer Fire Department (PLVFD) went beyond and above their calling to help me move a rather large swing set to my home. I got it at a garage sale in Red Rocks Ranch where a lady was giving it away for free. I knew my kids would love it! So I just had to have it! A few of my friends and I tried to move it but it was too big and heavy. The PLVFD drove by and helped. I live right up the street from the Fire Department and within five minutes of being home, trying to figure out how I was going to get this off a trailer and put together, then there they were. They got it off a trailer, put it together and fixed parts that were broken—then proceeded to play with my very happy kids. Watching a community come and help with such a simple task really touched my heart. I love this town, I love this community, and I am so thankful for all

their help that day and everyday.

Jessica Jack

Thank you for help catching thief

What makes a good community a great community? Having been the victim of a theft at the Tri-Lakes YMCA recently, I experienced what makes our community a really great community. Within minutes of the theft, the thief charged several hundred dollars at Walmart and Conoco with my Discover card and attempted to withdraw from my savings account and cash a personal check at ENT Credit Union using my military ID. This is where quick action led to the arrest of the thief by the Monument Police Department, two weeks later.

The arrest occurred as a result of diligent observation and fact finding based on detailed descriptions and time frames shared by managers and staff at Walmart, ENT, Discover Card, the YMCA and my police report. Even though a significant portion of the stolen items were not recovered, it was very gratifying hearing of the arrest of this person which could only happen when all involved parties worked together.

I cannot thank enough: Destiney and Cindy at ENT for identifying a possible fraudulent transaction and notifying me immediately, Heather and staff at the YMCA, Walmart for their surveillance systems, and Discover Card for their cooperation in identifying time frames etc. Special thanks go to the Monument Police Department for their investigative work which led to their arresting the thief while she was attempting to repeat another theft. This is what makes the Tri-Lakes community a great community seeing all parties working together to a common goal.

Donna Wagner

Between the Covers at Covered Treasures Bookstore

Satisfying summer reads

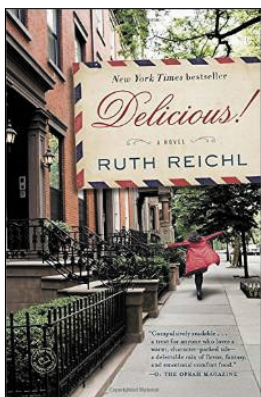
By the staff at Covered Treasures

It's summertime, and the reading is easy. Why not take a look at some packable paperbacks for the airplane, the beach, or the backyard hammock?

Delicious

By Ruth Reichl (Random House) \$16

Billie Breslin travels across the country from California to New York to take a job at Delicious, the city's most iconic food magazine. When an unexpected turn of events leads Billie to the discovery of a hidden room in the magazine's library, she finds a cache of letters written during World War II by Lulu Swan, a plucky 12-year-old, to the legendary chef James Beard. Lulu's letters provide Billie with a richer understanding of history and inspire her to come to terms with her fears and her ability to open her heart to love.



A Man Called Ove

By Fredrik Backman (Simon & Schuster) \$16

At first sight, Ove is almost certainly the grumpiest man you will ever meet. People think him bitter, and he thinks himself surrounded by idiots. Ove's well-ordered, solitary world gets a shakeup with the appearance of new neigh-

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