

tional leadership and who also serves as an executive board member of Tri-Lakes Cares, a local nonprofit resource center. Hardy established some ground rules for the discussion: Each speaker would be limited to three minutes to make their statement or ask their question, so that as many community members as possible could be heard.

Colonial Management Group (CMG) was represented by Katie Peck, CMG's director of development, and Kristen Hanson, CMG's director of operations and training.

In addition to residents and CMG staff, several members of Monument's municipal and state government also attended. Monument Mayor Rafael Dominguez, Trustee John Howe, Town Attorney Gary Shupp, Planning Director Mike Pessicka, Town Manager Pamela Smith, and Police Lt. Steve Burke stepped forward to answer questions throughout the evening. Rep. Paul Lundeen, who represents the town of Monument in the Colorado House of Representatives, also participated in the discussion.

Clinic would treat patients seven days a week

Hanson gave an overview of the clinic's daily operations. The clinic would open at 5 a.m. and dispense methadone until 11 a.m. every day except Sunday, when hours of operation will be shorter, she said. There will be no patients on the premises after 11, according to Hanson, however, staff will remain on site for meetings and other duties until 2 p.m. Methadone is regulated by both the State of Colorado and the federal government, Hanson pointed out, adding that patients must have a prescription to receive the medication—they can't simply

come to the clinic and request it.

To help prevent patients from selling their medication illegally, the clinic will use liquid methadone, Hanson said, and added that because the clinic will be open seven days a week there will be less need to send methadone home with patients. Hanson said CMG operates a similar clinic in Grand Junction, which has been open 90 days, and as yet has not sent methadone out of the facility with any patient. In an answer to a later question, Hanson said that patients would be able to earn the privilege of taking medication home with them if they met certain criteria.

Hanson said the clinic in Monument would use cameras and a private security firm to enforce their policy on loitering, and that they were working with municipal government to see if their security could be extended to the park. Hanson said the clinic would not provide any transportation to patients, and that at the Grand Junction clinic most patients drive their own vehicles to and from the clinic. She also said that the clinic would not serve court-ordered patients.

Community questions CMG's plans

The residents who spoke at the meeting raised many objections to CMG's plans, including:

- The proximity of the clinic to Limbach Park could lead to patients loitering in the park before or after treatment, making it unsafe for children.
- The lack of public transportation and bad driving conditions during colder months could strand patients in the town.
- The necessity for the clinic to attract patients from other communities to

be profitable could bring drug addicts into the community.

- The possibility that crime rates would rise, and that burglary and panhandling would increase.
- The possibility that property values would decline.
- The poor management and viola-

tions of law that have occurred at other CMG-owned clinics could be repeated in Monument.

In response to the loitering and transportation issues, Hanson and Peck said patients who did not have their own vehicle would be brought back into the clinic until transportation could be arranged, that the clinic



Professional Deck Restoration

Sanding, Staining and Sealing, Repair

Since 1999. Free Estimates.



719-578-8900

www.Bordersdeckcare.com or bordersdeck@hotmail.com



Lewis-Palmer School District #38 SCHOOL NEWS

146 Jefferson Street, Monument, CO 80132
(719) 488-4700 • info@lewispalmer.org • www.lewispalmer.org

August 2015



Upcoming Events

- August 6 Homeschool Enrichment Academy Open House, Grace Best Facility, 10 a.m.-noon
- August 10 8th Grade Processing (check www.lpms.lewispalmer.org for details)
- August 10 Homeschool Enrichment Academy Open House, Grace Best Facility, 10 a.m.-noon
- August 11 7th, 11th, 12th Grade Processing (check specific school website for details)
- August 12 9th, 10th Grade Processing (check specific school website for details)
- August 18 Homeschool Enrichment Academy Open House, Grace Best Facility, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- August 18 Elementary School Ice Cream Socials (check specific school website for details)
- August 20 Homeschool Enrichment Academy Open House, Grace Best Facility, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- August 19 First Day of Classes
- August 26 LPHS and PRHS Back-to-School Nights, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- August 27 LPMS Back-to-School Night, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- Now New students may register now for 2015-2016 school year.

Assessment Participation Rates 2014-2015

The 2014-2015 school year brought unprecedented assessment requirements from the state. Participation rates and parent refusal rates received national attention. Lewis-Palmer School District spent approximately \$35,500 (additional personnel costs for administration) supporting state testing implementation in our schools. Individual schools may have incurred additional expenses implementing testing. Preliminary overall participation rates for end-of-year assessments for Lewis-Palmer School District #38 were 71% for English Language Arts, 72% for Math, and 84% for CMAS Science and Social Studies. These numbers include all district schools: five elementary schools, the middle school, the charter school, and both high schools. These are preliminary numbers. Validated figures and individual school participation rates will be available from the Colorado Department of Education in the fall of 2015.

Maintenance Continues

It's summer, which means that projects and maintenance continue for Lewis-Palmer School District. The district constantly monitors, repairs, and improves its facilities. "Knowing that the students feel safe in our buildings, as well as [providing] a learning environment that poses no concern to any of the staff and students brings great comfort to me," states Gary Goodwin, LPSD Building Maintenance Supervisor. This summer, district projects at various locations include removing and replacing approximately 1000 feet of aging sewer lines, replacing and updating windows and skylights, updating water heating systems, installing a back-up generator, replacing a cooling tower, updating electrical and control systems, and installing classroom projectors and additional food service sinks. In light of the state education budget funding cuts over the past few years, District 38 continues to extensively monitor and prioritize maintenance demands, balancing short-term priorities with long-term planning. This summer's projects further LPSD's mission of providing safe, comfortable learning environments.

