

# Our Community News

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



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Issue #183— Volume 16 Number 5 — Saturday, May 7, 2016

Free

## New mayors, boards in Monument and Palmer Lake 1, 7, 10

### Local Events

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

- Community FireWise Event, "How to be ready for that wildfire!" Sat., May 7, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- Tri-Lakes Land Use Committee Meeting, Mon., May 9, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- Monument Library: Healthy Living--Secrets of Healthy Aging, Sat., May 10, 9-10 a.m.
- Foot Care Clinic, Wed., May 11
- Fox Run Regional Park Friends Meeting, Wed., May 11, 6 p.m.
- El Paso County Hazardous Materials & Recycling Collection Facility, Sat., May 14, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
- Water Well and Septic Owners Maintenance Workshop, Sat., May 14, 9:30-11 a.m.
- NEPCO Meeting, Sat., May 14, 10 a.m.-noon. Sheriff's office representative.
- Tri-Lakes Community Blood Drive, Tue., May 17, 3-7 p.m.
- Monument Library: Department of Energy Home Energy Scorer Recruitment, Tue., May 17, 5:15-8:15 p.m.
- Art Hop is back! Thu., May 19, 5-8 p.m.
- Palmer Lake Historical Society: Spencer and Julie Penrose, Thu., May 19, 7 p.m.
- Monument Library: Healthy Living--Stress in the 21st Century, Fri., May 20, 4-5:30 p.m.
- Spirits of Spring: A Wine and Food Tasting with Live and Silent Auctions, Sat., May 21, 6-9 p.m.
- Foot Care Clinic, Fri., May 27
- MeadowGrass Music Festival, Fri., 1 p.m.-Sun., 10 p.m., May 27-29
- Monument Memorial Day Ceremony, Mon., May 30, 10 a.m.
- Mountain View Electric Association Annual Meeting, Thu. Jun. 2, 5 p.m.
- Palmer Lake Art Group 51st Annual Fine Art Exhibit Opening Reception, Fri., Jun. 3, 6-8 p.m.
- Kids Fishing Derby, Sat., Jun. 4, 8 a.m.-noon ■

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### Circulation

Print Run: 17,155  
Mail Delivery: 16,453  
Stacks: 702



**Above:** On April 8, Jeffrey Broussard and the Creole Cowboys had the dance floor full most of the evening at the Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts (TLCA). The Cowboys played an over two-hour, intermission-less performance that blended traditional zydeco numbers along with the band's own contemporary compositions. Broussard is following in his father Delton's footsteps with incomparable accordion playing. He won Accordionist of the Year (2007) from the Zydeco Music & Heritage Awards and, with his band, seeks to keep not only the tradition of zydeco alive but move it forward for the audiences of today. Information on the band is at <http://jefferybroussard.com>. Information on upcoming events at the TLCA is at [www.trilakesarts.org](http://www.trilakesarts.org). Photo by David Futey.

### Monument Board of Trustees, April 18

## New board questions water rates, postpones Dominguez annexation

By Lisa Hatfield

The April 18 Monument Board of Trustees meeting included the departure of Trustees John Howe, Becki Tooley, and Jeff Smith, and the beginning of new four-year terms for Trustee Jeff Bornstein and new Trustees Greg Coopman, Shea Medlicott, and Don Wilson.

The trustees postponed a vote on the proposed annexation of a parcel of land owned by Rafael and Elizabeth Dominguez that they are petitioning to be annexed into the town as two smaller parcels, sequentially. They also directed staff to rework a proposed revision to the town's snow storm traffic ordinance.

A majority of the trustees present requested staff to prepare an emergency ordinance for the trustees to consider on

May 2 that would rescind the water rates increase that the board approved March 7.

Wilson was selected as the new mayor pro-tem. The board consensus was to continue accepting applications for the vacant trustee position until May 2, and then they listened as the three applicants who had applied by the initial April 18 due date presented their qualifications.

Trustee Kelly Elliott was absent.

### Outgoing board recognition and incoming oath of office

Town Manager Chris Lowe individually recognized each of the outgoing trustees, Howe, Tooley, and Smith, as well as Mayor Dominguez who resigned March 29. He commented on their service to the town and their commitment to the community.

(Continued on page 2)

### Woodmoor Improvement Association, April 14

## WIA discusses plans for Toboggan Hill

By Chris Pollard

On April 14, the Woodmoor Improvement Association (WIA) held a short meeting organized by Mark Ponti, director of the Architectural Control Committee, to present plans for a potential development of 28 individually owned town homes to be called "The Cove at Woodmoor" just to the east of The Cove on Deer Creek Road. A second part of the meeting was devoted to a proposal to increase parking at the Toboggan Hill open space to 18 vehicles.

The proposal for the new housing was described by Andrea Barlow, a project manager with NES Inc. of Colorado Springs. Under a 1972 Approved Development Plan, the area under consideration was zoned under an old county designation of R4 for 50 units. However, the current developer, Mike Ruebenson of LaPlata Communities, has decided that a less dense proposal of only 28 homes would work better on the site at the current time. See the site plan on page 28.

The plans took into consideration the riparian habitat to the south, which would remain untouched. The homes would be attached but sold as individually owned units rather than as condominiums. Going forward, the developer plans to have further reviews with WIA and a planned submittal date to the county of June 10.

Neighbors from The Cove had been invited to the meeting and their main concern that needed to be resolved was that somehow parking and snow disposal had been going on in an easement into the new development. One of the access points was through the area currently used for parking.

At the end of the meeting, Rich Wretschko, director of Common Areas, gave details of a proposal that he was presenting to the WIA to increase parking at the Toboggan Hill open space. Parking at this site has often been a problem, with people illegally parking on adjacent roads. While the number of spaces in the proposal would not accommodate all cars, the extension to 18 vehicles, including one handicapped space, was achievable with an estimated cost of \$30,000. The cost would include building a closed culvert and all costs for proper marking. The location of the extension would be to the west along Deer Creek Road.

Chris Pollard can be contacted at [chrispollard@ocn.me](mailto:chrispollard@ocn.me).

See pages 21 and 28 for additional WIA coverage.



**Above:** Front elevation of typical homes proposed for The Cove at Woodmoor. Graphic courtesy of NES.