

# Our Community News

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



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## Local Events

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

- Palmer Lake Art Group (PLAG) 51st Annual Fine Art Exhibit & 4-of-a-Kind Opening Receptions, Fri., Jun. 3, 6-8 p.m.
- Kids Fishing Derby and Hooked on Palmer Lake, Sat., Jun. 4, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Larkspur Settler Days, Sat., Jun. 4, 1-9 p.m.
- Community Picnic, Sun., Jun. 5, 1-3 p.m.
- Concerts in the Park, every Wed., Jun. 8-Jul. 27, 7-9 p.m.
- Foot Care Clinic, Wed., Jun. 8
- Ronny Cox Concert at TLCA, Fri., Jun. 10, 7 p.m.
- El Paso County Hazardous Materials & Recycling Collection Facility, Sat., Jun. 11, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
- Science Matters Full Day Summer Camp at WMMI, Mon.-Fri., Jun. 13-17, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Art Hop is back! Thu., Jun. 16, 5-8 p.m.
- Monument Library: AARP Smart Driver Course, Sat., Jun. 18, 12:45-5 p.m.
- Father's Day Ice Cream Social, Sun., Jun. 19, 2-4 p.m.
- Free Movie Night: *Jurassic Park*, Thu., Jun. 23, 7 p.m.
- Foot Care Clinic, Fri., Jun. 24
- The Accidentals Concert at TLCA, Fri., Jun. 24, 7 p.m.
- Woodmoor Community Garage Sale, Fri.-Sat., Jun. 24-25, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Free Movie Night: *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, Thu., Jun. 30, 7 p.m. ■

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**Above:** On May 17, the Board of County Commissioners approved a proclamation celebrating the 20-year career and retirement of County Engineer André Brackin (holding the sign with wife Tasha to his right, front row). Some of his major local area accomplishments were construction of the I-25 Exit 158 Baptist Road interchange, widening of Baptist Road from Tari Drive west to Forest Lakes Drive, construction/widening of Struthers Road from Baptist Road to Falcon's Nest Loop, construction/widening of Hodgen Road to link to Baptist Road from Highway 83 west to Roller Coaster Road, construction/widening of County Line Road from I-25 east to Furrow Road, and numerous upgrades to many Category 1 and 2 collector roads in the OCN service area. The county commissioners are, from left in front row: Peggy Littleton, Dennis Hisey, Amy Lathen, Sallie Clark, and Darryl Glenn. *Photo by Jim Kendrick.*

## County engineer's final project \$170,000 under budget

By Jim Kendrick

On May 17, the El Paso County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) celebrated the 20-year career and retirement of County Engineer André Brackin, the Department of Public Works' principal county construction supervisor for every Baptist Road Rural Transportation Authority (BRRTA) and related Pikes Peak Rural Transportation Authority (BRRTA) joint project to date. Before joining the county staff Brackin served the nation as an F-14 Tomcat U.S. Naval flight officer and radar intercept officer.

Among numerous speakers who praised Brackin's 20 years of experience, guidance and leadership, Secretary of State Wayne Williams, a former county commissioner and BRRTA board president, stated, "I thought it was important to express my appreciation, as an eight-year county commissioner, as the former vice chair of the State Transportation Advisory Committee and a few other things along the way, for his great work in delivering the promises

made to the voters and doing it in a cost-effective manner and making it so that our citizens can actually get from one place to another in a reasonable fashion."

BOCC Chair Amy Lathen said, "He was instrumental in the execution of initiatives that have greatly benefitted the citizens of El Paso County, including: the development of 1041 permit process, the adoption of stormwater drainage and utilities placement specifications and requirements, and the establishment of county-wide transportation impact assessments for new development. Your responsiveness, every time I had an issue with a constituent, you were right there, you were there to respond, you were quick to respond. I had trust in your response, which I can't say enough, how much that matters."

"I want to thank commissioners and county administration for allowing me the opportunity to serve the county this many years. I have no regrets at all. I enjoyed every minute of the last 20 years. It's been the highlight of my engineering career to serve

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Lewis-Palmer D-38 Board of Education, May 19

## Board recognizes student achievements, discusses board procedures and policies

By Harriet Halbig

The Lewis-Palmer D-38 Board of Education recognized several outstanding scholars and volunteers and discussed board procedures and policies during its May 19

meeting.

### Recognition of scholars

Palmer Ridge Principal Gary Gabel introduced junior Jasper Howald, who earned a

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Monument Board of Trustees, May 2

## Water plan questioned; Dominguez property annexed

By Lisa Hatfield

At the May 2 Monument Board of Trustees meeting, the Dominguez parcel was annexed into the town. A discussion of the town's water plans culminated in a vote attempting to rescind the March 7 water rates ordinance with an emergency ordinance, but it failed by one vote. The proposed changes to the town's snow storm traffic regulations also failed by one vote. At the end of the meeting, retired Air Force Col. Dennis Murphy was appointed to fill the last vacant board position and was sworn in by Town Clerk Cynthia Si-rochman.

The trustees went into a 45-minute executive session in the middle of the meeting to conduct a teleconference with the town's land use attorney, Carolynne White of Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck LLP. They made no announcements after this session.

Before the meeting, Tami Tanoue, lead counsel for Colorado Intergovernmental Risk Sharing Agency (CIRSA), conducted a session called "Do's & Don'ts of Quasi-Judicial Proceedings."

Town Attorney Gary Shupp was excused due to injuries suffered in a traffic accident, Mayor Jeff Kaiser said.

### Dominguez parcel annexed

Principal Planner Larry Manning presented two ordinances that would approve the annexation and Town of Monument R-1 zoning of the 9.65-acre unincorporated county parcel owned by county residents Rafael and Elizabeth Dominguez at 16440 Old Denver Road. Manning said that the annexation was being submitted as two smaller parcels sequentially (Parcel A, Dominguez No. 1 and Parcel B, Dominguez No. 2) so that each could meet the requirement that one-sixth of the border of the parcel was contiguous with existing town boundaries. This item was continued from the April 18 board meeting. See [www.ocn.me/v16n5.htm#mbot0418](http://www.ocn.me/v16n5.htm#mbot0418).

On March 9, the Monument Planning Commission held a hearing on just the zoning request, not the annexation request. See [www.ocn.me/v16n4.htm#mpc0309](http://www.ocn.me/v16n4.htm#mpc0309). The requested zoning was town R-1, single-family residential low-density, for which development standards would have a minimum of 15,000 square feet per lot. One acre is 43,560 square feet.

**Note:** This not the same as R-1 established neighborhood single-family low-density residential zoning, which has a minimum area of a lot is 6,000 square feet. OCN reported this incorrectly in April.

There is no development plan for this property now, Manning said. His report said that the property is located southeast

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