

## Wildfire Preparedness Day, May 7



**Above:** May 7 was National Wildfire Preparedness Day, and in Palmer Lake that meant the Coalition for the Upper South Platte (CUSP) and numerous volunteers worked together to reduce wildland fire risk in the Tri-Lakes area. Volunteers from the local community, the Air Force Academy, and Team Rubicon helped CUSP mitigate fire risk, and the private forestry company Markit! Forestry Management donated its services for the day to help in the effort. Representatives from the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) toured both the Palmer Lake and Mount Herman Estates sites with CUSP staff. NFPA is a global nonprofit that developed the FireWise program that helps communities and residents work together to make their home and neighbors safe from wildfire by employing basic defensible space and sound landscaping techniques. For information on how to volunteer next time, contact Rachel Gurfinkel at <http://volunteer.cusp.ws/> or see [www.cusp.ws](http://www.cusp.ws). *Photos courtesy of CUSP.*

## Woodmoor Firewise event, May 7



**Above:** Sparky and Dave Root of the Colorado State Forest Service present an award to Sherrie Storey, Woodmoor Improvement Association (WIA) Covenants and Forestry administrator, and Robert Benjamin, board member and director of Forestry, recognizing Woodmoor's 10th year as a Firewise community. The May 7 Woodmoor Firewise event was held at the Tri-Lakes United Methodist Church in Monument. The event was co-hosted by the WIA and the church's Emergency Preparedness Group. The four-hour event included multiple presenters including John Vincent, Tri-Lakes Monument fire marshal, Dave Root from the Colorado State Forest Service, and Eric Gross, volunteer for WIA Forestry. Presentation topics and displays covered defensible space, ember protection, evacuation planning, Community Emergency Response Training, landscaping, construction materials, mitigation, insurance, and more. *Photo by Jackie Burhans.*

## Memorial Day Ceremony at Monument Cemetery, May 30



**Above :** Homored Speaker Brig. Gen Anthony Trifiletti (USA, retired)



**Above (L to R) :** World War II veterans Bunny Evans and Jay Hogle (USN)

*By Jim Kendrick*  
The Town of Monument Memorial Day Ceremony held at Monument Cemetery on May 30 was attended by World War II veterans Bunny Evans and Jay Hogle (USN) as well as about 200 other people.  
Thanks to all the participants who made the ceremony possible, including: Master of Ceremony John Howe; Honored Speaker Brig. Gen. Anthony Trifiletti (USA, retired); Pastor Steve Burford; Reflection Speaker Lt. Col. David Laydon (USA Warrior Transition Battalion, Fort Carson); readers of the names of the buried military in Monument Cemetery Karen Hartling (USN, veteran), John Hartling (USN, retired), Maj. Stephanie O'Connors, (US Army, Fort Carson); Eric VanDen-Hoek (audio); bell ringer Max Williams (USA, Ranger); "In Flanders Field" reader Maj. Darby Kelly (USAF, retired; VFW Post 7829); Memorial Day Verses speaker Sgt. Ron Carlisle (Royal Air Force, retired); U.S. flag presenter Bill Miller (USN, veteran) and POW/MIA flag presenter M/

Sgt. Jodie Zwolinki (USAF, retired); flag raisers Lt. Col. Dan Beatty (USAF, retired; post commander of VFW Post 7829) and Capt. Joe Carlson (USA; post commander), and American Legion Tri-Lakes Post 9-11; Lewis-Palmer School District 38 symphonic and jazz band directed by Mike Mozingo and Stephen Hock; Honor Guard/Rifle Salute members of the Monument and Palmer Lake Police Departments and Monument Police Explorer Post; Boy and Girl Scouts; Town of Monument program planners former Trustee John Howe and Madeline VanDenHoek, Community Relations; Greeters Sharon Williams and Terri Hayes; refreshments hosted by the Ladies Auxiliary to VFW Post 7829 organized by Kathy Carlson. Howe also noted the new cemetery front split-rail fence and the plan to refurbish all the cemetery's oldest headstones by the town's Public Works Department.

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*Photos by Jim Kendrick*

