

Our Community News

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



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Free



Local Events

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

- **Concerts in the Park**, every Wed., Jul. 6-Jul. 27, 7-9 p.m.
- **Town of Monument Public Forum: Land Use Ordinance Workshop**, Thu., Jul. 7, 6 p.m.
- **NEPCO Meeting**, Sat., Jul. 9, 10 a.m.-noon. HOA legal issues.
- **El Paso County Hazardous Materials & Recycling Collection Facility**, Sat., Jul. 9, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
- **Tri-Lakes Land Use Committee**, Mon., Jul. 11, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- **Foot Care Clinic**, Wed., Jul. 13
- **Free Movie Night: The Goonies**, Thu., Jul. 14, 7 p.m.
- **Tri-Lakes Community Blood Drive**, Tue., July 19, 3-7 p.m.
- **Art Hop**, Thu., Jul. 21, 5-8 p.m.
- **Palmer Lake Historical Society: The Goodnight Legacies**, Thu., Jul. 21, 7 p.m.
- **Terri Hendrix and Lloyd Maines TLCA Concert**, Sat., Jul. 23, 7 p.m.
- **Free Movie Night: WALL-E**, Thu., Jul. 28, 7 p.m.
- **Foot Care Clinic**, Fri., Jul. 29
- **Monument & Palmer Lake Libraries: End of Summer Party**, Fri., Jul. 29, 10 a.m.-noon
- **Monument Library: Fire Mitigation Workshop**, Sat., Jul. 30, 10 a.m.-noon
- **Free Movie Night: Inside Out**, Thu., Aug. 4, 7 p.m.
- **Return of the Rocky Mountain Chautauqua**, Sat., Aug. 6, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
- **Tri-Lakes Cruisers 15th Annual Benefit Car Show**, Sun., Aug. 7, 7 a.m.-3 p.m. ■

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Above: Members of the 4A State Champion Lewis-Palmer High Girls Soccer team with their coaches, Joe Martin and Ryan Parsons. The players from the left are Karly Sandoval, Haley Arsenault, Sarah Lyons, Brenna Oakey, Sammy Kazlausky, and Brianna Alger. *Photo by Harriet Halbig.*

Lewis-Palmer D-38 Board of Education, June 16

Board approves budget, contract with Monument Academy

By Harriet Halbig

The Lewis-Palmer D-38 Board of Education approved the budget for the 2016-17 school year and approved the signing of a 10-year contract with Monument Academy at its June 16 meeting.

Budget discussion

In accordance with state statute, the board held a brief public hearing regarding the budget before a vote was taken.

Assistant Superintendent Cheryl Wangeman explained the budget process to the board and said that the proposed budget is balanced. Among the goals in creating the budget was maintenance of present class size, provision of adequate compensation for staff in order to retain well-qualified staff and compete with neighboring districts, absorption of the increased cost of health insurance and Public Employee Retirement Association costs, and a focus on the district's technology infrastructure.

Wangeman pointed out that the district had been awarded a BEST grant to offset the cost of removing asbestos from Palmer Lake Elementary School and to provide a new roof there. As a result, a loan of \$400,000 was taken from the General Fund until the project is complete.

She also explained that expenditures for technology upgrades would now be

taken from the General Fund rather than the Capital Reserve because such upgrades are viewed as an ongoing activity.

Wangeman also requested advance approval for some capital improvements to be made during the summer.

Several members of the public spoke before the board. Jackie Burhans thanked the board for holding an open workshop on the subject of the budget. Don Patrick expressed concern about salaries for local teachers compared to those in adjoining districts. He also objected to the extent of salary increases received by administrative personnel compared to teachers. Doyle Oakey addressed the technology budget, saying that it is administered by someone with insufficient experience and that the district should do a better job of keeping adult and student addresses confidential.

Derek Araje agreed that teachers were receiving less of a salary increase than principals and suggested that no employee should receive a larger increase than teachers.

Laura Lee Hitzler commented that Monument Academy is being underfunded and as a result the teachers there are compensated less than in the traditional schools. She said that the board maintains that the original intent of the 1999

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Triview Metropolitan District,
June 14

Triview talks about rapid growth and change

By Lisa Hatfield

The Triview Metropolitan District Board meeting on June 14 included two newly elected board members and lasted 5½ hours. The energetic discussion included budgetary and operational ramifications of the 10 percent growth rate of the district and the need to hire another full-time employee. The directors heard presentations on the multiple roles for which Triview is responsible, the Sanctuary Pointe development in progress, and the need to plan for funding wastewater treatment plant capacity expansion and improvement to meet both current and future undetermined state regulations.

Note: On June 17, Triview imposed temporary emergency watering restrictions due to "unusually high water demand" that appears to be caused by unexpected residential outdoor irrigation despite higher than average rainfall. All residents had to stop outdoor water use except for drip irrigation systems and existing district-approved new sod permits, but those residents were asked to cut back on watering also. Triview board meetings are always open to the public, and the next one will be at the Fairfield Inn, 15275 Struthers Road, Colorado Springs. See related Donala article on page 12.

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Above: Triview Metropolitan District water customers were notified on June 17 that the district was imposing emergency watering restrictions because it was experiencing "an abnormal, and unusually high, water demand that appears to be caused by residents' outdoor irrigation." Residents were told not to do any outside watering until further notice so that the district could continue to provide critical household water needs and potential firefighting requirements. By June 22, emergency irrigation restrictions were posted saying residents could irrigate on two specific nights a week. *Photo by Lisa Hatfield.*

July 4th events

- **7 a.m.**, Palmer Lake 4 Mile Fun Run, Palmer Lake Santa Fe Trailhead. Register at www.july4funrun.com.
- **7-10 a.m.**, Pancake breakfast, tickets at the door, St Peter Catholic Church, 55 Jefferson St.
- **8 a.m.-3 p.m.**, Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce Street Fair, 2nd Street and Washington Street
- **9:30 a.m.**, Monument Hill Kiwanis Children's Parade, Downtown Monument
- **10 a.m.-noon**, Monument Hill Kiwanis 4th of July Parade, Downtown Monument. Register to participate: www.monumenthillkiwanis.org. Kids' games, Monument Community Presbyterian Church, 3rd & Jefferson.
- **10 a.m.-9 p.m.**, Tri-Lakes Chamber Beer Garden, family friendly, Limbach Park, Monument
- **Noon-9 p.m.**, Monument Music Festival, Downtown Monument
- **7-9 p.m.**, Bands play at the Palmer Lake baseball diamond
- **9 p.m.**, Palmer Lake fireworks at dusk. For more information or to make a donation, write to palmerlakefireworks@gmail.com or see Facebook/Palmer Lake Fireworks. Parade spectators are encouraged to come early, park at Palmer Ridge High School or Lewis-Palmer High School, and ride the free bus to and from downtown Monument. ■