

Snapshots of Our Community

Picnic-N-Planes at the WMMI



Above: On June 2, the Western Museum of Mining & Industry (WMMI) held its annual Picnic-N-Planes event in conjunction with 2016 graduation festivities at the Air Force Academy. For a donation per car, visitors could sit atop the museum’s hill for one of the best vantage points of the Thunderbirds’ aerial show that concludes the graduation. In this photo, visitors had a 360-degree vantage point to the Thunderbirds’ aerial show. The Thunderbirds can be seen making their way toward the visitors atop the museum’s hill. After the show, visitors received a discounted museum admission and thus had the opportunity to do a little gold panning and watch steam engines operate. Information on upcoming events at the museum, including the July expo, is at www.wmmi.org. *Photo by David Futey. David Futey can be reached at davidfutey@ocn.me.*

Hooked on Palmer Lake Fundraiser



Above: On June 4, the Hooked on Palmer Lake Fireworks Fundraiser included a fishing derby, snow cones, local music, merchants, a pie-eating contest (won by Mario Liguez and Emily Mulberry), and art displays. Organizers included, from left, Cindy Graff, Chris Garcia, Jennifer Coopman, Racquel Garcia, Zach Goss, Shelly Wheeler, Eric Burt, and Denise Goss. Garcia said, “Everyone who came had so much fun. We wanted Hooked on Palmer Lake to be small-town American event, and that is exactly what we got. The weather was perfect, the music rocked, the hula hoops whirled, and the food from Sara’s Sausage was so good! Our hope is that this will be a yearly event that can help support the fireworks going forward.” On June 9, the Palmer Lake Town Council awarded the permit for the July 4 fireworks at Palmer Lake. For more information or to make a donation, write to palmerlakefireworks@gmail.com or see Facebook/Palmer Lake Fireworks. *Photo courtesy of Racquel Garcia.*

Silver Alliance opens new thrift store



Above: On June 7, current and past Thrift Store volunteers and Silver Alliance board members watch as store volunteer Susie Staubs prepares to officially open the new Silver Alliance Thrift Store. The new store, at 755 Highway 105, Suite N, Palmer Lake, offers more space and improved lighting. Re/Max Properties in Monument supported the event with food and refreshments. Melissa Bagnall, Tri-Lakes Silver Alliance board president, thanked the Thrift Store volunteers for their many hours of donated services. Earnings from the Thrift Store support Silver Alliance senior citizens’ programs, which includes the operation of the Tri-Lakes Senior Center. *Photo by Allen Alchian.*

Black Forest Fire Remembrance



On June 11 at Log School Park, the community of Black Forest held a Remembrance Ceremony on the three-year anniversary of the start of the wildfire that killed two people and destroyed nearly 500 homes and 22 square miles of forest. Dr. Bob Bender, pastor of Black Forest First Baptist Church, led the prayer service, and the Black Forest Choir provided music. The event was sponsored by the Black Forest Interagency Forum including Black Forest Community Club, Park Foundation, Trails Association, Friends of the BF Preservation Plan, Black Forest Together, Slash and Mulch, and Black Forest Fire & Rescue. Anyone in the Tri-Lakes area who is able to contribute some time to help with the ongoing effort to clear so many slash piles and dead trees still left from the fire should contact Black Forest Together at (719) 495-2445 or see www.blackforesttogether.org/. **Pictured below:** Jay and Barb, two of the Black Forest Together volunteers who help drag slash and operate wood chippers. *Photos by Lisa Hatfield.*



Left: From left, Michele Sandro, Isla McDaniel, and Danielle Haskin did a little shopping at the Tri-Lakes Alliance Thrift Store grand reopening. Proceeds benefit Tri-Lakes Silver Alliance, an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization supporting local seniors. *Photo by Caryn Collette.*

