

prove transparency. EDARP is an internet-based platform that uses Cloud storage through Microsoft Azure and allows users access to all El Paso County development applications dating back to 1947. The public, consultants, and developers can see and download electronic copies of applications for rezoning, subdivisions, and more. The program also allows electronic submittal of development-related applications, which will reduce costs to applicants and the county. For more information, visit [epcdevplanreview.com](http://epcdevplanreview.com).

#### Become a CASA volunteer

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) offers a volunteer opportunity like no other. As appointed representatives of the court, CASA volunteers are empowered to make a lifelong difference in the lives of abused and neglected children. To learn more visit [www.casappr.org](http://www.casappr.org) or contact Kelly, 447-9898, ext. 1033; [kellyp@casappr.org](mailto:kellyp@casappr.org); [www.casappr.org](http://www.casappr.org).

#### Free transportation and handyman services for seniors

Mountain Community Senior Services offers free transportation and handyman services to Tri-Lakes seniors. If you need a ride to a medical appointment, grocery shopping, or the local senior lunches, a volunteer driver will be happy to help you. Call 488-0076 to leave a message for the dispatcher. If you need grab bars in the bathroom, a ramp to your door, or repair of stairs or railings, please call Cindy Rosh, 488-0076, and leave a message or visit [www.coloradoseniorhelp.com](http://www.coloradoseniorhelp.com).

#### Volunteer drivers needed for seniors' transportation service

Mountain Community Transportation for Seniors is a non-profit, grant-funded organization that provides free transportation to Tri-Lakes seniors 60 years old and over. The program needs additional volunteer drivers. For information, email MCSS at [mcseniorservices@gmail.com](mailto:mcseniorservices@gmail.com) or call the MCSS dispatch hotline at 488-0076.

#### Tri-Lakes Silver Alliance Senior Center, new expansion hours

The Tri-Lakes Silver Alliance Senior Citizens Center is next to the Lewis-Palmer High School Stadium (across from the

YMCA). With the addition of 16 morning exercise classes, the new hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturday, 8:45-10 a.m.; and Sunday, 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. The facility has a lounge, craft room, game room, and multipurpose room. Programs include bridge, pinochle, bingo, national mah-jongg, Zumba, line dancing, yoga, chair yoga, tai chi, Pilates, total body strength, better balance and strength, and many more! There's also ping-pong, Wii video games, puzzles and board games, refreshments, a lending library, computers with internet connections, and an information table. For information about programs for seniors, visit [www.TriLakesSeniors.org](http://www.TriLakesSeniors.org) or call Sue Walker, 719-330-0241.

#### Senior Beat newsletter—subscribe for free

Each monthly *Senior Beat* newsletter is full of information for local seniors, including the daily menu of the senior lunches offered Mon.-Fri. at the Mountain Community Mennonite Church, 643 Highway 105, Palmer Lake. It also contains the schedule of the classes and events for the month at the Senior Citizens Center and senior-friendly library programs. To subscribe, send an email with your name and mailing address to [SeniorBeat@TriLakesSeniors.org](mailto:SeniorBeat@TriLakesSeniors.org). *Senior Beat* can also be viewed online at [www.TriLakesSeniors.org](http://www.TriLakesSeniors.org).

#### El Paso County expands services to veterans

Three El Paso County agencies providing services to veterans now have satellite offices at the Mount Carmel Center of Excellence, 530 Communications Circle, Colorado Springs. The Veterans Service office at Mount Carmel is open Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.-4 p.m. and closes noon-1 p.m. for lunch. Call 667-3816 for an appointment. The Pikes Peak Workforce Center Mount Carmel office is open Tuesdays, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. (closed for lunch noon-1 p.m.), and is staffed with two Workforce Center employees who help veterans with their employment needs. Call 667-3729 for an appointment. The county Department of Human Services also has a Mount Carmel office open 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

#### Help the Black Forest Animal Sanctuary (BFAS) rescue animals

Southern Colorado Animal Rescue BFAS is an animal res-

cue and rehab farm that has been helping animals since 1994. The all-volunteer organization has rescued thousands of horses, farm animals, dogs, cats, and various small wild animals and birds. BFAS provides rescue operations, adoption programs, foster and sponsorship programs, a student/horse education program, service dogs to veterans, and local and national rescue efforts. They also work with local schools and scouts. Donations are needed for supplies, and volunteers are needed for day-to-day operations. To find out how you can help, call 494-0158, email [BFASFarm@gmail.com](mailto:BFASFarm@gmail.com), or visit [www.bfasfarm.org](http://www.bfasfarm.org).

#### County launches new community website

Check out all the interesting county data available for you at <http://community.spataleest.com/co/elpaso/>.

#### CSU Extension launches "Your Energy" website and blog

The Colorado State University Extension now has a "Your Energy" website to help Coloradans make more informed energy decisions. The site includes decision tools, fact sheets, and a blog. The decision tools can help you figure out energy savings from using more efficient lighting, low-flow showerheads, heating and cooling systems, water heaters, and more. Other tools can help you understand how much you spend on heating, cooling, and baseload electricity and your bottom line if you install a wind turbine or solar array. Visit the site at <http://yourenergy.extension.colostate.edu/>.

#### Free gun-lock kit

The Monument Police Department is offering free firearm safety kits to local residents through a partnership with Project ChildSafe, the nationwide firearms safety education program. Each kit contains gun safety information and a cable-style gun lock that fits most types of handguns, rifles, and shotguns. The Police Department administrative offices at 645 Beacon Lite Rd. are open Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Drop by during those times to pick up a free gun-lock kit. For information, phone 481-3253. ■

## Our Community Calendar

By Judy Barnes, Community Calendar Editor

Although we strive for accuracy in these listings, dates or times are often changed after publication. Please double check the time and place of any event you wish to attend by calling the info number for that event.

### GOVERNMENTAL BODIES

- **Forest Lakes & Pinon Pines Metropolitan Districts Board Meeting**, Mon., Dec. 4, 10:30 a.m., 6385 Corporate Dr., Suite 200, Colo. Springs. Meets 1st Mon. each month. Info: 327-5810.
- **Monument Board of Trustees Meeting**, Mon, Dec. 4, 6:30 p.m., Town Hall Board Room, 645 Beacon Lite Rd., Monument. Meets 1st and 3rd Mon. each month. Info: 884-8017, [www.townofmonument.org](http://www.townofmonument.org).
- **Tri-Lakes Land Use Committee Meeting**, Mon., Dec. 4, 6:30-8:30 p.m., 166 2nd St., Monument. All are welcome to get involved. Give input on proposed developments in the Tri-Lakes area. Meets 1st Mon. each month. Info: [TriLakesluc@gmail.com](mailto:TriLakesluc@gmail.com).
- **El Paso County Planning Commission Meeting**, Tue., Dec. 5, 9 a.m., 2880 International Circle (off Union Blvd & Printers Pkwy). Meets 1st & 3rd Tue. (if required) each month. Info: 520-6300, <http://adm2.elpasoco.com/planning/agendas/pc/pc-agn.asp>.
- **Wescott Fire Protection District Board Meeting**, Tue., Dec. 5, 7 p.m., Station 1, 15415 Gleneagle Dr. Normally meets 3rd Tue. each month. Info: 488-8680.
- **Forest View Acres Water District Board Meeting**, Wed., Dec. 6, 6 p.m., Monument Sanitation District board room, 130 Second St. Normally meets 4th Wed. each month, Info: 488-2110, [www.fvawd.com](http://www.fvawd.com).
- **Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District Board Meeting**, Wed., Dec. 6, 6:30 p.m., TLMFPD Station 1, 18650 Hwy 105. Normally meets 4th Wed. each month. Info: Jennifer Martin, 484-0911, [www.tlmfire.org](http://www.tlmfire.org).
- **Donala Water & Sanitation District Public Budget Hearing & Board Meeting**, Thu., Dec. 7, 1:30 p.m., 15850 Holbein Dr. Normally meets 3rd Thu. each month. Info: 488-3603, [www.donalawater.org](http://www.donalawater.org).
- **Tri-Lakes Wastewater Facility Joint Use Committee Meeting**, Tue., Dec. 12, 10 a.m., 16510 Mitchell Ave. Meets 2nd Tue. each month. Info: Bill Burks, 481-4053.
- **Triview Metropolitan District Board Meeting**, Tue., Dec. 12, 5 p.m., 15275 Struthers Rd. Meets 2nd Tue. each month. Info: 488-6868, [www.colorado.gov/triviewmetro](http://www.colorado.gov/triviewmetro).
- **Monument Sanitation District Board Meeting**, Wed., Dec. 13, 9 a.m., 130 2nd St. Now meets 3rd Wed. each month. Info: 481-4886.
- **Palmer Lake Sanitation District Board Meeting**, Wed., Dec. 13, 9 a.m., 120 Middle Glenway. Meets 2nd Wed. each month. Info: 481-2732, [www.plsd.org](http://www.plsd.org).
- **Palmer Lake Planning Commission Workshop**, Wed., Dec. 13, 6 p.m., Palmer Lake Town Hall, 28 Valley Crescent. Meets 2nd Wed. each month. Info: 481-2953, [www.townofpalmerlake.com](http://www.townofpalmerlake.com).

- **Monument Planning Commission Meeting**, Wed., Dec. 13, 6:30 p.m., Town Hall Board Room, 645 Beacon Lite Rd., Monument. Meets 2nd Wed. each month. Info: 884-8017, [www.townofmonument.org](http://www.townofmonument.org).
- **Woodmoor Improvement Association Board Meeting**, Wed., Dec. 13, 7 p.m., Woodmoor Barn, 1691 Woodmoor Dr. Normally meets 4th Wed. each month. Info: 488-2693, [www.woodmoor.org](http://www.woodmoor.org).
- **Woodmoor Water & Sanitation District Board Meeting**, Thu., Dec. 14, 1 p.m., 1845 Woodmoor Dr., Monument. Meets 2nd Thu. each month. Info: 488-2525, [www.woodmoorwater.com](http://www.woodmoorwater.com).
- **Palmer Lake Town Council Meeting**, Thu., Dec. 14, 6:30 p.m., Palmer Lake Town Hall, 28 Valley Crescent. Meets 2nd & 4th Thu. each month. Info: 481-2953, [www.townofpalmerlake.com](http://www.townofpalmerlake.com).
- **Monument Board of Trustees Meeting**, Mon, Dec. 18, 6:30 p.m., Town Hall Board Room, 645 Beacon Lite Rd., Monument. Meets 1st and 3rd Mon. each month. Info: 884-8017, [www.townofmonument.org](http://www.townofmonument.org).
- **El Paso County Planning Commission Meeting**, Tue., Dec. 19, 9 a.m., 2880 International Circle (off Union Blvd & Printers Pkwy). Meets 1st & 3rd Tue. (if required) each month. Info: 520-6300, <http://adm2.elpasoco.com/planning/agendas/pc/pc-agn.asp>.
- **Academy Water and Sanitation District Board Meeting**, Wed., Dec. 20, 6 p.m., Wescott Fire Station 1, 15415 Gleneagle Dr. Meets 3rd Wed. each month. Info: 481-0711.
- **Palmer Lake Planning Commission Meeting**, Wed., Dec. 20, 6 p.m., Palmer Lake Town Hall, 28 Valley Crescent. Meets 3rd Wed. each month. Info: 481-2953, [www.townofpalmerlake.com](http://www.townofpalmerlake.com).
- **Lewis-Palmer School District 38 Board Meeting**, Thu., Dec. 21, 6 p.m., Learning Center, 146 Jefferson St., Monument. Meets 3rd Thu. each month. Info: 488-4700, [www.lewispalmer.org](http://www.lewispalmer.org).
- **Monument Board of Trustees Meeting**, Tue., Jan. 2, 6:30 p.m., Town Hall Board Room, 645 Beacon Lite Rd., Monument. Normally meets 1st and 3rd Mon. each month. Info: 884-8017, [www.townofmonument.org](http://www.townofmonument.org).
- **El Paso County Planning Commission Meeting**, Tue., Jan. 2, 9 a.m., 2880 International Circle (off Union Blvd & Printers Pkwy). Meets 1st & 3rd Tue. (if required) each month. Info: 520-6300, <http://adm2.elpasoco.com/planning/agendas/pc/pc-agn.asp>.
- **Town of Monument Workshop: Planning 101, An Overview of the Planning Process from Start to Finish**, Mon., Jan. 8, 5:30 p.m., Town Hall Board Room, 645 Beacon Lite Rd., Monument. The public is invited to this workshop of the Board of Trustees, Planning Commission, and Board of Adjustments. Info: 884-8017, [www.townofmonument.org](http://www.townofmonument.org).

### LOCAL LIBRARY EVENTS

For additional information on library events, see the library events column on page 23 and visit [www.ppld.org](http://www.ppld.org).

- *All branches will close all day Dec. 24-25. Dec. 31-Jan. 1*
- **The Palmer Lake Library hours** are Tue.-Fri., 10 a.m.-6 p.m., and Sat., 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 66 Lower Glenway. Info: 481-2587, [www.ppld.org](http://www.ppld.org).
- **The Monument Branch Library hours** are Mon.-Thu., 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Fri. & Sat, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun., 1-5 p.m. 1706 Lake Woodmoor Dr. Info: 488-2370, [www.ppld.org](http://www.ppld.org).
- **Monument Library: Book Break**, every Mon., Wed., & Fri., 10:30-10:45 a.m. A short read-aloud session for preschoolers. Monument Branch Library, 1706 Lake Woodmoor Dr. Info: 488-2370, [www.ppld.org](http://www.ppld.org).
- **Monument Library: Paws to Read**, every Mon. & Wed., 4-5 p.m. Let your child practice reading to a Paws to Read dog. No registration required. Monument Branch Library, 1706 Lake Woodmoor Dr. Info: 488-2370, [www.ppld.org](http://www.ppld.org).
- **Monument Library: Storytime**, every Tue., 10:30-11 a.m. & 11:15-11:45 a.m. Children ages 3 and up, with a favorite adult, experience stories through books, flannelboards, puppets, songs and activities. Monument Branch Library, 1706 Lake Woodmoor Dr. Info: 488-2370, [www.ppld.org](http://www.ppld.org).
- **Monument Library: Peak Reader**, every Tue. & Thu., 5-6 p.m. Children's Literacy Peak Reader program. Monument Branch Library, 1706 Lake Woodmoor Dr. Info: 488-2370, [www.ppld.org](http://www.ppld.org).
- **Palmer Lake Library: Storytime**, every Wed., 10:45-11:10 a.m. Children ages 3 and up, with a favorite adult, experience stories through books, flannelboards, puppets, songs and activities. Palmer Lake Branch Library, 66 Lower Glenway. Info: 481-2587, [www.ppld.org](http://www.ppld.org).
- **Monument Library: Toddler Time**, every Thu., 9:30 a.m. & 10:15 a.m. Rhymes & rhythms for one- and two-year-olds. Monument Branch Library, 1706 Lake Woodmoor Dr. Info: 488-2370, [www.ppld.org](http://www.ppld.org).
- **Palmer Lake Library Family Fun: Lego Build**, Sat., Dec. 2, 10:30 a.m. Legos provided, please do not bring your own. Palmer Lake Branch Library, 66 Lower Glenway. Info: 481-2587, [www.ppld.org](http://www.ppld.org).
- **Monument Library: Homeschool @ MO: Christmas Fun**, Mon., Dec. 4, 1:30-2:30 p.m. Christmas crafts. Monument Branch Library, 1706 Lake Woodmoor Dr. Info: 488-2370, [www.ppld.org](http://www.ppld.org).
- **Monument Library: Monument Teen Creative Writing Group**, Tue., Dec. 5, 6-7:30 p.m. Grades 6-12 share ideas, do writing exercises, eat snacks. Monument Branch Library, 1706 Lake Woodmoor Dr. Info: 488-2370, [www.ppld.org](http://www.ppld.org).
- **Monument Library: Anime Club**, Thu., Dec. 7, 5-6 p.m. Ages 13/14+, eat snacks, help plan the new anime club. Monument Branch Library, 1706 Lake Woodmoor Dr. Info: 488-2370, [www.ppld.org](http://www.ppld.org).
- **Monument Library: Instrumental Music**, Sat., Dec. 9, 1-2 p.m. Young children learn about musical instruments and how to make music together. Monument Branch Library, 1706 Lake Woodmoor Dr. Info: 488-2370, [www.ppld.org](http://www.ppld.org).
- **Monument Library Family Fun: Planetarium at the**