

- each month. Info: Syble Krafft, 719-488-2669; Barry (group president), 719-351-9485.
- **Covered Treasures Bookstore Booksigning**, Sat., **Dec. 19**, 105 Second St., Monument. 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Nicole Musmanno will sign *The Lessons of Pi*; 1-3 p.m., Tara Stone will sign *6 Blocks Home*. Free, open to all, please wear a mask. Info: 481-2665, [www.coveredtreasures.com](http://www.coveredtreasures.com).
  - **Faithful Friends, no meeting this month**, Sat., **Dec. 19**, 3-4:30 p.m., 3254 Forest Lakes Dr., Monument. This friendly group engages in open conversation with different thought-provoking topics. RSVP & Info: Ellen, 303-526-5000.
  - **Grief Share Support Group**, Tue., **Dec. 29**, 10:30 a.m.-noon, Tri-Lakes Senior Center, across the street from the YMCA. The Tri-Lakes Silver Alliance has partnered with Colorado Palliative & Hospice Care to host a 13-session grief support group in Monument. Meets last Tue. each month. RSVP & Info: Sue Walker, 719-330-0241.
  - **Amateur Radio W0TLM (Tri-Lakes Monument Radio Association), check the website**, Mon., Dec. 21. All amateur radio operators or those interested in becoming amateur radio operators are welcome. Meets 3rd Mon. Check the website for details. Info: Joyce Witte, 719-661-9824, [Joycewitte@gmail.com](mailto:Joycewitte@gmail.com); [www.W0TLM.com](http://www.W0TLM.com).
  - **Chess Nuts**, Tue., **Dec. 22**, 5-9 p.m., Silver Alliance Senior Center, across the street from the YMCA. Any age, any skill. Learners welcome. Drop in and leave when you want. Bring your own board and pieces if you have them. Meets 2nd & 4th Tue. each month. Info: [www.TriLakesSeniors.org/chess](http://www.TriLakesSeniors.org/chess).
  - **Friends of Fox Run Park, no meeting Nov. or Dec.**, Southwinds Fine Art Gallery upstairs, 16575 Rollercoaster Rd. (corner of Baptist and Rollercoaster Roads). Join the growing group to learn about volunteering and supporting the park for safety, trails, trees, education, more. Guest speaker each month. Meets 4th Thu. each month. Info: 719-492-0355, [janetsellers@ocn.me](mailto:janetsellers@ocn.me).
  - **Senior Social, all AARP indoor activities SUSPENDED through Dec. 31**, Wed., 1-4 p.m., 12455 Black Forest Rd. Meets 4th Wed. each month except Nov. & Dec. Info: [aarpchapter1100blackforest.weebly.com](mailto:aarpchapter1100blackforest.weebly.com).
  - **Foot Care Clinic, canceled due to Christmas**, Fri., Silver Alliance Senior Center located across the street from the Tri-Lakes YMCA, on the Lewis-Palmer High School campus. A registered nurse examines feet and provides foot care advice, toenail trimming. Cost: \$35 for a 30-min. visit. Meets 2nd Wed., 3rd and last Fri. each month, by appointment only. Info & appointments: call the Visiting Nurse Association, 719-577-4448.
  - **Group of Artists (GOA) Meetings at Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts (TLCA), SUSPENDED**, Sat., **Jan. 2**, 10 a.m.-noon, 304 Hwy 105, Palmer Lake. Lively discussions about art topics, general studies on creativity. Meets 1st Sat. each month. Info: 481-0475, [info@trilakesarts.org](mailto:info@trilakesarts.org), [www.trilakesarts.org](http://www.trilakesarts.org).
  - **Lupus Support Group**. If you suffer with an autoimmune disease and want to connect with others, you are welcome to join this group. Info: [dmbandle@hotmail.com](mailto:dmbandle@hotmail.com).
  - **Myasthenia Gravis Association** of Colorado Support Group. Location varies. Info: Carolyn, 488-3620, [www.4-mga.org](http://www.4-mga.org), 303-360-7080, [4mga@4-mga.org](mailto:4mga@4-mga.org).

SPECIAL EVENTS

- **Downtown Monument's Small Town Christmas**, Sat., **Dec. 5**, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., shop open houses and

more. Santa with his reindeer and carolers will wander around town. Relax and warm up beside fire pits with hot cocoa, enjoy kids' activities, and feast at food trucks. Info: 719-481-2954.

- **Monument Tour de Lights**, Sat., **Dec. 12**, 3:30-6:30 p.m., Trails End Taproom, 252 Front St., Monument. Run, hike, and bike. This family-friendly event invites you to decorate yourself or your bike and come celebrate one of the darkest days of the year. Prizes will be given for best lights and decorations. Route will go up the Santa Fe Trail and back with hot drinks to follow (adult and kid). Leave anytime between 4:30 and 5:30 PM. Awards at 6:30 p.m. Info: [www.facebook.com/events/2718779051727291](http://www.facebook.com/events/2718779051727291).
- **Annual Palmer Lake Yule Log Hunt**, Sun., **Dec. 13**, 1 p.m., Palmer Lake Town Hall (outside only), 28 Valley Crescent. Trek up the mountain in search of the Yule Log. Hunt participants should arrive 11 a.m.-noon. The winner will ride the Yule Log back to town and get the first cup of wassail. No indoor activities this year. Info: 481-2953.
- **National Wreaths Across America Day**, Sat., **Dec. 19**, 10 a.m., Monument Cemetery, 800 Beacon Lite Rd., Monument. Remember and honor our veterans through the laying of remembrance wreaths on the graves of our fallen heroes. You can sponsor a veteran's wreath at Monument Cemetery. Visit [www.wreathscrossamerica.org](http://www.wreathscrossamerica.org) and click on "sponsor a specific cemetery" (under "Sponsor Wreaths"). Each wreath is only \$15. Info: Theresa Wiederspahn, 719-471-9900, or email [theresa.wiederspahn@dignitymemorial.com](mailto:theresa.wiederspahn@dignitymemorial.com); [www.wreathscrossamerica.org](http://www.wreathscrossamerica.org).
- **Tri-Lakes United Methodist Church Christmas Eve Services**, Thu, **Dec. 24**, drive-in/outdoor with living nativity (weather permitting) 5 and 7 p.m.; online worship ([tlumc.org/live](http://tlumc.org/live)) 6 and 8 p.m., 20256 Hunting Downs Way, Monument. Info: 488-1365, [www.tlumc.org/christmas](http://www.tlumc.org/christmas). See ad on page 8.
- **County's Annual TreeCycle**, Sat.-Sun., **Jan. 2-3**, or 9-10, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Baptist Road trailhead, Baptist Road & Old Denver Hwy. Recycle your Christmas tree. Trees are ground into mulch. Remove all decorations from your tree before dropping it off. Cost: \$5, benefits community youth sports programs. Info: 520-7878, [www.csyouthsports.net/treecycle](http://www.csyouthsports.net/treecycle).

*Our community calendar carries listings on a space-available basis for Tri-Lakes events that are sponsored by local governmental entities and not-for-profit organizations. We include events that are open to the general public and are not*

Content

Articles in *Our Community News* focus on the deliberations of Tri-Lakes area governmental bodies such as the Monument Board of Trustees, Palmer Lake Town Council, and many of the local water, sanitation, fire, and school district boards.

Unlike papers that try to figure out what the "story" is and then get quotes on each side to presumably lead the reader to conclude what the "truth" is, OCN's role is to report in detail on public meetings of local governmental entities. We report what was talked about and what was decided. By reading OCN, you can find out what you might have learned if you had attended those public meetings. In this context, "truth" is that the articles accurately represent what transpired at the meetings.

The content of ads, inserts, and letters to the editor in OCN is solely the responsibility of the advertisers and authors who place those ads, inserts, and letters. The appearance of an ad, insert, or letter in OCN does not imply endorsement of the ad, insert, or letter's content or purpose. While OCN does not knowingly run false ads, inserts, or letters, we do not research the accuracy of that content. Readers are encouraged to do their own research prior to committing to use the products or services offered or accept the conclusions of letters to the editor. Readers with concerns about the content of an ad, insert, or letter should take up those concerns with the advertiser or author.

Contact John Heiser, Publisher, at [johnheiser@ocn.me](mailto:johnheiser@ocn.me) or (719) 488-3455 with any questions.

Support Our Community. Volunteer with OCN!

Please join us today! Meet a group of interesting and committed people. Learn new skills—use your enthusiasm and creativity to benefit our community and celebrate unfiltered information. Please call John Heiser, Publisher, at (719) 488-3455, or email [johnheiser@ocn.me](mailto:johnheiser@ocn.me) to see how you can contribute. Contact us today!

*religious or self-promotional in nature. If space is available, complimentary calendar listings are included, when requested, for events advertised in the current issue. To have your event listed at no charge in Our Community Calendar, please call (719) 339-7831 or send the information to [calendar@ocn.me](mailto:calendar@ocn.me) or Our Community News, P.O. Box 1742, Monument, Colorado 80132.*

Support Our Community. Shop Tri-Lakes and Black Forest!

Letters to Our Community

*Our Community News* welcomes letters to the editor on topics of general interest to readers in the Tri-Lakes area. We do not knowingly print letters that are substantially the same as letters that have been submitted to other publications. To ensure that OCN contains a variety of viewpoints, each letter writer is limited to a maximum of one (1) letter per issue and six (6) letters within a twelve (12) month period. To submit a letter, please:

- Email your letter, preferably as an attached Microsoft Word document, to [editor@ocn.me](mailto:editor@ocn.me) or mail a copy to **Our Community News, P.O. Box 1742, Monument, CO 80132-1742**.
- Identify your submission as a letter to the editor and confirm that it has not been submitted to any other publication.
- Include a suggested headline or title that summarizes the topic you are addressing.
- Limit your letter to no more than 300 words including your suggested headline and closing.
- Include your full name, home address, phone numbers, and email address, if you have one. Only your name will be published.
- Submit your letter so we receive it no later than midnight, Friday, two weeks prior to the publication date.

If you have not received an acknowledgement two days after your email submission or one week after you mailed your letter, please contact Jennifer Kaylor, Managing Editor, at (719) 488-3455 or [editor@ocn.me](mailto:editor@ocn.me). At OCN's sole discretion, we may ask you for clarification of your statements. Include references, such as website links, in your letter for any facts and figures you cite. OCN does not guarantee every letter will appear in print or on-line and does not guarantee a publication date. Depending on the space available, the number of letters printed in an issue may be limited to the first 12 received. Letters containing personal attacks or endorsements for or complaints about individually-named commercial products or services will not be published.

Look for our next issue Saturday, Jan. 2

Ad space reservations due: **Fri., Dec. 11**  
Finished ad artwork due: **Fri., Dec. 18**  
Letters to the editor due: **Fri., Dec. 18**  
Calendar items due: **Fri., Dec. 25**

Visit our website to read, download, and search all the back issues at **WWW.OCN.ME**

Our Community News is a member of the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce. Visit the chamber at [www.trilakeschamber.com](http://www.trilakeschamber.com)



Support Our Community Advertise in OCN!

*Our Community News* (OCN), with a circulation of over 21,600, is a unique all-volunteer monthly newspaper mailed FREE to every resident and business in the Tri-Lakes area. OCN is a primary source for Tri-Lakes area news that gives advertising preference to Tri-Lakes and Black Forest businesses. OCN's contract-free low ad rates and monthly publication schedule help stretch your ad budget while supporting an important Tri-Lakes-focused effort to present factual, comprehensive news to all Tri-Lakes area residents and business owners.

For advertising information, contact **John Heiser, (719) 488-3455, [ads@ocn.me](mailto:ads@ocn.me), or visit [www.ocn.me](http://www.ocn.me).**



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