

- org, www.wmmi.org.
- **National Healthcare Decision Day/Advanced Care Planning**, Fri., **Apr. 14**, 10 a.m.-noon, Senior Center at Lewis-Palmer High School (across from the YMCA). Pikes Peak Hospice and Palliative Care will offer an informational workshop on advance directives, the difference between hospice and palliative care, and how to cope with these situations. There will be sign-up sheets at the luncheons and the Senior Center. Info: Sue, 464-6873.
 - **Black Rose Acoustic Society: *Prairie Como***, Fri., **Apr. 14**, 7-10 p.m., doors open at 6:15. Black Forest Community Center, 12530 Black Forest Rd. at Shoup Road. Cost: \$10 general, \$5 BRAS members, \$5 non-member students with ID. Info: Joe Maio, 528-6119, jrmtn@comcast.net, www.blackroseacoustic.org.
 - **The Ascent Church Free Community Easter Egg Hunt**, Sat., **Apr. 15**, 10 a.m., Palmer Lake Town Hall, 42 Valley Crescent. Info: www.theascentchurch.com.
 - **Palmer Lake Easter Egg Hunt**, Sat., **Apr. 15**, 10 a.m., Village Green. Photos with the Easter Bunny, games, bring your own baskets. Info: 481-2953.
 - **The Ascent Church Free Community Easter Egg Hunt**, Sat., **Apr. 15**, 11 a.m., Antelope Trails Elementary School (field and playground), 15280 Jessie Dr., Colo. Springs. Info: www.theascentchurch.com.
 - **Palmer Lake Volunteer Fire Department Pancake Breakfast**, Sun., **Apr. 16**, 7-11 a.m., Palmer Lake Town Hall, 28 Valley Crescent. Come on down and enjoy breakfast prepared by the Palmer Lake Volunteer Fire Department. Cost: \$5 adults, \$3 children. Info: 481-2953.
 - **Fuel Church Family Easter Event**, Sun., **Apr. 16**, 5 p.m. free donuts and coffee, 5:30-7:15 p.m. Easter program with special children's activities; 5805 Mark Dabling Blvd., Suite 120, Colo. Springs. Info: www.fuelchurch.org.
 - **Monument's Citizens Police Academy**, Tuesdays, **Apr. 18-May 30** plus one Saturday, 7-10 p.m. The free, 8-week program is open to all who live or work in the Tri-Lakes area and are at least 16 years old. Learn about criminal law, patrol procedures, use of force, computer forensics, internal affairs, community policing, tactical considerations; shoot a variety of police weapons. RSVP & Info: 481-3253, rsteine@tomgov.org, www.townofmonument.org/194/Citizens-Academy.
 - **Spotlight on Local Authors: No Boys Allowed** at Covered Treasures Bookstore, Thu., **Apr. 20** (snow date, Apr. 27), 5:30-9 p.m., 105 Second St., Monument. Heather Buchman, newest title in Linger series; Lisa S. Hawker, End of the Road. Cost: \$10. Tickets & Info: 481-2665, www.coveredtreasures.com.
 - **Lewis-Palmer High School Spring Play: *The Giver***, Thu.-Sat., **Apr. 20-22**, 7 p.m., 1300 Higby Rd., Monument. Cost: \$9 adults, \$7 children. Tickets available at www.showtix4u.com.
 - **Hazel Miller at Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts**, Fri., **Apr. 21**, 7 p.m., doors open 6:15 p.m., 304 Hwy 105, Palmer Lake. Tickets & Info: www.trilakesarts.org, 481-0475.
 - **Santa Fe Trail Jewelry's Annual Show**, Fri.-Sun., **Apr. 21-23**, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 106 2nd St., Unit A, Monument. Fabulous Native American jewelry and Zuni carvings. Info: 481-0250.
 - **Black Forest Slash and Mulch Site's Annual Community Meeting**, Sat., **Apr. 22**, 9 a.m., Black Forest Community Hall, 12530 Black Forest Rd. Come and bring your neighbor, newcomers welcome. Great door prizes distributed throughout the meeting: chainsaws and much more. Info: www.bfslash.org; Carolyn, 495-3127; Chuck, 495-8675; Jeff, 495-8024; or the County Environmental Services, 520-7878.
 - **Great American Cleanup**, Sat., **Apr. 22**, 9 a.m.-noon. Get your club or some friends together and join the community to clean up parks, trails, creeks, and roadways. All ages welcome! Stay for the community lunch. Monument sites include the Third Street Trailhead, Baptist Road Trailhead (Old Denver Road), and 16328 Jackson Creek Pkwy. Register online, www.gacppp.com. Info: Madeline VanDenHoek, mvandenhoek@tomgov.org, 884-8013; www.gacppp.com.
 - **Community Lunch for all Cleanup Volunteers**, Sat., **Apr. 22**, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Monument Community Presbyterian Church, 238 3rd St, Monument. Info: Madeline VanDenHoek mvandenhoek@tomgov.org 719-884-8013.
 - **Spotlight on Local Authors: *Poetry*** at Covered Treasures Bookstore, Sat., **Apr. 22**, 2-4 p.m., 105 Second St., Monument. Free, open to all. Poets John Blase, Nancy Jurka, and James Scott Smith will read will read from their collections and talk about how to get a poetry collection published. Recite your own or your favorite poems. Info: 481-2665, www.coveredtreasures.com.
 - **Take Charge!: A Character and Leadership Experience**, Wed., **Apr. 26**, 5-8:30 p.m., Palmer Ridge High School, 19255 Monument Hill Rd., Monument. Interested community members, parents, and students in grades 6 and up are invited to this collaborative effort sponsored by the Random Acts of Kindness Foundation, the Positive Coaching Alliance, the El Pomar Foundation, and singer Cody Qualls. Topics include social media, personal empowerment, and positive decision-making. Info: 481-9546.

- **Black Rose Acoustic Society: *The Colorado College Bluegrass Ensemble***, Fri., **Apr. 28**, 7-10 p.m., doors open at 6:15. Black Forest Community Center, 12530 Black Forest Rd. at Shoup Road. Cost: \$10 general, \$5 BRAS members, \$5 non-member students with ID. Info: Joe Maio, 528-6119, jrmtn@comcast.net, www.blackroseacoustic.org.
- **GameCon Gaming Convention for Teens**, Sat., **Apr. 29**, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Rampart High School, 8250 Lexington Dr., Colo. Springs. For middle and high school students. Lunch and soda included with the entry fee. Snacks, beverages, t-shirts, and merchandise available for purchase. Registration & Info: www.gamebewithyou.org.
- **HEALTHY KIDS DAY@ Charge into Summer! at the Tri-Lakes YMCA**, Sat., **Apr. 29**, 9 a.m.-noon, 17250 Jackson Creek Pkwy., Monument. Free and open to all, a day of creative, challenging, smart, healthy fun. Info: 481-8728, www.p pymca.org.
- **Tri-Lakes Silver Alliance Spring Fling Party**, Fri., **Apr. 29**, 5:30 -8 p.m., Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts, 304 Hwy 105, Palmer Lake. This fundraising event benefits our community Senior Citizen Center. Come for fun, food, music, a cash bar, silent auction items, and great company while supporting this valuable Tri-Lakes community organization. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at the Silver Alliance Thrift Store (755 Hwy 105, Suite N, Palmer Lake) or call Sue Walker, 464-6873.
- **Student Wellness Night**, Mon., **May 1**, 6-8:30 p.m., at the Tri-Lakes YMCA, 17250 Jackson Creek Pkwy, Monument. All are invited to this event sponsored in joint effort by the local YMCA, the Lewis-Palmer School District, and the Path2Empathy program. Topics include the skill of empathy, building resiliency and supporting recovery with our kids, and social media's impact on school safety. Community organizations will host information tables with resources and materials to support our youth and families. Info: 481-9546.
- **Black Forest Arts & Crafts Guild 53rd Annual Spring Show & Sale**, Thu.-Sun., **May 4-7**, 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Thu.-Sat., 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sun., Black Forest Community Center, 12530 Black Forest Rd. Free admission, but non-perishable donations are welcome. More than 90 artisan and culinary members will sell quilts and afghans, baby items, paintings, pottery, jewelry, woodworking, stained glass, dolls, stitchery, note cards, food items, and much more. A portion of sale proceeds will benefit the BFACG Scholarship Fund and the Black Forest community. The facility is wheelchair accessible, but no strollers allowed because of fire regulations. Info: www.facebook.com/BFACG, www.bfacg.org, 495-3217.
- **Neighborhood Wildfire Leadership Summit**, Sat., **May 6**, 9 a.m.-noon, 20256 Hunting Downs Way, Monument. Join neighborhood leaders from throughout El Paso County working to create more Firewise Communities. Free, brunch included. Register & Info: epcwildfire.eventzilla.net.
- **Palmer Lake Free Chipping Day**, Sat., **May 6**, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Palmer Lake residents can bring slash to a site on County Line Road. Arrange branches parallel with butt ends pointed toward the rear of the vehicle. No stumps, roots, lumber, trash. Remove pine needles from branches. Call May 5 for location. Info: 481-2953.
- **Rocky Mountain Music Alliance: Works for Violin, Oboe, & Piano**, Sat., **May 6**, 7 p.m., Tri-Lakes United Methodist Church, 20256 Hunting Downs Way. Buy \$10 tickets online, www.rmmaonline.org, or \$12 at the door. Students with ID, and children 12 and under are free. Info: Coleen Abeyta, 630-8165, Coleen.Abeyta@gmail.com, www.rmmaonline.org.
- **41st Annual Pine Forest Spring Show & Sale**, Sat.-Sun., **May 6-7**, Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Lewis-Palmer High School, 1300 Higby Rd., Monument. This annual fundraiser presented by the Tri-Lakes Women's Club features antiques, home decor, garden exhibits, gourmet food trucks, "The Bakery," raffle, glass repair, and MOPS Kid's Corner. Admission is \$6. Bring in ad or a can of food for Tri-Lakes Cares for \$1 off admission. All proceeds benefit nonprofit service organizations and public schools in the Tri-Lakes community. For more information visit www.tlwc.net.
- **Pack for the Platte Pack Test Fundraiser** for The Coalition for the Upper South Platte (CUSP), Sun., **May 7**, 7:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Baptist Road trailhead access to the New Santa Fe Trail, Monument. Take the pack test that every firefighter must pass each year and see how you stack up. Carry 45 pounds for 3 miles in 45 minutes alongside our wildland firefighting crew and other firefighters. Donations will be used to support CUSP's Wildland Fire Team. Info: 719-748-0033, Rachel@cusp.ws, www.cusp.ws/P4P/

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 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 or P.O. Box 1742, Monument, Colorado 80132.

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 in *OCN* is the responsibility of the advertisers who place those ads. While *OCN* does not knowingly run false ads, we do not research the accuracy of ad content. Readers are encouraged to do their own research prior to committing to use the products or services offered in *OCN* ads.

Contact Lisa Hatfield, Managing Editor, at editor@ocn.me or (719) 339-7831 with any questions.

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 six letters within any twelve month period. To submit a letter, please:

- 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.
- Limit letters to no more than 300 words.
- Include your full name, home address, day and evening phone numbers, and email address, if you have one.
- Email your letter to editor@ocn.me or mail it to P.O. Box 1742, Monument, CO 80132-1742.
- Send your letter at least 10 days before the "first Saturday of the month" when the paper is printed.
- If you are not at least 18 years old or an emancipated minor, provide a written statement from a parent or legal guardian that you have permission to submit the letter.

If, after two business days from the date of your submission, you have not received an acknowledgement of your letter, please contact Lisa Hatfield, Managing Editor, at (719) 339-7831 or editor@ocn.me. Letters may be edited for length, grammar, and accuracy.

Look for our next issue Saturday, May 6

Ad space reservations due: Fri., April 14
Finished ad artwork due: Fri., April 21
Calendar items due: Fri., April 28
Letters to the editor due: Fri., April 28

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



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