

Art Matters

An empty bowl can hold whatever we desire



By Janet Sellers

"Laughter is timeless, imagination has no age, and dreams are forever."—Walt Disney

Our Tri-Lakes area annual Empty Bowl fundraiser, held since 1992, was recently renamed in honor of the late Anne Shimek, beloved local potter and friend, who "walked on," as the Ute Indians say, earlier this year. The event is now named the Anne Shimek Memorial Empty Bowl fundraiser. Many of us have fond memories of collecting Anne's cups, bowls, plates and more and chatting with Anne at arts events or just the local library. I still treasure my coffee cup glazed in her unique series of mauves and blues that I bought from her decades ago.

In August, Clay N Colors' potter Dusty Severn told me about a project at her group's space that is a call for ex-

perienced potters to help make bowls for this annual Empty Bowl fundraiser in October. Local pottery venue Clay N Colors recognizes that many local potters do not have a home studio, and would like to invite experienced potters to join them, at no cost, for a series of throwing and glazing Open Studios to support the Empty Bowl supper with handmade clay bowls.

The first open studio for this was held Wednesday, July 26, and as of this writing, repeated each Wednesday for four to six weeks. Experienced potters came and threw bowls, which will be donated to this fundraiser. It provides much-needed funds to Tri-Lakes Cares and more. There may be a few more of the clay-maker time slots, and (experienced only) potters are asked to contact Clay N Colors for this. They have received a donation from their land-

lord, John Dominowski, via the Kiwanis Club to underwrite the clay/glaze costs.

The artists of Clay N Colors have selected four types of clay for this project, each with its own unique properties. New Mexico Chocolate is appropriately named—it has a creamy milk chocolate color that works well with or without color glazes—and copper glazes pop out with this clay. The rest of the clays are from Laguna: Dover is porcelain-like and is more translucent, Bmix is a sturdy white clay and is good with all kinds of glazes, and Speckled Buff clay bursts speckles through the glazes when glaze fired. For details, contact Dusty Severn at Clay N Colors, 251 Front St., Suite 1, Monument CO 80132; 719-238-0069.

The summer Art Hop season is almost over, but you can still "shop for your art heart" at the last Art Hop on

Sept. 21 in Historic Monument, in the Art Square between Second and Third Streets and Front Street and Jefferson Streets. While there, be sure to enjoy the wonderful acres of the Monument Sculpture Park at Jefferson and Second Street, right next to the "Big Red" School District 38 building. Actually, you can walk the green lawns with your family and friends and get up close and personal to the outdoor art sculptures every day!

Janet Sellers is an award-winning artist, writer, and speaker. Her paintings, art installations, and sculptures have been exhibited in Japan, Korea, Los Angeles, and Colorado. She also teaches art and writing locally. Contact her at janetsellers@ocn.me.

Snapshots of Our Community

Branford Marsalis at TLCA, Aug. 3



Above: On Aug. 3, the Branford Marsalis Quartet provided an awe-inspiring jazz performance at the Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts. Marsalis' storied career as a saxophonist has led him in many exploratory musical directions, from performing in his brother Wynton's quartet to becoming his own bandleader, musical director of *The Tonight Show*, and collaborations with others, including Sting and The Grateful Dead. Recognized as a Jazz Master by the National Endowment for the Arts and a Grammy Award winner, Marsalis and his accompaniment played pieces from their latest album *Upward Spiral* plus works by Miles Davis and other jazz legends. *Photo by David Futey.*

Coffee with Chris Lowe, Aug. 16



Above: Monument Town Manager Chris Lowe met with a small contingent of residents at Serrano's Coffee on Aug. 16, as part of his listening tour, which is designed to receive citizen input. After hearing praises, concerns, and ideas regarding specific neighborhoods, Lowe shared his perspective to develop area parks to create walkability and "a sense of place" that may in turn generate more traffic for town businesses. Lowe acknowledged the need for greater connectivity and cooperation among the local governments. Despite the affluence that is common to the area, low property taxes constrain the town's resources, so the town seeks alternative sources of revenue such as grants and developer impact fees. Stating that he works with the best staff in his career, Lowe offered high praise to "very dedicated" Tom Tharnish, Pam Smith "a phenomenal steward of the town's funds," and Larry Manning, who "is building that [planning] position from the ground up." For more information, visit the town website <http://co-monument.civicplus.com>. *Caption and photo by Jennifer Kaylor*

Habitat in Palmer Lake, Aug. 5



Left: Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity and Thrivent Financial hosted a volunteer home-repair event through a unique partnership program called Thrivent Builds Repairs on Aug. 5 in Palmer Lake. This Palmer Lake family got help from Thrivent members and other volunteers with repairs to siding and decking. Excluding government funding, Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity is Habitat's largest single source of funding. For more information, visit ThriventBuilds.com. Habitat for Humanity International is a nonprofit Christian housing organization, and Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity seeks to build strength, stability, and self-reliance through shelter in the Pikes Peak Region. Anyone interested in volunteering with homebuilding or repairs can contact Isaac Ring, volunteer manager. Visit www.pikespeakhabitat.org and follow us at www.facebook.com/pikespeakhabitatforhumanity. *Photo courtesy of Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity.*

Tai Chi in the park, Aug. 14



Above: On Aug. 14, the Silver Alliance Senior Center brought its Tai Chi class to Limbach Park. Here, the ladies hold the "Playing the Lute" pose, one of the many flowing motions of Tai Chi. Tai Chi is an ancient Chinese tradition that, today, is practiced as a graceful form of exercise. It involves a series of movements performed in a slow, focused manner and accompanied by deep breathing. The class, taught by Margaret Pasolli, meets at the Senior Center each Monday at 11 a.m. From left are Rebecca Hicks, instructor Pasolli, Marie Zombory, Reta Thieme, Donna Tanner, Orlinda Roybal, and Stephanie Graczyk. A variety of other classes are available at the center, which is on the campus of Lewis-Palmer High School. For more information and class lists, contact 719 464-6873, admin@TriLakes-Seniors.org or visit www.trilakeseniors.org/. *Photo by Lisa Hatfield.*