

WMMI Harvest Festival, Oct. 6



Above: In the frosty weather of Saturday, Oct. 6, the Western Museum of Mining and Industry offered a fall harvest festival for all ages including a straw bale maze for tots, a large area pumpkin patch, a tractor-pulling hay ride, panning for gold, a tiny tot corn box play area, and more. *Photo by Janet Sellers.*

Candidate forum, Oct. 8



Above: Three candidates vying for the seventh seat on the Monument Board of Trustees attended a forum on Oct. 8 sponsored by the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce. Ann Howe, Kenneth Kimple, and Jim Romanello gave opening statements and then answered prepared questions from moderator Evan Pappas of KOAA. All three wanted to see responsible growth in Monument and urged the trustees to show respect for one another. Current water issues were a main topic of discussion. Romanello, who has a financial background and community leadership experience, intends to bring improved communication and cooperation to the board. Kimple, a 30-year military veteran brings teamwork and leadership skills to the position. Howe, a risk manager and budget analyst, said she could cut spending to fund water projects and fill police vacancies. To see the forum, go to <https://www.facebook.com/TriLakesChamberofCommerce> and search their videos. Caption by John Howe and Allison Robenstein. *Photo by John Howe.*

WØTLM Tech Day, Oct. 13



Left: Amateur radio operators Joyce Witte, left, and Cameron Todd practiced using handie-talkie (HT) portable radios as part of Tri-Lakes Monument Amateur Radio Association's (WØTLM) free Tech Day on Oct. 13 at Black Forest Fire Station 1. Portable operations are just one of the ways hams can

help out during emergencies. The club also conducts a weekly "neighborhood net" to provide an opportunity to actively practice formal net operations and procedures in preparation for emergency operations. All amateur radio operators are invited to check in or take a turn as "net control." It's fun and great practice, and it could help with communications during a crisis in Monument, Palmer Lake, Black Forest, and Briargate. Information is available at w0t1m.com. *Photo courtesy of Dan Oldfield, www.danoldfieldphotography.com.*

Wescott Safety Fair, Oct. 13



Left: The Donald Wescott Fire Protection District (DWFPD) firefighters welcomed visitors to tour Station 1 at their Fire Safety Open House on Oct. 13. Tours of the ladder truck were given by staff, and many enjoyed hearing how ladder truck 531 is used in various emergency situations. Pictured are JoAnn Watson and her grandchildren Cody, Liam, and Parker

Myers. *Photo by Natalie Barszcz.*

Empty Bowl, Oct. 10



Above: Key Club members from Lewis-Palmer and Palmer Ridge High Schools get their pre-event briefing for the Empty Bowl Dinner and Silent Auction on Oct. 10 from Max Williams of the Monument Hill Kiwanis Club. Held annually since 1990, this event is one of a host of local Monument Hill Kiwanis service projects. Kiwanis Key Clubs are student-organized and student-led, serving their District 38 schools and communities. Kiwanis Service Leadership Clubs provide opportunities to learn leadership through service. *Photo by Benny Nasser.*

BBQ for first responders, Oct. 13



Above: The Random Acts of Kindness (RAK) community service group hosted a barbecue Oct. 13 at the Family of Christ Lutheran Church for Tri-Lakes first responders and their family members. Over 100 local first responders from Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District, Palmer Lake Volunteer Fire Department, Donald Wescott Fire Protection District, Monument and Palmer Lake Police Departments, Woodmoor Public Safety, and UCHHealth's LifeLine crew attended. Pipe Major Sam Swancutt played Amazing Grace on the bagpipes during a minute of silence in remembrance of first responders who died in the line of duty. Gordon Reichal read the 911 prayer and thanked our brave first responders and their families for the immeasurable sacrifice and dedication to our community. Residents who either want to help RAK or ask for help can contact Melinda Reichal at 719-313-0688 or mreichal@aol.com. *Photo by Natalie Barszcz.*

Spirit Tree Tour, Oct. 13

Right: Yogis got to experiment with the positive health effects of deliberate breathing techniques, and topical application of peppermint oil and black pepper oil, at a free aromatherapy yoga class taught by Angelina on Oct. 13 as part of the 2018 Spirit Tree Tour. Other events included art displays by Janet Sellers, Deb Bartos, and Terri Sanchez; studio class demonstrations; and a barbecue at Southwinds Studios.



People also enjoyed a Spirit Tree Walk in Fox Run Park as John Anderson explained about Colorado's culturally modified trees and introduced the Native American Sacred Trees and Places Association. *Photo by Lisa Hatfield.*

MSR Center Meeting, Oct. 16

Right: The grassroots group Take Action El Paso County (TAEPC) held a community meeting Oct. 16 at the Woodmoor Barn to discuss the Mountain Springs Recovery (MSR) center to be built at the old Ramada Inn site. Group leaders reviewed the lack of government oversight of for-profit treatment centers that has led to addiction treatment fraud in which aggregated call centers broker for patients. Referencing a letter from the U.S. Congress Committee on Energy and Commerce that discusses these exploitive tactics, TAEPC members suggested that MSR, a subsidiary of Sunshine Behavioral Health, was involved in such schemes. The group showed a documentary that details this process and how those being treated for addiction, as well as their families, have been affected by this negligence. MSR was not represented at the meeting. *Photo by Allison Robenstein.*

