

is required. Register online at [www.mhfac.org/find-a-class](http://www.mhfac.org/find-a-class). Info: 473-8477 or [info@namicos.org](mailto:info@namicos.org).

- **Alasdair Fraser & Natalie Haas Concert** at Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts, Fri., **Nov. 16**, 7 p.m., doors open 6 p.m., 304 Hwy 105, Palmer Lake. Cutting-edge fiddle and cello explorations of Scottish and global music. Tickets & Info: 481-0475, [www.trilakesarts.org](http://www.trilakesarts.org).
- **Alpaca Holiday Extravaganza**, Sat.-Sun., **Nov. 17-18**, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sun., Black Forest Community Club, 12530 Black Forest Rd. Meet alpacas and shop for clothing and accessories, fleece, yarn, and more. Free; open to all. Info: 495-6693, <http://secab-extravaganza.weebly.com>. See ad on page 12.
- **Black Rose Acoustic Society: Jim Salestrom, special Black Friday show**, Fri., **Nov. 23**, 7 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](mailto:jrmtn@comcast.net), [www.blackroseacoustic.org](http://www.blackroseacoustic.org).
- **Small Business Saturday at Covered Treasures Bookstore**, Sat., **Nov. 24**, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., 105 Second St., Monument. Michelle Cummings will sign her fly-fishing book, Reel Sisters, and Avery Daniels will sign her two titles in her Resort to Murder mystery series, Iced and Nailed. Refreshments will be served. Info: 481-2665, [www.coveredtreasures.com](http://www.coveredtreasures.com).
- **Santa Fe Trail Jewelry Starborn Creations Show**, Sat., **Nov. 24**, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 106 2nd St., Unit A, Monument. Shop Small Business Saturday with one-of-a-kind jewelry that showcases the beauty and harmony of natural gemstones. Info: 481-0250. See ad on page 2.
- **Palmer Lake Fall Lantern Festival**, Sat., **Nov. 24**, 2-10 p.m., Palmer Lake. Nov. 24 is the day of Palmer Lake's Annual Star Lighting. Come to the lake in the afternoon for kids' activities, a chili cook off at the fire department, and live music. At nighttime, release paper lanterns onto Palmer Lake as you watch the star being lit. All proceeds will go to the Pedestrian Bridge and Palmer Lake Parks. Local vendors (crafters, food trucks, e.g.) needed; contact [dexsdogs@gmail.com](mailto:dexsdogs@gmail.com). RSVP & Info: [www.eventbrite.com/e/palmer-lake-fall-lantern-festival-tickets-49098480878?aff=ebdssbdestsearch](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/palmer-lake-fall-lantern-festival-tickets-49098480878?aff=ebdssbdestsearch).
- **Palmer Lake's Annual Chili Supper & Star-lighting Festival**, Sat., **Nov. 24**, 4:30-7:30 p.m., star-lighting at 7 p.m., Palmer Lake Town Hall, 42 Valley Crescent. Chili supper, hayrides, Christmas carols, Santa, silent auctions and bucket drawings; one winner will light the star. Proceeds go to the Palmer Lake Volunteer Fire Department. Buy tickets at the door or on [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com).
- **Silent Auction Fundraiser for Lewis-Palmer Boys Basketball**, Tue., **Nov. 27**, 7-9 p.m., Fairfield Inn & Suites, 15275 Struthers Rd., Monument. Cost: \$30 each or 2 for \$50. All proceeds benefit Lewis-Palmer Boys Basketball. Info: Brandon Ragsdale, 351-5262, [wolfdog2rags@gmail.com](mailto:wolfdog2rags@gmail.com).
- **Guys, Grub, and Gifts**, Fri., **Nov. 30**, 5-7 p.m., Gallery 132, 251 Front St., Suite 8, Monument. Enjoy light snacks and refreshments and shop for your significant other from their wish list. Get 10% off. Info: 375-8187, [info@gallery132.com](mailto:info@gallery132.com).
- **Hazel Miller Christmas Show Spectacular** at Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts, Fri., **Nov. 30**, 7 p.m., doors open 6 p.m., 304 Hwy 105, Palmer Lake. Tickets & Info: 481-0475, [www.trilakesarts.org](http://www.trilakesarts.org).
- **Christmas Creche Exhibit and Live Nativity**, Fri., **Nov. 30**, 2-9 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 1, 1-8 p.m., The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 8710 Lexington Dr., Colo. Springs. Come view nativity sets from all over the world. Outdoor live nativity at 6 & 7 p.m. both nights. Admission is free, canned food donations for High Plains Helping Hands food bank accepted but not required. If you have a nativity set you would like to display, send an email to [cscirche@gmail.com](mailto:cscirche@gmail.com). Info: 264-1309.
- **Monument Hill Kiwanis Club's Annual North Pole at Tri-Lakes Arts and Crafts Fair**, Sat., **Dec. 1**, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Grace Best Education Center, 66 Jefferson St., Monument. Browse hundreds of handcrafted items and Tri-Lakes United Methodist Church Cookie Walk. Miguel Dakota, America's got Talent finalist,

and live holiday music by D-38 students and local talent. Admission is free with nonperishable food items, toys, or cash donations for Tri-Lakes Cares. Proceeds fund Monument Hill Kiwanis community granting program. Info: Bob Nissen, 304-8705, [bob@mifi-group.com](mailto:bob@mifi-group.com), [www.MHKiwanis.org](http://www.MHKiwanis.org). See ad on page 13.

- **Downtown Monument's Small Town Christmas**, Sat., **Dec. 1**, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Santa and Mrs. Claus and their reindeer, kids' activities and crafts, hayrides, open houses, and more. Tree-lighting 5 p.m. at Limbach Park. Info: 481-2954.
- **Small Town Christmas at Covered Treasures Bookstore**, Sat., **Dec. 1**, 10 a.m.-noon, 105 Second St., Monument. Three children's authors will sign their books: Leah Gilbert will sign her picture book, A Couch for Llama; Jeannie Mobley will sign her various middle grade readers set in Colorado along with her popular Bobbie Lee Claremont and the Criminal Element; Barb Tyner will sign Rhyaden. Refreshments will be served. Info: 481-2665, [www.coveredtreasures.com](http://www.coveredtreasures.com).
- **Santa Fe Trail Jewelry Darlene Armstrong Show**, Sat., **Dec. 1**, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 106 2nd St., Unit A, Monument. Shop Small Town Christmas with one-of-a-kind jewelry that showcases the beauty and harmony of natural gemstones. Info: 481-0250. See ad on page 2.
- **Monument Tree Lighting**, Sat., **Dec. 1**, 5 p.m., Limbach Park, 151 Front St. Watch for more details. Please bring a canned food item for Tri-Lakes Cares or a new, unwrapped toy for Santa on Patrol. If you or your group would like to perform prior to the Tree Lighting at 5 p.m., phone Madeline, 884-8013.
- **Palmer Lake Yule Log Pot Luck Dinner**, Tue., **Dec. 4**, 6 p.m., Palmer Lake Town Hall, 28 Valley Circle. Please bring a potluck dish to share and place settings for your family. Info: 481-2953.
- **Phil Keaggy Concert** at Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts, Fri.-Sat., **Dec. 7-8**, 7 p.m., doors open 6 p.m., 304 Hwy 105, Palmer Lake. Tickets & Info: 481-0475, [www.trilakesarts.org](http://www.trilakesarts.org).
- **Sisters of Benet Hill Monastery Advent Retreat: A Pilgrimage through the Advent Scriptures**, Sat., **Dec. 8**, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., 3190 Benet Lane, Colo. Springs. Explore how Advent readings affect your life and your on-going spiritual journey. All faith traditions are welcome. Cost: \$45. RSVP & Info: 633-0655 Ext 132, [registrations@benethillmonastery.org](mailto:registrations@benethillmonastery.org), [www.benethillmonastery.org](http://www.benethillmonastery.org). See ad on page 12.
- **Annual Palmer Lake Yule Log Hunt**, Sun., **Dec. 9**, 1 p.m., Palmer Lake Town Hall, 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. Non-hunters can stay warm indoors

with carols and stories. Info: 481-2953.

- **Dakota Blonde Concert** at Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts, Fri., **Dec. 14**, 7 p.m., doors open 6 p.m., 304 Hwy 105, Palmer Lake. Tickets & Info: 481-0475, [www.trilakesarts.org](http://www.trilakesarts.org).
- **The New Christie Minstrels Concert** at Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts, Sat., **Dec. 15**, 7 p.m., doors open 6:15 p.m., 304 Hwy 105, Palmer Lake. Tickets & Info: 481-0475, [www.trilakesarts.org](http://www.trilakesarts.org).

*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](mailto:calendar@ocn.me) or P.O. Box 1742, Monument, Colorado 80132.*

## 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 a twelve 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 letters to no more than 300 words.
- Include your full name, home address, phone numbers, and email address, if you have one. Only your name will be published.
- Send your letter at least 14 days before the "first Saturday of the month" when the paper is published. Later submissions may be deferred to our next monthly issue.

If you have not received an acknowledgement two days after your email submission or one week after you mailed your letter, please contact Lisa Hatfield, Managing Editor, at (719) 339-7831 or [editor@ocn.me](mailto:editor@ocn.me). At *OCN's* sole discretion, letters may be edited for grammar and 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. Letters containing personal attacks will not be published.

## 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 Managing Editor Lisa Hatfield at (719) 339-7831, or email [editor@ocn.me](mailto:editor@ocn.me) to see how you can contribute. Contact us today!

## 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 and inserts in *OCN* is solely the responsibility of the advertisers who place those ads and inserts. The appearance of an ad or insert in *OCN* does not imply endorsement of the ad or insert's content or purpose. While *OCN* does not knowingly run false ads or inserts, 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.

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

## Support Our Community Advertise in OCN!

Our Community News (OCN), with a circulation of 19,000, 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 area 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).**

## Look for our next issue Saturday, Dec. 1

Ad space reservations due: **Fri., Nov. 9**  
 Finished ad artwork due: **Fri., Nov. 16**  
 Letters to the editor due: **Fri., Nov. 16**  
 Calendar items due: **Fri., Nov. 23**

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



Volunteers reporting on community issues in Monument, Palmer Lake, and the surrounding Tri-Lakes area

OCN is published on the first Saturday of each month by Colorado Cooperative Association  
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**John Heiser, President**  
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