238-0725.

- Strong D38 Community: Continuing the Conversation. Thu. Jan. 17, 6-8 p.m., Woodmoor Barn, 1691 Woodmoor Dr. Follow up from the recent school bond and MLO election and discussion of concerns and issues raised by the ThoughtExchange community survey. Info: StrongD38Community@gmail.com.
- **Kinzer Estate Sale**, Fri.-Sun., **Jan. 18-20**, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., 2790 Vandenberg, Monument. Jewelry, sterling, art, furniture, Dresden china, tools, and more. See ad on page 8.
- Rocky Mountain Music Alliance Concert: Music of Light & Darkness, Sat., Jan. 19, 7 p.m., The Church at Woodmoor, 18125 Furrow Rd., Monument. Pianist Dr. Zahari Metchkov will perform works of Liszt and Messiaen. Tickets: adults \$12 online at www.rmmaonline.org or \$15 at the door. Students with ID, and children 12 and under are free. Info: Coleen Abeyta, 630-8165, Coleen.Abeyta@gmail.com, www.rmmaconcerts.org. See ad on page 5.
- The Sisters of Benet Hill Monastery Human Trafficing Series: Familial Trafficking in the U.S., Tue., Jan. 22, 6:30-8:15 p.m., PPLD 21C, Venue Room, 1175 Chapel Hills Dr., Colo. Springs. There are nearly 21 million victims annually in what is a \$32 billion industry. This series on human trafficking offers powerful information, education, and tools for prevention of this crime in our families and communities. Free. RSVP & Info: 633-0655, ext. 132, www.benethillmonastery. org.
- Monument Academy Kindergarten Round Up, Fri., Jan. 25, 1:30 p.m., 1150 Village Ridge Pt., Monument. Visit classrooms, meet teachers, get enrollment info. Info: 481-1950, www.monumentacademy.net. See ad on page 11.
- Black Rose Acoustic Society: Circus No. 9, Fri., Jan. 25, 7-10 p.m. Black Forest Community Center, 12530 Black Forest Rd. at Shoup Road. Cost: \$10 general, \$5 BRAS members, \$5 nonmember students with ID. Info: Joe Maio, 528-6119, jrmtn@comcast.net, www. blackroseacoustic.org.
- Western Museum of Mining & Industry (WMMI): Winter Writer's Nonfiction Writing Class, Sat., Jan. 26, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m., 225 North Gate Blvd. (I-25 Exit 156 A). A non-fiction writing class with Steven Veatch and Ben Elick for teachers and learners of all ages. Cost: \$35 adults (\$30 for members), \$7 students age 21 and under. Advance registration required. RSVP & Info: 488-0880, info@wmmi.org, www.wmmi.org.
- St. Peter School Open House, Sun., Jan. 27, 12:30-2:30 p.m., 124 First St., Monument. Find out about education for Preschool through 8th grade. Info: 481-1855; www.petertherock.org. See ad on page 2.
- The Sisters of Benet Hill Monastery Human Trafficking Series: *The Scope of Human Trafficking in our County*, Tue., Jan. 29, 6:30-8:15 p.m., PPLD 21C, Venue Room, 1175 Chapel Hills Dr., Colo. Springs. This series on human trafficking offers powerful information, education, and tools for prevention of this crime in our families and communities. Free. RSVP & Info: 633-0655, ext. 132, www.benethillmonastery.
- Palmer Lake Art Group Winter Art Show & Sale Opening Reception, Fri., Feb. 1, 6-8 p.m., Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts, 304 Hwy 105, Palmer Lake. Come celebrate the opening of the show and meet the local artists. The show runs Jan. 29-Feb. 22, Tue.-Sat., noon-4 p.m. Proceeds benefit art scholarships for School District 38 high school seniors. Info: www.palmerlakeartgroup.com or email plaginfo@palmerlakeartgroup.com. See ad on page 32.
- The Sisters of Benet Hill Monastery Human Trafficking Series: A Call to Action: What the Military Can and Should Do About Sex Trafficking, Mon., Feb. 4, 6:30-8:15 p.m., PPLD 21C, Venue Room, 1175 Chapel Hills Dr., Colo. Springs. This series on human trafficking offers powerful information, education, and tools for prevention of this crime. Free. RSVP & Info: 633-0655, ext. 132, www.benethillmonastery.
- National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Family-to-Family, Wed., Feb. 6-May 1, 6:30-9 p.m., Monument. A free 12-week course for family caregivers of individuals with mental illness. Meets once weekly.

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, or visit www.ocn.me. Registration required: call 473-8477 or email info@namicoloradosprings.org.

- Heartsaver CPR/AED/First Aid Certification Course, Sat., Feb. 9, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Tri-Lakes United Methodist Church, 20256 Hunting Downs Way, Monument. American Heart Association course. Reservations required. Wear comfortable clothes, bring a sack lunch. Info: epg@tlumc.org. See ad on page 6.
- The Sisters of Benet Hill Monastery Human Trafficking Series: *Protecting Our Precious Cargo*, Mon., Feb. 11, 6:30-8:15 p.m., PPLD 21C, Venue Room, 1175 Chapel Hills Dr., Colo. Springs. Free. RSVP & Info: 633-0655, ext. 132, www.benethillmonastery.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 or P.O. Box 1742, Monument, Colorado 80132.

Look for our next issue Saturday, Feb. 2

Ad space reservations due: <u>Fri., Jan. 11</u> Finished ad artwork due: <u>Fri., Jan. 18</u> Letters to the editor due: <u>Fri., Jan. 18</u> Calendar items due: <u>Fri., Jan. 25</u>

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

Our Community News 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 Our Community News, Inc.

John Heiser, President
(719) 488-3455 (ofc & FAX)

Advertising: ads@ocn.me
Back issues: www.ocn.me
Editorial content: editor@ocn.me
Event information: calendar@ocn.me

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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 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. 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.

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The Rabbi's Corner Right or Wrong, Part II

By Rabbi Oswald Garagorry

In part 1 of this series which began last month, we asked the question: If the Messiah was right or wrong in affirming He was God when speaking to his contemporaries. We determined that the response depended upon who was responding to the question. Today we will elaborate on the response from the Jewish perspective which would likely be that he was wrong; because God is a spirit and not a human being. That response has some logic in it, yet it is not consistent with the Holy Record. In *Genesis 1:8-9*, it describes God walking in the Garden and making noise as he was walking. How does a spirit walk around making noise without a body? It seems evident that walking involves a physical aspect.

In *Exodus Chapter 3*, Moses sees a bush that was burning, but the elements providing the fire were not consumed. So he moved closer to observe it better. And to his surprise there in the midst of the fire was God himself, speaking to him and giving him directions. Normally, spoken words proceed from a tangible mouth somewhere.

In Numbers Chapter 22 we have the report of the messengers of Balak, coming to Balaam. But also in the same text we have the report of God himself coming to Balaam. And the text goes further to describe the two of them having a detailed conversation. The text does not tell us how or in what manner God came to Balaam. The important thing is that God was able to come (in some manner) and spoke words giving instruction to his prophet. "Who are those men with you?" (Exodus 22:9). After getting the response from Balaam, God carried on the conversation with Balaam as He expressed His view or perception of the messengers, telling Balaam: "You are not to go with them; you are not to curse the people because they are blessed." (Number 22:12). Therefore the speaking God is able to come, speak, give instructions and not hang around thereafter. Elsewhere in the Tanakh (Old Testament) we are told of 14 times, by several different authors who affirmed seeing God themselves.

The heart of the matter as David expressed in *Psalms 63:1-4*, is to seek God with all your heart, mind and strength: "O God, you are my God; I will seek you eagerly. My heart thirsts for you, my body longs for you in a land parched and exhausted, where no water can be found. I used to contemplate you in the sanctuary, seeing your power and glory; for your grace is better than life. My lips will worship you."

May you make David's prayer your personal prayer, because he was able to see God himself.
Shalom to you.

Dr. Garagorry is the Rabbi of Aliyah Congregation that meets on Saturdays at 10 a.m. at the Mountain Community Mennonite Church,

643 Highway 105, Palmer Lake, CO 80133 www.aliyahcongregation.com • (719) 330-2382 Visitors are welcome!

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 or (719) 339-7831 with any questions.