

OCN photo contest winners (cont.)



Above: Still waters at Monument Rock, Pike National Forest Monument Preserve, Monument. Taken Aug. 1 on a walk near my home. *Photo by Sharon Williams.*



Left: Despite snow and freezing temperatures, the hummingbirds kept coming to my feeders near Baptist Road. They were all puffed out to keep warm on Sept. 9. *Photo by Lynne Becker.*



Above: The two fawns appear to be perfect statues in this photo taken Sept. 7 in Gleneagle. The mom is in the background. All three deer swing by the yard almost daily. We love seeing them! *Photo by Maria Gomez.*



Above: Tom Westrope takes his Saint Bernard, Hudson, on his daily walk in Fox Run Regional Park on Aug. 3. Best peaceful place to walk your dog! *Photo by Laurie Westrope.*

Our Community Notices

By Judy Barnes, Events Editor

Although we strive for accuracy in these listings, dates or times are often changed after publication. Please double-check the time and place of any event you wish to attend by calling the information number for that event.

Online voter services available

Check that your voter record is up to date now; ballots will be mailed starting **Oct. 9**. The deadline to register to vote or update your registration and still receive a ballot in the mail is **Oct. 26**. For more information, phone 719-575-VOTE (8683) or visit govotecolorado.gov. See ad on page 2.

Ham Radio help sessions

WØTLM Amateur Radio Club is offering a free series of online help sessions to get aspiring radio operators of all ages through the material. Session 1 is **Oct. 24**, 9 a.m. Session 2 will be **Oct. 29**, 7 p.m. Session 3 is **Nov. 5**, 7 p.m., and Session 4 will be **Nov. 14**, 9 a.m. The in-person exam session in Monument will be **Nov. 21**, 10 a.m. Info: <http://w0tlm.com>, click on license classes; Bob@KONR.com.

Election judges needed

The El Paso County Elections Department has many short-term election judge temporary jobs available to assist in the November general election. This is an exceptional

opportunity to be involved in this historic presidential election. To learn more, visit govotecolorado.gov or contact Angie Leath, director of Elections, elections@elpasoco.com or 719-575-8683.

WMMI volunteers needed

Volunteers age 18 and over are needed for the Western Museum of Mining and Industry (WMMI) Harvest Festival and Pumpkin Patch. The Harvest Festival is **Oct. 3**, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., and **Oct. 4**, noon-4 p.m. The pumpkin patch is **Oct. 10, 17, and 24**, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Volunteers are needed for the pumpkin patch, parking, and more. If interested, contact 719-488-0880 or volunteer@wmmi.org.

YMCA's Virtual Turkey Trot 5K

Run your own Turkey Trot 5k wherever and whenever you want and sleep in on Thanksgiving! Register by **Oct. 25** for a discounted fee. All participants receive a T-shirt, and dogs (\$5) get a bandana and treat. Register online at ppymca.org/turkeytrot2020. See ad on page 6.

Pale Ale with a purpose

Pikes Peak Brewing Co. is offering Local 5 Pale Ale for a limited time in its tasting rooms at 1756 Lake Woodmoor Dr., Monument. Proceeds will benefit the local Fire Fighters Union, Local 5. See ad on page 18.

LEAP—Help for heating bills

The Low-Income Energy Assistance Pro-

gram (LEAP) is a federally funded program that provides cash assistance to help families and individuals pay a portion of winter home heating costs. The eligibility period for LEAP runs **Nov. 1-April 30**. Application packets will automatically be mailed to residents who received LEAP assistance last year at the address where they were living at that time. To find out if you qualify for LEAP, call 1-866 HEAT-HELP (866-432-8435) or visit www.colorado.gov/cdhs/leap.

Sisters' Thrift & Boutique open

The Sisters of Benet Hill Monastery have a shop full of gently used treasures, including clothing and accessories, household items, and small furniture at 8674 N. Union Blvd., Colorado Springs. Store hours are **Mon.-Fri.**, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m., and **Saturdays**, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The phone number is 719-282-0316. The shop welcomes donations and volunteers. For a \$5 off coupon, see ad on page 11.

Small-business grants available

The Energize Colorado Gap Fund will provide more than \$25 million in small-business loans and grants to boost small businesses impacted by COVID-19. Sole proprietors, businesses, and nonprofits with less than 25 full-time employees can apply for up to a \$15,000 grant and a \$20,000 loan for a possible combined total of \$35,000 in financial assistance. For more information, visit <https://energizecolorado.com>.

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Taste of Palmer Lake

This year your ticket will get you free food or beverage offerings from all of our Palmer Lake restaurants. Purchase your ticket and receive a punch card for a one-time use for your free item **anytime through Feb. 28, 2021**. This is a limited time offer. Tickets are \$25, available at all Palmer Lake restaurants, and all the money goes to this year's downtown Christmas decorations. Help light up Palmer Lake. For details, visit awakepalmerlake.org.

Tri-Lakes Y fall youth basketball starts in October, register now

Registration is now open for youth basketball, which will start in October. Financial assistance is available. Register at www.ppymca.org/basketball or at the Y, 17250 Jackson Creek Parkway, Monument.

Stage II fire restrictions

Stage II fire restrictions are now in effect for all the unincorporated areas of El Paso County. The following activities are prohibited during Stage II fire restrictions: (1) Open burning defined as campfires and warming fires, charcoal grills and outdoor wood burning stoves, the use of explosives, outdoor welding or use of acetylene or other torch with open flames other than in an area cleared of all flammable materials. Fires contained within liquid-fueled