

Community Garden, Aug. 7

Right: The raised bed in the Monument Community Garden had a lush Three Sisters Garden of corn, beans, and squash. That bed and the garden sunflowers were started in April, but crops started from seed in June required all summer to begin to thrive. Careful planting and watering well with an eye to green mulching (as plant foliage cover helps keep water in the soil) was key for this successful garden bed. Deer deterrents included chili pepper powder sprinkled on top of the plants. *Photo by Janet Sellers.*



Hummingbird festival, Aug. 13



Above: Since ancient times, it's been said that hummingbirds bring messages of joy, love, and good luck. On Aug. 13, Colorado broad-tailed hummingbirds showed off their moves amid a constant flow of enthusiasts at the third annual Hummingbird Festival on the Southwinds Fine Art Gallery grounds. The festival hosted the hummingbirds, bird lovers, baby alpacas, and booths of interest and gifts, with hummingbird informational talks on the hour all day. Hailing from the Southwest and Mexico, the four Colorado hummingbirds are broad-tailed, rufous, calliope, and black-chinned. The best time to see all four in Colorado is in late summer, but we find the broad-tailed here all season. The calliope is the smallest long-distance migrant in the world (they travel around 5,000 miles each year from breeding to wintering grounds), traveling through the Colorado Front Range on its way back from its breeding grounds in the Pacific Northwest, Canada, and parts of Colorado. During its breeding season, the spirited calliope has been seen chasing off other birds, even red-tailed hawks. The feisty rufous stops at our feeders as they migrate back to Mexico from nesting in the Pacific Northwest and Canada via Colorado's Central Flyway in late summer. The black-chinned nests in western Colorado, returning to Mexico in mid-September, and are the longest lived at up to 8 years old. *Caption by Janet Sellers. Photo by John Gair.*

Chamber awards, Aug. 20



Above: The Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce finally got to give out its annual awards on Aug. 20, four months after the original awards dinner was cancelled because of COVID-19. Arlene Padilla, owner of Arlene's Beans, was named Businessperson of the Year 2020. Non-Profit of the Year 2020 went to The Ascent Church. There was a tie for Volunteer of the Year between Mike Hinkle, coach of the Bearbotics team, and Dan Willemyns for his support of Tri-Lakes Cares. Ambassador of the Year 2020 was won by Dawn Kruger of Peak Surveys. From left are Jeanette Breton accepting for Mike Hinkle, Greg Phillips, director of aviation with the Colorado Springs Airport, and Dan Willemyns. *Photo by Charlie Searle.*

Monumental Impact, Aug. 13



Above: Monumental Impact hosted its first monthly network event in the East Room of Grace Best on Aug. 13. The event is for students, community members and representatives from organizations interested in enabling student experiences in technology, engineering, and entrepreneurship. Among those who attended were four members of the Air Force's Air Education and Training Command's Spark Cell. Their website says, "The Spark Cell provides 3D printers, laser cutters, and other tools and services to help airmen foster a culture of innovation and solve larger problems." Shown in photo, clockwise from top left are four USAFA Spark team members (not identified), Amber Wright, Bailey Gargas, Luke Gargas, Cameron Hinkle, "Doc" Pounds, Jeanette Breton, and Jessica McAllister. Lauren Fellers is not pictured. *Photo by Mike Hinkle.*

Chasqui at TLCA, Aug. 14



Above: On Aug. 14, the Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts (TLCA) welcomed the Chasqui String Quartet. The quartet is composed of Sarah Cranor, Alejandro Gómez Guillén, Amy Huzjak, and Han Dewan. Huzjak, who grew up just a few miles from the TLCA in Douglas County, said it is a "privilege to play in my hometown." The quartet opened with Joseph Haydn's String Quartet in g minor, Opus 20, No. 3, composed in 1772. Haydn is believed to have developed the modern form of the string quartet. Chasqui then contrasted Haydn with a contemporary piece by Gabriela Lena Frank titled Leyendas: An Andean Walkabout (2001), demonstrating the innovative depth that a string quartet can explore. They concluded their program with compositions by Amy Beach, Jessie Montgomery, and Ludwig van Beethoven. Information on upcoming events at the TLCA is at www.trilakesarts.org. *Photo by David Futey.*

Benet Hill installs new prioress

Right: Sister Marie Therese "MT" Summers, OSB, was installed as the new prioress by the sisters of Benet Hill Monastery on Aug. 15 at a service of vespers. Bishop James R. Golka, Bishop Emeritus Richard Hanifen, and Father John Costanzo attended and joined with the Benedictine Sisters, Oblates, friends, and relatives in warmly congratulating Sister MT. In gratitude, Sister MT said, "When I entered this community at age 19, you my sisters continued the task of growing me into the woman I have become through the conduit of community life, forgiveness, struggles, accountability, love, and holy zeal. All is gift. Thank you and blessings to each of you who transformed me with love." From left are Golka and Sister MT Summers, OSB, prioress. *Photo by Sister Mary Colleen Schwarz, OSB.*



Art Hop, Aug. 19



Above: The monthly Art Hop venues present local art and artists, with guest artists showcased at each event. The Art Hop, 5 to 8 p.m., runs all summer, ending Sept. 16 for 2021. Pictured (L to R): For the Aug. 19 Art Hop, Mary Lou Pape displayed her artworks at Bella Art and Frame and Janet Sellers exhibited her paintings at the Jefferson Studios gallery. *Photo by Daryl Muncey.*