

Monument Warriors, Oct. 1



Above: Nearly 50 people helped the Monument Warriors celebrate their first year as part of Special Olympics Colorado on Oct. 1. Athletes, coaches, volunteers, donors, and grant providers were honored with a breakfast at the Woodmoor Barn. Over 45 athletes took part in four sports. Two dozen of those in the Track and Field program (seen in photo with coaches Sue Walker, Lisa Glen, and David Jones) made it to the regionals on May 14. In the Warriors' second year, over 70 athletes will compete in six sports. A 2022 grant from the Tri-Lakes Women's Club helped pay for uniforms and equipment. *Photo by Grace Glen.*

Lantern Festival, Oct. 8



Above: Waiting for the sun to go down was the hardest part of the Lantern Festival on Oct. 8 in Fox Run Park. Put together by El Paso County Community Services Recreation and Cultural Services Program Planner Ryan Dorough and following several successful concerts in the summer, the big finale for the season was the launching of water lanterns. Families purchased over 300 LED lights and eco-friendly lanterns for \$16 as a fundraiser for the park. For more information on other events put together by the county Parks Department, go to <https://communityservices.elpasoco.com>. *Photo by Marlene Brown.*

Monument Candidate Forum, Oct. 13



Above: Eight candidates for Monument Board of Trustees and two for mayor took part in a forum sponsored by the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce on Oct. 13. About 30 people attended in person. Chamber President and CEO Terri Hayes says a handful watched on Facebook Live. The scheduled two-hour forum ran over by about 15 minutes. Trustees Mitch LaKind and Jim Romanello are running for mayor. Redmond Ramos, Darcy Schoening, and Ron Stephens are running for re-election. Jason Gross, Sana Abbott, Marco Fiorito, Ken Kimple, and Steve King are first-time candidates. The panel gave its views on a variety of topics including responsible growth, fiscal responsibility, the area's water supply, home rule, and public safety. A video of the forum can be seen at https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?ref=watch_permalink&v=591093166126436. From left are Trustees and mayoral candidates Mitch LaKind and Jim Romanello, Trustees Redmond Ramos and Darcy Schoening, candidate Jason Gross, Trustee Ron Stephens, and candidates Sana Abbott, Marco Fiorito, Ken Kimple, and Steve King. *Photo by Michael Weinfeld.*

WMMI Pumpkin Patch, Oct. 1



Left: The Western Museum of Mining & Industry (WMMI) hosted its annual Miner's Pumpkin Patch on each of the five Saturdays in October. Each Saturday offered a variety of activities for the price of admission with an added cost for the selected pumpkin of the visitor's choice. A giant slide, a children's straw maze, life-size Jenga and Battleship, hayrides, and gold panning were among the many activities. There was also live music, food trucks, and demonstrations of a vintage apple press. WMMI Executive Director Grant Dewey said the museum "adds a new activity each year to add value for families." He added that "we also operate various museum machines during the event, creating a unique event in combination with the other family-oriented activities." Information on upcoming events at the WMMI is at www.wmmi.org. **Pictured:** Micah Neal came all the way from Cripple Creek to

the WMMI to find just the right pumpkin for Halloween. *Photo by David Futey.*

Creek Week, Oct. 1



Above: Friends of Fox Run Park helped with Creek Week by sending a crew of over 20 people to the Santa Fe Trailhead at Baptist Road and Old Denver Highway on Oct. 1. They collected over 20 bags of trash from the trail. Pictured is Julie Haverluk, a board member and active member of Friends of Fox Park. The ninth annual Creek Week was Sept. 24 to Oct. 2. The program benefits the Fountain Creek Watershed Flood Control and Greenway District. Cleanup crews worked countywide. For information, go to www.fountain-crk.org/creek-week. For volunteer opportunities, contact friendsoffoxrunpark@gmail.com. *Photo by Marlene Brown.*

Palmer Lake 0.5K "race", Oct. 9



Above: About 850 "runners" turned out on a beautiful sunny day for the eighth annual .5 (Point 5) K "race" Oct. 9 in Palmer Lake. After checking in and receiving their "race" packets on the east side of the lake, participants and other creatures "ran" the first 200 yards and were rewarded with a donut. Then it was onward! Serenaded by a brass quintet from Lewis-Palmer High School, they proceeded across the pedestrian bridge to the finish line. Those who finished were also rewarded with a coupon for a beer or soda at O'Malley's and were treated to another band playing outside. Funds raised by this event will help enhance parks in Palmer Lake. *Photo by Steve Pate.*

Skate Park Murals, Oct. 15

Right: Monument residents helped artist Lawson Barney (seen in photo) paint two new murals at the Monument skate park on Oct 15. One is a surrealistic scene with an astronaut floating from a campfire, and the other is a memorial to 23-year-old Gage Celano and his 14-year-old cousin Dominic, who were shot to death at Memorial Skate Park in Colorado Springs in 2021. No one has ever been charged in the case. Pikes Peak Area Crime Stoppers is offering a \$10,000 reward for information leading to an arrest. The project was partly paid for with a \$500 grant from PeakRadar.com. *Photo by Michael Weinfeld.*

