

SEW Monumentaries, Mar. 12



Above: On March 12, the Social-Emotional Wellness (SEW) Coalition, a local non-profit with the goal of promoting mental health awareness and providing resources, held an event at Lewis-Palmer High School. Monumentaries, as the event was called, was part of SEW's Year of the Story and had supporters such as the Youth Documentary Academy, Cedar Springs Hospital, Peak View Behavioral Health, and Pikes Peak Suicide Prevention. Student films covered topics such as suicide, struggling as an immigrant, and meeting parental and societal expectations. Each showing was followed by a student-led discussion, and the afternoon ended with a student-led panel sharing key takeaways kids want from parents and adults: "Love me for who I am, not for what I do." Panelists included students and adults: Thomas Fry, Cassandra Walton, Mallory Sale, Miah Williams, David Galvan, Elena Phillips, and Alex Weeks. **Right:** Attendees signed thank you cards to the student filmmakers. The films can be seen on Rocky Mountain PBS as part of the *Our Time* series. *Photos by Jackie Burhans.*



Bearbotics reaches regionals



Above: School District 38's Bearbotics FRC Team 4068 reached the semi-finals at the Colorado regionals in Denver on March 26. At the regionals, teams build robots to play a field game in alliance with other teams. The Bearbotics alliance of three teams finished third. It also took home the Gracious Professionalism Award. The students reached this round by coming in second at the Arizona regionals two weeks earlier. The students who competed were Cameron Hinkle, David Nunez, Emma Beery, Camden Meyers, Dane Vandenhoeck, Shayna McHugh, Caleb Lunn, Keira Griffin, Chris Plauth, David Nguyen and Ben Ladau. They were accompanied by their coaches and mentors Ben Griffin, David Baron, Eric Vandenhoeck, Coach Matt Middleton and Head Coach Mike Hinkle. **Below:** In Arizona, Haribo, the team's nickname for their robot, taxied off the tarmac and shot two red balls as programmed by the team. *Photos by Mike Hinkle.*



St. Patrick's Day at PPBC, Mar. 12



Above: Pikes Peak Brewing Co. of Monument celebrated St. Patrick's Day early on March 12 with a performance by the Celtic Steps of Colorado Springs. Girls ages 4 to 18 danced for a large crowd. They were followed by the Pikes Peak Highlanders, who filled the taproom with the sounds of Great Highland Bagpipes and Scottish drums. *Photo by Michael Weinfeld.*

Moors & McCumber, Mar. 12



Above: On March 12, James Moors and Kort McCumber brought their eclectic Americana sound and multi-instrumental talents to the Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts (TLCA). Guitars, mandolins, keyboard, fiddle, harmonica, banjo, and cello were among the instruments used throughout the evening. McCumber stated that the variety of instruments played were not necessarily to demonstrate their collective talents but to use "what instruments are best for the song." Moors added, "Much like a painter uses specific colors to illicit an emotion, we use our instruments to color the songs and create a dynamic flow." The two sets included songs from their 2021 studio release *Survival* and from their previous six releases. The song selection included two Irish numbers, *Leaving for Cobh* and *Saint Brigid's Well*, the Civil War-themed *Quick As I Can* and *Mando Mandolins*, an instrumental demonstrating their dynamic and collective expertise. Go to www.trilakesarts.org for upcoming TLCA events. *Photo by David Futey.*

Depot sign preserved, Mar. 15



Above: One of the two original depot signs once displayed at the Palmer Lake train depot has been cared for by Rodger Voelker. On March 15, Voelker presented the sign to the Palmer Lake Historical Society, and it will be mounted inside the historic Town Hall. Gary Atkins, who has researched and is knowledgeable about local railroad history, thanked Voelker and shared some of the history of the train depot. In 1883, the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad came through Palmer Lake. The original depot was located about 15 feet west of the tracks in the north end of town, close to the lake. Voelker was a firefighter for 30 years and is currently the wassail-maker for the annual Yule Log event in Palmer Lake and is the guardian of the secret wassail recipe. Voelker, with Atkins and Wayne Russert, were key players in recovering and restoring the depot sign. *Photo by Steve Pate.*