

the district.

The Palmer Ridge High School and Lewis-Palmer High School speech and debate teams were recognized for participating in the Grande Regional National Qualifier Tournament in March. Two from each category were chosen to go to the national competition in Louisville.

Coaches Erin White and Brian Hoff introduced the students who will compete nationally. From Palmer Ridge are Diya Suri and Cole Wickert (public forum debate) and Luxe Palmer (poetry oral interpretation).

From Lewis-Palmer are Harry Harcrow (dramatic interpretation), Andrew Knierim

(humorous interpretation), and Halie Mason and Anita Gichuki (duo).

The District 38 Bearbotics Team was recognized for advancing to regional competition. Coach Mike Hinkle said this is the first time in three years that the team has been able to compete.

Of the 41 members of the team, 26 were new this year. Due to the size of the group, they were divided into three teams.

The robot was named Hari-bo after the team's favorite gummy bear snacks.

The team demonstrated the robot's ability to go forward, backward, pick up tossed balls,

and climb a frame.

In the competition, the team ranked third in Colorado and in the top 6% in the world. They were awarded the Gracious Professionalism award for their conduct.

The Palmer Ridge High School's Bear Necessity Theatre Company was nominated for six statewide Bobby G awards for its production of *Once Upon a Mattress*, including the award for Outstanding Overall Production. See photos on page 1.

The district's DECA team (Distributive Education Clubs of America) participated in the international conference in Atlanta. Of eight participants from

Palmer Ridge High School, three were recognized for their effort and competitive scores.

Palmer Ridge teacher Brandy Doan was recognized by the Colorado Springs Down Syndrome Association for overall impact on students with Down Syndrome. The recognition includes a \$600 scholarship.

The following other achievements were recognized:

- Palmer Ridge women's tennis ranked second in 4A competition.
- Four Lewis-Palmer women's tennis competitors were state qualifiers.
- Lewis-Palmer's swim and dive team was undefeated

in Duel and championship season.

- The Palmer Ridge Knowledge Bowl team advanced to nationals and placed third in its division. Members include seniors Zoe Johnson and Jack Vandembussche and juniors Lawson McVay, Cole Wickert, and Nate Sapp.

The Lewis-Palmer D 38 Board of Education meets at 6 p.m. on the third Monday of each month in the district's learning center, 146 Jefferson St., Monument. The next meeting will be on June 20. Harriet Halbig may be reached at harriethalbig@ocn.me.

Monument Board of Trustees, May 2

Foreman receives Manager of the Year award

By Allison Robenstein

Town Manager Mike Foreman was awarded the Colorado City and County Manager Association Manager of the Year honor during the May 2 Board of Trustees meeting. Several land use decisions were made. Chief Sean Hemingway put a kibosh on a discussion of overnight parking issues, saying there are very few issues in the town.

Mayor Pro tem Kelly Elliott was noted absent but came to the meeting late.

Foreman receives Manager of the Year honor

Scott Trainor, Fountain city manager, presented Foreman with the Colorado City and County Managers Association Manager of the Year award. Managers are nominated every year. Trainor said Foreman rose to the top through his numerous community-based actions including building partnerships with other communities. Foreman champions staff accomplishments and takes the time to mentor those who are not meeting their potential.

In accepting the award, Foreman said it is the staff who deserve to be recognized.

Land use decisions mostly unanimous

A resolution amending the Conexus Phase 1 Preliminary Planned Unit Development unanimously passed. The request was simply to update the site plan, which was originally approved by the board in 2018 to include the industrial stan-



Above: Monument Town Manager Mike Foreman received the Manager of the Year award from the Colorado City and County Managers Association. Photo by Allison Robenstein.

dards referenced in the town's new land development code.

A resolution for the Preliminary/Final Planned Unit Development for Native Sun Construction didn't evoke any public comment. A two-story, 7,000-square-foot office building and a 6,120-square-foot shop will be built at 16050 Old Denver Road, just south of the Baptist and Woodcarver Roads roundabout. The property is just over 10 acres.

The Planning Commission approved the request during its April 13 meeting. See www.ocn.me/v22n5.htm#mpc. Peter Patten of Patten and Associates represented Native Sun, saying there will be two access points off Woodcarver Road. Native Sun Construction was annexed into the town in 2021.

The final land use request was for a resolution for approval of the Final Plat for Wil-

low Springs Ranch Filing No. 2. The parcel is just over six acres and will have 27 single-family homes with lots ranging from 5,400 to 11,000 square feet. The parcel is west of Willow Springs Ranch Filing No. 1 with direct access off Forest Lakes Drive. The preliminary/final site plan was approved by the board on July 6, 2020.

One point of contention was the future Lewis-Palmer School District school site along Cattail Drive. During the Planning Commission meeting on April 13, residents thought traffic patterns at a school would

create congestion and become dangerous for students. The request was approved by the Planning Commission with the condition that Cattail Drive become a right-in/right-out roadway if a new road is built in conjunction with a school.

The resolution passed 5-1 with Trustee Darcy Shoening voting against with no reason given.

Overnight parking discussion moot

Schoening led a discussion to update the current Unlawful

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