

Our Community News

Volunteers reporting on community issues in Monument, Palmer Lake, and the surrounding Tri-Lakes area



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Free

Visit OCN.ME on the web. We now have audio posted for many of the recent articles and videos for some events.



Local Events

Readers should assume that event information published in this issue is subject to change and information should be confirmed a day or two before the event by calling the information number or checking the organization's website.

See pages 22-23 for event locations and other details of these and many other local events.

- OCN mailing days, Thu., May 2 & 30, approx. 7-8:30 am.
- Monument Library Chess Club, Sat., May 4 & 11, 10:15 am-12:15 pm.
- Friends of Monument Preserve Trail Repair Work Day, Tue., May 7, 5 pm.
- NEPCO meeting, Sat., May 11, 10 am-noon.
- Little Log Church 100th Anniversary Celebration, Sat., May 11, 1-4 pm.
- LPES 50th anniversary, Mon., May 13. See ad on page 10.
- Taste of Tri-Lakes Cares, Wed., May 15, 5:30-8:30 pm.
- Palmer Lake Historical Society, Thu., May 16, 7 pm.
- Silver Key Senior Summit-Expo of Senior Services, Thu., May 16, 9-2 pm. See ad on page 8.
- A Time to Dance, The Way Home, Fri., May 17. See ad on page 4.
- Monument Community Presbyterian Church 150th Anniversary, Sun., May 19 celebration at Sunday worship.
- Friends of Fox Run Park, Zoom meeting, Thu., May 23, 7 pm
- YMCA summer day camp ages 5-12 begins May 28. See ad on page 6.
- Monument Art Hop, fourth Fridays starting May 24, 5-8 pm. See ad on page 2.
- Kiwanis Monument Hill Foundation grant applications due May 30. See ad on page 2.
- Claudia Swenson celebration of life, Sat., June 1, noon. See obituary on page 13.
- Monument Concerts in Limbach Park, every Wed. starting June 6. See ad on page 8.
- MVEA annual meeting, Thu. June 6, El Paso County Fairgrounds. See ad on page 11.
- Space Foundation kids' summer fun weeks, June 10-14, or June 15-19. See ad on page 12.
- Front Range Maker's Market Shop, Sat. June 22, 9-4, Sun., June 23, 10-3. See ad on page 28.
- WMMI family days in June, July, Aug. Special STEAM camp June 24-28 or July 15-19. See ad on page 12

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Datteri named D38 Superintendent



Above: At the April 15 Lewis-Palmer School District 38 Board of Education meeting, the board announced its new superintendent, Dr. Stacie Datteri. Datteri comes from Greeley-Weld County School District 6, where she served as assistant superintendent of Academic Achievement and Elementary, K-8 Leadership. She has 21 years of administrative experience and 29 years of experience in the field of education. Pictured are D38 Board President Tiffney Upchurch, left, and Datteri. *Photo by Jackie Burhans.*

Lewis-Palmer D38 Board of Education, April 15

Board selects new superintendent, recognizes staff achievements, approves classified and licensed pay scales

By Harriet Halbig

On April 15, the Lewis-Palmer D38 Board of Education approved the selection of a new superintendent, approved classified and licensed pay schedules, and recognized two employees for their achievements.

New superintendent approved Following a nationwide search and including major input from community members, the Board of Education approved the selection of Dr. Stacie Datteri as the next superintendent for the district.

Datteri comes to District 38 from Greeley, where she currently serves as assistant superintendent

of Academic Achievement and Elementary K-8 Leadership for Greeley-Evans School District in Weld County School District 6. She has 21 years of administrative experience and 29 years of experience in education.

Board President Tiffney Upchurch commented that the selection process was rigorous and that she was impressed at the level of community participation throughout. She stressed that all voices were heard equally and the input from the community helped the board to determine who would be the best fit for the community.

Upchurch also congratulated the two district employees who were finalists for the position.

Datteri commented that she was grateful for the opportunity to serve and is thinking about what she can bring to the table to continue the district's legacy of high achievement. She said she will work through the district's strategic plan.

The board approved the appointment unanimously, subject to contract approval.

Datteri will begin her tenure on July 1.

D38 BOE (Cont. on 2)

Monument Fire District Town Hall, April 18

Proposed training center plans revealed

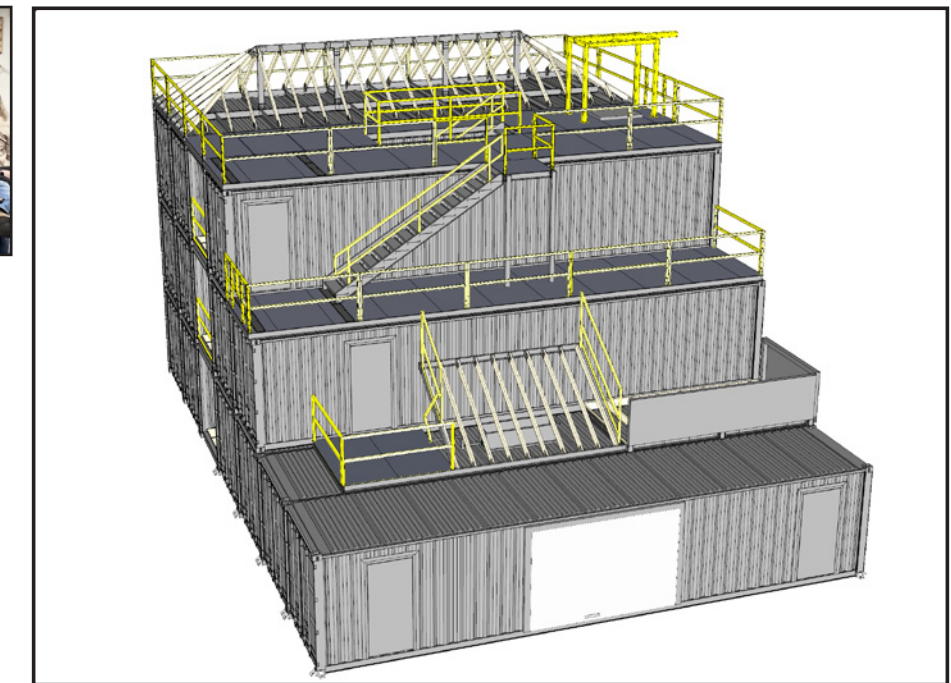


Above: Battalion Chief of Training and EMS Shannon Balvanz answers questions about the proposed three-storied training tower for the undeveloped acreage adjacent to Monument Fire District Station 1, at 18650 Highway 105. *Photo by Natalie Barszcz. Right:* A computer-generated depiction of the proposed Station 1 training tower. *Graphic courtesy of MFD.*

By Natalie Barszcz

At the Monument Fire District Station 1 proposed training center informational meeting on April 18, about 15 residents attended in person with a few attending via Zoom.

Fire Chief Andy Kovacs welcomed the residents and said he and his staff would give a short PowerPoint presentation on the proposed training center and answer questions.



Division Chief of Administration Jamey Bumgarner presented the district background and said:

- The original Station 1 was built in the early 1980s, and the current station was built in the early 2000s. The district began with an all-volunteer firefighting force with administration offices at the same location.
- In 2019, a remodel design pro-

cess began to turn Station 1 into a modern facility, however architects realized the existing site would not be big enough for the design, because the setbacks were insufficient.

- The district asked the adjacent landowner if additional footage could be purchased; the owner

MFD (Cont. on 9)