

## Special Events and Notices

By Judy Barnes, Editor Emeritus

*Although we strive for accuracy in these listings, dates or times are often changed after publication. Please double-check the time and place of any event you wish to attend by calling the info number for that event.*

### Wednesday Senior Lunch at Big Red

**Jan. 9**—Raspberry chipotle chicken, roasted potatoes, & salad

**Jan. 16**—Ham, scalloped potatoes, & salad

**Jan. 23**—Tuna on a croissant with avocado & chips

**Jan. 30**—Chicken Caesar salad & garlic bread

Rolls and butter are served with each meal except sandwiches. Dessert is also provided.

An activity of Tri-Lakes Health Advocacy Partnership. Meals are provided by Pinecrest Catering, Palmer Lake; Nikki McDonald, executive chef, 481-3307.

### Recycle Christmas trees this weekend

The county Tree-Cycle Program has a local drop-off site for natural Christmas trees (decorations removed first) at the Baptist Road trailhead at Baptist Road and Old Denver Highway, open **Jan. 5-6**, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. A donation of \$5 supports El Pomar Youth Sports programs throughout El Paso County. Trees will be ground into mulch that will be given away free while supplies last. For more information call 520-7878 or visit [www.TreecycleCOS.org](http://www.TreecycleCOS.org).

Air Force Academy Boy Scout Troop 78 is offering its 12th annual Christmas Tree Recycling program as a conservation project and to raise funds for the boys' camping. Christmas trees can be picked up from homes in the Academy School District 20 area or brought to four drop-off locations on two weekends, **Jan. 5-6** and **Jan. 12-13**, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The locations are Eagleview Middle School (Vindicator Blvd.), Rampart High School (Lexington and Union), Western Museum of Mining (Northgate Blvd and I-25), and the Air Force Academy (North Gate, B-52 Scout Camp). Cost: \$10 for drop-off, \$15 for pick-up are the suggested donations for trees less than 10 feet tall. Please remove all lights and ornaments. For more information or to arrange a pick-up at your home or business, visit: <https://sites.google.com/site/usafatrop78> or call 719-428-5402, or email [usafatrop78@gmail.com](mailto:usafatrop78@gmail.com).

### Library's adult reading program,

**Jan. 14-March 11**

This year's theme is "Winter Wonderland" and is open to anyone age 18 and older with a Pikes Peak Library District library card. The program runs **Jan. 14** through **March 11**, and adults can read any eight books of their choice. Books on CD, audiobook players, eBooks, and eAudiobooks count, too! To register, bring your library card to any PPLD library and sign up at the information desk or sign up online at [ppld.org](http://ppld.org) beginning Jan. 14. Reading logs will be available at all libraries, but you may keep track of the books you've read using any method. After you read your first four books, visit your nearest library to pick up your first prize. If you read four books by Feb. 18, you will be entered in the Mid-Program Prize Drawing. If you read eight books by March 11, you will be entered in the Grand Prize Drawing for a Kindle Fire tablet. The program has great prizes this year! For more information, call 531-6333.

### Tri-Lakes Cares blood drive, Jan. 15

Tri-Lakes Health Advocacy Partnership will sponsor a community blood drive **Jan. 15**, 3-7 p.m., at Tri-Lakes Cares, 235 Jefferson St., Monument. License ID required. No appointment is needed, just walk in. For more information, call nurse Jackie Sward, 481-4864 x 103.

### TLWC grant applications available Jan. 15

Continuing its 36-year tradition, the Tri-Lakes Women's Club (TLWC) will once again consider grant requests for special programs and projects from 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, public service organizations, and public schools that significantly serve the Tri-Lakes area defined by School District 38. Applications and instructions for

the 2013 grant awards will be available on the TLWC website ([tlwc.net](http://tlwc.net)) from **Jan. 15-March 15**, 2013. Completed applications (which must include certain required documentation) must be postmarked no later than March 15, 2013. Late and/or incomplete applications will not be considered. Awards will be announced to grant recipients in late May. For information, email Sandi Liston, Grant Committee Chair, at [santoliston@comcast.net](mailto:santoliston@comcast.net).

### MVEA scholarships, apply by Jan. 15

Graduating high school seniors might be eligible for one of the 14 \$1,000 scholarships offered by the Mountain View Electric Association (MVEA). Requirements and applications are available at an MVEA office, high school counselors' offices, or online at [www.mvea.coop](http://www.mvea.coop). Info: 719-494-2670.

### Free 12-week fall prevention course, Jan. 22

Tri-Lakes YMCA will offer Moving for Better Balance, a fall-prevention course, beginning **Jan. 22**. The class meets every Tuesday and Thursday, 1-2 p.m., at 17250 Jackson Creek Parkway, Monument. Call 481-8728 to register.

### Haunted Mines: They scare because they care

Haunted Mines is an all-volunteer charitable organization that raises money for the Western Museum of Mining and Industry and other local charities. The 100-plus participants in this all-volunteer organization work all year to plan, build, and bring to life their amazing Halloween "haunted house" production. The 15,000 visitors to the Haunted Mines this year were immersed in an alternate world of underground mines and tunnels, turn-of-the-century western towns, spooky swamps and creepy farms, cemeteries and mausoleums, all while trying to escape the monsters that lurk within. This highly interactive haunted attraction consistently earns top rankings in the state year after year. This year the group donated \$102,000 to the community, bringing the total donation after just a few years to more than \$500,000. The recipients include the Mining Museum, Tri-Lakes Cares food bank, the Wescott Fire Protection District, and the Colorado Wolf and Wildlife Center. Numerous other local organizations benefited from tickets and other non-cash donations.

### LEAP—Help for heating bills

The Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP) is a federally funded program that provides cash assistance to help families and individuals pay a portion of winter home heating costs. The eligibility period for LEAP runs now through **April 30**. Application packets will automatically be mailed to residents who received LEAP assistance last year at the address where they were living at that time. To find out if you qualify for LEAP, call 1-866 HEAT-HELP (1-866-432-8435) or visit [www.colorado.gov/cdhs/leap](http://www.colorado.gov/cdhs/leap) to view the most current program application requirements.

### Seniors in need

Seniors who need some assistance with small household tasks can get free help from students at Palmer Ridge High School. This program will continue through May. Jennifer at Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District will coordinate with the high school. Contact Jennifer at 484-0911 or email [jmartin@tri-lakesfire.com](mailto:jmartin@tri-lakesfire.com).

### Clear snow and ice around mailboxes

Letter carriers are instructed to not deliver to mailboxes and locations that are too hazardous or difficult to access. Support your letter carrier in providing safe and timely delivery of your mail. Following snowstorms and other bad weather, please clear a safe path to your mailbox or business.

### Reverse 911

With the heightened concern for fire danger along the Front Range, many people want to sign up their home or cell phone for reverse emergency notification. The El Paso-Teller E-911 Authority Emergency Notification System is used to notify residents of any potential emer-

gencies in their neighborhood. To sign up, go to <https://elptc911.onthealert.com>.

### Volunteer drivers needed

Mountain Community Transportation for Seniors is a nonprofit, grant-funded organization that provides free transportation to Tri-Lakes seniors 60 years old and over. It is the only transportation service in the Tri-Lakes area to take seniors to medical appointments, the grocery store or pharmacy, the bank, legal appointments, senior lunches, shopping, and to the many activities offered through the senior center and our community. The program is in need of additional volunteer drivers. Volunteers are provided with an orientation after criminal and driving records have been screened. Mileage is reimbursed if volunteers use their own vehicle. The program operates Monday-Thursday and is flexible; volunteers can be involved as much as they choose to be. For more information or to request brochures, email [browneyesmlk@hotmail.com](mailto:browneyesmlk@hotmail.com) or call Mary Ketels, 481-2470, or Faye Brenneman, 481-2527, or leave a message with the dispatcher, 488-0076.

### Tri-Lakes HAP Senior Center

#### has fun programs!

The Tri-Lakes Health Advocacy Partnership Senior Citizens Center is next to the Lewis-Palmer High School Stadium (across from the YMCA) and is open 1-4 p.m., Monday through Friday and earlier for scheduled activities. The facility has a lounge, craft room, game room, and multipurpose room. Programs include pinochle, Tuesdays and Thursdays, noon to 4 p.m.; National Mah-jongg, Fridays, 1-4 p.m.; line dancing, first and second Wednesdays, 1-2 p.m.; bridge, second and fourth Thursdays, 1-4 p.m.; tea time, third Tuesday, 1-3 p.m.; bingo, third Wednesday, 12:30-3 p.m.; crafts, third Thursday, 1-3 p.m.; no-cash/no host poker, second and fourth Fridays, 1-4 p.m. Also available at the center are ping-pong, Wii video games, various puzzles and board games, refreshments, a lending library, computers with Internet connections, and an information table. For more information about programs for seniors, visit [www.TriLakesSeniors.org](http://www.TriLakesSeniors.org).

### Senior Beat newsletter—subscribe for free!

Each monthly Senior Beat newsletter is full of information for local seniors, including the daily menu of the senior lunches offered Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays in Monument. It also contains the schedule of the classes and events for the month at the Senior Citizens Center. There are articles and notices of events geared toward senior citizens. To subscribe to the free newsletter, send an email with your name and mailing address to [SeniorBeat@TriLakesSeniors.org](mailto:SeniorBeat@TriLakesSeniors.org). Senior Beat can also be viewed online at [www.TriLakesHAP.org](http://www.TriLakesHAP.org).

### Check out energy savings at local libraries

Mountain View Electric Association (MVEA) recently started a program allowing consumers to check out "Kill-A-Watt" meters, plug-in energy meters, from local libraries and Book Mobiles in MVEA's service territory. Kill-A-Watt meters can help consumers assess how efficient appliances really are. This program provides a free way to identify the real energy abusers and reduce energy use. People who have used the meters report unplugging appliances that weren't being used to save energy. For more information, call MVEA, 1-800-388-9881, ext. 2602; or Monument Branch Library, 488-2370.

### Free gun-lock kit

The Monument Police Department is offering free fire-arm safety kits to local residents through a partnership with Project ChildSafe, the nationwide firearms safety education program. Each kit contains gun safety information and a cable-style gunlock that fits most types of handguns, rifles, and shotguns. The Police Department administrative offices at 645 Beacon Lite Rd. are open Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Drop by during those times to pick up a free gun-lock kit. For more information, phone 481-3253. ■

## Our Community Calendar

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### GOVERNMENTAL BODIES

- **Monument Board of Trustees Meeting, Mon., Jan. 7**, 6:30 p.m., Town Hall Board Room, 645 Beacon

Lite Rd., Monument. Meets 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mon. each month. Info: 884-8017.

- **Tri-Lakes Wastewater Facility Joint Use Committee Meeting, Tue., Jan. 8**, 10 a.m., 16510 Mitchell Ave. Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Tue. each month. Info: Bill Burks, 481-4053.
- **Triview Metropolitan District Board Meeting, Tue., Jan. 8**, 5 p.m., Town Hall Board Room, 645 Beacon

Lite Rd., Monument. Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Tue. each month. Info: 488-6868.

- **Palmer Lake Sanitation District Board Meeting, Tue., Jan. 8**, 7 p.m., 120 Middle Glenway. Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Tue. each month. Info: 481-2732.
- **Monument Planning Commission Meeting, Wed., Jan. 9**, 6:30 p.m., Town Hall Board Room, 645 Beacon Lite Rd., Monument. Normally meets 2<sup>nd</sup>