

December library events

# Families invited to Cookies and Crafts

By Harriet Halbig

### Children's and family programs

Monument's Family Fun program for December is Cookies and Crafts. On Saturday, Dec. 13 from 2:30 to 4, Friends of the Library will provide large cookies to be decorated with sprinkles and frosting. Other crafts will also be offered.

The Legos Club will meet on Saturday, Dec. 20, from 10 until 11:30. Bring your creativity and we will provide the Legos and Duplos.

### Programs for teens and tweens

Tweens ages 9 to 12 are invited to make a colorful clay-mation-type "critter" (or two) in a fun workshop called Clay Critters on Thursday, Dec. 18 from 4 to 5 p.m. This program is exclusively for tweens, please. Registration is required at 488-2370.

### Programs for teens

AfterMath is a free math tutoring program on Mondays from 3:30 until 7 p.m. This program is open to all ages from elementary school through adults. Experienced tutors are available to help all those who attend. Bring

your homework and drop in for some help. The program is available every Monday through mid-May with the exception of school and library holidays. Tutoring will not be available on Dec. 22 and 29 and Jan. 5.

Interested in finding Magic the Gathering players to interact with? Join us every Monday night from 7 to 8:45. Teens and young adults are invited to bring your cards to play, trade, and enjoy.

### Programs for adults

Local video producer Jim Sawatzki will present excerpts from his latest film, Rarefied Air: Historic Artists of the Pikes Peak Region, on Saturday, Dec. 6 at 4 p.m. This is the only art history film about our area.

Enjoy listening to seasonal harp music played by talented local harp students on Saturday, Dec. 13 from 10 to noon.

The Monumental Readers will meet from 10 until noon on Friday, Dec. 19 to discuss Oliver Twist by Charles Dickens. All patrons are welcome to attend this monthly book group.

On the walls of the library during December will be

works by the Front Range Modern Quilt Guild. In the display case will be a collection of Night Before Christmas books owned by Linda Ross.

### Palmer Lake Library programs

The Palmer Lake Book Group will meet at 9 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 5. All patrons are invited to attend this monthly book group. Please call 481-2587 for the latest selection.

All fiber artists are welcome to join the Fibernistas, a group that meets on Thursdays from 10 until noon. Bring your project and enjoy the company of fellow crafters. All skill levels are welcome.

December's Family Fun program on Saturday, Dec. 20 at 10:30 will be Colossal Cookies. All are invited to combine icing, sprinkles, and holiday cheer with cookies provided by the Tri-Lakes Friends of the Library.

Please note that all Pikes Peak library facilities will be closed all day on Dec. 24 and 25 and Jan. 1. Libraries will close at 4 p.m. on Dec. 31. Happy holidays from the library!

Harriet Halbig may be reached at [harriethalbig@ocn.me](mailto:harriethalbig@ocn.me).

## Our Community Notices

By Judy Barnes, Events Editor

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 information number for that event.

### December Menu

#### Wednesday Senior Lunch at Big Red

**Dec. 10:** Raspberry chipotle pork, roasted potatoes, salad

**Dec. 17:** Artichoke chicken, brown rice, salad

**Dec. 24:** No lunch (Merry Christmas!)

**Dec. 31:** No lunch (Happy New Year)

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

Lunch is at 11:30 a.m. at 146 Jefferson St., Monument (the School District 38 Administration Building, "Big Red"). \$3 voluntary donation. Entertainment follows lunch. For more information, call Judy, 487-9067. An activity of Tri-Lakes Health Advocacy Partnership. Meals are provided by Pinecrest Catering, Palmer Lake; Nikki McDonald, executive chef, 481-3307.

### Found: binoculars

Binoculars were found on the New Santa Fe Trail. For more information, call 488-5544.

### Volunteers needed for county's Highway Advisory Commission and Community Corrections Board, apply by Dec. 12

The Highway Advisory Commission is seeking one at-large representative and one associate member. Members will advise the Board of County Commissioners and the Transportation and Fleet Division on matters involving policy and philosophy relating to the Department of Transportation's operations and activities. The Corrections Board is seeking three citizen-at-large representatives. Members will advise the commissioners on community programs that provide supervision of offenders being diverted from prison as well as offenders who are transitioning back into the community after prison. The volunteer application is located at [www.elpasoco.com](http://www.elpasoco.com). Click on the "Volunteer Boards" link. For more information, call 520-6436 or visit [www.elpasoco.com](http://www.elpasoco.com).

### Santa on Patrol toy drive ends Dec. 19

Monument Police Chief Jacob Shirk and the Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Department will deliver toys to children in the Tri-Lakes area Dec. 20 and they need the community's support. Please drop off new, unwrapped toys or gift cards by 5 p.m., Dec. 19, to Monument Police Department, 645 Beacon Lite Rd.; Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Department fire Stations 1, 2, and 3 or the department's administration building, 166 Second St., Monument. Any family in need or with questions may call Jennifer, 484-0911.

### Academy North Gate bridge work through summer 2015

Two bridges outside the U.S. Air Force Academy's North Gate will be under repair starting Nov. 29 and continuing through August 2015. To ease congestion, the academy

will make the gate a one-way, entrance-only road in the mornings. From 7-9 a.m., no outbound traffic will be allowed through the north gate, and travelers exiting the Academy during those hours will have to use the south gate.

### Tri-Lakes Cares needs help from the community

Each year, Tri-Lakes Cares runs the annual holiday food program because many families in this community aren't able to provide a Thanksgiving and Christmas meal for their loved ones. They do this by collecting food from the Harvest of Love food drive that is hosted by the Kiwanis and School District 38, and by purchasing the food that is still needed. Funding for the holiday food program is greatly reduced this year compared to last year, and there is an urgent need for help to raise additional funds. Donated money will be used to buy gift certificates for turkeys so that everyone in our community can enjoy a traditional holiday meal. To donate, call Julie Seeger, program manager, 481-4864 x104.

### Donations and volunteers needed for Feed the Children event, Dec. 13

El Paso County's 14th annual Feed the Children event is a one-day event just before Christmas where the families already receiving help from the Department of Human Services are able to enjoy a day of celebration and receive food, toys, books, and toiletries. Last year about 5,000 of the neediest people in our community were served. There is still a need of monetary donations. If you able to donate, please contact Rebecca Jacobs at 444-8191 or at [RebeccaJacobs@elpasoco.com](mailto:RebeccaJacobs@elpasoco.com). Volunteers are needed also. To sign up go to <http://dhs.elpasoco.com/Pages/FeedTheChildren.aspx>.

### 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 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).

### St. Peter Catholic School enrolling for preschool-eighth grade

The school offers full and half-day preschool, Core Knowledge Curriculum with small class sizes, Christ-centered education. NCA accredited, state licensed, financial aid available. Call or visit: 124 First St., Monument; 481-1855; [www.petertherock.org](http://www.petertherock.org).

### Free transportation and safety services for seniors

Mountain Community Senior Services offers free transportation and safety services to Tri-Lakes seniors. If you need a ride to a medical appointment, grocery shopping, or the local senior lunches, a volunteer driver will be happy to help you. The number to call is 488-0076 to leave a

message for the dispatcher. If you are in need of grab bars in the bathroom, a ramp to your door, or repair of stairs or railings, please call Cindy Rush, 488-0076, and leave a message.

### 2015 Colorado Gardener Certificate training program, apply by Jan. 5

Colorado State University Extension is now accepting registrations for the 2015 Colorado Gardener Certificate training program. Home gardeners and parks department, school district, and golf course maintenance personnel as well as landscape professionals will benefit from this training. Classes will be held Thursdays, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Jan. 22 through March 26 at the El Paso County Extension Center.



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