

## Tackling the trash

**Right:** From left, El Paso County Commissioner Darryl Glenn and volunteers Clark Soeldner, Linda Nyman, and Sherry Sagers get ready to remove rubbish from the New Santa Fe Regional Trail between Monument and Palmer Lake on April 26 as part of the second annual *Tackle the Trash* event organized by the county. See [www.tacklethetrash.com](http://www.tacklethetrash.com) for more details, or contact Kathy Andrew at 719-520-7871 ([kathyandrew@elpasoco.com](mailto:kathyandrew@elpasoco.com)) if you or your organization would like to participate in this event next year. *Photo by James Howald.*



## Wildfire prevention class, May 7

By Arjun Gheewala

On April 25, the Woodmoor Firewise Committee held a “Do It Yourself” fuels mitigation class at the Woodmoor Improvement Association Barn, educating homeowners of the Tri-Lakes area on the importance of wildfire mitigation.

Firewise Committee Chair Jim Woodman explained how reducing vegetation around your immediate property and creating a “defensible space” can significantly reduce the chances of losing your home. According to the Woodmoor Forestry Information Bulletin, homes that adopt this technique are 75 to 90 percent more likely to survive in a wildfire than houses without defensible space and with amammable roofs.

He advised residents to remove all trees, shrubs, and scrub oak in Zone 1, 15 feet from the house. Tree branches should be pruned above the roof line of the residence. In the same zone, Woodman advised to

prune large shrubs, store firewood and other combustible material far from the residence, and remove all vegetation and dry needles from under decks and near the foundation. There are more tips for Zones 2 and 3.

An identical “Do It Yourself” class will be held Wednesday, **May 7** at 7 p.m. in the Barn, 1691 Woodmoor Drive, Monument.

On **June 21**, the Firewise Committee will host a demonstration outside the Woodmoor Barn. The event is open to all community members who wish to learn more about the dangers of wildfires.

Six Slash Disposal Drop-off Days run by WIA and Anderson Tree Service are scheduled for 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on May 17, June 14, July 19, Aug. 16, Sept. 13, and Oct. 11 at the Anderson Slash Disposal Site on Washington Street north of Highway 105 in Monument. The slash disposal will be self-service and cost \$7 a load.

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### May library events

## Transition time this month

By Harriet Halbig

May serves as a transition time at the library—the end of school with the anticipation of summer travel and special activities, including, of course, the summer reading program for children and teens.

### Children’s programs

Story times and book breaks will stay on their normal schedules through May, with story times at 10:30 and 11:15 on Tuesdays and book breaks on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 10:30. Toddler Time is on Thursdays at 9:30 and 10:15.

The Family Fun program for May is Lego Mindstorms Robots on Saturday, May 10 at 1:30 p.m. This program is recommended for ages 8 to 13.

The Legos Club will meet on Saturday, May 17 from 10 to 11:30. Bring your creativity and we will supply the Legos. Bring your camera to record your creation, because all materials remain the property of the library.

### Teens and tweens programs

Crafty Teens will meet on Friday, May 9 from 3:45 to 5:30 to make summer journals. All materials are provided, but bring photos of your friends to include if you’d like. Ages 11 and up are welcome. No registration necessary.

Having trouble deciding what to give your mom for Mother’s Day? Make her a crochet necklace on May 10 during an intergenerational class at the library! Bring an “I” crochet hook if you have one. Yarn and refreshments

will be provided. Registration is required at 488-2370.

See OCN’s Palmer Lake notices section to learn about an intergenerational tea planned for May!

The AfterMath free math tutoring program will continue through May 19. All ages are welcome to drop in and consult our friendly tutors about any level of math issues. Come anytime between 3:30 and 7 p.m. No appointment needed.

The Tech Club for boys and girls in third grade to teens will meet on Friday, May 23 from 4 to 5:30. Registration is required.

### Adult programs

Learn to make a distinctive crochet necklace of Ladder Track yarn on Saturday, May 10 at 10 a.m. Spaces are limited and registration required. Bring an “I” hook if you have one. Open to adults and teens. Yarn and refreshments will be provided.

Thursday, May 15 from 1 to 3, participate in Social Media for Your Nonprofit presented by Jewels Burdick, owner of SuperFine Designs. Learn to leverage social media for the betterment of your nonprofit organization.

The Monumental Readers book club will meet on Friday, May 16 to discuss *Beneath a Marble Sky* by John Shors. All patrons are welcome to join this monthly club.

On the walls of the library will be works in acrylic and pencil by Glen Riffe. In the display case will be a collection of bookmarks from the library staff.

### Palmer Lake events

Everyone from age 5 to 99 is invited to attend a delightful tea on Saturday, May 10 from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Palmer Lake Town Hall. Please wear your Sunday best (hats optional) and bring your own unique tea cup. There will be treats and activities that party-goers of every age can enjoy. Space is limited. Register online or call 481-2587.

On Saturday, May 17 at 10:30, enjoy Denise Gard and her dog Sienna as they tell a story about Betsy Ross convincing George Washington to change the flag. You will make a star like the ones on our flag.

Become a fibernista! Do you enjoy fiber arts? Share and learn new techniques of knitting and other activities with this group, which meets each Thursday from 10 to noon. Start a new project or bring one in progress.

The Palmer Lake Book Group meets at 9 a.m. on the first Friday of each month. Please call 481-2587 for the current selection. New members are welcome.

Palmer Lake Elementary School art teacher Kelly Blake shares several of her own works in the adult area during May. In the Children’s Room will be a new selection of Palmer Lake Elementary School student art.

Please note that all Pikes Peak Library District facilities will be closed on Monday, May 26 in observance of Memorial Day.

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### Palmer Lake Historical Society, April 8

## Palmer Lake Star gets its night

By Bernard L. Minetti

Retired Air Force officer, historian, and teacher Jack Anthony hosted the First Annual Star Night celebration at the April 8 meeting of the Palmer Lake Historical Society. Anthony described his work to have the Palmer Lake Star listed on the Colorado State Register of Historic Properties. He described the process that he and Gary and Travis Coleman went about to provide the basis for star’s listing.

Anthony also mentioned the work done by Harry Krueger and Tim Wagner. Wagner, now deceased, surveyed the property and provided all the technical details required. He listed many others that were instrumental in the process of construction, maintenance, and the listing process on the register.

Anthony and Historical Society President Tom VanWormer said the evening was designated as the First Annual Star Night at Palmer Lake. This announcement was greeted by a standing ovation. While there was an overflow crowd in the Palmer Lake Town Hall for this event, Anthony said he hoped that it would grow into a celebration that one day would be the center of a much larger community celebration to honor the star.

He invited those present to make plans now for the Second Annual Star Night at Palmer Lake. He hoped that the streets of Palmer Lake would be filled with attendees for this celebration.



**Above left:** A large crowd participated in the celebration of the First Annual Star Night in Palmer Lake. **Above right:** Palmer Lake Fire Chief Margo Homes, left, is pictured with Palmer Lake historian Jack Anthony as they celebrate the First Annual Star Night at Palmer Lake. Anthony gave the 2014 evening’s presentation and history of the star to a packed audience in the Palmer Lake Town Hall. They both said that they would be back next year for the Second Annual Star Night. *Photos by Bernard Minetti.*

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On Tuesday, May 13, John Putnam will present a commentary on the “Interface with the Insurance Industry.” The information might help residents understand the problems and solutions for making insurance claims in a fire or possible fire event.

On Thursday, May 15, the presentation will be “Maggie: She Went West for the Cure,” by Mary Ann Davis.

Both presentations will take place at 7 p.m. in the Palmer Lake Town Hall at 28 Valley Crescent, Palmer Lake. These events are free, and refreshments will be served after each presentation.

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