

TLWC supports PLES Arbor Day project



Above: Palmer Lake Elementary School's Arbor Day event on May 6 included thanks to the Tri-Lakes Women's Club (TLWC), which granted supplies to help with the school's greenhouse project. From left are Katie Dubois, supervisor, Lewis-Palmer School District Nutritional Services; Geri Bush, TLWC Co-president; Jim Riggins, "Green Panther" advisor; and TLWC Co-President Gail Wittman. Over the last 40 years, TLWC's over 200 members have granted over \$800,000 to nonprofits, School District 38, and public service organizations in the Tri-Lakes community. Two annual fundraisers, Wine and Roses held in the fall, and the Pine Forest Antiques, Home Décor and Garden Show, which was held April 26-27, along with the generous support from Tri-Lake's businesses and individuals, provide the resources to fulfill these grants. For more information about TLWC, visit www.tlwc.net. *Photo by Elise Riggins.*

Spirits of Spring fundraiser, May 17



Above: At the "Spirits of Spring" fund-raiser May 17 hosted by the Gleneagle Sertoma Club at the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame, located at Rockrimmon and I-25, the featured auctioneer described various items up for auction. The event benefitted The Home Front Cares, Mission Medical Clinic, and Tri-Lakes Cares. Monument, Colorado Springs, and Denver residents enjoyed tasty treats and fine wines in the classic Western setting. Local businesses—Downtown Fine Spirits and Wines, Carraba's Italian Grill, Texas Road House, Biaggi's, Bourbon Brothers, Ted's Montana Grill, California Pizza Kitchen, Blue Bell Ice Cream, Freddie's Frozen Custard—and others donated food and wine samples and services. *Photo by Michael Justice.*

St. Baldrick's fundraiser, May 9



Above: Volunteers shaved their heads and donated \$5,727 to the St. Baldrick's Foundation May 9 at Bear Creek Elementary School. St. Baldrick's is a volunteer-driven charity that funds more in childhood cancer research grants than any organization except the U.S. government to give hope to infants, children, teens and young adults fighting childhood cancers. An army of St. Baldrick's volunteers has made it possible to award \$127 million in grants since 2005—nearly \$25 million in 2013 alone. The Honored Kid on May 9 was Benny and his family Randy, Laurie, and his brother, RJ. For more information, see www.stbaldricks.org/events/bearcreekgoesbald. *Photo courtesy of Carrie Hill Photography.*

McGrath presents to Kiwanis May 17



Above: Retired Navy Capt. Mike McGrath, a Monument resident and Monument Hill Kiwanis member, right, chatted with Kathy Strom, Kiwanis member and bookkeeper, before the Kiwanis meeting on May 17. McGrath spoke briefly but powerfully about "*The Sex Life of a Naval Aviator at the Hanoi Hilton*," a.k.a., "*Rats, Bugs, Snakes, and Torture*." He told about his experiences as one of over 700 POWs inhumely imprisoned during the Vietnam War, including living conditions, torture, the prisoner "tap code" for communication and camaraderie, and the desperate need to "hold onto your little ball of faith" and "return with honor." Monument Hill Kiwanis meets every Saturday 8 a.m. at the Inn at Palmer Divide to "help kids and youth, build our community, and have fun while doing it." See <http://monumenthillkiwanis.org/mhk/> or call Bill Healy, president, (719) 278-8393 for upcoming speakers and community service projects such as the club's next big project, the annual Fourth of July Parade in Monument. *Photo by Lisa Hatfield.*

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