

Our Community News

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



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Free



Local Events

See pages 27-31 for details of these and many other local events.

WMMI Pikes Peak Gem & Mineral Show, Fri.-Sun., Jun. 5-7

Kids' Fishing Derby, Sat., Jun. 6, 8 a.m.-noon, Monument Lake

Wescott Fire Department Summer Safety and Health Fair and Open House, Sat., Jun. 6, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Larkspur Settler Days, Sat., Jun. 6, 1-10 p.m.

Foot Care Clinic, Wed., Jun. 10

Monument Movie Nights: *E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial*, Thu., Jun. 11, 7 p.m.

Russ Taff in Concert at TLCA, Fri., Jun. 12, 7-9 p.m.

Tornado Preparedness, Sat., Jun. 13, 12:15-3:15 p.m.

Tri-Lakes Cruisers Car Show, Sun., Jun. 14, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

AARP Smart Driver Course, Wed., Jun. 17, 12:35-5:15 p.m.

Art Hop, Thu., Jun. 18, 5-8 p.m.

Palmer Lake Historical Society: Rare Locomotives, Thu., Jun. 18, 7 p.m.

Kipp Attaway, Cowboy Comedian at TLCA, Fri., Jun. 19, 7-9 p.m.

Father's Day Ice Cream Social, Sun., Jun. 21, noon-5 p.m.

Concerts in the Park, every Wed., Jun. 24-Jul. 29, 7-9 p.m.

Foot Care Clinic, Fri., Jun. 26

Woodmoor Garage Sale, Fri.-Sat., Jun. 26-27, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

Pickin' on the Divide Divide Music Festival and Classic Car & Motorcycle Show, Sat., Jun. 27, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

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Above: The Thunderbirds' six plane squadron demonstrated a variety of aerial moves in their over 30-minute air show as viewed during the Western Museum of Mining and Industry's Picnic-N-Planes-N-Burros event May 28. Photo by David Futey. See www.wmmi.org for upcoming WMMI events.

Palmer Lake Town Council, May 14

Mayor McDonald appoints third trustee

By James Howald

The Palmer Lake Town Council held two meetings on May 14, first the Town Council Liquor Licensing and Marijuana Authority, and then the regularly scheduled Town Council meeting.

Judith Harrington appointed to council

The Palmer Lake Town Council amended its published agenda to begin its May 14 meeting with the appointment of Judith Harrington to replace Trustee Trisha Flake. Harrington is well-known in the community due to her leadership of the

town's fire mitigation efforts. Harrington's appointment brings to three the number of trustees appointed by Mayor Nikki McDonald. According to McDonald, Harrington was the only person who submitted a letter of intent to run for the council. The motion to appoint Harrington was approved unanimously by the trustees present. At the time this article was written, the town's web page did not include the role Trustee Harrington will play on the council.

(Continued on page 5)

Monument Board of Trustees, June 1

Woodworths honored; potential methadone clinic discussed

By Lisa Hatfield

On June 1, the Monument Board of Trustees heard public comments and questions about both a potential medical treatment facility and chicken-keeping. They approved the Family of Christ expansion

and witnessed the Jim Moore Award presentation and the 75th Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo/Girls of the West presentation. Trustee Becki Tooley was absent.

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Above: Tommy Plank of the Historic Monument Merchants Association and Mayor Rafael Dominguez presented the Jim Moore Achievement Award to Woody and Catherine Woodworth for their "beautiful" renovations to their Catriona Cellars building in the downtown historic business area. The original Jim Moore Award was featured on the Jay Leno show in 2007. See www.ocn.me/v7n6.htm#bot521 and www.ocn.me/v7n7.htm#leno. Photo by Lisa Hatfield.

Baptist Road Rural Transportation Authority, May 8

2015 BRRTA audit approved

By Jim Kendrick

On May 8, the board of the Baptist Road Rural Transportation Authority (BRRTA) held a regular meeting focused on financial matters, including approval of the 2014 audit followed by a follow-up scoping discussion of future BRRTA debt repayment strategy from the April 10 special BRRTA board meeting.

The BRRTA board consists of two Town of Monument elected officials and three elected El Paso County officials. The current members are Monument Mayor Pro Tem Jeff Kaiser (chair), Monument Mayor Rafael Dominguez, County Commissioner Darryl Glenn, County Commissioner Dennis Hisey, and County Assessor Steve Schleiker. Commissioner Hisey did not attend this meeting.

The county staff members now performing staff tasks for the board are Funding Optimization Manager Elaine Johnsen, Sales and Use Tax Manager Brian Olson, County Budget Officer Nikki Simmons, Senior Assistant County Attorney Lori Seago, and Assistant County Attorney Kenneth Hodges.

2014 BRRTA audit approved

Clifton Larson Allen accountant and former BRRTA financial manager Carrie Bartow briefed the board on her unmodified or "clean" opinion in the final draft of the 2014 BRRTA audit performed by BiggsKofford P.C. of Colorado Springs. Some of the items she discussed regarding BRRTA's net position of restricted and unrestricted funds were:

- Total 2014 year-end assets were \$3.574 million.
- Total 2014 year-end liabilities were \$15.270 million.
- The 2014 total end-of-year net position was a deficit of \$11.696 million due primarily to remaining I-25 Exit 158 road construction bond principal and interest debt.
- Total revenues from 2014 road use fees plus sales and use taxes were \$1.696 million (see note below)
- Total 2014 road use fee revenues were \$374,003; BRRTA road use fees were suspended as of Dec. 18 (see note below)
- Total 2014 sales and use tax revenues were \$1.321 million
- Total 2014 expenses, for government activities plus long-term debt interest were \$1.608 million.
- Total year-end cash assets were \$3.03 million.
- Total year-end bond principal still to be paid by the end of 2026 was \$15.2 million.
- Total year-end bond interest still to be paid by the end of 2026 was \$5.8 million.
- Total 2014 year-end bond debt still to be paid off was \$21.0 million.

(Continued on page 2)