

bridge decks in the county, a two- to three-year plan to rebuild the Cimarron Interchange that will affect traffic in the region, and several developments in the county that went bankrupt. The local Misty Acres development has gone through bankruptcy. The county has recovered some monies from the bankruptcy court that it will use over time to redo drainage work that was improperly done in Misty Acres.

Community report

Jennifer Cunningham, who fills the newly created role of director of Community Outreach, provided her first report at the May meeting of the WIA board. Cunningham recommended that residents sign up for local newsletters for the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce and the Town of Monument to keep abreast of community events. She

provided links on the Woodmoor Improvement Association Facebook page as well as on the Nextdoor.com site. She noted upcoming events such as the Free Movie Nights at Jackson Creek Clock Tower in June. More information can be found at <http://www.monumentcolorado.org/community-events>. July will see the return of the Concerts in the Park series.

Cunningham also noted that the Town of Monument Board of Trustees meets on the first and third Mondays of each month. She encourages Woodmoor residents to attend, because the board makes decisions that can affect them. Cunningham also attended the Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments (PPACG), where they discussed the non-motorized transportation system such as trails. Cunningham and

Hale attended the Northern El Paso County Coalition of Community Organizations (NEPCO) meeting, which delivered briefings on water and traffic. There is concern that the imminent development projects on Jackson Creek Parkway will cause traffic issues unless the town takes action to widen the road.

The Dunes development status

Mark Ponti, director of Architectural Control, reported that WIA has received the \$14,000 administrative fee from La Plata for The Dunes development project as well as the \$150,000 compliance deposit on time. Development should break ground by the end of summer if all goes according to plan. Concerns were raised about traffic and noise during construction by Aspen View Homes. Ponti indicated

that construction within the development should be expected by early residents of the development.

The WIA Board of Directors usually meets at 7 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month in the Barn at 1691 Woodmoor Drive, Monument. The next meeting will be on June 24. WIA board meeting minutes can be found at: <http://www.woodmoor.org/content/admin-bod-meeting-minutes.html> once approved and posted.

Thanks to OCN volunteer Audrey Burkart for attending and recording this meeting.

Jackie Burhans can be reached at jackieburhans@ocn.me.

April 2015 Weather Wrap

By Bill Kappel

It was a record wet month around the region, with well over 10 inches of moisture accumulating for most of us. Drought is no longer an issue, and instead flooding is now the concern. All but two days during the month recorded measureable precipitation, and even those two days had a trace of rainfall. Temperatures failed to reach the 70-degree mark until the last day of the month, and of course winter made a final stand on the 9th and 10th.

May began very wet and stormy, with measurable precipitation occurring every day. Temperatures started off the month a little warmer than normal, with highs in the upper 60s from the 1st through the 3rd. Afternoon showers and storms devel-

oped each day, with brief heavy rain and hail around 3 p.m. on the 1st. The activity over the first three days wasn't associated with any organized storms, but that was about to change. Starting on the 4th, the first of two strong areas of low pressure moved slowly through the region. Both storms took a favored path cutting off over the Four Corners region and moving east through northern New Mexico and southern Colorado. The first storm produced several rounds of rain, heavy at times, and hail. But snow levels stayed elevated, generally above 10,000 feet. Temperatures held in the 50s and upper 40s during the period from the 4th through the 7th.

Then, the next storm began to affect the region late on the 7th. Heavy rain,

thunder (even during the night and early morning), hail, and eventually snow all occurred with the second system. All four of these elements occurred on one day, the 9th. This storm started like the first, with snow levels up high, and plenty of heavy rain, thunder, and hail. Then, cold air began to work into the region during the morning and early afternoon of the 9th. Rain changed to snow around 3 p.m. that afternoon and picked up in intensity through the evening. As usual this time of the year, the accumulations were very much elevation dependent, with amounts increasing from a couple inches below 7,000 feet to over 8 inches at the top of the Palmer Divide. Winds also kicked in that evening, causing blowing snow and lots of driving difficulties. For the first nine days, most areas accumulated 6-10 inches of precipitation, putting us well above normal for the water year and making this one of the wettest months of May on record and we still had three weeks to go!

The wet weather continued during the week of May 11, although not at the same rate as the previous week. Temperatures "warmed" into the 50s and 60s during the period, still about 5-10 degrees cooler than average for the middle of May. Afternoon and early evening showers and thunderstorms were common, with the most widespread showers occurring from the 12th to the 14th and again on the 17th. Each day recorded at least of trace of rainfall during the week, so that by the end of the week, we were approaching double digits as far as monthly precipitation, making this one of the wettest months on record across the region, with nearly half the month remaining.

The record wet weather continued during the week of the 18th, with more heavy rain at times causing flooding issues for many streams in the region. Temperatures remained a good 10-20 degrees cooler than normal during the week, with highs in the low 40s on the 19th and 21st, and low to mid-50s every other day. Rainfall was heaviest from the evening of the 18th through the morning of the 19th and again on the 22nd and 23rd. But every day of the week recorded measureable precipitation. In fact, only two days this month didn't record measurable precipitation, and even those two days did see at least of trace of rainfall. Temperatures were cold enough that some of the precipitation fell as snow during the morning on the 19th as cooler air filtered in behind the departing storm. By the end of the week most of us were

in the double digits for total precipitation through the first three weeks of the month.

The last week of the month saw more of the same, with daily occurrences of rain and thunderstorms, hail at times, and continued flooding concerns. The heaviest rains fell on the 28-29th with another inch or so accumulating along with plenty of hail. Temperatures continued below normal, with highs in the 60s during the week. Finally, some signs of change were evident during the last two days of the month, with sunshine returning and temperatures warming into the 60s and briefly touching the low 70s on Sunday the 31st.

This pushed May 2015 into the record books as one of the wettest months on record for many areas along the Front Range and Eastern Plains of Colorado. Of course, this also means drought conditions are no longer a concern anywhere in the region and lots of snow has piled up in the mountains when we are normally melting the snowpack.

A look ahead

By June we can usually say goodbye to our chance of snowfall, but hello to frequent afternoon and evening thunderstorms. There are times when we see a little snowfall in June in the region, but most of the time we can expect warm, sunny days with afternoon and evening thunderstorms.

May 2015 Weather Statistics

Average High **57.5°** (-9.3°) 100-year return frequency value max **75.7°** min **57.9°**
 Average Low **37.0°** (+1.3°) 100-year return frequency value max **43.2°** min **32.5°**
 Highest Temperature **72°F on the 31st**
 Lowest Temperature **22°F on the 10th**
 Monthly Precipitation **12.49"** (+2.53"
 52% above normal) 100-year return frequency value max **6.94"** min **0.15"**
 Monthly Snowfall **8.7"** (+3.2" 37% above normal)
 Season to Date Snow **116.5"** (-6.2" 5% below normal) (the snow season is from July 1 to June 30)
 Season to Date Precip **30.37"** (+11.29" 40% above normal) (the precip season is from July 1 to June 30)
 Heating Degree Days **551** (+126)
 Cooling Degree Days **0**
 For more detailed weather information and Climatology of the Palmer Divide and Tri-Lakes region, please visit Bill Kappel's Weather Web page at www.thekappels.com/Weather.htm.
 Bill Kappel is a meteorologist and Tri-Lakes resident. He can be reached at billkappel@ocn.me.



**Monument Hill Kiwanis,
Town of Monument &
Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce**

present

A Celebration of Independence

"A New Birth of Freedom"

150th Anniversary of the American Civil War's Ending






Friday 3 July 2015
 7:00 pm - Midnight
Barn Dance - with the band *Reckless*. Tickets at the Door
 Sibell's Barn, behind 231 Front Street, Monument

Saturday 4 July 2015
 7:00am - **Palmer Lake Fun Run** - Register: www.july4funrun.com
 Palmer Lake

7:00 am-10:00 am
Pancake Breakfast - Tickets at the Door
 St Peter Catholic Church - 55 Jefferson St

8:00 am - 3:00 pm
**Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce
 Street Fair** - 2nd Street and Washington Street

9:30 am
Monument Hill Kiwanis Children's Parade
 Downtown Monument

10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Monument Hill Kiwanis 4th of July Parade
 Downtown Monument - Register to participate: www.monumenthillkiwanis.org
 Kids' Games - Monument Community Presbyterian Church, 3rd & Jefferson

10:00 am - 9:00 pm
Tri-Lakes Chamber Beer Garden - Family Friendly
 Limbach Park, Monument

12:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Monument Music Festival
 Downtown Monument

Check us out at:
www.trilakes4thofjuly.com

NOTICE: Parade spectators are encouraged to come early, park at Palmer Ridge High School or Lewis-Palmer High School, and ride the free bus to and from downtown Monument

Inbound to Monument: 7:00 - 9:30 am **Outbound** from Monument: 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Support Our Community. Shop Tri-Lakes!