

Snapshots of Our Community

900 compete in July 4 Fun Run

By David Futey
At 7 a.m. on the morning of July 4, nearly 900 runners convened along the shores of Palmer Lake for the annual July 4 Fun Run. Proceeds from the Fun Run support programs at Palmer Lake Elementary School (PLES). Race

Coordinator and member of the PLES PTO Lindsey Leiker said proceeds from this year's Fun Run will be used to update the school's library with furnishings, technology, and other necessities. Leiker thanked all the participants and sponsors for supporting this event. Eric Hamer fin-

ished with a time of 20:27 to lead the male finishers and Hannah Capek had 24:00 to lead the female finishers. Both winners are Monument residents.

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Above: Charlotte McClure, left, of Colorado Springs and Gwen Wells of Monument participated in the race from Palmer Lake to Monument. **Left:** For as far as the eye can see, runners assemble near the starting line. **Right:** Runners make their way around Palmer Lake at the start of the Fun Run. *Photos by David Futey.*

July 4 parade draws thousands in Monument

By David Futey
On a sunny July 4, the Tri-Lakes area celebrated the country's independence with its annual parade. The parade was themed "The Three R's Foundation of Freedom" and sought to honor Lewis-Palmer School District 38 and educators across the country.
Over 100 entries participated in the two-hour-long

parade with thousands of spectators lined along Lincoln, Front, Third and Beacon Lite streets in Monument. Among the entries were Colorado Teacher of the Year and parade Grand Marshal Kathy Thirkell from Lewis-Palmer High School in a classic Ford Mustang, floats from Integrity Bank and Tri-Lakes Women's Club, Tri-Lakes YMCA, Renaissance Festival performers, cheerleaders from Tri-

Lakes area schools, bands, cars, motorcycles, horseback riders from Kit Carson Riding Club, the El Paso County Fair, and fire engines.

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All photos by David Futey

Pancake breakfast



Above: The Knights of Columbus Council 11514 hosted its annual Fourth of July Pancake Breakfast at St. Peter Church. The aroma of pancakes and sausages along with patriotic music filled the air as over 1,400 pre-parade attendees sampled those and other delights. Jim Rech, coordinator of the breakfast, said this acts as a fundraiser for college and high school scholarships, Tri-Lakes Cares, and other local agencies.

Children's parade



Above left: Children anticipate the start of the parade near the corner of Lincoln and Jefferson in Monument. **Above right:** Boy Scout Troop 17 from Monument leads the Fourth of July Children's Parade. **Below:** Some of the many participants. **Left:** Jasmine Joslyn completely covered her car in patriotic decorations. **Right:** Brian and Heather Hawkins displayed their patriotism with fully decorated bikes.

