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Snapshots of Our Community

**TLWC Harvesting Hope, Sep. 22**

Right: On Sept. 22, the Tri-Lakes Women’s Club (TLWC) held its new fall fundraiser called Harvesting Hope. Numbers tell some of the story—17 food vendors, 13 beverage vendors, 10 celebrity guests, 299 sold tickets, 200 silent auction baskets, 140 home-baked harvest breads by their very own “Happy Harvesters,” and over 350 people in attendance. The Ponderosa Room at Spruce Mountain Ranch in Larkspur was transformed into a fall landscape. The music, line dancing, and square dancing added entertainment. Donations that made the evening unforgettable included those from Front St. Square, The Wine Seller, PizZanos, Eagle Engraving Awards & Trophies, and Purple Mountain Jewelry. The first Harvesting Hope event with so much TLWC and community support added $23,000 to the TLWC’s fundraising goal. All proceeds benefit qualified nonprofit service organizations and public schools in the Tri-Lakes area. Photo courtesy of Tri-Lakes Women’s Club.

**Poverty Simulator, Sep. 27**

Right: Tri-Lakes Cares, in coordination with the Pikes Peak United Way, hosted a Poverty Simulator event September 27 at Lewis-Palmer School District 38’s administration building. The simulation enables participants to view poverty from different angles and then discuss the potential for change within local communities. It’s designed to create a broader awareness among community members.

As part of the simulation, volunteers took on the role of family members trying to make ends meet and had to try to get to the bank, interfaith services, food-a-rama, mortgage company, pawn shop, school, etc. in a four-week period covered in an hour. Comments afterward about the frustration, trouble with transportation and child care, survival mode instead of parenting, and tension showed how many times it can actually be for you are keeping the dollars local and circulating in our community, a fact that strengthens every dollar you spend with the little guys in town. Besides, it’s such fun to meet the artists and you might just get some tasty treats when you go.

Janet Sellers is a local fine artist, writer, and art teacher. She has public art and sculptures in many Colorado cities, local drawing and painting classes for all ages, and welcomes your art questions. She can be reached at janetsellers@ocn.me.

**RMMA Concert, Oct. 1**

Left: On Oct. 1, the Rocky Mountain Music Alliance held its 10th Anniversary RMMA Concert at Tri-Lakes United Methodist Church. The audience heard the Mozart Violin Sonata, Ravel-Tzigane, and Prokofiev Sonata No. 1 in f minor performed by Geoff Herd, violin, and Zahari Melchikov, piano. See www.rmmaonline.org. Photo by Barbara Taylor.

**Phil Keaggy at TLCA, Sep. 30**

Right: On Sept. 30, guitar virtuoso Phil Keaggy entertained a sold-out audience at the Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts (TLCA). Keaggy’s musical career formally started with the Youngstown, Ohio-based band, Glass Harp in 1968. At five years old, this influential trio, he turned toward Christian-oriented music for the next 40-plus years. On this evening, he blended songs from his Christian-oriented albums and a number of instrumentals, along with material to “Thank the Sun.” For any guitar player, a night watching Keaggy masterfully utilize the instrument and draw out every conceivable note with clarity and variable speed up and down the neck is an opportunity to gain inspiration for how the guitar can be played. Upcoming events at the TLCA are at www.trilakesarts.org. Photo by David Futey.