Letters to Our Community

Guidelines for letters to the editor are on page 31.

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in Letters to Our Community should not be interpreted as the views of OSCN even if the letter writer is an OCN volunteer.

Vol. 17 No. 5

Monument Hill Foundation thanks Chamber for award

On behalf of the Monument Hill Foundation, I would like to thank the Chamber of Commerce for the gracious honor of receiving the 2016 Non-Profit of the Year Award at the Chamber Dinner on Saturday, April 8. The Monument Hill Foundation is grateful to the Chamber for inviting us to the Monument Hill Kiwanis Club, and our sole mission is to provide grants to support the youth and community of the Tri-Lakes area. Governance of the Foundation includes youth, parents, and com-

munity organizations. Ours is a totally volunteer founda-
tion, and in the six years we have been in existence, we have distributed over $270,000 in grants to youth and community organizations.

We, also, thanks to all the parents, LP staff, LP Art Club, and students who contributed in so many ways. We had over 100 volunteers who helped with everything from mailing invitations to building props for invitation cards, posters, and tickets, selling tickets, decorating, working on the night of the event, and cleaning up the day after. For a final and very special thank you, we go to the After Prom committee of Lyann Asman, Christy Barry, Laura Bar-


Karen Shuman, LPHS After Prom Chair

D38’s eight-year crystal ball should inspire skepticism

School District 38 leaders have hosted three community presenta-
tions about long-term planning. The apparent purpose of the meetings was to have expensive consultants inform us that we need to build structural additions to existing schools because of what they say will happen in our area—in eight years.

In 2014, while in front of current trends in construction point to a student population increase, District 38 still has plenty of unused space. One of our high schools currently has room for more student growth. We simply move empty elementary school building in the middle of Monument which can hold 575 students. Its funding and complete renovation would cost a fraction of what it would cost to build a new building and the D-38 do not have the budget to make this happen.

Not content to manage such a humble, cost-effective solution, D-38 has asked its experts to project a full eight years into the future. The result is a prediction of over 400 nonresident students being a natural path to take, and the town has never objected.

The design of the pedestrian bridge was also called into question. The use of railroad shipping containers is meant to be a natural path to take, and the town has never objected. I know it took the hours of planning and organization to make this a highlight of the event.

To find out more about the Monument Hill Founda-
tion, please visit our website monumenthillfoundation.
org. There one will find information about who we are, what we do, and how to apply for grants in the 2017-18 granting cycle.

Ted Bauman, Executive Director, Monument Hill Foundation

Awake Palmer Lake defender

I have served on the Awake Palmer Lake (APL) board for the last eight years. In the April 1 issue of OSCN, it was suggested by a couple of Town Council members that the county take over our council board council governance actions. I want to assure your readers that this is not the case. Paul Banta had been our liaison to the council and stopped coming to meetings.

Also, Kathy Green, the town manager, has attended our meetings and has reported back to the town regarding those meetings. In addition, the APL council members and I have our own time putting together the grant application for GOA without any help from the town. He was also able to lead us through the legal maze with the state of Colorado, which eventually led to the renaming of the lake.

The design of the pedestrian bridge was also called into question. The use of railroad shipping containers is meant to be a natural path to take, and the town has never objected. I know it took the hours of planning and organization to make this a highlight of the event.

Lastly, I would like to make everyone aware that the APL committee meets the first Wednesday of every month at 4 p.m. in the Palmer Lake Museum. The community is invited to attend, and we welcome your input. Also, we are on Facebook, and our website is Awakepalmerlake.org.

I hope to get everyone a clear picture of our work and our intentions. We have worked hard to make Palmer Lake a place people want to come to by restoring its natural beauty that we all have come to love.

Bonnie Theilen

LPHS After Prom appreciation

Thanks to our great community of parents, LP staff, and students who made the A Prom a huge success! We had approxi-
mately 400 students attend the event.

Many school districts do not offer an After Prom event, as the planning and coordination involved take a substantial amount of time. Both local Palmer Lake and 38 high schools have such a dedicated group of staff, parents, and community

patrons that we have been able to make After Prom a year-round event.

Much of the financial support comes from donations from local businesses and families, who all understand the importance of the event. We could not do it without our parent and community support. We would like to specifically recognize the following: Avery

World, Jackson Creek Chinese Restaurant, Jimmy John’s, King Soopers, P.F. Chang’s, Papa John’s Pizza, Peoples

Bank, Qdoba Mexican Grill, Safeway, Target, Tri-Lakes Primary, Walgreens, WalMart, Chick-fil-A, Coca-Cola

In the last eight years. In the April 1 issue of

“Before John Glenn orbited Earth, or Neil Armstrong walked on the moon, a group of dedicated female math-

anisms known as “human computers” used pencils, slide rules, and adding machines to calculate the numbers that would launch rockets, and astronauts, into space. Starting in World War II and moving through to the Cold War, the Civil Rights Movement, and the space race, Hul-

den Figures follows the interwoven true accounts of four African-American women who participated in some of NASA’s greatest successes. It chronicles their careers over nearly three decades as they faced challenges, forged alli-

ances, and used their intellect to change their own lives and their country’s future.

Hallelujah Anyway: Redecorating Mercy

By Anne Lamott (Holt Books) $25.95

With sensitivity, wisdom, and humor, Anne Lamott explains the importance of mercy in our lives, the extraordinary power it can wield, and the unex-

pected value of sharing it with others and with ourselves.

Girl in Disguise

By Greer Macallister (Sourcebooks Landmark) $25.99

For America’s first female detective, respect is hard to come by. Danger is not. Set in 1856 Chicago and inspired by the real story of Kate Warne, this spirited novel follows the detective’s rise during a time of crisis in the nation, bringing to life a fiercely independent woman whose tri-

umphs helped sway the fate of the country.

The Curious Charms of Arthur Pepper

By Phaedra Patrick (Mira Books) $15.99

Ninety-nine-year-old Arthur Pepper lives a simple life, just as he did when his wife was alive. But on the one-year anniversary of Miriam’s death, while sorting through her possessions, Arthur finds an exquisite gold charm brace-