grills would be legal during Stage 2 alerts, because they do not create sparks and embers.

Outdoor smoking at private residences would be allowed during Stage 1 alerts but forbidden during Stage 2 alerts.

Sale or use of fireworks would never be allowed, with the exception of PLFD displays.

Outdoor use of explosives or welding torches would be allowed during Stage 1 alerts but not during Stage 2 alerts.

The version of the ordinance presented at the May 10 meeting provoked many comments and concerns from council members and residents who felt the ordinance was too restrictive. These concerns, among others, were raised:

- The ordinance would not allow outdoor fires even if there was snow on the ground.
- The ordinance would not allow outdoor cooking on a wooden deck, since such decks are combustible.
- Enforcement of current ordinance is uneven.
- PLFD would be overburdened with the required inspections.

An updated version of the ordinance, which proposed that the town have Stage 1 restrictions in place on a default basis, was presented by Faust at the May 24 meeting. This version relaxed the restrictions on use of gas grills on decks. Juran pointed out that these changes would require a formal amendment to the ordinance, and she also recommended that the rules be publicly posted.

Resident raise concerns about congested parking conditions

At the May 24 meeting, a number of residents voiced concerns about the congested parking at the Palmer Lake Reservoir Trailhead, which was described by one resident as “horrendous.” These concerns were raised:

- Hikers are parking inside the park at the trailhead.
- Old Carriage Road is impassable because of parked cars.
- Parked cars are blocking access for emergency vehicles.
- A fire hydrant adjacent to the parking area is at risk.

A number of remedies were suggested by town staff, council members, and residents, including:

- Investigating paid parking options
- Creating an overflow parking lot by the Town Hall
- Adding signs to clarify parking is not permitted

Banta said he felt promoting Palmer Lake as a recreational venue is causing the problems with parking. He got a lengthy round of applause from those present when he said, “I’m generally opposed to more people coming here.”

Two requests to subdivide lots considered

The council voted unanimously to approve a request from Tom Demody to subdivide the Palmer Lake Technology Center into three lots, with the condition that access to the property be permitted only from adjacent streets.

The council voted to a table a request to subdivide the property at 312 Buena Vista St. until its first meeting in June.

The council voted to approve a contract

Lewis-Palmer School District #38

Staff Spotlight: Eric Wall

Lewis-Palmer School District’s Safety and Security Specialist has the safety of our students and staff on his mind each day. Eric Wall serves in the specialist capacity while also filling the Palmer Ridge High School building manager role, a position he has filled since the school opened ten years ago. He worked at Creekside Middle School and Kilmer Elementary school prior to moving to PRHS.

Growing up with an Air Force dad (in Colorado and later in Texas), Eric believes in training. He assists in training district staff in reunification, each school’s individual Emergency Operating Plan, Standard Response Protocols, radio protocols, When in Doubt training, and he maintains the district’s fire and safety drill records. Eric also oversees upkeep for the emergency backpacks, lockdown bags, and the radio systems in each school.

When Wall works in various buildings, he reminds staff and students that if they see something, they need to say something. Everyone throughout the district is asked to be aware of who is in their building and to let their front office know if something doesn’t seem right. Wall believes that safety is everyone’s concern, and each person needs to exercise situational awareness. Eric recommends that staff and students have a “go-kit” at home in case of an emergency. This kit can be grabbed quickly and holds pertinent items such as prescriptions, important papers, clothing, food, a flashlight, flash drive, etc.

Eric Wall embodies servant leadership. In addition to his commitment to LPFD, he is also the pastor of a local church (Lifegate Baptist) and fills the role of Santa for children of PRHS staff members at their annual holiday party.

Homeschoolers: Come investigate the Lewis-Palmer School District Homeschool Enrichment Academy free weekly program for homeschooled students, grades K-8, that includes: Music, Art, Drama, PE, Science, Field Trips, and more.

Tuesday, August 7, 5-7 p.m.
Monday, August 13, 10-12 a.m.

All Open Houses are held at the Grace Best Education Center, 66 Jefferson Street, Monument (Please use the Adams Street Entrance) 719-640-6392 www.lewispalmer.org/hsea