Forest Lakes amended improvements agreement approved

By Lisa Hatfield
The El Paso Board of County Commissioners unanimously approved an amended subdivision improvements agreement for Forest Lakes Residential Development LLC and Classic Consulting Engineers & Surveyors LLC on Oct. 13. The request amended the Sept. 9, 2004 filing that had included restrictions on the sale of lots or issuance of building permits within the subdivision as a guarantee for the completion of required subdivision improvements.

The amendment will now allow the provision of collateral, in the form of a bond, to secure and guarantee performance of the remainder of the public subdivision improvements in Filings 1 and 3 of the Forest Lakes development, located at the western end of West Baptist Road, west of the Union Pacific railroad tracks.

Forest Lakes Residential Development requested the amendment in order to initiate lot sales and building permit issuance while the few remaining improvements are being completed in Filing 1 and begun in Filing 3, including public water systems, fire hydrants, public wastewater facilities, public storm facilities, curbs and gutters, and paving of the public streets.

The homes in Forest Lakes will be served by these entities:

- Water and wastewater: Forest Lakes Metropolitan District (a Title 32 special district), which shares the Upper Monument Creek Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility with Donala Water and Sanitation District and Triview Metropolitan District.
- Natural gas: Black Hills Energy
- Electricity: Mountain View Electric Association
- Fire protection: Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District
- Roads: El Paso County Road and Bridge

New Santa Fe Trail still off-limits to the general public

By Terri Hayes
On Oct. 5, El Paso County Parks and the Air Force Academy held a joint information gathering meeting concerning the New Santa Fe Trail at the Academy International Elementary School. Key players were County Commissioners Darryl Glenn and Peggy Littleton, El Paso County Director of Community Services Tim Wolken, and Col. Ken Ohlson with the Air Force Academy. There were about 100 people in attendance, made up mostly of those who would like to use the trail again both for recreation and transportation, in addition to other community leaders.

Although the County Commissioners and the Academy recently approved a new 25-year easement through the Academy, the district and that there would likely be a dual response. He added that legally, the presence of the fire station doesn’t trigger anything; they could open the fire station tomorrow and Wescott would still be here.

Chief’s report
Assistant Chief Scott Ridings gave the September run report that showed a 13 percent increase in the number of calls received in 2015 over 2014. There was no significant loss due to fire in August.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

The Donald Wescott Fire Protection District Board of Directors’ next meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. Nov. 17 at Station 1 15415 Glen Eagle Dr. Please call 488-8680, a non-emergency number, for more information, or visit www.wescottfire.org. The district is also on Facebook. Jennifer Green-Lanchoney can be contacted at jenlanchoney@wescott.org.