

commercial area in VCMD to balance out the residential areas, and that without a commercial property tax, the district could not meet its financial obligations. *For a recap of that meeting, see www.ocn.me/v4n9.htm#botaug16.*

Sparks said that later in 2004, when the service plan was approved, Monument Mayor Byron Glenn said there would be a debt service cap of 25 mills, leaving 10 mills for operations and maintenance, but that cap was not included in the bond indenture. This allowed the bondholders to take all 35 mills generated by the metro district, "which in essence leaves zero dollars for the metro district to operate," Sparks said.

At the Nov. 3, 2014 Board of Trustees meeting, the town approved Classic Consulting Engineers and Surveyors' application to change the zoning of 330,000 square feet in VCMD from commercial to residential, which cut property tax revenue in half and eliminated any sales taxes revenue that would have been generated, Sparks said. Trustee Jeff Bornstein was the lone trustee to vote against that reclassification, and it was expressed in public comments the rezoning would severely limit the metro district's ability to pay back the debt or to operate. *See www.ocn.me/v14n12.htm#mbot1103.*

Sparks said the only options open to VCMD were to get financial help from the town by asking the town to help with road maintenance or raise the mill levy for residents, and either plan requires participation from the town since it is governed by the service plan.

VCMD resident (and past president) Jim Romanello also spoke during public comments. In his three minutes, he ex-

plained that past town boards have said VCMD could not function without commercial development, but then the town voted to rezone and eliminate the commercial section of the district. "And now you tell us the town is not responsible for the fact that we are not providing sufficient revenue. That doesn't fly."

Lowe was not present at the Jan. 3 meeting, and no trustee commented on the VCMD topic.

Sanctuary Pointe Filings 2 and 3 plats approved

Principal Planner Larry Manning presented two ordinances for Classic Consulting Engineers and Surveyors' application for approval of a Preliminary/Final Plats for two filings in Sanctuary Pointe, on the north side of Baptist Road and north of the Ridge at Fox Run. Both were approved unanimously with one amendment. The Monument Planning Commission approved both applications unanimously on Dec. 14. *See www.ocn.me/v17n1.htm#mpc.*

Sanctuary Pointe is within the Triview Metropolitan District service area, which will provide water, sanitation, roads, parks, and drainage maintenance. The will-serve letter from Triview stated that the district has water and sewer capacities sufficient for current commitments. *See related Triview article on page 17.*

The Carriages at Sanctuary Pointe, Filing 2, will be a 48-lot subdivision on 12 acres. Sanctuary Pointe, Filing 3, will contain 84 residential lots, one utility lot for Triview's new second water tank and booster station at the northwest corner of the plat (lot 85), and 10 tracts, on 57

acres. A condition of approval recommended by the staff and approved by the Planning Commission stated: "An access easement for lot 85 and trails shall be recorded concurrently with this plat and each document should be cross-refer-

enced with reception numbers."

Darren Palmer, whose property is north of both filings, spoke generally in support of the applications. However, he questioned how many trees had already been removed and where the walking

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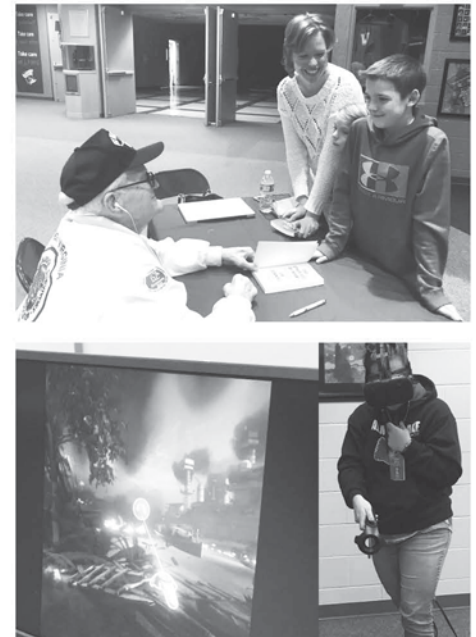
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TIME LIFE Provides Educational Enrichment to Lewis-Palmer Middle School

A unique and enriching experience awaited Lewis-Palmer Middle School (LPMS) students upon their return to school after winter break. TIME LIFE provided three "Remembering Pearl Harbor" virtual reality (VR) headsets for LPMS students and families to experience the Pearl Harbor attack as recounted by 103 year old Pearl Harbor survivor Lt. Jim Downing.

Approximately 250 students accessed the LIFE VR experience during the week of January 9-13, and approximately 90 LPMS family members also had the opportunity to share the experience as the school hosted two evenings for those who signed up. Lt. Jim Downing visited with participants and autographed his book, "The Other Side of Infamy," one of the evenings.

According to TIME, "'Remembering Pearl Harbor' is a historical and educational room-scale VR experience told through the eyes of Lt. Jim Downing, one of the oldest living survivors of the attack." Palmer Ridge High School freshman Rebecca Gearhart participated with her mother and brother and realized, "Pearl Harbor was just something that [I] read about in a history book, but seeing the scene play out made it more real." Her mother Christy added, "It really does leave you with a sense of reverence for what those soldiers went through and the sacrifices they made for our country."



LPSD Upcoming Events

- February 8:** PLC Day – 2-Hour Delayed Start Wednesday
- February 10:** pK-6 No Classes
- February 13:** Monument Academy Parent Education Night, "How Will You Pay for College"
- February 16:** Monthly Board of Education Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
- February 17:** Choice Enrollment Window Closes
- February 20:** District Closed
- February 23:** 8th Grade Open House and High School Registration

Teacher Spotlight: Cynthia Eversole



Since 2001, Cynthia Eversole has inspired young musicians at Lewis-Palmer Elementary School (LPES) and beyond. Cynthia teaches drums, the recorder, the xylophone, and choir while encouraging her students to be composers. She loves their creative ownership of the process and the outcome. "Music is an extraordinary tool for understanding the various cultures of our nation and the world," says Eversole, "because it cultivates acceptance and understanding." Through her involvement with the Rocky Mountain Orff-Schulwerk Association, she facilitates performances often comprised of nearly 1100 students which sometimes includes groups from as far away as Beijing, China. She is also active in the Colorado Music Educators Association (CMEA).

As a member of the Colorado Ambassadors of Music she accompanied high school band, orchestra, and choir students on a 16-day trip through Western Europe. She especially loved Switzerland calling it Colorado on steroids.

Cynthia's 4th- 6th grade Eagle Choir students perform concerts in the winter and the spring and have had the honor of singing for the CMEA at the Broadmoor in 2010 and 2017, LPSD Board of Education meetings, the Monument Fourth of July Parade, craft fairs, and Air Force basketball and football games.

Eversole's most recent project is a flag retirement program. Cynthia and two school moms started the program this fall. Any ripped or damaged American and Colorado state flags should be retired, not discarded. LPES is a drop off location for flags. On Flag Day, June 14, the Palmer Lake VFW post 7829 will perform a flag retirement ceremony.

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