

of two people to be involved with every transaction, expenditure, and revenue stream. The town’s accounting complies with Governmental Accounting Standards Board policies, Rogge said. Management of records has also improved, according to Rogge.

As a result, the town can expect a much less expensive and more timely audit this year, Rogge said. He estimated that the town had lowered costs for financial services by about \$17,000.

Film on Palmer Lake Star seeks funding

Jim Sawatzki of Palmer Divide Productions told the board about his efforts to produce a film documenting the history of the star at Palmer Lake. The film has already been shot, but Sawatzki asked the board to provide \$1,500 to complete editing. Sawatzki expects the film to be shown on public television, and offered the town

a chance to publicize the town on the film’s packaging and credits in return for the financing.

Green-Sinnard said she would present the board with suggestions for how to find the requested funds in the 2016 budget at a future board meeting.

American Legion post seeks to honor “hometown heroes”

Jim Bergeron of American Legion Tri-Lakes Post 9-11 asked the board to give the post permission to hang posters honoring town residents from lamp posts. All costs would be borne by the post, Bergeron said. The board voted unanimously to allow the post to proceed with the project.

The meeting adjourned at 8 p.m.

The two meetings for February will be at 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 11 and Feb. 25 at Town Hall, 42 Valley Crescent. Meetings are normally held on the second and fourth

Thursdays of the month. Information: 481-2953.

James Howald can be reached at james-howald@ocn.me.



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Tri-Lakes Wastewater Treatment Facility Joint Use Committee, Jan.12

Total phosphorus clarifier remains on schedule


By Lisa Hatfield

The Jan.12 meeting of the Tri-Lakes Wastewater Facility (TLWWTF) Joint Use Committee (JUC) included a report on the current total phosphorus (TP) treatment expansion construction, news about possible delays in tighter state nutrient water quality restrictions, and discussion about the access easement to the construction site for the expansion project.

Tri-Lakes Facility Manager Bill Burks summarized plant operations saying, “We

have got such a nice plant. It performs really well.”

TLWWTF operates as a separate joint venture public utility and is owned in equal one-third shares by Monument Sanitation District (MSD), Palmer Lake Sanitation District (PLSD), and Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District (WWSD). The three-member JUC acts as the board of the facility and consists of one director from each of the three owner districts’ boards: MSD board Treasurer Don Smith, who is




Trina Shook, RN
Aesthetic Nurse Consultant

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February 2016


Teacher Spotlight: Tom Chapman


Tom Chapman is a trumpet player who had his “aha” moment while performing at the Greeley Jazz Festival. His intent up to that point was to study physics. During the performance his future changed, he knew he wanted to teach band. Chapman has traveled between six different Lewis-Palmer schools for over six years of working with LPSD sixth through twelfth grade students. He has approximately 40 elementary band members each year and assists the head directors at the middle school and both high schools.

Tom typically takes about 106 kids to various band festivals (not competitions) around the state, some as far away as Grand Junction and Greeley. While he enjoys the festivals, he spends most of his class

time preparing students for their concerts, there are many throughout the year with the largest taking place in December and the last week in April. Numerous Chapman students receive All-State recognitions every year.


As well as being a seasoned trumpet player, Tom also plays the trombone, the clarinet, the flute, and the French horn-although at a sixth grade level to which his middle school students can attest. He has also played with the Rocky Mountain Wind Symphony, the Village 7 Bass Choir and Quintet, and the Pikes Peak Brass Band, but currently, he only plays with the Colorado Spring Contemporary Jazz Big Band. When he is not playing music or assisting with the Lewis-Palmer Education Association events (he moderated the recent school board candidate forum), he reads lots of non-fiction (books about Stephen Hawking are among his top reads). Tom and his wife (a fourth grade teacher in District 20) also enjoy camping, hiking, and backpacking.





20Time Project Enhances Learning

Erin Stefanski tasked her English Honors II class at Palmer Ridge High School with thinking of a real problem and then finding a solution for it. She asked that students have passion about or a personal connection to the problem. This assignment stems from the 20Time concept or 20% Project philosophy practiced by 3M, Google, and other corporations and discussed on TED Talks. Post-it Notes are one of the most recognizable results of this concept. Students or employees are encouraged to spend a fifth of their time on projects they are personally passionate about. Seeking solutions, students work independently or collaboratively. As they create their own systems, making mistakes, discovering solutions, all while documenting the process, learning occurs. Stefanski finds that “it is often the third, fourth, or fifth idea that provides the solution.” Grades are not the focus of this assignment; completing the process is the goal. Genuine purpose provides significant motivation for these students. “Kids are doing amazing things,” shares Stefanski. Examples include creating a computer game which provides rehab exercises for common sports injuries, an electro-magnetic clip for snowboard bindings, and a special bike/stroller for a student with a degenerative muscular disease. Stefanski sees students taking big risks, “putting themselves out there,” as they share personal motivations while practicing elevator pitches and participating in a bad idea factory exercise. This innovative approach to learning is another example of Lewis-Palmer School District’s continued role in preparing students with 21st century skills.



Upcoming Events

February 4	Pre-K and Kindergarten Registration
February 12	No Classes pK-6
February 15	District Closed
February 19	Last Day for Choice Enrollment
February 22	8th Grade Registration