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Supervisors set maximum property tax for FY24, but will likely take in less

Talsma confident county levy rate will be adjusted to account for increased valuations

Christopher Braunschweig
Staff Writer

Supervisor Brandon Talsma was half expecting the chambers on Feb. 28 to be filled with hundreds of less-than-enthused citizens complaining about Jasper County raising its levy, but the room was sparse that morning and business concluded without a hitch. More importantly, the levy was left untouched.

While the board of supervisors has yet to set the levy for the next fiscal year, they did hold a public hearing to set the maximum property tax dollars that would be levied. Talsma said this is a requirement from the state, and for the past few years the county has taken less than maximum amount levied.

tions have increased for all Iowa taxpayers, the county has either lowered or maintained its tax levy to take in the same amount of property tax it collected three years ago. Talsma is confident Jasper County will continue on with this fiscally conservative practice.

However, word of the public hearing to set the maximum property tax dollars spurred some confusion among citizens, prompting clarification.

“Just so everybody is clear and is maybe listening in: This is not a guarantee that this is what we will be levying. It is essentially our max levy hearing that way we’re covered for whatever we do levy,” Talsma said. “We do it every year.

Although valua- **SUPERS — See Page 3**



Christopher Braunschweig/Jasper County Tribune
Brandon Talsma, chair of the Jasper County Board of Supervisors, on Feb. 28 speaks during a public hearing setting the maximum property tax dollars for FY24.



Crews work on the exterior of the new addition to Colfax-Mingo High School.

Jamee A. Pierson/Jasper County Tribune

A room with a view

New C-M gym, wrestling room, fitness room and more features ample space, updated amenities

Jamee A. Pierson
Editor

Walking into the new gymnasium addition at the Colfax-Mingo High School almost takes your breath away. Even while under construction, the grand size of the new space is felt, and the amenities it holds bring excitement for what is to come.

“When people walk in here it will blow them away,” superintendent Tim Salmon said.

A well kept-secret, only a few people have been invited in to see the construction space that will hold not only a new gym but also a wrestling room, weight and fitness room, walking track and much more. How the space is laid out, from an upper level entrance from the school to a lower level entryway featuring a tigerhawk logo coming from the ceiling, is all thought out to work best with the existing building.

“Seeing it on paper and seeing in reality are two different things,” Salmon said. “We have come a long ways in the last four to six

weeks.”

In that time the roof has helped close in the space and the outdoor windows are replacing tarps that have filled openings throughout the building. Once all of the windows are installed, a million dollar view will be waiting in the east side weight and fitness rooms.

“It all overlooks the stadium in

the back,” Salmon said. “It will be wonderful.”

Another welcome addition is the wrestling room. Large enough to hold two mats, the permanent location is an upgrade from where the team has been for the past several years.

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Jamee A. Pierson/Jasper County Tribune
With space for two full basketball courts, the new gym will be another jewel for the school following the addition of the new football stadium last fall.

A ‘souper’ time

The Colfax Fire Department celebrates 30 years of annual soup supper

Jamee A. Pierson
Editor

After a couple of years out of the station, the annual Colfax Fire Department Soup Supper welcomed guests back for a bite to eat March 4. Tables

were full and the line kept flowing as people got full of soup and dessert at the 30th edition of the fundraiser.

“There is a nice crowd tonight,” Colfax Fire Chief J.D. Smith said.

SOUP SUPPER — See Page 3



Jamee A. Pierson/Jasper County Tribune
The famous Colfax Fire Department potato soup is served up at the CFD annual soup supper fundraiser March 4.

Boogie at the Bash

Kids and adults got groovy on the dance floor at the Colfax Kids Bash



Jamee A. Pierson/Jasper County Tribune
Sponsored by the Colfax-Mingo Student Council, the Colfax Kids Bash invited parents, guardians and kids to dance the night away inside the tropical themed elementary school gym.



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