



Jamee A. Pierson/Jasper County Tribune

The fitness and weight center will have a beautiful view of the football stadium through new floor-to-ceiling windows.



Jamee A. Pierson/Jasper County Tribune

A second level walking track is sure to be a popular piece of the gym addition at C-M High School.

Addition

Continued from Page 1

“We are currently in the cafeteria having to roll mats out,” wrestling coach and activities director Erin Hume said “Before that we were a one-mat wrestling room in a renovated barn.”

If that wasn’t enough, there is also space for indoor batting cages for those looking to get in some hitting practice when the weather turns cold.

“One of the biggest things with the addition is to try to help every athlete, every sport,” Hume said.

Along with the students, the community is also a big part of the project. The new walking/running track and the fitness room will be open to the Colfax-Mingo community to use, with details on when and how the space will be available.

The centerpiece of the project, the gym, is large enough for two basketball courts with

the bleachers pushed in. The flooring will feature a two-tone look with the key a darker shade and the bleachers will be tigerhawk blue.

“To me to has a bigger school feel,” Hume said. “When you walk in it feels like you are at a much larger school than Colfax-Mingo.”

The gym project is the second phase of the \$12 million bond passed in November 2019. Even before the first phase, featuring the new 1,200 seat football stadium, was

complete, work was underway to get the next piece going.

Besides the gym, a new parking lot on the north side of the building is planned. Also, funds from the bond were used for improvements at the elementary school, including restroom renovations, exterior ramps, steps and railings and flooring and ceiling work.

At the high school, HVAC improvements were made along with exterior masonry work. Safety and security at all

district buildings were also a focus of funds from the bond.

Even with some delays the plan is to have the building substantially complete in late April in time to host graduation. When the time comes to officially open the doors, an open house will be planned to welcome the public to see the amazing space now available to not only students but the entire community.

“We want the facility to get used,” Salmon said. “We are excited.”

Supers

Continued from Page 1

So yeah ... That’s all it is. Just publishing the max that we can.”

Some of the worry from citizens could be linked to a recent incident in Warren County where hundreds of residents read reports that their property taxes would be increasing by 80 percent, WHO 13’s Roger Riley reported. The Warren County Board of Supervisors held a meeting to discuss the issue.

According to county documents, the maximum property tax dollars for general county services for FY24 shall not exceed \$13,993,186,

and the maximum property tax dollars for rural county services shall not exceed \$4,273,191. All three supervisors approved the resolution.

Newton News followed up with Talsma after the supervisors meeting to talk more in-depth about the county’s tax levy. Because Jasper County has shifted to a more long-term approach and was able to drop its capital projects levy, he is optimistic the board will be able to hold the overall dollar amount the same.

“How exactly the levy rate is going to be affected, I don’t know yet,” he said. “We’ll try to do what we’ve done the last three years, which is as

the valuation increases we drop our levy rate down in accordance to where we’re taking in pretty close to the same dollar amount we were three years ago.”

The reason the county has taken this approach, Talsma added, is because if the county is going to raise property taxes it is going to be “upfront and honest about it” and explain to citizens why it is taking in more. The county is not going to “arbitrarily” take in more property taxes when valuations increase.

“I think that’s the responsible way to do it and the way we’re supposed to do it.”

Which is a stance Talsma said he has received flak for, with some arguing that while the city and school districts took in more taxes after valuations increased the county decided not to and will inevitably have to raise its levy in the future. Talsma agreed one day he will have to, and he will be upfront about it.



Jamee A. Pierson/Jasper County Tribune

The crowd is happy to be back together after a couple of years of drive-thru soup service for the annual Colfax Fire Department Soup Supper.

Soup Supper

Continued from Page 1

The department served up Ron’s signature potato soup, along with the firehouse chili, which is also his recipe. It was a group effort to put the fundraiser on and it was smooth sailing throughout the event.

“The members bring the relish and desserts and the department and association does the chili and potato soup,” Smith said.

Running on free-will donation, the event typically brings in \$4,000 to \$5,000, funds used to keep the department up-to-date on ever-important equipment.

“We are upgrading the equipment along with working on

trying to buy a new ambulance and fire truck. We have a couple of grants and will need to match the funds on those,” Smith said. “Also new air packs and batteries; there is all kinds of stuff. We just got all new air packs so we need batteries and face masks so our guys can use them.”

He said they are also working to add storm sirens on the north side of town to help alert those at Quarry Springs Park.

“We have a few but they don’t cover way out north like we would like them to,” Smith said.

Even with the flyer reading a 5 p.m. start, people started rolling in as early as 4:30 p.m. to get their soup. The firefighters kept busy refilling the dessert table, putting out new veggies and loading up the soup when they started to scrape the bottom.

What started as a fundraiser for a new fire station has continued to help the department 30 years later.

With the prices of equipment quickly growing with no end in sight, the community coming together to help out the local volunteers is an example of citizens looking out for each other.

Spring into SAVINGS EVENT!

\$1,500 OFF
a houseful of new windows!

48 MONTHS 0% INTEREST!
Senior & Military Discounts!

Bonus!
50 homeowners will receive a **Vacation Voucher** with purchase of new windows!
Use for a condo/hotel stay or a cruise!

CALL TODAY!
877-990-0707
www.MadCityPro.com

mad city WINDOWS & BATHS
a division of renuity

Minimum purchase required. Financing available with minimum purchase and approved credit. Mad City Windows & Baths, LLC is neither a broker nor a lender. Financing is provided by third party lenders affiliated with Mad City Windows & Baths, Inc. under terms and conditions arranged directly between the customer and such lender. All subject to credit requirements and satisfactory completion of finance documents. Any finance terms advertised are estimate only. Ask for details. Not valid with any other offer or previous job. Offer good while supplies last. Payment in full required. Offer valid at original retail consultation only. Rules subject to change. Taxes, port charges and process fees not included. Must provide own transportation to and from departure ports or resort. New orders only for appointments completed by 3/31/2023. Offer expires 3/31/2023.

A Fantastic shopping event.

IOWA'S LARGEST ARTS & Crafts SHOW

Over 250 Exhibitors

March 10-12
VARIED INDUSTRIES BLDG.
IOWA STATE FAIRGROUNDS
DES MOINES, IOWA
Fri. 9-9; Sat. 9-5; Sun. 10-4

ADM: Just \$7.00 (10 & under free)
3-day re-entry stamp

FREE PARKING
Free Shuttle Bus Service from North Parking Lot on both Fri. & Sat.

Where You Can Buy That Quality, Handmade Product
Callahan Promotions, Inc.
563-357-1986
To Purchase Discounted Advance Admission Tickets and For a Chance To Win \$50 Gift Certificates Visit Our Facebook Page At Callahan Promotions, Inc.

Bring This Ad to Show For \$1 Off Adm.

March Spring Special

Free Installation Labor
0% Interest with **No Payments for 12 Months**
Financing with approved credit. Expires 3/31/23

Leaf Free Gutter System From A Family You Can Trust

#1 Rated and Largest Leaf Free Gutter System on the market

- Handles 40% more water than our leading competition
- Doesn't mount underneath roof shingles
- Custom made on site of .032" seamless aluminum

K GUARD LEAF FREE GUTTER SYSTEM

(515) 795-7069
kguardiowa.com

Smart Savers Save with Veridian

12-month CD

4.65% APY*

\$1,000 MIN. BALANCE

Open a CD today.
veridiancu.org/CD

Veridian CREDIT UNION

*APY = Annual Percentage Yield. APY is accurate as of 1/30/2023 and is subject to change. Interest on CDs is compounded quarterly. APY is subject to change after account is opened. Interest rate locked when account is opened except for bump-up CDs, which can be converted to higher rate once during their term. Penalty may be imposed for early withdrawal, and fees could reduce earnings on account. Other rates and terms available. Withdrawal of earnings could reduce APY. Membership required to open a CD and is subject to qualifications and a minimum \$5 share deposit. Federally insured by NCUA.

We can stop HIV, Iowa.

It all starts with health equity—meaning everyone has a fair & just opportunity to be healthy.

To achieve this, we need to remove obstacles to good health, such as poverty, discrimination, and racism, which support an environment in which HIV thrives.

We must work together so that all Iowans have access to the resources they need to **Prevent Diagnose and Treat HIV.**

STOP HIV IOWA

Learn more at stophiviowa.org