

WEEKLY JOURNAL

WEATHER REPORT

Day	Date	High	Low	Precip.
Monday	1/16	47	33	-
Tuesday	1/17	47	39	-
Wednesday	1/18	35	28	4" snow
Thursday	1/19	33	29	-
Friday	1/20	25	21	-
Saturday	1/21	29	20	-
Sunday	1/22	26	17	-

Weather reported by Randy Cooper, Toledo

GRAIN PRICES

January 27
 Corn Beans
 MidIowa (Midway).....\$6.48...\$14.30
 Tama/Bent. (Cluter)....\$6.43...\$14.25
 Cash bid prices for 1/31/2023 delivery

GAS PRICES

\$3.39 for a gallon of super unleaded 87 gasoline as of Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2023, at Casey's General Store in Toledo.

STC SCHOOL MENU

Monday, January 29th
 Breakfast: Sausage pancake wrap with diced pears or applesauce cups.
 Lunch: BBQ rib patty on a hoagie bun with coleslaw or romaine lettuce, raw broccoli and carrots, garlic vegetable mix, french fries or potato spudz bites, diced peaches, and red delicious apples.

Tuesday, January 31st

COURT

• Kevin Lee Halladey, 41, formerly of Reinbeck filed a written plea of not guilty in Grundy County District Court on Jan. 17 to the charge of first degree murder in the death of Christian Marie Jeys. According to court documents, Halladey and his attorney, public defender Aaron Hawbaker, filed the plea and demanded a speedy trial. A request for

expanded media coverage was also approved, and a jury trial has been tentatively set for Feb. 15 at 9 a.m. with a pretrial conference on Feb. 6 at 1 p.m. Judge Joel Dalrymple was assigned to oversee all future proceedings associated with the case. The situation that ultimately resulted in Jeys' death began just after midnight on Dec. 16, 2021, when Grundy County deputies were dispatched to Jeys' residence in Reinbeck on a report that a 13-year-old male had stabbed Halladey, Jeys' boyfriend. Also on Dec. 16, 2021, just after midnight — according to a separate criminal complaint — deputies found a different juvenile at Jeys' residence who alleged Halladey came into their bedroom and woke them up sometime after midnight. Halladey was later charged

with assault causing bodily injury for allegedly throwing the juvenile by the arm against a wall and causing injury to their shoulder. At the time of the incidents, Halladey was not immediately taken into custody but was treated at Grundy County Memorial Hospital (GCMH) and released early that same morning to the care of Jeys.

At around 5 a.m. the same day, a neighbor of Jeys was awakened by Halladey pounding on the door and stating Jeys was unresponsive. When officers arrived within minutes at Jeys' Reinbeck residence, she was found unresponsive, lying on the floor and soaking wet. Jeys was transported to Grundy County Memorial Hospital, where staff observed a fresh injury around Jeys' left eye that had not been there earlier.

Jeys was later taken to the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, where she died of her injuries on Dec. 23, 2021. In June of 2022, Halladey entered a written Alford plea of guilty to a May 2021 domestic abuse assault charge involving Jeys and her family and was sentenced to 30 days in the Grundy County Jail. On Sept. 2, 2022, the Johnson County Medical Examiner released the Autopsy Re-

port regarding Jeys' death and declared it a homicide with the cause of death listed as complications of blunt force injuries to the head. Halladey was previously convicted of domestic abuse assault in Warren County in connection with an incident involving a former intimate partner that occurred on May 10, 2015, in Indianola.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Continued from Page 1

"One of our goals on the committee is not to ask the taxpayers for more money. And being able to do this without taxing our community anymore for this project. We will continue moving forward and be able to achieve that goal," said Superintendent Cain.

The project committee has maintained the students' needs throughout the redesign and budgeting process.

"We did have to adjust some design choices due to the budget. A lot of spaces our students will be using, those things will be staying the same," STC Middle School Principal Benjamin Adams said. "Maybe some small changes, like a little more industrial looking and modern, like painted ductwork, but you can make industrial tech-looking spaces that are really appealing. Our programming and spaces for our kids are very much right-sized."

To reduce costs, the student furniture and playground equipment from the middle school and the Partnership Center will be relocated to the new school as it is only a few years old and in excellent condition.

The new middle school will also be reusing the geothermal fields.

"We're trying to utilize everything we have on sight to reduce the cost of the mechanical system," said Gladys Petersen, the ISG Project Manager.

STC Buildings and Grounds Director Steve McAdoo has been looking for efficiencies wherever he can.

"I'm excited about the renovation part, getting it going. Going from an old steam boiler to the newer

geo. The efficiency of the school district will be better as far as electricity and gas usage. We'll be more efficient than we are now, even with the addition," he said.

The current estimation is down to \$33 million but has yet to go to bid.

Modern Layout for Modern Learning

As education advances into the 21st century, how classrooms operate and how a school is structured have changed too. The new middle school project will accommodate students with pods per grade level, creating an intuitive flow for students to get to the classes they need with ease.

"The way teachers are teaching students in the past versus now, we're getting to more pods and group learning. So they're needing a bit more of that extra space," said Petersen.

Each pod will include four general classrooms and a science lab, along with at least one special education classroom and a small workroom for storage and meeting space for teachers.

"We're going to have right-sized spaces for our students based on the way we do things in the 21st century now. Just excited about the opportunities our kids are going to have in these spaces that they don't have right now," Principal Adams said.

The special education department will be increasing from 3.5 classrooms to 5 in the new building, along with better handicap accessibility with the addition of two elevators and more individual unisex restrooms in addition to the large common-space restrooms.

"Prioritizing that Special Education teachers have adequate-sized classrooms is great," said Jeanette Sta-

cey from the middle school Special Education program.

Pull-out rooms and office spaces for visiting educational professionals are also included in the space.

"We are really gaining many more pull-out rooms and office spaces too. We have more services nowadays than ever before. When it comes to speech therapists, school-based therapists that come in and work with kids, and AA people that come to our building on a regular basis. In our current middle school, we don't have spaces for them. In this building we're going to so we're not going to be sharing offices. We're going to have spaces available for those that come in," said Principal Adams.

The new media center will span two stories. The first level is going to be a 21st-century media center. The second level will be a media classroom space with library resources available and a meeting space for tag students.

Additional space for exceptional activities

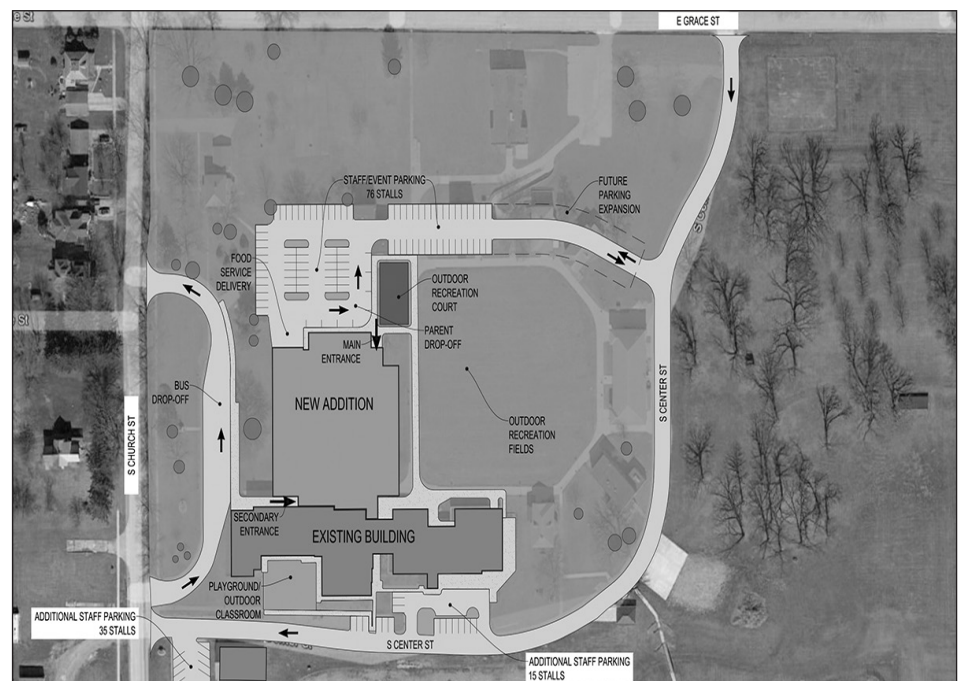
The new middle school will be repurposing the existing main structure and adding an addition that will accommodate a gym that will be able to seat 600 people, a fitness center, and a cafeteria, which are larger than the current middle school's facilities.

"We're very excited about the new kitchen and commons area. If you've ever been to the old middle school, we have a very, very small cafeteria. We squeeze the kids into a classroom-sized space for lunch. So our space here is going to be much better for kids, giving them space to spread out," Adams said.

The addition will also



ALL SCHEMATIC DESIGNS WERE PROVIDED BY ISG



include a separate band and choir room plus an ensemble room to help accommodate the musical arts schedule.

"We're passionate about our musical arts programs. Having two rooms gives us flexibility with the scheduling. When you share one room, you're really limited. We serve 5th through 8th grade providing general music classes along with band and choir classes. Having three music teachers teaching out of one space, trying to

find time, and scheduling issues with no place to do small groups while classes are going is difficult. This will give us an opportunity to open up our music program and meet the needs of the kids, giving them more access to things," Adams said.

The existing space is estimated at 56,659 square feet. With the new addition, the space will increase to 88,000 square feet.

Safety for students

The most important issue for all those involved in the project was student safety.

Center Street will become a one-way to accommodate student drop off and pick up. The bus traffic has been separated as well as the truck drop-off zone moving away from the students' play

area.

A storm shelter is being constructed on the ground floor of the new addition, including the locker rooms, fitness area, and kitchen space. They will have heavier structural space with extra reinforcement and emergency exits to the south. This space will operate on a separate electrical grid, with a separate foundation and plumbing to keep students safe in case of emergencies. This expense wasn't originally accounted for in the budget, but due to the derecho in 2020, it was an investment the committee deemed necessary for student safety.

The middle school project will go to bid in May of 2023, with the project estimated to finish in May 2025.

CUPID'S CASH

\$40,000

SUNDAY

FEBRUARY 12 & 26

HOURLY DRAWINGS 2 – 5 PM

CHANCE TO WIN UP TO \$4,500 CASH

Entry Activation: 10 am - 4:45 pm

MUST BE PRESENT. MUST BE 21. MANAGEMENT RESERVES ALL RIGHTS.

1504 305TH STREET
TAMA, IOWA
MESKWAKI.COM
800.728.4263

Tama County Humane Society's Pet of the Week

MEET MS. KITTY!

Ms. Kitty is 8 years old. She is a little overweight and would do good in an active home with people who play with her. Ms. Kitty has done well with the cats in our shelter. She does like her own space. Adoption Fee \$20.00, includes vaccinations, dewormer, spay, flea and tick treatment, and leukemia testing.

Visit the Tama County Humane Society on Saturdays from 9 am - Noon
 1406 E. 5th St., Tama or call
 641-481-7001 to make an appointment

This Pet of the Week is sponsored by

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