CUSD 10 breaks ground for new Caseyville Elementary School

Collinsville Community Unit School District 10 broke ground last week on the new Caseyville Elementary School.

The new school will be built directly behind the current building and face Second Street. When the new school is built, the existing building will be demolished and used for parking and storage spaces. There will also be a public library built to connect onto the existing library that is already in place.

CUSD 10 Superintendent, Dr. Mark B. Skertichann, explained why it took to get to this point.

"We've wanted to see the construction of a new Caseyville Elementary building," Skertichann said. "We look forward to the positive impact the facility will have on our students, staff and community for years to come." Skertichann said that the project was a team effort between the board of education, district staff and partners from FGM Architects and Holland Construction.

A new organization is helping make Madison County residents’ dreams come true.

An organization started this year is helping make Madison County residents’ dreams come true. Leslie Klaus, of Maryville and manager at COE and is the founder of an organization called Kyle’s Tree. The organization is named after her 4-year-old son, Kyle Converse.

At 11 a.m. Jan. 5, district officials, supporters and members of the community held a ceremony to commemorate the beginning of the new school. There will also be a public library built to connect onto the existing library that is already in place.

"It's mind-blowing, I had no idea it was going to be that," Klaus said. "I wasn't expecting it to explode. We were able to accept 60 gift boxes for 60 kids, everything from winter wear, to hygiene stuff, journals and pens. It turned out to be a little bigger than we thought it would," Klaus said.

"For these kids and I didn't know how I could ever want," Klaus said. "I'm 62-years-old and I've been in this community for the last 20 years. He comes down specifically for this show." Jamie Lane, general manager of the Gateway Convention Center and producer of the fishing show, explained how the fisherman get to be featured. "We have been able to feature everything that a fishing enthusiast would want."

"It's so exciting to see a youngster young fisherman's hook as he gets away from the less desirable things in life. He's looking to get a head start on fishing then maybe they'll stay away from the less desirable things in life," Klaus said. "I was mind-blown, I had no idea it was going to be that," Klaus said. "I wasn't expecting it to explode. We were able to accept 60 gift boxes for 60 kids, everything from winter wear, to hygiene stuff, journals and pens. It turned out to be a little bigger than we thought it would," Klaus said.

"It would not have become a reality if not for this wonderful community and all of its generosity," Klaus said.

"I've been coming to the fishing show almost every year since they've been having it," he told the Times- Tribune on Friday afternoon, the first day of the weekend-long event.

"Fishing is in my blood," White said. "I'm 62-years-old and I've been fishing since I was eight. It's just a part of who I am." Jamie Lane, general manager of the Gateway Convention Center and producer of the fishing show, explained how the fisherman get to be featured. "We have been able to feature everything that a fishing enthusiast would want."

"It's meant for all ages and all skill levels of fishing and people, in general, that like the outdoors," she said.

"Lettle's Tree" benefits Madison County CEO students

By Devese "Dee" Urey dureen@timestribunenews.com

Fishing enthusiasts Bishop Coleman-White and Leslie Klaus have started the 29th annual Let’s Go Fishing Show at the Gateway Convention Center Show for as long as it's been happening, describing the event every year in 2020 as "a part of our convention center with goods every day of that weekend," Klaus said. "The program will continue again next year following its success this holiday season. Klaus said. "She may change it up to include a holiday meal if possible."

Through all of her efforts this year and moving forward, Klaus said she keeps the forefront the generous spirit of her mother.

"It was an absolute, she would have been standing right by my side helping me do those boxes," Klaus said.

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CUSD 10 Superintendent Dr. Mark B. Skertichann announced the groundbreaking of a new Caseyville Elementary School, as they stand at the site of the new elementary school. Photos by Devese "Dee" Urey

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29th annual Let’s Go Fishing Show sees another successful year

Fishing enthusiasts Bishop Coleman-White and Leslie Klaus have started the 29th annual Let’s Go Fishing Show at the Gateway Convention Center Show for as long as it’s been happening, describing the event every year in 2020 as “a part of our convention center with goods every day of that weekend,” Klaus said. "The program will continue again next year following its success this holiday season. Klaus said. "She may change it up to include a holiday meal if possible."

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State Scholars.

School students have been recently announced 36 Triad High School students recognized for academic excellence.

The award, given annually by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC), recognized 16,700 high school students from across the state as this year’s State Scholars.

The following Triad High School students were named Illinois State Scholars:


“We are pleased to honor this year’s Illinois State Scholars,” said Erin Zamrock, ISAC Executive Director.

Not only do they represent the best in educational excellence in Illinois, they also are key to the state’s future economic well-being. The Commission applauds their success and salutes their families and the teachers at Triad High School on this achievement.”

Triad High School Principal Kelli Barbour said, “We are very proud of these terrific Triad students and congratulate them on this significant accomplishment. Many of these students not only excel in the classroom, but also in extracurricular activities. They exemplify the qualities of well-rounded students.”

“This building project is an example of the interconnected systems framework in action,” Stewart said. “Progress for the greater good of the community working together to explore options to finance and construct a new building. The current library was built in 1998, and sits just outside the existing Caseyville Community School. The endeavor to build a new school from the ground up and drop-off areas for cars and buses will improve traffic flow around the school during peak hours, per the release.

Plants for the lobby will feature a hallmark using images of Caseyville students and positive messages shared in both English and Spanish. The goal is to reflect on the spirit of the community and school district, according to the release.

Plans also include the work to build a new Caseyville Public Library alongside the new school. The side-by-side structures represent a partnership between CUSD 10 and the Caseyville Public Library District to better serve the Caseyville community.

Ashley Stewart, library director for the Caseyville Public Library District explains the interconnected nature of the public library community and demonstrates the qualities of well-rounded community members.

“Not only do they represent the best in educational excellence in Illinois, they also are key to the state’s future economic well-being. The Commission applauds their success and salutes their families and the teachers at Triad High School on this achievement.”