HTC kicks off new building campaign

By Chuck Vandenberg
PCC Editor

West Point - A $6 million building campaign was the kickstart of the 2017 Catholic Schools week for the Holy Trinity School systems on Monday.

More than 400 people packed the Holy Trinity Catholic gymnasium in West Point Monday to kick off the campaign with school and local officials speaking to the group after a mass was celebrated.

Dennis Menke, the campaign chairman, along with wife Kate, for the Holy Trinity Catholic Elementary School project, said he was hoping to raise the money in six months, but he knew it was a big ask.

"It's my hope that we can raise this money in six months," he said. "That way we would start construction at the end of the school year. Our archdiocese in Davenport mandates that we have a minimum of 60% of the funds before we can begin work. That means we would need $3.6 million to start the work." HTC Chief Administrator Officer Michael Sheerin said he had to leave immediately after the ceremonies due to his daughter giving birth.

"What a great day to share possibly the birth of our first grandchild and the birth of this wonderful project to send us into generations to come," Sheerin said. "It was a full house at the ceremony and at left, Sheerin and Bob Carr lead a parade of children through the crowd."

Hi-Ho!

At top, HTC Principal Michael Sheerin tells the kindergarten class to prepare to go to work as the school kicks off the HTC Elementary School Project campaign Monday. Above, it was a full house at the ceremony and at left, Sheerin and Bob Carr lead a parade of children through the crowd.

The project will entail demolishing the current school buildings aside from the gym and rebuilding it to make the whole campus enclosed for greater efficiency and security and to bring the facilities into the 21st century.

"The project will replace the entire school campus for the elementary students at HTC," said Menke. "We need to replace our school because it's over 100 years old and it doesn't fit the style. They don't teach school and classes the way they did 100 years ago. Students today need an environment they can learn in. There are no such things as blackboards and chalk anymore. It all has to do with I-pads and computers. This current campus can't be retrofitted to work the way we want it to.

"This will get us a new building, a new cafeteria and restrooms that will be connected to the gym. So when we have games and activities in the gym we can have the cafeteria right there and it will be very user friendly," Menke said after the kickoff event today, efforts to see BUILDING, page 2.

Sports: JV Hound wrestlers take three 1st place finishes at Southern Iowa Classic.

See page 2.

Hi-Ho!

Photos by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

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New facility will bring teaching into tech age

BUILDING - Continued from Page 1

will get underway to communicate with alumni and community partners to help educate possible donors about the facility.

“Right now we’re kick-
ing this off. But our next
thing will be to contact people away from here, the alumni, with folders and letters of explanation and how it’s all going to happen. After that phase is done, I’d say a couple of weeks, then we will set up private parties, 20-25 couples to a party and explain what we need and how they can help,” Menke said.

He said a website has also been set up for credit and debit card contributions at HTCcampaign.org.

Sherrin said aside from the obvious physical changes to the building, it’s what happens on the inside the really matters. He said the new building will allow greater collabor-
ation of teachers and students in contemporary learning environments that will allow teachers to use modern technology to help educate the system’s children.

“We as adults are still freaking about an iPhone and these kids are work-
ing it,” Sherrin said. “Our
kindergartners and 6th graders can work together. We can do music and art where everyone can mix it up.”

“The exciting thing is that we can take this back to the idea of the one-
room school house. It’s come full circle.”

Blue is new
An artists rendering from Klinger and Associates shows (in blue) where the new construction will be at the HTCC Elementary School.

JVC Hounds get 3 titles at classic

Round 1 - Gerdel Rupa (Davis County) won by fall over Reu-
ben Eid (Fort Madison) (Fall 4:15)
Round 2 - Rabin Eid (Fort Mad-
ison) won by major decision over Asia Johnson (Kaskaskia) (Major 12-3) Round 3 - Matt Coletti (Washington) won by fall over Reuben Eid (Fort Madison) (Fall 1:43)

110) earned a 4th place
Quinton Ross (115-119)

Lauber (180-188 lb) and
Hoenig (252-285 lb), Alex

Fort Madison Police reports
01/27/17 - 8:04 a.m. - Fort Madi-
son police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 2400 block of Avenue A. Round 1 - Quinton Ross (Fort Mad-
ison) won by re pin over Zac Wegmann (Burlington) (TF 18-2)

1st and has scored 20.00 team points.

01/27/17 - 3:16 p.m. - Fort Madi-
son police responded to a report of vandalism in the 300 block of Avenue E.

01/27/17 - 4:15 p.m. - Fort Madi-
son police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1300 block of 14th Street.

01/27/17 - 3:18 a.m. - Fort Madi-
son police responded to a report of a burglary on Tammy Lane.

01/27/17 - 11:05 a.m. - Fort Madi-
son police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 1300 block of 23rd Street.

01/27/17 - 3:09 p.m. - Fort Madi-
son police responded to a report of vandalism in the 300 block of Avenue G.

01/27/17 - 11:05 a.m. - Fort Madi-
son police responded to a report of a burglary in the 600 block of Crescent Lane.

01/27/17 - 3:24 p.m. - Fort Madi-
son police responded to a report of a burglary in the 3000 block of Avenue J.

01/27/17 - 3:49 p.m. - Fort Madi-
son police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1700 block of 39th Street.

01/27/17 - 5:11 p.m. - Fort Madi-
son police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 2800 block of Avenue A.

01/27/17 - 1:03 a.m. - Fort Madi-
son police arrested John Becker II, 34, of 1028 Avenue I, in the 3200 block of Avenue I on warrant service for contempt of court. He was tak-
en to the Lee County Correctional Center and jailed.

01/27/17 - 8:13 a.m. - Fort Madi-
son police responded to a report of vandalism in the 300 block of 22nd Street.

01/27/17 - 10:14 p.m. - Fort Madi-
son police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1100 block of Avenue F.

Lee County Sheriff’s Department report
01/27/17 - 2:20 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies responded to a two-vehicle accident in the intersection of Hwy 218 and 110th Street. A vehicle

Fort Madison Fire reports
01/27/17 - Fort Madison Fire re-
sponded to smoke call.
01/27/17 - Fort Madison Fire re-
sponded to one medical call.

Fort Madison Parks, Recreation & Docks Board will meet on Wednesday, January 5 at 5:00 pm in the City Hall Council Chambers.