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DODGE COUNTY

YMCA GROWING TO MEET NEED



TERRI PEDERSON, DAILY CITIZEN

YMCA of Dodge County CEO Dirk Langfoss, left, listens while Mark Killingsworth speaks during a celebration on Friday of a new addition to the building that will add child care and gym space.

Facility nearly tripling child care space, expanding gym

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The YMCA of Dodge County is nearly tripling its child care capacity and expanding the gym space with an addition that's underway for the nearly 20-year-old building.

The facility at 220 Corporate Drive opened with about 3,000 members when it was built in 2007, and the numbers have grown throughout the years to have 9,000 members, CEO Dirk Langfoss said.

"The growth rate is incredible, but it also has stretched us as an organization," Langfoss said. "Our child care programs are full, the gym participation is overflowing, and the outdoor spaces are being used like they have never been used before. This project

is about meeting that need and doing it the right way."

The gym will be the second gym in the facility and will double the facility's gym space. There'll be a running/walking track and three additional pickleball courts.

An improved outside play area and adding an addition to the facility for classrooms will help ease Beaver Dam's child care crunch.

"We are going to go to 170 kids," Langfoss said. "Right now, we have 63 kids in this program. We will be able to create space for new family and community programs at this YMCA and make sure this YMCA continues to serve the community for generations."

The YMCA's history in Beaver Dam began in 1893. It was in the 100 block of Park Avenue for more than 80 years before moving to its current location.

"I've seen a lot of YMCAs in my career," Langfoss said. "To be in a community of 17,000 people and have this beautiful YMCA speaks volumes to what this community is all about."

Mark Killingsworth, the project's capital campaign chair, said they have raised about 90% of the \$4.7 million goal, and they are dedicated to raising every penny needed for the project.

The expected to be completed this fall. To find out more about the campaign or to donate online visit the YMCA of Dodge County's website, theydc.org.

DODGE COUNTY

Sheriff sues woman who claims she was illegally detained

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Dodge County Sheriff Dale Schmidt said he filed a civil case in federal court on Friday against the woman who had claimed to have been held in the Dodge County Jail illegally, along with others connected to the March incident.

Schmidt held a press conference on Friday detailing the investigation, which he said he had personally spent time on, while stating that the accusations were made up.

On March, Cook County commissioner Kevin Morrison held a press conference, claiming Summer Sundas "Sunny" Naqvi, 28, of Illinois, was illegally detained at O'Hare Airport, at the Broadview immigration facility in Illinois and then at the Dodge County Jail between March 5 and March 7.

Schmidt said that through his investigation, he learned that Naqvi was detained at O'Hare for about 20 minutes but was never taken to Broadview nor the Dodge County Jail.

Schmidt's case is claiming \$1 million in damages from each of Naqvi, Morrison and 10 people only identified as John Doe in the complaint. He said on Friday it wasn't really about the money but accountability for the incident. Schmidt said he has not found any way to charge Naqvi with a crime in Dodge County at this time, but he has reached out to Illinois officials, as well as the FBI in the case.

Reached via email, Morrison said, "It is my understanding that a lawsuit has been filed. I have not seen it. And if a suit has in fact been filed, I cannot comment on pending litigation."

Schmidt said that the claims Morrison made during the press conference were misleading and unsubstantiated by the evidence, including camera footage and records that Naqvi was staying at a hotel when she claimed she was being detained, according to the sheriff.

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TERRI PEDERSON, DAILY CITIZEN

Dodge County Sheriff Dale Schmidt plays a video he says shows Summer Sundas Naqvi in a gas station in Slinger at a time when she claimed she was in custody on March 7. Schmidt has filed a federal civil case against Naqvi and others, claiming defamation of character.

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