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# Linn News

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## Coggon Center roof transformed from gory to glory

BY JENNI ARCHIBALD

In 2013 when Coggon Area Betterment Association (CABA) purchased the Coggon Center property from the North Linn School District, never in its wildest dreams did the organization imagine the extent to which the community would embrace and nurture the property. CABA has been blessed with dedicated volunteers, generous donors, and loyal lessees who attract patrons to the Coggon Center.

Through these collaborations, a number of the goals that were established in 2013 have been realized, some of which include: attaining non-profit (501c3) status, repairing the boiler, replacing windows and installing weather-stripping, replacing original bathroom fixtures with water-efficient units, and, most recently, repairing the roof.

The Coggon Center structure was built in three separate sections between 1909 and 1957. The newest

wing of the building is operational, but the 1909 section is closed until an investor and/or funding sources are identified. This impressive two-story building was evaluated recently, and the results of that evaluation indicated the building is in good condition and was built with quality materials and craftsmanship. However, like all buildings, maintenance and attention are necessary, and attention to



JENNI ARCHIBALD • CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
The Coggon Center is lit up by the sun as it shows off its repaired roof.

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### COGGO

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the roof was necessary. The original (1909) roof was covered with wood shingles that were replaced with clay tile in the 1930s after two separate fires partially destroyed the building. Years later, the tile roofing was replaced with asphalt shingles.

This summer, the asphalt shingles were covered with shake steel shingles and the chimneys were repaired to improve both the aesthetic and operational integrity of the roof. The results are impressive and the building is smiling once again!

CABA is appreciative of

a grant from the Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation and gifts from the Coggon Memorial Foundation and private donors that funded this capital project completed by R & B Stucco, Plaster and Painting, Cedar Rapids, and Finley Construction, Ryan.