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IN THIS ISSUE



2009 MHS Boys and Girls Soccer Photos & Schedules

Pages 12, 17

Local

Pages 2-3

Family

Pages 4-6

Sports

Pages 18-19

Agri/Business

Pages 21-23

Classifieds

Pages 24-25

Obituaries

Pages 26-27

SUPPLEMENTS

■ Aldi

■ Bender's Foods

■ Stroke Detection

Due to a varying numbers of supplements purchased by our advertising customers for insertion in *The Maquoketa Sentinel-Press*, subscribers in some areas may not receive all the supplements listed.

PUBLIC NOTICES

■ Virgil Nemmus probate

■ JCRHC

- Notice to contractors

■ Proposed Ordinance 250

- Wastewater Treatment Systems

■ JC Board of Supervisors

- March 24, 2009 meeting

■ Mississippi Bend Area Ed. Ag.

- Student Procedures

■ Public Hearing - RTA

■ City of Maquoketa

- 1st Quarter Building Permits

■ Jackson Co. Sheriff Sale

- US Bank National Assoc. ND vs. D. Bowling et al

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER

■ Jackson County

■ City of Maquoketa

■ City of Andrew

■ City of Baldwin

■ City of Monmouth

■ City of Delmar

■ Delwood School District

■ Maquoketa School District

POSTERS FOR SALE



SIGNATURE

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GRADUATION • SHOWERS • ETC.

Recent fatal accidents investigated

By DOUGLAS MELVOLD

Two Jackson County men died last weekend in separate single-vehicle accidents.

Drew Douglas Scott, 20, of Monmouth died in a mishap that occurred at about 3:45 a.m. Sunday, April 5, on Iowa 136 near Wyoming.

Ryan Richard Garien, 26, of Maquoketa died in an accident that occurred at 5:26 p.m. Sunday on county road D-61 near Otter Creek.

Jones County sheriff's deputies said Scott was driving on 136 one mile south of Wyoming when his vehicle ran off the highway, striking a utility pole and rolling onto its top.

Scott was pronounced dead at the scene.

Deputies were assisted at the scene by the Midland ambulance, Oxford Junction ambulance and Wyoming Volunteer Fire Department.

Investigation into the accident is continuing, deputies said.

A funeral service for Scott will be held at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, April 9, at Faith Community Church in Maquoketa.

A memorial service also will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, April 10, at the Colfax Center Presbyterian church in Holland, Iowa, where Scott formerly lived and where his



Jackson County Sheriff's Office photo

LaMotte Rescue Squad members check the scene of a single-vehicle accident in which Ryan Richard Garien, 26, of Maquoketa was killed and Donald James McLaughlin, 27, of Maquoketa was seriously injured late Sunday afternoon, April 5, on county road D-61 west of Otter Creek.

parents, Lee and Janet Scott, reside.

Garien was a passenger in a car being driven west on D-61, the Bellevue-Cascade Road, by Donald James McLaughlin, 27, of rural Maquoketa, according to Jackson County sheriff's deputies.

McLaughlin failed to negotiate a curve to the left 1.7 miles west of

the junction of D-61 and U.S. 61 at Otter Creek. The location is 13 miles north of Maquoketa.

The car drove off the right side of the highway and overturned several times, coming to rest on its top, deputies said.

Both front wheels were separated from the car and numerous parts

were scattered at the scene.

Garien, who was not wearing a seat belt, was thrown from the vehicle.

He was pronounced dead at the scene by Dr. Brent Pauls, a deputy Jackson County medical examiner.

McLaughlin, who was wearing a seat belt, was trapped inside the vehicle. He was extricated by the LaMotte Rescue Squad.

McLaughlin received major injuries. He was transported by Jackson County Regional Health Center ambulance to Mercy Medical Center in Dubuque.

McLaughlin's 2001 Lincoln LS was listed as a total loss.

Damage to a fence owned by Carlos and Mary Foust of rural Zwingle was estimated at \$2,000.

Investigation into that accident also is continuing, deputies said. Possible charges against McLaughlin are pending.

Deputies were assisted at the scene by the Iowa State Patrol.

Funeral arrangements for Garien are pending at Carson & Son Funeral and Cremation Services in Maquoketa.

The accident involving Garien marked Jackson County's first traffic fatality of 2009 and the county's first fatality in more than 10 months.

Second reading of water, sewer rate hike passes

By DOUGLAS MELVOLD

An increase in water and sewer rates for Maquoketans moved a step closer to approval this week when the City Council passed the second reading of a pair of ordinances that would enact the increases.

The proposed ordinances would hike water and sewer rates by 1 1/2 percent each year over the next five years.

The first increase would take effect July 1 of this year. Each subsequent increase would begin on July 1 of subsequent years.

The increases would amount to 7 1/2 percent after the fifth and final rate hike would take effect in July of 2013.

The council on Monday night, April 6, passed the second reading of the ordinances. The council will consider the third and final reading of the ordinances at its next meeting on April 20.

The measures have drawn no opposition from the public and little discussion by the council.

The council's Utilities Committee recommended last month that a series of small yearly rate increases be enacted to avoid having to increase rates by a larger amount in the future.

Committee members noted that the Maquoketa Municipal Electric Utility has received numerous protests of a rate increase of about 25 percent that took effect Jan. 1.

A 1 1/2 percent increase in both water and sewer rates would increase the monthly bill of a typi-

■ INCREASE,

Please turn to page 3

Plan now for 2009 Relay for Life kickoff meeting


The 2009 Jackson County Relay for Life Committee is planning a kickoff informational meeting for 6:30 p.m. April 20 at the Hurstville Interpretive Center. The Interpretive Center is located at 18670 63rd Street, Maquoketa.

This meeting will provide information about forming teams and participating in this year's Relay for Life event.

All people interested in learning more about any aspect of the Relay are welcome to attend this meeting. Information will be presented on team formation, luminaria, campsites and this year's theme.

Captain's packets, raffle tickets, luminaria forms and bags, and refreshments will be available, and door prizes will be awarded.

New this year, organizers are asking all




county residents April 20 to wear purple in efforts to "Paint the County Purple" and help bring awareness to the kickoff.

This year's Relay for Life will be held June 26 beginning at 6 p.m. and concluding June 27 at 6 a.m. at the Jackson County Fairgrounds. Together friends, families, co-workers, church groups, civic clubs and school groups all form teams to raise money for the American Cancer Society.

During the Relay, team members walk the track, camp overnight, attend the auction, and enjoy the entertainment and overnight activities. Come travel with organizers as Jackson County celebrates 25 years of Relay.

For more information call Peg Manderscheid at 652-5438 or Joanne Evans at 652-4627.



Annual Easter Egg Hunt scheduled

The Maquoketa Easter Egg Hunt will be held Saturday, April 11, beginning at 9 a.m. on East Quarry Street behind the Jackson County Senior Center. Children age 0 to 9 are invited to hunt for eggs and candy that day. The event is sponsored by the Maquoketa Kiwanis Club.