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Almost anything for a good cause

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Due to a varying number 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**

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- Ryan Garien probate
- Maquoketa City Council
- April 20, 2009 meeting ■ City Ordinance 1066
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### OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER

- Jackson County
- City of Maguoketa
- City of Andrew
- City of Baldwin
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- City of Delmar ■ Delwood School District
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# Purchase of road offered to county

#### By DOUGLAS MELVOLD

The Jackson County Board of Supervisors may be asked to purchase a portion of a road the county now leases that leads into the Spruce Creek Park north of

Daryl Parker, executive director of the Jackson County Conservation Board, discussed the road, which is a portion of 396th Avenue, with the supervisors on April 21.

The road extends from the junction with 395th Avenue north 1,295 feet to the entrance of the county-owned Spruce Creek Park.

The road provides access to the county-owned Spruce Creek Park campground, boat ramp and docks, Spruce Harbor restaurant and to seasonal and permanent residences south of the park.

Parker explained that the road is owned by the estate of Catherine and Howard Droessler. A 25-year lease between the Droessler estate and the conservation board that was renewed in the 1980s will expire on May 31 of this year.

Parker told the supervisors that Bruce Droessler of Maquoketa, representing Catherine and Howard Droessler's heirs, has asked the county Conservation Board to consider purchasing the property from the Droessler estate after the lease expires.

No proposed price has been set.

Parker said the conservation board and the supervisors should consider making the purchase because of the importance of the road as the main access to the park and other properties in the area.

"I think we'll have to look seriously at what's going to happen to this road," Parker told the supervisors.

'We'll need to decide, is the county interested in purchasing this property. That's what the Droesslers want to have happen.'

Parker said the road was built at the time when the Droesslers developed the subdivision that bears their

The road has been a public thoroughfare under the lease with the conservation board.

Parker said there has never been a monetary exchange for the lease. He explained that for some years the Droesslers operated a bait shop and owned another building on property owned by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and leased to the conservation board.

The Droesslers leased the road to the conservation board free in exchange for operating the bait shop on the leased property at no cost.

The bait shop no longer exists; that property now is part of the Spruce Harbor Inn.

Parker noted that the conservation board, at its expense, paved the portion of the road that serves the Spruce Creek campground and boat ramp as a convenience to patrons who use those conservation boardoperated facilities

He said the conservation board has not maintained the road; snow plowing and other maintenance is done by residents of the subdivision, who pay a fee for those services.

He noted that if the county were to acquire the road, the county's Secondary Roads Department would assume maintenance responsibilities.

The conservation board does not perform road main-Before considering the purchase, Parker said the

county should establish the ownership of the property. He said in the 1970s, Howard Droessler filed a quitclaim deed to all the roads within the subdivision, deed-

ing that property to the adjacent property owners. He said the entrance road was not part of the quitclaim deed. He said the county should do a title search to establish for certain who owns the property.

He said the county also should have the property surveyed to determine the exact boundaries of the road.

Because the lease expiration date is approaching,

■ ROAD, Please turn to page 2



Local Girl Scouts contributed about 192 boxes of their famed cookies to Jeannie Flagel and River Bend Troop Support. Shown are, front row from left, Flagel, Mckenzie Mysak and Jade Armbruster. In back are Shelby Yearwood, Addi Dostal and Maddy Rolling. Girl Scouts absent at the time of the picture were Melodee Kovinchick, Sidney Clark, Kari Flatness, Mackenzie Neumann, Shelby Jones, Katie Breitbach, Hannah Heiar and Bobbi Jo Knight.

## Local Girl Scouts donate cases of cookies to troops

By KELLY GERLACH

Girl Scout cookies have worldwide appeal, especially to American soldiers in foreign countries longing for a reminder of home.

Some local U.S. military men and women have been treated to popular Girl Scout cookies thanks to the Maquoketa troop and generous area residents.

The local Girl Scout troop donated 12 cases - or 192 boxes - of their cookies to River Bend Troop Support.

The donation is part of the Girl Scout Cookie Share program in which people may choose to purchase one or more boxes of cookies and donate them to the charity of the troop's choice.

Sometimes people want to support the Girl Scout organization, but they don't want or are unable to eat the actual cookies. In such situations, those people are able to purchase boxes of cookies but donate them to the Girl Scouts' charity.

The local troop decided to donate their Community Cupboard.

Cookie Share cookies to River Bend Troop Support, based out of the home of Jeannie Flagel of Baldwin. Flagel started the military mission - then named Operation Package Drop - in 2004 with the help of Brenda Groves, also of Baldwin. Flagel continues operating the program but now under the River Bend name.

River Bend Troop Support collects donations of cash, personal hygiene items and non-perishable snacks. Those supplies are then packaged and mailed to troops serving in the Middle East. The packages are sent to soldiers with a connection to the area.

The local Girl Scouts sold cookies throughout the area, including sitting outside Wal-Mart and Fareway to raise money for their troop and cookies for the troops.

Troop leaders say they hope to do as well, if not better, next year.

In 2008 the Girl Scout troop gave their Cookie Share donations to the Maguoketa

### Gay marriage license applied for

### By DOUGLAS MELVOLD

The first gay couple to seek a marriage license in Jackson County did so on Monday, April 27, on the first day couples of the same gender could apply.

We had one application presented today," county Recorder Arlene Schauf said Monday afternoon, shortly before the Courthouse offices closed for the day.

Saying that she wanted to "protect their privacy," Schauf identified the couple only as both being from Jackson County.

She declined to release their names or say whether they were a male or female couple or give other details.

She noted that the information will become public after the wedding takes place, following a three-day waiting period, and the marriage certificate is recorded in her office.

"We're handling it just like any other couple coming to the counter to apply," Schauf said.

"I'm obligated to abide by the law and that's what I'm going to do.'

She said she has received numerous inquiries about issuing marriage licenses to gay couples.

Monday was the first day that marriage licenses were available to couples of the same gender following a decision of the Iowa Supreme Court on April 3 upholding a Polk County District Court ruling allowing couples of the same sex to marry.

Licenses originally were to have been available 21 days after the ruling, on Friday, April 24, but the availability of the licenses was postponed until Monday, April 27, due to a court furlough day on Friday.