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Preschoolers raise money for St. Jude

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#### 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
- the musical should:

Tired of pedaling, Little Shepherd students picked up their trusty sidewalk chalk and drew designs on the concrete. The kids raised about \$1,200 during their trike-a-thon, the money donated to St. Jude.

Little Shepherd held its 3rd annual Trike-A-Thon to benefit the children of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

The youngsters toted their favorite tricycles, pedal tractors and other wheeled toys to Little Shepherd Preschool for the special occasion. They wheeled 'round and 'round the specially designed course in their parking lot, adhering to newly learned safety rules.

By the end of the day, the children and their families had raised \$1,200 for St.

Trike-A-Thon is a weeklong curriculum and fundraising program offered by St. Jude, which is located in Memphis, Tenn. It is provided to daycare centers and preschool to teach children riding-toy safety lessons through a variety of interactive stories.

Through the program, the Little Shepherd children learn a different lesson each day. Lessons included the importance of wearing helmets, remembering to never ride in the street, always being careful around driveways and always watching the path ahead.

The week ended with the children bringing riding toys to school and practicing the lessons they learned. Family and friends then sponsored the students by giving them donations, all of which went to St. Jude.

> **■** TRIKE-A-THON, Please turn to page 2

# Governor's stimulus isn't 'much' for county

#### By DOUGLAS MELVOLD

Gov. Chet Culver hasn't scored any fans on the Jackson County Board of Supervisors for his I-Jobs program.

The supervisors last week expressed disdain for the governor's state infrastructure stimulus plan after hearing some initial details from county Engineer Clark Schloz.

Schloz reported at the supervisors' April 28 meeting that the Legislature, in its waning days, passed a two-year program that will provide \$14.75 million for the fiscal year starting July 1 and \$24.7 million for the following year.

Schloz said that according to his calculations, Jackson County will receive approximately \$209,000 for the two years combined.

Separately, he also noted that Jackson County

stands to receive an additional \$29,000 in federal stimulus funds, for a \$238,000.

Schloz said he didn't know if the I-Jobs program would come with requirements attached for the counties, such as having to spend it on farmto-market roads or a percentage on bridges.

'The way it looks, it will go into our regular road fund and can be used for design, construction or maintenance of roads," Schloz said.

The I-Jobs program, which finances the stimulus plan through a sale of bonds, was the centerpiece of Culver's economic recovery plan.

Supervisor Larry "Buck" Koos said he feared that the counties with larger populations would get the lion's share of the funds, leaving the smaller counties with much less funding.

"I get the feeling the amount we're going to

be getting is pretty small compared to some of the other counties, but at least the way this looks, we're guaranteed something," Koos said.

Still the supervisors weren't impressed.

"If they say 10 percent has to go toward bridge work, what kind of bridge work are you going to do for \$23,000?" Supervisor Jack Willey asked. "You're not going to do much."

The supervisors reiterated their views expressed over recent weeks that an increase in the state gasoline tax would be far more preferable to raise money for road infrastructure than a bonding program. Culver has opposed a gas tax

> **■** STIMULUS, Please turn to page 8

## Footloose auditions at the end of the month

Everybody cut footloose this summer by auditioning for the Peace Pipe Players' August performance of "Footloose."

Auditions will be held for students in grades 9 through 12 beginning at 2 p.m. May 23. Students must be entering the 9th grade in the fall of 2009.

College students and adults may audition the following day, May 24, at 2 p.m.

All auditions will be held at 607 Myatt Drive in Maquoketa, next to Happy Joe's Place.

Those planning to audition for

- Prepare a song to sing. Be sure to bring sheet music for the accompanist.
- Be prepared to do a "cold reading" from the provided "Footloose" script.
- Be prepared to learn and perform a short dance sequence from the show. The dance will be taught at the audition.

Performance dates are scheduled for Aug. 7, 8 and 9 at the Ohnward Fine Arts Center in Maquoketa.

The "Footloose" musical is based on the 1984 movie of the same name starring Kevin Bacon, John Lithgow and Lori Singer.

The film tells the story of Ren McCormack (Bacon), a teenager raised in Chicago. He moves to a small town where the town government banned dancing and rock music.

McCormack and his classmates want to hold a senior prom with music and dancing, but they must come up with a way to get around the Rev. Shaw Moore (Lithgow), who is determinedly against the activity.

The movie was loosely based on events that took place in the small, rural farming community of Elmore City, Okla.

"Footloose the Musical" is based on the stage adaptation by Dean Pitchford and Walter Bobbie. It is based on the original screenplay by Dean Pitchford, with music by Tom Snow and lyrics by Dean Pitchford. Additional music was provided by Eric Carmen, Sammy Hagar, Kenny Loggins and Jim Steinman.

For more information about the "Footloose" auditions or for those who are unable to audition on the scheduled dates, please contact Erica Barker (563) 593-6590 or email her at erica@sandprairiequailfarm.com.