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MAQUOKETA

SENTINEL-PRESS

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Fareway celebrates first anniversary

In honor of that first anniversary (and Fareway’s 46th year in Maquoketa), customers can register to win free prizes at the Maquoketa grocery store. Shoppers can also take advantage of this week’s anniversary deals advertised in the Maquoketa Sentinel-Press and Buyer’s Guide.

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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.

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■ Sheriff Sale

- Countrywide Home Loans v. Lori Wilson et al

■ Helen Frank probate

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- August 4, 2009 meeting


■ Delwood School Election

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Our public notices are also published on the web at:

<http://www.publicnoticeads.com/IA/search/searchnotice.asp>

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■ City of Maquoketa

■ City of Andrew

■ City of Baldwin

■ City of Monmouth

■ City of Delmar

■ Delwood School District

■ Maquoketa School District

District adds three new educators

By KELLY GERLACH

Three new educators joined the Maquoketa Community School District this school year and were introduced to the community during the annual New Teacher Luncheon.

The luncheon was held Friday, Aug. 14 in the Maquoketa Community High School cafeteria. The luncheon, sponsored by the Maquoketa Area Chamber of Commerce Education Committee, introduces the new educators to administrators in the three local school districts, their co-workers, the community and area business-people.

New educators include Christine Snell, Jessica Hingtgen and Brad Mangler.

The number of new educators decreased dramatically this year, from 16 in 2008 to three in 2009. There were no new teachers in the Delwood or Sacred Heart school districts, which also participate in the luncheon each year.

Following a meal catered by Dawn’s Diner, District Superintendent Kim Huckstadt, Curriculum Director Helen Snell, Delwood Superintendent Sue Goodall and various principals talked briefly about their schools and introduced the new educators.

“There has never been a bet-

ter time to be a student in the Maquoketa Community School District,” Huckstadt told the assembled group.

In explaining his optimistic outlook during these rather pessimistic times, the superintendent listed the free 4-year-old preschool program implemented this year in Maquoketa. He noted that only a few years ago, about 38 percent of kindergarteners coming into the district had no preschool experience.

Huckstadt also listed the district’s almost \$250,000 in technology upgrades and the opening of the Clinton Community College Maquoketa Campus as providing greater opportunities for the district’s students.

The high school may see an estimated gain of three new students during the 2009-10 school year. As of school registration more than a week earlier, about 43 possible returning students had not yet registered.

Maquoketa Middle School expects a possible increase of two students this school year. Some 327 students had signed up on or by the school’s registration day and 34 students had not registered.

■ EDUCATORS,
Please turn to page 2



These three educators will be new faces in the Maquoketa Community School District, although they are not new to the area. Shown during the New Teacher Luncheon last week are, seated, Jessica Hingtgen and Christine Snell. Standing is Brad Mangler.

City council urged to take action

By DOUGLAS MELVOLD

For its size—shorter across than a penny—the emerald ash borer is poised to cause a lot of trouble in eastern Iowa, including Maquoketa.

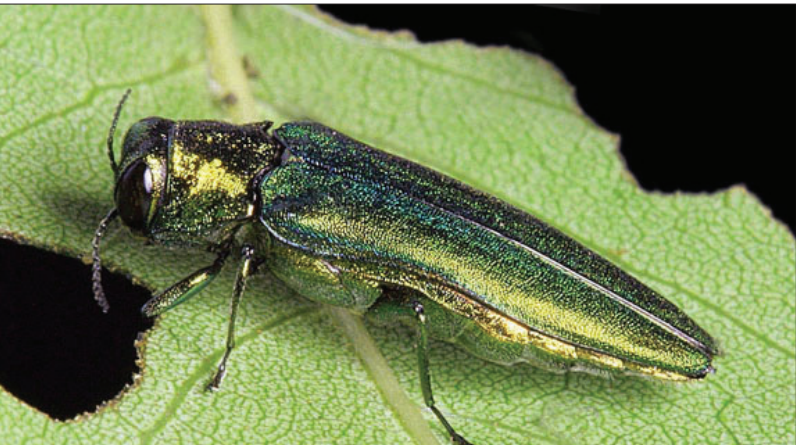
The City Council received a presentation about the tiny bright green beetle, the destruction it has caused to ash trees throughout the Midwest and options for dealing with it during a work session last week.

The council on Wednesday night, Aug. 12, heard from Robin Puisner, Iowa state entomologist, and Tivon Feeley, who is forest health program leader with the Bureau of Forestry of the state Department of Natural Resources.

The emerald ash borer has been attacking ash trees throughout the Midwest and has caused the destruction of hundreds of thousands of ash trees, either by the insect itself or by humans cutting down the trees in an attempt to eradicate or control it.

The ash borer is brilliant green, less than an inch long that bores into the bark of ash trees and eventually kills the tree. No “silver bullet” treatment has been found, Puisner said.

She noted that everything that is known about the emerald ash borer has been learned since 2002, when the first infestation in the United States was discovered in Michigan.



EMERALD ASH BORER

Until then, the insect was almost unknown.

Since then it has spread westward and has reached Wisconsin and Illinois. The closest that the insect has come to reaching Iowa is an infestation found in April of this year in Victory, Wis., across the Mississippi River from Allamakee County, and a larva that was found in Clayton County.

As a first step in dealing with the expected impact of the ash borer, Puisner and Feeley urged the City Council to compile an inventory of all of the ash trees in the city. They also urged the council to study and update the city’s ordinances to prohibit the planting of ash trees.

In response to a question from Mayor Tom Messerli, Feeley said the most cost-effective action the

city could take is “start now.”

He suggested that the city start by identifying ash trees that are dead or declining and cutting them down.

“I would do it now,” he said, adding that he would leave healthy trees alone “until you have no other choice.”

The council agreed informally to consider having an inventory done. Public Works Director David Popp said he would develop options on how to conduct an inventory.

He said he did a quick mobile survey earlier this year and concluded that there are about 70 ash trees in city rights-of-way along streets and said that number may reach 150 if city parks are included.

Otherwise, the council declined to take immediate action to start

removing trees or taking other steps.

Because the council was meeting in an informal work session, no votes or formal action could be taken.

“Until it actually crosses over and we start seeing it in the state of Iowa, I suggest we start slow and speed up if we have to,” said Councilman Galen Saunders.

“We have no reason to be alarmed now,” said Councilman Tim Clark, adding that ash trees that are aging or losing limbs should be gotten rid of immediately.

“If this comes, it comes. You’re not going to stop it,” Clark said.

“We didn’t stop Dutch elm disease in the ’60s and ’70s, we didn’t stop the Japanese beetle, you’re not going to stop anything. We can deal with it when it gets here.”

A 10-page proposed emerald ash borer “readiness plan” that Popp, other city staff members and the city’s Tree Board have been working on for the past year was distributed.

The plan outlines steps to be taken to reduce the risk of an infestation and if an infestation is found.

Puisner and Feeley noted that there are no restrictions on the handling of ash trees and wood as long as no infestations are found.

■ BEETLE,
Please turn to page 2