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— M A Q U O K E T A —

# SENTINEL-PRESS

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## IN THIS ISSUE

**A look back at 1900s maple sugar time in Jackson County**



Page 12

Local	Pages 2-3
Editorial	Pages 4-5
Family	Pages 6-7
Sports	Pages 10-11
Obituaries	Page 13
Classifieds	Eastern Iowa Bizzzy Bee

## SUPPLEMENTS

■ **Eastern Iowa Bizzzy Bee**

■ **Menard's**

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## PUBLIC NOTICES

- Clarence Gartman probate
- Original Notice  
- BAC Home Lonas vs. Sheila Bustamante et al
- Helen E. Koppes probate
- JC Sheriff Sale  
- Bank of NY Mellon vs. Allan Meyers 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

# Parker placed on administrative leave

By KELLY GERLACH

At noon Friday, April 2, Daryl Parker was scheduled to turn in his county-issued firearm, badge and keys to his patrol vehicle.

On a split 3-2 vote, the Jackson County Conservation Board this week placed Parker, its executive director, on paid administrative leave with benefits until felony child abuse charges filed against him in Wisconsin are settled.

Until then, Parker is barred from performing law enforcement duties and will not be allowed to participate in conservation activities involving children.

Parker, 46, will perform the remainder of his administrative duties with the Conservation Board, including work on the \$730,000-plus Copper Creek trail project near Preston.

The decision was made during a special conservation board meeting Tuesday night, March 30, at the Hurstville Interpretive Center. About 30 people attended the meeting, including Parker and his attorney, Jeff Walters of Dubuque.

The action was taken in response to felony child abuse charges filed in Sauk County, Wis., Circuit Court on Feb. 22.

He is accused of intentionally causing bodily harm to a 15-year-old boy while both were involved in a game of laser tag at the Klahari Resort at Lake Delton, Wis., on Feb. 19.

According to the criminal complaint filed by Kevin Calkins, assistant district attorney, a 15-year-old youth identified only as J.M.M. told police that Parker kicked him in the right leg during the game of laser tag.

According to the complaint, a Lake Delton police officer was sent to the Klahari Resort at 10:50 p.m. Feb. 19 to investigate

a report of a man striking two teenagers.

At the resort, the officer spoke to a 12-year-old boy identified only as D.K.Z., who told the officer that he and friends were playing the laser tag.

"There was a man, later identified by officers as Daryl Parker, who was also playing," the complaint quotes D.K.Z. as telling the officer. "It appeared that Parker's laser gun had stopped working. D.K.Z. continued to shoot Parker.

"Parker struck him on his right shoulder. It hurt when Parker hit him. D.K.Z. didn't think Parker

punched him on purpose. D.K.Z. thought Parker was trying to push him away and did it a little too hard."

The Lake Delton police officer also spoke to the 15-year-old boy identified as J.M.M., who told the officer he also was playing laser tag with D.K.Z. and others, according to the complaint.

"He saw Parker right after Parker hit



DARYL PARKER

D.K.Z.," the complaint says.

"Parker then went and sat in a corner. He went to go around Parker. Parker kicked him in the right leg using his right foot.

"Parker kicked him using the center of the bottom sole of his shoe," the complaint quotes the youth as telling police.

J.M.M. and D.K.Z. then reported to resort employees that they had been struck, the complaint says. J.M.M. showed the officer where he allegedly had been kicked. The officer saw a red bruise forming on the inside of the youth's right knee, the complaint says.

Parker was charged with intentional physical abuse of a child, a Class H felony in Wisconsin. Conviction carries a possible fine of up to \$10,000 or a prison sentence of up to six years or both.

Jackson County Attorney Chris Raker, who spoke to the group at Tuesday's meeting, said the felony charge initially sounded much more serious than anyone expected.

But upon reading the police report, Raker said, "It sounded a lot more innocuous than the complaint. I don't know if a charge like this would be filed in Jackson County."

Raker said he spoke with the prosecuting attorney in Wisconsin. That's how he obtained a copy of the police report, which is an open record, and shared it with conservation board members and the media.

Raker said he asked the prosecutor how the case would end. He was told it would "result in an amenable conclusion for Parker," a conclusion "preferable to all parties involved," Raker told the board. He didn't elaborate.

Raker recommended that the conservation board place Parker on temporary administrative leave and relieve him of his law enforcement duties, including handing in his county-issued firearm, badge and patrol vehicle.

"This is pretty routine procedure

■ **PARKER,**  
Please turn to page 2

# No new faces on county primary ballots

By DOUGLAS MELVOLD

Jackson County Democrats and Republicans won't find any contested races for a county office on the ballot in this year's primary election.

All of the incumbents are running unopposed for re-election or a first full term.

The ballot for the June 8 statewide primary was set with the 5 p.m. Wednesday, March 31, filing deadline for candidates for the five county offices at stake.

Only Republicans and Democrats will be on those ballots.

Jack Willey of Maquoketa is unopposed for the Republican nomination for District 2 supervisor. Willey is seeking a sixth four-year term.

Steve Flynn of rural Maquoketa is seeking the Democratic nomination to the District 3 supervisors seat. He is seeking a second term.

County Attorney Chris Raker is unopposed for the Democratic nomination for that post.

Raker was appointed county attorney in September of 2008 following the resignation of Phillip Tabor, who had been appointed an associate District Court judge.

Raker had been deputy county attorney since April of 2007.

The county's senior elected official, Treasurer Alfred Tebbe Jr., is again seeking the Democratic nomination to that office.

He is seeking re-election to an eighth term as treasurer. Tebbe has worked in the treasurer's office since November of 1964, when he was hired as a clerk.

He was appointed treasurer effective Jan. 1, 1980 to fill the two years remaining in the term of Harold Feeney, who had resigned.

He ran successfully for a full term in 1982 and was re-elected in 1986, 1990, 1994, 1998, 2002 and 2006.

Arlene Schauf is seeking the Democratic nomination for re-election to the county recorder office she holds.

Schauf is seeking a second term. Previously a first deputy in the office, she was appointed recorder in June of 2006 following the resignation of Phyllis Gerlach.

She was elected to a first term in November of that year.

The county-level candidates will join Republicans and Democrats who met a filing deadline last month for state and federal offices on the primary ballot.

Both the Democratic and GOP ballots will include contested races at those levels.

For the U.S. Senate, Sen. Charles Grassley, a Republican, is unopposed in seeking re-election to a sixth term in the Senate.

Three Democratic candidates are seeking the right to oppose him in November. They are Roxanne Conlin of Des Moines, Thomas L. Fiegen of Clarence and Bob Krause of Fairfield.

For the 1st District congressional seat, incumbent Bruce Braley, a Waterloo attorney, is unopposed for the Democratic nomination for a second term.

Four Republicans have lined up to oppose him including one from Jackson County. They are James Budde of rural Bellevue, Will Johnson of Dubuque, Mike LaCoste of Waterloo and Benjamin M. Lange of Independence.

For governor, incumbent Chet Culver is unopposed for the Democratic nomination.

Three GOP members have filed for their party's gubernatorial nomination. They are former Gov. Terry Branstad, Rod Roberts of Carroll and Bob Vander Plaats of Sioux City, who has sought the office previously.

For secretary of state, incumbent Michael Mauro of Des Moines is unopposed for the Democratic

nomination. He is seeking a second term.

Republicans hoping to challenge him are George S. Eichhorn, Chris Sanger and Matt Schultz.

For state auditor, incumbent David Vautd is unopposed for the GOP nomination to another term.

No Democrats filed for the office.

For state treasurer, incumbent Michael Fitzgerald, a Democrat, is unopposed for the nomination. Republicans will choose between James A. Heavens of Dyersville and David D. Jamison of Ames as their nominee.

Each party has one candidate for the secretary of agriculture nomination. They are incumbent Bill Northey of Spirit Lake, a Republican, and Democrat Francis Thicke of Fairfield.

The attorney general nomination also features one candidate running unopposed from each party. They are incumbent Tom Miller of Des Moines, a Democrat, and Republican Brenna Findley of Dexter.

The forthcoming retirement of state Sen. Roger Stewart, D-Preston, after two four-year terms has drawn four Democratic candidates and one Republican hoping to succeed him as the District 13 state senator.

The Democrats are Tod Bowman of Maquoketa, Paul J. Feller of Clinton, Brian S. Moore of rural Zwingle and Ed O'Neill of Clinton.

Andrew Naeve of rural Clinton is unopposed for the Republican nomination.

For the District 25 state representative seat, incumbent Tom Schueller, a Maquoketa Democrat, is unopposed for his party's nomination. He is seeking re-election to a third two-year term.

No Republican filed papers for that seat.

Voters must be a registered Republican or Democrat to vote in the primary election. They may switch parties before the election or at the polls if they wish.