

NEWSLETTER

Inside this edition:

- Chamber Luncheon
- Message from the Director ...Did You Know?
- Buyer Supplier Program Contest
- Career Awareness Program
- 2010 Census
- Timber City Days
- Chamber Member Spotlight
- Chamber Ambassador Calls
- Thank You's
- Calendar of Events
- Congratulations

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IN THIS ISSUE

Good Luck Cardinals



Boys & Girls Golf Team Photos and Schedules

Pages 12-13

Local	Pages 2-3
Editorial	Pages 4-5
Family	Pages 6-7
Sports	Pages 10-11
Obituaries	Page 19
Classifieds	Eastern Iowa Bizzzy Bee

SUPPLEMENTS

- Eastern Iowa Bizzzy Bee
- Mercy Medical Center
- Menard's

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

- Original Notice - BAC Home Loan vs. S. Bustamonte et al
- Helen E. Koppes probate
- JC Sheriff Sale - Bank of NY Mellon vs. A. Meyers et al
- City of Maquoketa - 1st Quarter Building Permits
- Delmar City Council - April 10, 2010 meeting
- Maquoketa Zoning Board - Jason Manning & Marcia Ties-Karsten

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

Supervisors deny zoning application

By DOUGLAS MELVOLD

The Jackson County Board of Supervisors, for the second time in as many years, this week denied a controversial rezoning request that would have allowed a commercial business in a residential subdivision north of Bellevue.

The supervisors, on a 3-0 vote on Tuesday, April 6, turned down a request from Brian and Tammy Deppe of rural Bellevue to rezone three lots consisting of about an acre from R-1, residential, to C-1, highway commercial.

The vacant property is located at the north edge of the Melvin Dagitz subdivision on 395th Avenue just outside the entrance to the county's Spruce Creek Park.

The Deppes planned to sell the property to another party, Xtreme Marine and Performance of rural Bellevue, that was proposing to operate a boat sales and service business on the property, provided the zoning change would be approved.

An artist's rendition of the proposed business on the property showed a building designed to fit in with area homes and fishing boats displayed on trailers outdoors.

The board heard arguments for and against the proposal during public hearings on March 30 at Bellevue City Hall and at Tuesday's meeting in Maquoketa preceding the board's decision.

The board also received petitions from both sides asking it to approve or deny the rezoning.

Approximately 20 people crowded into the supervisors meeting room on Tuesday to attend the hearing.

After listening to arguments from residents and

■ ZONING, Please turn to page 23

Club plans to paint at park

club hOpe has arranged a community park painting project and would appreciate the public's help to make it happen.

club hOpe will host this painting event on Saturday, April 17 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for Paint the Park.

Participants will be painting the exterior of the wooden park equipment at Little Bear Park in Maquoketa. Participants are asked to bring a small bucket or container to carry the paint as well as a paintbrush. There will be no climbing or use of ladders to reach the equipment.

Participants must sign a waiver before they start painting. Waivers may be obtained from KMAQ, the high school, middle school and Briggs offices.

club hOpe appreciates any and all community help with this project.

This is the group's second time coordinating such a large communitywide project. Members arranged a cleanup day at Horseshoe Pond Park in the fall of 2009.

This is the high school group's second year in existence. club hOpe is a joint project of Oprah's Angel Network and Free the Children. It's a nationwide project geared to turn today's youths into compassionate, active and knowledgeable "global children."



Contributed photo

Patrick and Kim Bentrott hold Solomon and Valancia, the two children they are adopting, while seated aboard a cargo plane departing Haiti for the United States last January. The couple and their children left the country after the Jan. 12 earthquake but plan to return there to resume their aid work with native Haitians.

Bentrotts visit family and plan return to Haiti

By KELLY GERLACH

Patrick and Kim Bentrott spent three relatively relaxed months simply loving their two children. Daughter Valancia took her first tentative steps during the week before Easter and son Solomon is becoming better acquainted with new sister Valancia. Both are being spoiled by family and friends.

They are putting the devastation of the Jan. 12 Haiti earthquake behind them even as they anticipate returning there to pitch in with rebuilding efforts.

Patrick is a Maquoketa native, the son of Jane Bentrott of Maquoketa and Craig Bentrott of Davenport. Kim is a general physician.

After Kim's residency and Patrick's seminary internship, the civic-minded couple decided they wanted to travel and serve before they settled down to buy a house and get "real" jobs in Denver, Patrick said.

The couple moved to Haiti in October of 2008 as missionaries for Global Ministries, the international counterpart of United Church of Christ and Disciples of Christ churches.

"They partner missionaries with indigenous groups in different countries to assist them. Kim and I really believe this is the best way to mission, for the natives to be in charge. They know what's best for them.

Prior to the earthquake, Patrick taught at the seminary, assisted at the nursing school, worked at a local orphanage and occasionally preached in and around Port-au-Prince.

Kim is a general physician who works in the medical clinic, conducts mobile clinics and teaches at the nursing school.

"Global Ministries is unique in that it doesn't seek to control what's happening abroad. They use this solidarity model - in solidarity, working together, we do whatever the Haitians ask and need done. The Haitian people are in charge because they rightly know what's best for them and their country," Patrick said.

Patrick and Kim work through the auspices of CONASPEH, the National Spiritual Council of

Churches of Haiti. About 2,500 CONASPEH member churches were affected by the 7.0-magnitude earthquake Jan. 12. This includes the decimation of buildings used for lodging, worship and education.

"CONASPEH's emphasis is on education and health. It's a small, very poor, grassroots effort to bring education to all."

Patrick said Haitian parents wanting to send their children to school, just primary school, often spend about half their income to do so and still must decide which child to send. The average Haitian typically does not have the finances to send each child to school. And the high school graduation rate is about 5 percent.

Patrick said many people misunderstand the scope of their work in Haiti.

"When I say I'm a missionary, people think I'm teaching the Haitians about Jesus, trying to convert them. But we do not evangelize. We do teach about Jesus, but we're not out to convert anyone. I'm actually the one getting converted," Patrick explained.

The true task is not converting anyone, anywhere, according to Patrick, but increasing everyone's awareness of the hardships of the Haitian people.

"To understand Haiti today, you have to understand its history, especially colonialism," Patrick said.

"People always ask why Haitians are not self-sustaining. Haitian people are victims from colonization to the horrible government they've had since their freedom, poor ruling, natural disasters. They've been used and abused and yet here they are, stronger and more resilient than any other people we've met.

"There's a direct correlation between the death and destruction caused by the earthquake and colonization," Patrick continued. He said the ground is unstable because there are no trees to keep the productive soil. Foreigners stripped the forests decades ago, leaving heavy rains to wash

■ BENTROTTS, Please turn to page 22