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MAQUOKETA
SENTINEL-PRESS

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GET YOUR CAR READY FOR

WINTER



Winter is just around the corner.
Don't be caught in the cold...

The businesses listed are
ready to serve you.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

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Contributed Photo

Pennies make a big difference

Maquoketa Middle School CARDS Club members Kyla Yappan, left, and Rachel Wentworth show off the canisters and boxes that middle school students will be using to collect coins and paper money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. The campaign, called Pennies for Patients, will run from Oct. 12 through Oct. 29. Classrooms will compete against each other to see which can raise the most money. The middle school raised \$1,175 dollars in 2009. To make a donation, contact a neighborhood middle schooler or contact Dawn Wright at 652-4956.

Whole grade sharing, early retirement program considered

By KELLY GERLACH

The Maquoketa Community School Board agreed to begin whole grade sharing negotiations with the Andrew Community School District.

School board members approved a resolution to enter negotiations for a one-way whole sharing agreement with neighboring Andrew. The agreement would take effect during the 2011-12 school year.

District Superintendent Kim Huckstadt told school board members Monday, Oct. 11, that any whole grade sharing agreement should mirror Maquoketa's existing agreement with Delwood.

Huckstadt said he expects negotiations between Maquoketa and Andrew to begin in November. He said joint school board meetings would be held to discuss the issue.

Whole grade sharing agreements must be

finalized by Feb. 1 of the school year prior to which the agreement will begin, in this case Feb. 1, 2011 for the 2011-12 school year. School districts must publicly announce their intent to sign a whole grade sharing agreement at least 90 days prior to signing it.

Andrew is also pursuing a whole grade sharing agreement with the Bellevue Community School District, it's neighbor to the northeast.

Maquoketa may also receive high school students from the Preston Community School District. Nothing has been formally discussed; however, the two district superintendents have discussed the possibility of 28E course sharing agreements and the possibility of whole grading sharing students from Preston to Maquoketa, according to Bob Lagerblade, Preston superin-

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Please turn to page 18

■ CODE, Please turn to page 2

Code violation to be rectified

By DOUGLAS MELVOLD

The Jackson County Board of Supervisors this week was told of an electrical code violation with wiring installed near the courthouse elevator.

The code violation was found as electricians from Trenkamp Electric of Preston were installing a new main electrical feed to the Courthouse.

Tom Flickinger of the Durrant Group engineers, the project engineer, told the supervisors Tuesday morning, Oct. 12, that workers found when they opened up a junction box that the conductors had been downsized. He said the smaller conductors were a violation of the state electrical code.

Flickinger also told the supervisors "They're using the grounding conductor as a neutral and you can't do that."

Flickinger called the code violation "pretty significant."

He recommended that the supervisors authorize the contractor to correct the problem to meet electric code requirements. Board members agreed.

Flickinger estimated the cost at \$4,500. He said the existing conduit can be used, but said the high price of copper accounts for much of the cost of the wiring that will be required.

"I agree with you; we don't have a choice. We need to be code compliant," supervisors Chairman Steve Flynn told Flickinger.

"If we didn't do this and we're aware of it, we could have liability problems."

Supervisor Jack Willey asked how the wiring got done outside the code.

Flickinger said he didn't know. He said judging from the age of the electric panel, it could have been done by the original electrical contractor for the Courthouse.

He added that it also could have been done sometime later because there were many modifications to the wiring in that area.

"It's hard to tell," he said.

Flickinger said he doubted that the wiring met the code requirements when it was put in.

"Forty years ago this would not have been code compliant," the engineer said.

Supervisors said they had not budgeted funds for that project and didn't know immediately how they would pay for it. They asked county Auditor M. Joell Deppe to suggest budget areas where they may pay for it.

Flickinger said he would provide documents for the supervisors to sign formally approving the change order at their meeting next week.

The project will be an additional task to the main project of installing a new electrical service line to the Courthouse.

Supermarket to close at end of this year

By DOUGLAS MELVOLD

Aldi Inc. will close its Maquoketa supermarket at the end of the year, company officials announced this week.

The store, which has been located at 907 W. Platt St. since it opened in 1986, will close on Dec. 31.

The company announced the closing in an e-mail sent Thursday afternoon, Oct. 14.

"We are thrilled to have been part of the community for the last 24 years," said Heather Moore, vice president of Aldi's Dwight division

in Dwight, Ill.

"Though we are saddened to leave this area, we have stores in Dubuque and Clinton."

The four employees at the Maquoketa store will be offered jobs at area Aldi stores, Moore said.

The closing leaves Maquoketa with two supermarkets, Fareway Stores and Wal-Mart Supercenter.

Company spokesperson Heather Tarczan said the company's lease at its Maquoketa location is expiring and wasn't renewed. She said the space "will turn into something

else."

"We would like to thank the Maquoketa community for our long-standing relationship," Tarczan said. "We encourage shoppers to visit our other stores."

The closing of the Maquoketa store doesn't affect other area stores, Tarczan said.

The select-assortment discount store specializes in staples. It is known for its no frills, which holds down prices. The store charges a fee for bags and its aisles lack the decoration and elaborate product

displays of other grocery stores.

Staffing levels are kept to a minimum and the store isn't open for extended evening hours.

Customers interested in continuing to shop at Aldi are encouraged to visit the store locator at www.aldi.us to find an alternate Aldi store, she said.

Aldi Inc., which has headquarters in Essen, Germany, has more than 1,100 U.S. stores in 31 states primarily between Kansas and the East Coast.