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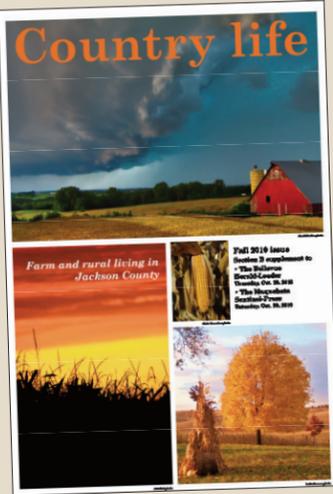
BRIAN MOORE

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— M A Q U O K E T A —
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SUPPLEMENTS

- Eastern Iowa Bizzzy Bee
- Menard's
- Walmart

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

- James Merritt probate
- Maquoketa School Board - Oct. 21, 2010 special meeting
- JC Sheriff Sale - DuTrac vs. Star Properties LLC
- Dolores Klein probate
- Andrew City Council - Oct. 12, 2010 meeting
- Notice of Forfeiture - M. Felix & C. Felix



OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER

- Jackson County
- City of Maquoketa
- City of Andrew
- City of Baldwin
- City of Monmouth
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Early voters cast ballots

By DOUGLAS MELVOLD

A campaign seen by many as the more rancorous in recent years and seen as a test of the Obama administration's first two years in office will end next week with the midterm election.

Jackson County voters will join those across Iowa and nationwide in visiting the polls for the general election Tuesday, Nov. 2.

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. at 16 precinct locations in Jackson County (see accompanying box).

M. Joell Deppe, Jackson County auditor and elections commissioner, said the voting equipment and staff are ready to go.

Early voting continues to gain in popularity as both major parties urge their supporters to vote absentee.

As of Wednesday afternoon, Oct. 27, some 2,975 ballots had been requested. Of that amount, 2,056 ballots had been voted and returned to the auditor's office. The latter figure includes ballots that were mailed out and those who voted in person at the auditor's office.

That number already has eclipsed the 1,945 early voters that were recorded for the last midterm general election, in 2006.

"There are some races that voters are interested in that have brought early voters," Deppe said Wednesday.

"Other counties also are seeking records turnouts in early voting, but it will still be a busy Tuesday," Deppe said.

The auditor's office will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 1, for absentee voting for those unable to get to the polls or wishing to avoid long lines on Tuesday.

Topping the ballot are races for U.S. senator, 1st District U.S. representative and governor.

In addition to the two major parties, candidates for the Libertarian, Socialist Workers and Iowa parties also are seeking some offices and two were nominated by petition.

For the Senate, incumbent Republican Sen. Charles Grassley is seeking a sixth six-year term. He is opposed by Roxanne Conlin, a Democrat.

For the District 1 U.S. House of Representatives seat, incumbent Bruce Braley, a Democrat seeking a third two-year term, is being challenged by Benjamin Lange, a Republican.

Also on the ballot for the congressional seat is Jason Faulkner of Maquoketa, who was nominated by petition. Heading the slate of state offices on the ballot is the race for governor.

Incumbent Gov. Chet Culver and Lt. Gov. Patty Judge, Democrats, are seeking a second four-year term.

They are challenged by former Gov. Terry Branstad and his running mate, state Sen. Kim Reynolds, who are Republicans. Branstad previously served four terms as governor, from January of 1983 to January of 1999.

For secretary of state, incumbent Democrat Michael Mauro is being challenged by Republican Matt Schultz.

Incumbent state Auditor David Vaudt, a Republican, is being challenged by Jon Murphy, a Democrat.

For state treasurer, Michael Fitzgerald, a Democrat and the incumbent, is challenged by David Jamison, a Republican.

Incumbent Republican Bill Northey is seeking a second term as secretary of agriculture. His challenger is Francis Thicke, a Democrat.

Longtime Attorney General Tom Miller, a Democrat, is seeking another term and is challenged by Brenna Findley, a Republican.

The local races that have drawn the most interest involve Jackson County's two legislative seats.

Tod Bowman, a Maquoketa Democrat, and Andrew Naeve, a rural Andover Republican, are vying for the District 13 state Senate seat.

The winner will succeed incumbent state Sen. Roger Stewart, D-Preston, who is stepping down after serving two terms.

■ VOTE, Please turn to page 2



MSP photo by Douglas Melvold

Branstad makes stop in Maquoketa

Terry Branstad, left, gestures as he addresses a gathering of approximately 60 Jackson County Republicans at a campaign appearance in Maquoketa on Tuesday, Oct. 26. Appearing with the four-term former governor were, from left, Kim Reynolds, lieutenant governor candidate; Matt Schultz, secretary of state candidate; Brenna Findley, attorney general candidate, and David Jamison, state treasurer candidate. If elected, Branstad said he would change the course of the past four years, create 200,000 new jobs and improve education.

Preparations for annual festival begin at Ohnward

By KELLY GERLACH

Halloween is yet to pass but it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas at the Ohnward Fine Arts Center in Maquoketa.

Christmas ornaments, pre-lit trees, reindeer, Santas, snowflakes, pine cones, skis, sleds, and various other win-

ter decorations fill the tables at the Ohnward Fine Arts Center as staff begin preparations for the sixth annual Festival of Trees. The event will be held Nov. 13-23 at the fine arts center.

It's not too late for organizations, businesses, and individuals to decorate a tree

or wreath and enter it in the judging contest. The trees and wreaths will then be sold via silent auction, with proceeds benefiting Ohnward.

Festival organizers hope to receive 40 trees and 20

■ FESTIVAL, Please turn to page 3



Loads of holiday ornaments fill tables at the Ohnward Fine Arts Center as Festival of Trees organizers prepare for the 2010 event next month. Organizations, businesses and individuals are invited to decorate a tree or wreath and donate it to the festival, being held Nov. 13-23. The items will be sold via silent auction, with proceeds benefiting the fine arts center.