

## CALL THE COURIER

Questions concerning issues are taken on a special Courier phone line at  
**234-3566**

Questions are answered by Courier staff and staff at the Waterloo Public Library.

**Q.** Is the actor who plays Dwight on "Memphis Beat" the same actor that played Ed on the series "Ed"?

**A.** No. Actor Jason Lee plays Dwight Hendricks on "Memphis Beat." Lee is probably best known for playing Earl on "My Name is Earl." Actor Tom Cavanaugh played Ed Stevens on "Ed."

**Q.** Are Jethro, Elly May, Jane Hathaway and Mr. Drysdale of "The Beverly Hillbillies" still alive?

**A.** Raymond Bailey, who played Mr. Drysdale, died in 1980, and Nancy Kulp, who played Miss Hathaway, died in 1991. But Max Baer Jr., who was Jethro, and Donna Douglas, who played Elly May, are both alive and in their 70s.

**Q.** Why isn't "America's Most Wanted" on Fox anymore?

**A.** Fox canceled the show in May, saying it was no longer profitable. There are plans to run several two-hour "Most Wanted" specials in the next year, though.

**Q.** When a male turns 18 do they still have to register for the draft?

**A.** There is no longer a draft; the United States went to an all-volunteer armed forces starting in 1973. Male citizens do have to register for the Selective Service within 30 days of their 18th birthdays, in case the government decides a draft is necessary.

**Q.** Is Dr. Drew on HLN a real doctor? If so, what type of doctor?

**A.** Dr. Drew Pinsky is an actual doctor. He received his medical degree from the University of Southern California, according to his website, is certified in internal and addiction medicine and is a staff member at Huntington Memorial Hospital in California.

# Modular classrooms planned at Lou Henry

## ■ School preparing for large number of transfer students.

By **ANDREW WIND**

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**WATERLOO** — Plans and specifications for a modular building installation at Lou Henry Elementary School were approved Wednesday by the Board of Education.

Waterloo Community Schools is advertising for bids on the project, which are due Monday. The board will meet Wednesday to award contracts for the installation.

The action came a week after the board rejected the lone bid on the project because it was too high in a first attempt to award a contract. The bid totaled \$242,845. That was

more than the \$229,000 bid by the same company a year ago to install two modular buildings at Kingsley Elementary School.

At that earlier meeting, the board had asked district operations staff to serve as the general contractor on the project, completing some of the work and subcontracting other components. Initially, the board was planning on approving subcontractor bids at Wednesday's meeting.

"We stopped that process at the advice of our attorney," Superintendent Gary Norris told the board. He had learned that Iowa Code does not allow for "self performing" a construction contract without following certain procedures after the project has already been bid. Those procedures are intended to ensure the district's bid isn't unfairly lower than a contractor's bid.

The board now will seek bids on the project, although it will be broken into three separate contracts in an attempt to get better prices. "It seemed this was the way to keep the process going forward," said Norris.

Kate Payne with InVision Architecture said the contracts will include electrical, mechanical and other site work. The site work consists of sidewalks, sod and decks.

She did not have an exact breakdown of estimates on the project, but said they are similar to what was expected for installing one modular building at Kingsley a year ago. Those estimates were more in line with actual costs.

The board agreed, at the suggestion of member Lyle Schmitt, that district operations staff should submit a bid on the project, as well. Norris had not planned on doing

that, but said staff would submit a bid at the board's direction — with the understanding of the proper procedures required this time.

An influx of students expected at Lou Henry when school starts next Thursday due to transfer options under the federal No Child Left Behind Act necessitates installation of the modular building, which will include two classrooms. A total of 56 students are transferring from other district schools that did not meet the state's achievement goals.

District operations staff already poured footings for the modular west of Lou Henry. It will be delivered Monday. Installation work will not be complete until after the school year starts. As a result, Lou Henry administrators have identified temporary spaces where some classes will meet initially.

# New Waterloo Maid Rite open for business

By **JOHN MOLSEED**

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**WATERLOO** — A slowdown in the construction and housing markets means another choice for lunch in Waterloo.

A new Maid Rite is open for business at 2808 University Ave., in the previous longtime location of a McDonald's restaurant, now at 3695 University Ave.

Don Blake, who opened the Maid Rite with his wife, Cindy, is president of Blake Development Inc. He said he decided to open a restaurant as the housing and building economies slowed.

"I saw a slump coming," he said. "Not that we're going to quit building"

The reception has been surprising, he said.

"I think we're doing twice the business I was expecting the first few days," Blake said.

The busy days have been without the aid of promotion or advertising.

"All we have to do is turn on the sign and open the door," he said.

Blake said the location on high-traffic University Avenue and other nearby restaurants likely have boosted business.

"I just felt if I planted a Maid Rite in the middle of all these places here, I'd give people a different sandwich alternative," he said.

The new Waterloo location seats more than 90 people and employs 14. It's the 39th franchise restaurant



**Sheila Wagner, center, takes an order from Amy Siglin, center and her two sons, Connor Watson, left, and Tyler Watson, right at the new Maid Rite restaurant on University Avenue Wednesday.**

MATTHEW PUTNEY / Courier Photo Editor

in Iowa. The Midwest icon famous for loose-meat sandwiches that was started in Muscatine in 1926 has been expanding lately.

"The secret in this economy is

to keep things affordable," said Bradley Burt, president and CEO of Maid Rite.

There are 75 franchises in the U.S., he added.

The Waterloo Maid Rite also offers malts and shakes but doesn't yet have pies on the menu.

"We're working on that," Blake said.