

Around Town

For Release 12 noon Wednesday, Oct. 18, 2006

**By Billy Ray McKelvy**

**De Queen Mayor**

Drivers who travel down east Vandervoort Avenue, where Parkhill school is located, should be aware that this is a one-way street during school hours.

In response to recent problems, De Queen Police officers worked this area last week and wrote some citations. For several years now, the street has been designated one-way eastbound from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. when school is in session. A sign at the entrance to East Vandervoort Circle notifies drivers who might be headed east.

However, last week school officials reported that drivers were parking at Memorial Baptist Church, walking to retrieve their children and then turning back west on Vandervoort.

The building, once known as Parkhill Kindergarten, is home to three pre-school programs which enroll about 120 children. The administrator at the school said the goal is to keep traffic moving when parents are picking up or dropping off children. Crossing a lane of traffic to turn back west will slow down the pickup process. When vehicles are parked in front of the school, the street is too narrow for cars to meet.

If you are driving in this area, please be aware that Vandervoort Avenue is designated as one-way when school is in session. School officials try to make sure that parents are aware of the rules, but that message may not get to others. Please pass the word to anyone you know who might use this street.