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February/March/April 2020 Volume 10 Issue 1

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Printing Services SUTHERLAND PRINTING

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eddy Magazine

Published by River Action, Inc. 822 E. River Drive. Davenport, IA 52803 563-322-2969 www.riveraction.org



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Our Mission:

River Action strives to foster the environmental, economic, and cultural vitality of the Mississippi River and its riverfront in the Quad City region.

Past Forward/ Fast Forward

If we had the first railroad bridge from 1856 to restore, that would be great. But, second best is building a replica span and placing it on the original embankment at 712 East River Drive. Saving or restoring a city's historic fabric can help create a thriving neighborhood, good jobs, and a vibrant economy. This is exactly what is happening adjacent to the 1856 bridge embankment and



Kathy Wine

First Bridge construction site with the Gordon Van Tine renovation project on one side and the new Davenport Family Y construction on the other. The past is a part of the future here and is the inspiration for this issue. We can look forward by looking back: the 2015 America's Watershed Initiative Report Card will be updated to a new version in 2020. Read about that in this issue, too.

At River Action, we like to think of ourselves as 'friends of yes'-- a movement, if you will, that works to bring people together, solve problems, and connect us to the river. We hope to achieve these goals with the QC Environmental Film Series in 2020 that looks at challenges we will face in the future.

In this issue, we invite you to fast forward to 2040 to take a look at the future you see 20 years from now. A postcard from the future is enclosed; please fill it out and send it back, or bring it to Fish & Fire, April 17 at the Figge Art Museum where future visions will be shared.

I have some items on my postcard from the future: I would be most proud if...

the Quad Cities could light Lock & Dam 15; if we could lower flood levels by securing flood easements on land that property owners have agreed to let flood; if temporary flood protection was on the river side of the railroad tracks so the railroad had no reason to raise tracks; if River Heritage Park could welcome Viking and American Cruises Lines passengers with the First Bridge providing safe pedestrian access to the walkways north of River Drive; if the Credit Island causeway was removed, dredged and an iconic bridge built over Credit Island Slough; if massive water jets off 17th St. in Rock Island and Main Street in Davenport were soaring; and if transient docks were everywhere in the Quad Cities with four serving a "Channel Cat II" or "Quinlan II" in the lower pool between Rock Island and Davenport.

That would just about do it for me once I add more trails, more wetlands, conservation, clean water, and public access to all of the above.

As we grapple with the problems of the present and learn from the past, we lay the foundation for a stronger future. Tell us where your 2040 vision will lead!

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Report Card Update

merica's Watershed Initiative plans to release a new version of the AWI Mississippi River Watershed Report Card with updated data and measurement of progress toward raising the grade across the Mississippi River basin. AWI watershed goals include ecosystems, flood control and risk reduction, transportation, recreation, water supply and economy. AWI plans to include an energy goal in the 2020 version and will report on investment gaps.



App Development

River Action is collaborating with Eastern lowa Community College and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to develop a mobile application for access to flood preparation, response and cleanup information for residents and business owners in flood-prone areas in the Quad City region. Funding for this project is provided by grants from Quad Cities Community Foundation/Q2030 and Iowa American Water.

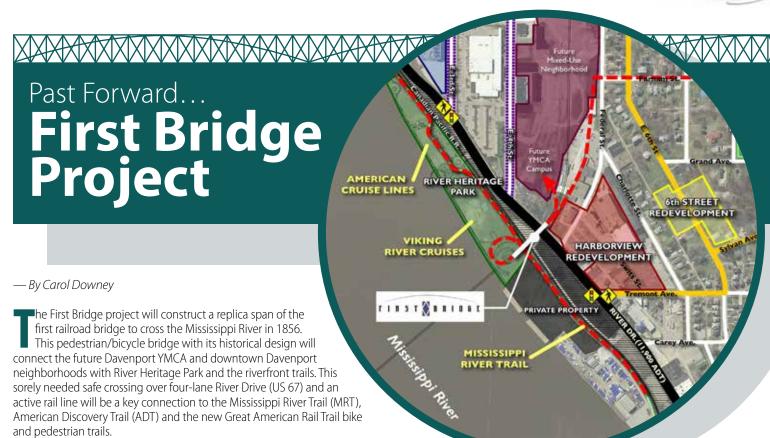
PSCW Snapshot Data Maps

The Partners of Scott County Watershed (PSCW) have released Snapshot Data Maps of the watersheds in Scott County. These tools sample from over 200 sites and allow the public to learn about local watersheds in an easy-to-use interface. One interface can map out how the watersheds in Scott county feed into each other and what kind of land use data the drainage area contains. This data pairs with the other tool that PSCW has made available. snapshots of stream data going back to 2000. This data shows stream-specific information including nitrate content, pH levels, and other valuable data. By altering the focus of the map, you can also find average data for multiple streams in the watershed. As an added benefit, there is a brief, attached worksheet for use as a part of a class activity or generating interest in utilizing the interface. Together, these new tools enable the public to be educated and remain informed on the conditions of their local waterways. www.partnersofscottcounty



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Utilizing one of the first railroad bridge's original embankments on the north side of the Mississippi River, this full-sized wooden replica (with a modern aluminum support structure) of a single span of the historic bridge will cross US-67 (River Drive with as many as 20,000 vehicles per day) and the Canadian Pacific railroad tracks (12 trains per day) into River Heritage Park. River Action is working with the City of Davenport and the YMCA to develop connecting trails and improve sidewalks from and around the north bridge abutment which will funnel traffic onto the bridge and create connections to a network of bike lanes and sharrows currently under development by the City on Federal and Farnam Streets and the planned 6th Street bicycle boulevard.

Currently, pedestrians and cyclists must navigate a private driveway owned by Hahn Ready-Mix (and consequently shared with cement mixing trucks and other large vehicles) and cross River Drive at Tremont Street to access MRT in this area. The current situation is unsafe—a fact confirmed by the death of a pedestrian at this intersection in 2014. This neighborhood is undergoing major development now and First Bridge fits in seamlessly with the conversion. Already there are more than 30 residential loft buildings housing approximately 620 residents within a half-mile of the bridge site; the new Gordon Van Tine lofts house an additional 250. Opened September 2017, Ruby's Beers Bikes Brats restaurant and bike shop and Lopiez Pizza are located a few hundred yards from First Bridge and serve downtown Davenport. The new six-story Riverwatch Place building will provide offices for vet another 150. Add to this the completion of River Heritage Park, the proximity of a YMCA Early Learning Center and new Downtown Davenport YMCA (currently under construction), and current conditions become a major liability for the city. With First Bridge, we can create a safe, appealing, and historical connection between two important recreational sites—River Heritage Park and the new YMCA—and three major trail systems, the MRT and ADT, and the Great American Rail Trail, as well as the network of bike

trails in place or planned for downtown Davenport. First Bridge also will foster a culture of sustainable transportation by serving as a main access point to the MRT for Davenport-based bicycle commuters among the approximately 20,000 employees of businesses located along the banks of the Mississippi, including the Rock Island Arsenal, Arconic, Isle of Capri, and MidAmerican Energy. The bridge site itself offers major opportunities from both engineering and cultural perspectives. The embankment on which the original 1856 bridge was built has remained largely untouched for the past 50 years, and at approximately 25 feet above street level, it provides ample clearance over both the highway and railroad. This northern embankment is currently unused and stands adjacent to the new YMCA construction site. Yash Commercial Properties, developer/ owner of properties in downtown Davenport and to the east of the bridge embankment, is eager to partner with River Action to landscape the surrounding area and provide land for a switchback access ramp to River Drive on the north end of the bridge. As the 1856 bridge spurred economic development in its time, our First Bridge replica and the commitment of Viking River Cruises and American Cruise Lines to dock in River Heritage Park will spur development in our time.

Designed to be universally accessible, First Bridge and its associated "Museum without Walls" will educate people of all socioeconomic backgrounds, races, and nationalities. In connecting this community to the riverfront, First Bridge will provide opportunities for active, healthy, outdoor recreation as well as sustainable commuting. And by connecting the community's future to its remarkable past, First Bridge provides a path to a future of inclusivity, wellness, and historical significance.

Fundraising for this project has begun and will continue throughout 2020. For more information visit riveraction.org/bridgehistory.

he 2020

Henry Farnam Dinner

The Rock Island District of the U.S Army Corps of Engineers: Understanding and Living with the Mississippi River

This year's distinguished speakers will be retired Lt. Col. George Eaton, Historian of the U.S. Army Sustainment Command, and Col. Steven M. Sattinger, Commander and District Engineer of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District.

Arsenal Historian Eaton has explored the history of Arsenal Island and its impacts on the local communities. He will present "Understanding the River: 1824 to 1928" including Congress' intent to improve navigation on the river; Robert E. Lee's 1837 survey and map of the Rock Island Rapids; 19th century Corps' navigation controls; and the creation of the Rock Island District.

Col. Sattinger has served more than 20 years as an Army engineer in a wide variety of roles from combat engineering to large construction projects. He will present "Living with the Mississippi: Managing the River since 1928" and include the Flood of 1928; the 1930s lock and dam system; navigation on the rivers; recreation and other Corps services in the 21st century; and the flood of 2019.

WHEN: Thursday, March 19, 2020 WHERE: Jumer's Casino and Hotel, 777 Jumer Drive, Rock Island, III. PROGRAM: Displays/Cocktails (Cash Bar) 5 p.m.; Dinner 6:15 p.m.; Program 7:30 p.m.

TICKETS: Dinner and program \$45 per person; \$400 for a reserved table of 10.

For reservations visit:

Riveraction.org. Reservation deadline: March 16, 2020 **Questions? Call River Action at** 563-322-2969



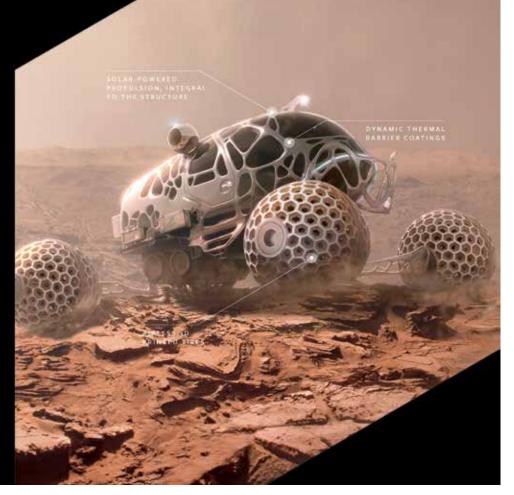
Lt. Col. (ret.) George Eaton



Col. Steven M. Sattinger

Where Science Fiction Becomes Nonfiction

Outracing horses. Flying with birds. Walking on the moon. For thousands of years, these were the subjects of our wildest dreams. Now they are some of humankind's greatest achievements. We're proud that our materials and technologies have helped our partners reach distant coastlines, the skies and outer space. Bring us figments of your imagination; we'll help you put them in the history books. Arconic. Where the future takes shape.





Invasives Out Natives In

— By Philip Tunnicliff

Taking a Walk through Junge Park in Davenport is an enjoyable recreational activity. Nestled among residential developments and bordering the Duck Creek Trail, the 75-acre park is a centrally located yet secluded destination. Filled with trees and bounded by woodlands, it's often difficult to remember you're still in the city. During the summer, volleyball leagues meet and families enjoy their time outdoors. It is a place full of activity and vibrancy, with only one glaring inconsistency hidden amongst the trees. Off in a corner of Junge Park stands a field, eight acres of dirt where a farm once grew hay for baling. This unimproved and ignored piece of land will find a new life as invasive species are removed from the surrounding woodland and replaced with native plants. Within the field a new prairie will be planted to revitalize this section of an otherwise impeccable park. This multi-step Junge Park project will be completed in 2021.

First, the surrounding woodlands which are overgrown with honeysuckle, Japanese hops, reed canary grass, and garlic mustard must be cleared. This intensive process which began in 2019 will be completed this year so the next phase can begin. Once the area has been cleared of invasive species it will be replanted with bluebells and other native plants. The variety will ensure biodiversity and that there will still be other plants



Photo Credit: Birch and Bluebells by Barnaby Kirsen, licensed under "https://creativecommons.org/ licenses/by/3.0/legalcode'

to admire once the bluebells have finished blooming. This bold project will provide native habitat for the endangered rusty patched bumblebee and create eight acres of beauty from bare earth while restoring six more. This project has been funded by the City of Davenport, the Scott County Conservation Consortium, and a private donation. To complete this effort, volunteers from the Duck Creek Wild program will support staff in clearing invasive species and in planting the bluebells. Once complete, this project will affirm the commitment of River Action's Scott County Conservation Consortium and the City of Davenport to improving watersheds and safeguarding our natural areas for future enjoyment.



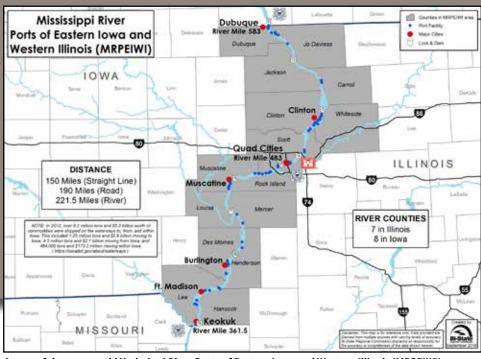
Federal Recognition of the Ports of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois is Long verdue

owa is currently the only major exporting state on the inland waterway system (the mighty Mississippi River) which is not served by a federally recognized port. That does seem very peculiar, given lowa is ranked overall second overall in the nation for value of agricultural exports. According to the lowa Economic Development 2018 Trade Statistics, Iowa is first in the nation in corn exports (\$1.58 billion) and feed grain exports (\$1.22 billion); and is ranked second in soybean exports (\$3.05 billion). It especially seems striking for those of us who live along the river, as we witness the amount of barge traffic moving up and down the Mississippi. Waterborne commerce is undoubtedly and undeniably a very important part of our region's economy, and has been since before lowa was a state. Just Google "U.S. Ports List," and Iowa is conspicuously absent as a state. Why doesn't lowa have a port? It is simply because the counties along the Mississippi River have never asked the federal government to collectively recognize them and lowa as having a port.

That situation is about to change. Regional planning agencies are finalizing the application for the creation of the Mississippi River Ports of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois (MRPEIWI) Port Statistical Area (PSA) in consultation with government organizations in the region. Their effort is modeled after the Ports of Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky PSA



graphic design | photography pidesigninc.com



A map of the proposed Mississippi River Ports of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois (MRPEIWI)



"The Regional Planning Agencies are doing a wonderful service to the region by helping champion this effort for all."

— Col. (Ret.) Robert Sinkler

which was approved by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in January 2015. The initial MRPEIWI proposal (above) includes over 90 percent of lowa's existing port infrastructure

consisting of 50 existing barge terminals that are concentrated in 7-1/2 lowa counties, and about 20 terminals across the river in Illinois. It is bistate, 221-1/2 miles long, includes 15 counties, and spans all the way from Dubugue to Keokuk. MRPEIWI would rank 68th on the U.S. Ports list, based on the tonnage of imports and exports, and be the 20th largest inland port in the nation.

Why does the region need a port statistical area? It will enable the ports and points of origin and destination for the region's exports and imports to be accurately tied to a federally recognized port statistical area. It will enable our Corn Belt Port to be nationally ranked for it to be more visible, marketable, and economically competitive. It will enable more effective regional economic and multi-modal transportation system planning and development. Finally, MRPEIWI will be a vehicle that all in the region can use to help compete more effectively for outside investment. It is usually not considered part of the Midwestern DNA to ask the American taxpayer for assistance. Establishing MRPEIWI will not require congressional authorization or require a special federal appropriation. This region has always been the 20th largest inland port in the nation. Counties are just raising their hands and asking the U.S. government to recognize MRPEIWI. The regional planning agencies are doing a wonderful service to the region by helping champion this effort for all.



Environmental Film Series

Sundays at 4pm Figge Art Museum, 225 W. 2nd St. Davenport Admission: Adults- \$5 Students- \$2 6 Film Season Pass- \$20

For movie trailers, information, and tickets go to riveraction.org/filmseries For any questions, call River Action (563) 322-2969

Biggest little

The Biggest Little Farm

January 19

A film that follows John and Molly Chester and their quest to develop a sustainable farm outside of Los Angeles, California. Watch as they face challenges and learn how to overcome them to create a farm that completely coexists with nature.

92 minutes - Documentary (2018)

Talk Back- Rich Stewart, Resource Conservationist, RISWCD Suzan Erem, Sustainable Iowa Land Trust, SILT

Overload: America's Toxic Love Story

February 23

The film stars Soozie, daughter of an industrial chemical distributor, as she takes a deeper look at all the toxins in our bodies due to the large amounts of chemicals used in everyday products. The film follows her investigation of how we became so overloaded with chemicals and what steps we can take to reverse our exposure.

70 minutes - Documentary (2019)

Talk Back- David Staub, MD

Brower Youth Awards and Shorts of Conservation Activists

Each year the Brower Youth Award recognizes the work of six young leaders who are making strides in the environmental movement. Brower Youth Award winners demonstrate excellent leadership as well as a commitment to the communities their work serves. A variety of conservation activists' shorts will be shown after the awards.

60 Minutes-Various Awards and Short Films



April 5

This is a film has made it on to several best-films-of-the-year lists and was the most awarded film from the 2019 Sundance Film Festival. This film follows a woman in the mountains of Macedonia cultivating honey using sustainable ancient beekeeping traditions which shows the delicate balance between nature and humanity.

90 Minutes - Documentary (2019)

Talk Back- Moselle Singh, Ethnobotanist

Anthropocene: The Human Epoch

Third in a trilogy that includes Manufactured Landscapes (2006) and Watermark (2013), the film follows the research of an international body of scientists, the Anthropocene Working Group who, after nearly 10 years of research, argue that the Holocene Epoch gave way to the Anthropocene Epoch in the mid-twentieth century, because of profound and lasting human changes to the Earth.

87 Minutes-Documentary (2018)

Talk Back- Heather Lyn Mann, Author

"Ocean of Insight: a Sailor's Voyage From Despair to Hope"

Sustainable Nation *Sponsored by-Jewish Federation of the QC*

May 17

International award winning film follows three innovators who are taking lessons learned from Israel's water shortage to rest of the world. The work of this visionary trio highlights the nexus between food, energy and water and underscores how solving these enormous challenges can help free women, and the world, from life-threatening poverty, illness and lack of opportunity.

60 Minutes - Documentary (2019)

Brought to you by:

The Joyce and Tony Singh Family Foundation, River Action, Sierra Club Eagle View Group, and Nahant Marsh Kent & Judith Pilcher, John Gardner & Cathy Weideman, Katie & David Franks, Virdi Eye Clinic, Faye & Dana Waterman, Dr. Param & Armeet Singh, Jim Russell & Michelle Solis-Russell, Amir & Lisa Arbisser, Carolyn & Joseph Martin, Dan Portes & Judy Shawver, Cal & Jill Werner, David & Rene Gellerman, Kathryn & Lawrence Allen and Maria Waterman

How To Reduce Storm Water Runoff and Flooding? Retain the Rain Reboot



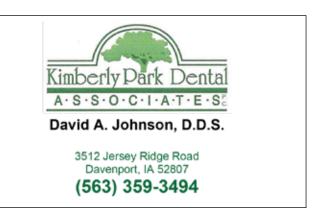
Noah uses the Retain the Rain program on the touchscreen kiosk in the River Action office.

iver Action recently unveiled its new Retain the Rain kiosk at Bald Eagle Days. The 42 inch touchscreen is a replacement for our 20 inch touchscreen kiosk from 2008. The new touchscreen will travel between sites for public use and education. The first location it will be on display is in the Black Hawk College library through the month of February.

The screen was purchased using grant funds provided by the Scott County Regional Authority. The Retain the Rain program, which runs on the touchscreen kiosk, was updated using grant funds from the Quad Cities Community Foundation. The program is now accessible from our website as well as through the kiosk, so users can access the information from their computers, phones, or tablets.

The Retain the Rain program presents information on stormwater retention practices in an interactive format. The program has information on rain barrels, rain gardens, prairie restoration, runnels, porous paving, green roofs, bioswales, native plantings, and permeable alleys. It includes a calculator for each project so the user can set the quantity and dimensions of a project or projects, and the amount of rainfall to find out how much stormwater would be retained. The program also includes maps of where you can find examples of each project in the Quad Cities. You can find the Retain the Rain program on our website at riveraction. org/retaintherain.

If you know of a location for our kiosk to visit give us a call at 563-322-2969 **@**





February

Green Drinks

Tuesday, Feb 4, 5-7 pm, Huckleberry's Great Pizza and Calzones, 223 18th St, Rock Island

Deb Heitman, of the Davenport Community School District, will talk about a national award the district received for its sustainability efforts. Lori_mccollum@ sbcglobal.net

Nahant Marsh: Breakfast Nature Club - Go Green!

Friday, Feb 7, 8-9 am, Nahant Marsh Education Center, 4220 Wapello Ave, Davenport

Discover easy, everyday practices that you can incorporate into your life to live in a more sustainable way. Participants will have a take-home item to help them go green after the program. Continental breakfast included. \$5 member, \$10 guest. Register at nahantmarsh.org or 563.336.3370.

Quad City Audubon Society: Field Trip Saturday, Feb 8, 9 am, Smith's Island, Lock and Dam

14, Iowa

Meet at Corps of Engineers L&D 14 parking lot. Half-day trip. quadcityaudubon.org.

Valentine Indoor Music and Moonlight Walk

Friday, Feb 14, 6:30-8:30 pm, Black Hawk State Historic Site, 1510 46th Ave, Rock Island

Featuring a stroll outside on a luminaria-lit trail. Come into the lodge and warm up by the fire with fresh donuts and juice/cider or hot cocoa. Music will be provided by Just4Fun. Drew Nagle will call the contradancing. Free for all ages, singles, couples, and families. blackhawkpark.org or 309.788.9536.

Nahant Marsh: Local Flora

Saturdays, Feb 15-Oct 17, 8:30-11:30 am, Nahant Marsh Education Center, 4220 Wapello Ave, Davenport Learn how to identify native, exotic, and invasive plant

species of eastern lowa and northwestern Illinois. The course will emphasize identification, ecology, uses, and history and folklore of native plants and plant communities. Basic natural area inventory methods, documentation, and management will also be covered. Topics and field trip locations may vary due to weather conditions. \$135 Eicc.edu/continuingeducation/ or 888.336.3907.

Sierra Club Eagle View Group: Tree Hugger Trivia

Saturday, Feb 22, 6 pm, Center for Active Seniors, 1035 W. Kimberly Rd, Davenport

Doors open at 6 pm, trivia begins at 7. Cash prizes and silent auction. Bring your own snacks and nonalcoholic beverages. Registration requested for tables, but not required. \$10 per person, 8 people per table. Sierraclub.org/illinois/eagle-view.

QC Environmental Film Series: Overload: **America's Toxic Love Story**

Sunday, Feb 23, 4 pm, Figge Art Museum, 225 W. 2nd St, Davenport Find a deeper understanding of environmental issues! Rheumatologist, Dr. David Staub, will lead the discussion after the



movie. \$5 adult, \$2 student/child, \$20 season ticket. Riveraction.org or 563.322.2969.



River Action's Environmental Book Club Tuesday, Feb 25, 7 pm, River Action office, 822 E. River Dr. Davenport

Discuss The Hidden Life of Trees: What They Feel, How They Communicate – Discoveries from a Secret World by Peter Wohleben. Discussions are free and open to the public. Riveraction.org or 563.322.2969.

Calendar continued on page 12 >

Nahant Marsh: Family Program – Animal Detectives



Saturday, Feb 8, 10-11 am, Nahant Marsh Education Center, 4220 Wapello Ave, Davenport

Investigate the trails to find tracks and signs that have been left behind. Using evidence collected, learn about the animals that live at the marsh in winter. \$5 child member, \$10 child guest, no fee for adults accompanying children. Register at nahantmarsh.org or 563.336.3370.



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Jason Housworth

District Manager I.S.A. Certified Arborist # ILA228A



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< Calendar continued from page 11

Nahant Marsh: 2nd Annual Oberholtzer Awards Saturday, Feb 29, 9am-12pm, The Bend Event Center, 910 Bend Blvd, East Moline

Support local conservation champions! The event includes brunch, raffles, and keynote speaker Doug Peacock. Doug is a Vietnam veteran, filmmaker, and author of "The Grizzly Years", an environmental classic. \$40 members, \$60 general admission. Tickets through EventBrite or Shannon 563.336.3374.

March

Green Drinks

Tuesday, Mar 3, 5-7 pm, Huckleberry's Great Pizza and Calzones, 223 18th St, Rock Island

Pete Vogel will introduce Food Rescue Quad-Cities that collects leftover restaurant food and gets it into the mouths of the hungry. Lori_mccollum@sbcglobal.net

Nahant Marsh: Breakfast Nature Club - Going

Friday, Mar 6, 8-9 am, Nahant Marsh Education Center, 4220 Wapello Ave, Davenport

Learn about the various daytime raptors found in Illinois and Iowa. Participants will learn about various species, habitats, and adaptations. \$5 members, \$10 guests. Register at nahantmarsh.org or 563.336.3370.



Wapsi River Environmental Education Center: Leave No Trace Awareness Workshop

Saturday, Mar 7, 9:30 am-noon, 31555 52nd Ave, Dixon,

Join an Iowa AmeriCorps 4-H Environmental Educator to learn more about how you can reduce your impact while enjoying the outdoors. Participants will learn the 7 principles of Leave No Trace set by the Center for Outdoor Ethics and then take to the trails to practice. Family friendly. Registration required. Scottcountyiowa. com/conservation or 563.328.3286.

Nahant Marsh: Nature Hike

Saturday, Mar 7, 9-10 am, Nahant Marsh Education Center, 4220 Wapello Ave, Davenport

Join a naturalist for a guided hike along the trails at the Marsh. Hikes are offered on the first Saturday of the month and give visitors an opportunity to experience the environmental changes as the plants and wildlife adapt to the seasons. Whether you are a regular visitor or first-timer, there is always something to learn or experience at the Marsh. Suggested donation \$5. Register at nahantmarsh.org or 563.336.3370.



Photo credit: Jeff VanEchaute, pi design, inc.

Quad City Audubon Society: Flowers of the Air Attracting Butterflies to your Yard

Thursday, Mar 12, 7 pm, Butterworth Center, 1105 8th

Program presented by Martha Smith of the University of Illinois Extension Office. quadcityaudubon.org.

Canoecopia

Fri-Sun, Mar 13-15, Alliant Energy Center, 1919 Alliant Energy Center Way, Madison, WI

Canoecopia is the largest paddlesports consumer event in the world, with more than 250,000 square feet of kayaks, canoes, stand-up paddleboards, outdoor equipment and clothing, all at the best prices of the season! Over 180 seminars and clinics make Canoecopia an educational event where you can

learn about the perfect gear for your style of paddling, develop skills to get you where you want to go, and discover some of the many places to paddle, both near and far. Stop by River Action's Floatzilla booth! canoecopia.com.

Quad City Audubon Society: Field Trip

Thursday, Mar 14, 7 am, Spring Land and Lock & Dam 13 Meet at Brothers Restaurant, Rapids City, IL. Half to full day trip. quadcityaudubon.org.

St Patrick's Society Grand Parade

Saturday, Mar 14, 11:30 am-1 pm, IL & IA Quad Cities The Grand Parade is the only bi-state St. Patrick's Day Parade in the US. Route begins at 23rd St. and 4th Ave. in Rock Island, proceeds through downtown and crosses the Mississippi River to downtown Davenport. stpatsqc.com.

Nahant Marsh: Dive in with Ducks

Saturday, Mar 14, 10-11 am, Nahant Marsh Education Center, 4220 Wapello Ave, Davenport

Waddle over to the marsh to observe and learn about the ducks that are visiting during spring migration, \$5 child member, \$10 child guest, no fee for accompanying adults. nahantmarsh.org or 563.336.3370.

QC Environmental Film Series: The **Brower Youth Awards and Shorts** of Conservation **Activists**

Sunday, Mar 15, 4 pm, Figge Art Museum, 225 W. 2nd St, Davenport



Find a deeper understanding of environmental issues! Reverend Robert "Bud" Grant will lead the discussion after the movie. \$5 adult, \$2 student/child. Riveraction. org or 563.322.2969.



Quad Cities Henry Farnam Dinner - The U.S. Army **Corps of Engineers:** Understanding and Living with the Mississippi

Thursday, Mar 19, 5 pm, Jumer's Casino & Hotel, 777 Jumer Dr, Rock Island Displays/cocktails 5 pm, Dinner 6:15, Program 7:30.

Dinner and program \$45 per person, \$400 table of 10, cash bar. Riveraction.org or 563.322.2969.

Find out more.



River Action's Environmental Book Club

Tuesday, Mar 24, 7 pm, River Action office, 822 E. River Dr. Davenport

Discuss Bird Sense: What It's Like to Be a Bird by Tim Birkhead. Discussions are free and open to the public. Riveraction.org or 563.322.2969.

Nahant Marsh: Sunset Hike

Thursday, Mar 26, 5-6 pm, Nahant Marsh Education Center, 4220 Wapello Ave, Davenport

As the largest urban wetland on the upper Mississippi River, Nahant Marsh is a resting spot on the great spring migrations and provides the perfect opportunity for nature enthusiasts to see a wide range of migrating waterfowl. \$5 suggested donation. nahantmarsh.org or 563.336.3370.

OCCA Flower and Garden Show

Fri-Sun, Mar 27-29, QCCA Expo Center, 2621 4th Ave, Rock Island

Admission \$8 adults, \$1 children 6-15. Senior Day (65+) \$6 admission is Friday, gccaexpocenter.com/lawngarden-event.

Nahant Marsh: Marsh Madness Trivia Night Saturday, Mar 28, 6 pm, Center for Active Seniors, Inc., 1035 West Kimberly Rd, Davenport

Fundraiser for the Nahant Marsh Education Center and Friends of Nahant Marsh. \$10 per person, \$80 per table. Many spring and nature-themed silent auction baskets available for bid. Register at nahantmarsh.org or 563.336.3370.



Don't forget to buy a 'Retain the Rain' Rain Barrel for **April showers!!!**

Rain Barrels hold 60 gallons and come with a diverter, mosquito netting, and spigot for a hose! \$75 includes a standard-sized diverter, or \$80 for a large diverter at River Action, 822 E River Drive, Davenport, or riveraction.org.

April

Nahant Marsh: Master Conservationist

Apr 1. Nahant Marsh Education Center. 4220 Wapello Ave, Davenport

The Master Conservationist Program uses field experiences and classroom trainings to cover a broad range of conservation issues and topics including lowa ecosystems, wildlife, sustainable agriculture, and energy use. Participants receive at least 32 hours of indoor/ outdoor hands-on education led by trained professionals in their field. The range of topics provides information that can be useful in service to the community and in their own backyards. Classes will be held on Wednesday evenings and on Saturdays, twice a month beginning April 1. \$135 member, \$175 guest. nahantmarsh@eicc.edu or 563 336 3370

Nahant Marsh: Breakfast Nature

Friday, Apr 3, 8-9 am, Nahant Marsh Education Center, 4220 Wapello Ave, Davenport

Learn the secret life of lowa's wildlife during this monthly class. Continental breakfast included. \$5 members, \$10 non-members. Register at nahantmarsh. org or 563-336-3370.

Nahant Marsh: Spring Celebration & Egg Hunt Saturday, Apr 4, 10-11 am, Nahant Marsh Education Center, 4220 Wapello Ave, Davenport

\$5 child member, \$10 child guest. No fee for accompanying adults. nahantmarsh.org or 563.336.3370.

Nahant Marsh: Nature Hike

Saturday, Apr 4, 9-10 am, Nahant Marsh Education Center, 4220 Wapello Ave, Davenport

Join a naturalist for a guided hike along the trails at the Marsh. Hikes are offered on the first Saturday of the month and give visitors an opportunity to experience the environmental changes as the plants and wildlife adapt to the seasons. Whether you are a regular visitor or first-timer, there is always something to learn and experience at the Marsh. Suggested donation \$5. Register at nahantmarsh.org or 563.336.3370.

QC Environmental Film Series: Honeyland

Sunday, Apr 5, 4 pm, Figge Art Museum, 225 W. 2nd Street, Davenport

Find a deeper understanding of environmental issues! Discussion with experts after the movie. \$5 adult, FILM SERIES

\$2 student/child. Riveraction.org or 563.322.2969

Quad City Audubon Society: Prothonotary Warblers - Research Update

Thursday, Apr 9, 7 pm, Butterworth Center, 1105 8th Street, Moline

Program presented by Dr. Brian Peer of the Western Illinois University. quadcityaudubon.org

Calendar, continued on page 14 >



River Action's Fish & Fire Fundraiser and Friendraiser

Friday, Apr 17, 5:30 pm, Figge Art Museum, 225 W. 2nd St, Davenport

Social hour, silent auction, and cash bar 5:30 pm; Dinner 7 pm. Bid on dozens of silent auction items, enjoy the dinner and entertainment, and be a part of the Annual Eddy Awards Presentation – awards given to those in our community who go against the current to get things done on the river. \$45 adult dinner (\$32 member, limit one per member), \$12 child, \$400 table of 10. Riveraction.org or 563.322.2969

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< Calendar continued from page 13

Nahant Marsh: Spring Cleanup

Sat, Apr 18, 8:30-11:30 am, Nahant Marsh Education Center, 4220 Wapello Ave, Davenport

Celebrate the 50th anniversary of Earth Day by helping spruce up Nahant Marsh during their annual cleanup. Projects will be light and heavy duty. Gloves and bags will be provided. Volunteers will receive a t-shirt. nahantmarsh.org or 563.336.3370

Quad City Audubon Society: Cone Marsh

Saturday, Apr 18

Full day trip. Check website for meeting time, place, and changes due to weather conditions. quadcityaudubon.org

Earth Day—River Action Day

Saturday, Apr 18, 9-noon, 20th Street and Highway 92, Rock Island

Join us as we plant at the 20th Street Overlook in Rock Island. Refreshments provided. Riveraction.org or 563.322.2969

Progressive Action for the Common Good: Vision for the Future

Wednesday, Apr 22, 5-7 pm, Quad City Botanical Center, 2525 4th Ave, Rock Island Celebrate the 50th anniversary of Earth Day! Speakers will discuss the origination of Earth Day and ways the indigenous people of lowa and Illinois hold the Earth sacred. Local and regional leaders will discuss visions for the future. gcprogressiveaction@ gmail.com or 563.676.7580



Quad City Bicycle Club: Leisure ride

Saturday, Apr 25, 10 am-noon, Lindsay Park Yacht Club, 902 Mound St, Davenport Trail ride from Lindsay Park Yacht Club to Pigeon Creek, gcbc.org.





Nahant Marsh: Bird Banding

Saturday, Apr 25, 8-11 am, Nahant Marsh Education Center, 4220 Wapello Ave, Davenport

It's migration time! Drop in any time and stay as long as you like to see Port Louisa National Wildlife Refuge Biologist Jessica Bolser band and release birds. Free and open to public. nahantmarsh.org or 563.336.3370

Black Hawk State Historic Site: 45th Stroll Through Springtime Saturday, Apr 25, 7 am-noon, Black Hawk State Historic Site, 1510 46th Ave, Rock

Birds will be the focus of groups from 7-9 am. Expert leaders will help locate both resident and migratory birds. Then refreshments at the Lodge, including wild violet jelly, with a short program. At 10 am, participants will observe and identify wildflowers. Free and appropriate for all ages. haubergmuseum@gmail.com or 309.788.9536.

Black Hawk State Historic Site: Pollinators...Working for you 24/7

Saturday, Apr 25, 1:30-3 pm, Black Hawk State Historic Site, 1510 46th Ave, Rock Island Learn about the Pollinator Syndrome and why it makes such a difference. Get to know our area pollinators and the difference you can make. Free event. haubergmuseum@ gmail.com or 309.788.9536

Progressive Action for the Common Good: Farmers Market Earth Day Fair Saturday, Apr 25, 9 am-2 pm, Freight House Farmers Market, 421 W. River Dr, Davenport

The second annual event celebrating Earth Day and the outdoor farmer's market. Join local and regional vendors to learn more about environmental organizations and activities in the Quad Cities, while browsing many treats. qcprogressiveaction@gmail. com or 563.676.7580



Photo credit: Jeff VanEchaute, pi design, inc.

Black Hawk State Historic Site: How to Raise Monarch Butterflies

Sunday, Apr 26, 1:30-3 pm, Black Hawk State Historic Site, 1510 46th Ave, Rock Island Join biologist Janet Moline as she shows how to raise monarchs from egg to adult. Free event. haubergmuseum@gmail.com or 309.788.9536

QC Environmental Film Series: Anthropocene: The Human Epoch

Sunday, Apr 26, 4 pm, Figge Art Museum, 225 W. 2nd Street, Davenport

Find a deeper understanding of environmental issues! Discussion with experts after the movie. \$5 adult, \$2 student/child. Riveraction.org or 563.322.2969



River Action's Environmental Book Club

Tuesday, Apr 28, 7 pm, River Action office, 822 E. River Dr, Davenport Discuss On Trails: An Exploration by Robert Moor. Discussions are free and open to the public. Riveraction.org or 563.322.2969



Raise Your Hand! Volunteer for River Action!

We have lots of ways you can help!

□ Membershi	р 🗆	Ride	the	River
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- ☐ Fish & Fire ☐ Henry Farnam Dinner
- □ Floatzilla □ Golf Cart Tour
- □ Adopt-A-Path □ Taming of the Slough
- □ Internships □ Conservation Maintenance
- □ Education □ First Bridge Committee
- □ UMR conference □ Marketing Committee
- □ Office Assistant ...and more!

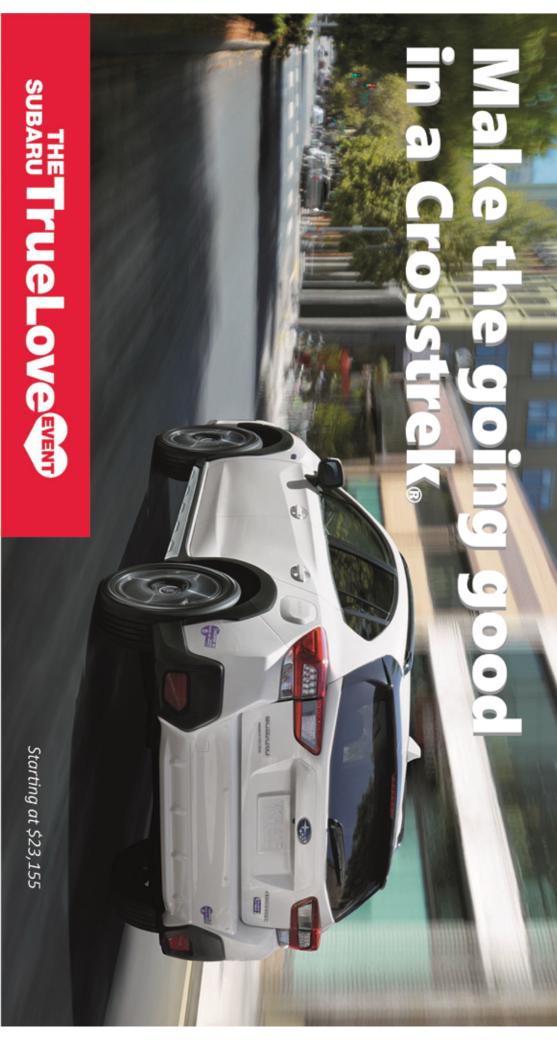
Name: ______
Address: ______
City: _____
State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Email Address:

Check your area of interest and mail to River Action, Inc. 822 E. River Dr. Davenport, IA 52803 563-322-2969 or email selections to:

kwine@riveraction.org
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riveraction.org





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