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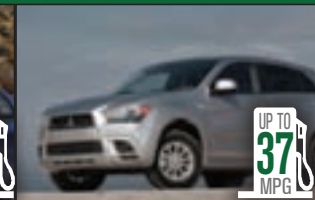
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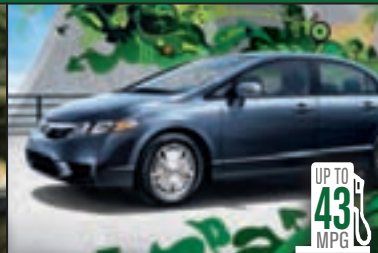
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Realizing our plans

First off, I'd like to welcome you to the premiere issue of *eddy Magazine*. We are so pleased you are reading it and welcome your feedback. Just e-mail me at kwine@riveraction.org with your ideas and comments.

During River Action's strategic planning four years ago, two of the goals established by our Board were to raise awareness of River Action in the community and to involve youth in our work and planning.

We decided to transform our quarterly newsletter into a full color, glossy, quarterly magazine called *eddy*. This new, "spacious" format allows for full color photography and the ability to write with more reflection, variety, and space. As the name "eddy" implies, it recognizes and supports those who go against the current to get things done, but also people with strong connections to the river, and those who get up close and personal with our waterways. Just imagine dipping your paddle gently into the water and watching that eddy swirl away from you. *eddy Magazine* is for those who love our rivers — or will — as soon as they get acquainted with them.

We know our future lies in our young people, and so many of them are passionate about the outdoors and our environment. With that in mind, we have turned to some talented and committed college and high school youth who now make up River Action's thirteen-member Youth Advisory Board. The Board has recommended involvement in environmental issues and events, recruited River Action Student Members, and held sessions on leadership. We are also planning a Youth Summit, hosted by the Board, which will be held in conjunction with River Action's Fourth Annual Upper Mississippi River Conference at the Isle of Capri Convention Center, Bettendorf, Iowa, September 21-23.

In other words, strategic planning matters. Another example illustrates the point.

The Grand Excursion 2004 is long gone, but the planning that was incubated by our community and area organizations during it lives on. In 2002, River Action compiled forty-four planned community projects titled, "Riverfront Recapture – QC Projects Gaining Momentum," published in the Quad City Times, Moline Dispatch, and Rock Island Argus. All projects were either "In the Works," "On the Drawing Board," or "Under Study." Now, less than a decade later, all forty-four projects have been completed! It just goes to show us all that when we plan well and are dedicated to completion of our plans, they become a reality.

Now, in 2011, it is time to challenge ourselves once again. Send us your plans or ideas being considered, or under study, and we will compile them once again. We can't wait for another Grand Excursion; we need to start it now!

Thanks for your support and for reading *eddy Magazine*. Look for our next issue in August, 2011. ☺



Kathy Wine

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COVER PHOTO: Nahant Marsh
in Davenport, by Mik Holgersson

Floatzilla: A Feat of monster proportions



Can the Quad Cities break the record for the largest flotilla of canoes and kayaks? River Action's Floatzilla is back, targeting August 20, 2011, as the day to break the world record and showcase the Quad Cities as a paddle sport destination.

To be held at Sunset Park, Rock Island, this year's festival will feature several new elements including a try-before-you-buy trade show where customers can try out a vest or kayak before purchasing. This lakeside show will offer all-new boats, paddles, PFDs, accessories, plus a few surprises.

The world record-breaking attempt will take place at 2:00 p.m. in Lake Potter in Rock Island County. The current record of 1,619 was set in Pittsburgh in 2010. River Action's effort in 2010 fell short of the record, but this year we are back!

Registered Floatzilla participants can take part in guided floats and activities for all levels of paddlers. Details on the guided floats, including local maps, are available at Floatzilla.

org. Launch sites are based on the paddler's skill level:

All skill levels: **Lake Potter**

Intermediate paddlers: **Credit Island, Davenport**

Intermediate paddlers: **Ben Butterworth Parkway, Moline with portage at Sylvan Island**

Advanced paddlers: **Ben Butterworth Parkway, Moline, lock through Lock 15 (nine miles)**

Canoe and kayak organizations as well as informal groups are encouraged to help break the record. Invite your family, friends, and coworkers to join you on Lake Potter. For every ten participants registered you receive one free registration. Trophies will be awarded for the largest group, last year won by Saukenuk Paddlers, Quad Cities, and for the paddlers who traveled the longest distance, last year from Germany.

For those wishing to camp, primitive, single-tent campsites are available on Credit Island, Friday, August 19, and Saturday, August 20. The rental fee is \$12 per night.

Join us in celebrating River Action's Second Annual Floatzilla at River Roots Live, a free



music and rib festival in downtown Davenport, Friday, August 19 and Saturday, August 20. For more information, go to RiverRootsLive.com.

Can't make it? If you have an extra boat you are willing to loan, please call River Action at 563-322-2969 or e-mail RiverAction@RiverAction.org.



Ride the River: Discover great views from the seat of a bike Sunday, June 19, 2011

For twenty-seven years, the Quad Cities community has celebrated Father's Day by taking a bike ride along the Mississippi River. More than 2,500 people pedal the riverfront trails on both sides of the river, and on Arsenal Island, for great views, good food, and cool drinks. Registration for adults (over 16) costs \$10. This year, all children age sixteen and under ride free with a paying adult, thanks to Trinity Regional Health Systems.

Ride headquarters is located at the Freight House in Davenport, Iowa, located at Western Avenue and River Drive. Registered riders can purchase Bell Helmets at the event – youth, \$4; adult, \$8 – made possible by support from the Quad Cities Bicycle Club.

New this year is the 1st Annual Ride the River Junior High School Duathlon. Open to all sixth through eighth grade students as of fall semester 2011, it will take place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Credit Island Park. These students who want to race and ride the river will run two miles through the park, then bike 2.75 miles, and finally, finish

Fish & Fire NEW DATE, May 13

River Action's annual fundraiser and friend raiser, Fish & Fire, will be held on May 13 at the Black Hawk State Park Lodge (located at the Blackhawk State Park Historical Site bordering the Rock River). Come enjoy a catfish dinner and Eddy Award presentations for those who go against the current, just like an eddy, to get things done. Award winners will be recognized in the areas of Art, Stewardship, Revitalization, River Activity, Design, and Education.

The evening will include music by Hot Club of Davenport and a style show by Active Endeavors, modeled by River Action's Youth Advisory Board. Bid at the silent auction! Dozens of items this year help to create an experience of a lifetime and a memory to last a lifetime. Auction items include: an Alter Barge trip for four down the Mississippi River to St. Louis, an overnight stay and breakfast for two at Galena's Desoto House in Illinois, two hours



of stretch limo service in the Quad Cities from Act II Transportation, an original painting on canvas by RiverWay artist Kunhild Blacklock, and much more.

For more information please go to www.riveraction.org.

River Action Youth Advisory Board members: (L to R) Anne Sullivan, Matthew Craig and Frankie Byczynski modeling clothes from Active Endeavors. (PHOTO BY: Trent Foltz)



with a two-mile run. The event is chip timed by Accusplit Timing, and girls and boys trophy winners for first, second, and third place in each grade will be posted the following day. The school with the most participants will also win a traveling trophy. The duathlon, organized by race director Larry Davis and the Scott County Y, is free for students accompanied by a paid adult. Register at www.riveraction.org.

The basic Ride the River route is twenty miles, but cyclists can follow the signs for rides of up to sixty miles. At Bettendorf's Leach Park, cross the Mississippi River on the Celebration Belle riverboat while your bike goes across on a barge. In Moline, pick up your bike and continue your trip. Boat crossing times and details are available on the registration form.

For another option, take the Davenport path to the Arsenal Bridge and ride the length of the island to Moline. The option of returning the same way is also popular. At the island gate be prepared to show photo identification.

The youth of our communities can participate in entertainment, games, and "Kids Ride" activities, which feature bike skills, healthy foods, safety tips, and environmental education booths, new this year.

Ride the River raises funds to continue developing and enhancing trails and increasing public access to the river. Help raise awareness of the planned Mississippi River Trail from Princeton to Clinton by participating in the 2011 MRT ride (go to www.riveraction.org and click on the MRT link. ☺)

One Watershed: See it in action

A ten-week series on land stewardship on the Upper Mississippi River ran on WQAD TV 8, January 9 through March 17. Sponsored by Alcoa and River Action, it addressed what cities and farmers are doing to improve water quality. All ten episodes can be viewed on

River Action's web site, www.riveraction.org.

The series sprang from the desire to continue building a culture of conservation and to counteract misinformation about farming suppressing

that culture. Reporters brought cameras and interviewed farmers committed to 100 percent no-till practices, filmed farm ponds and bioswales capturing rain water, and toured a green roof providing habitat as well as stormwater retention. These pieces provide inspiration and proof of partnership between the rural and urban communities in one Mississippi River watershed. ☺



2011 Summer Education Series: Channel Cat Talks and Riverine Walks

Get to know the Mississippi while plying its waters aboard the Channel Cat Water Taxi this summer. Professors or professionals give guided tours every Tuesday and Thursday morning, June through August, 9-11 a.m.

On land, Riverine Walks are held on the riverfront each Wednesday, 6:30-8 p.m., and Saturdays, 9-10:30 a.m. These guided tours cover a wide variety of topics and locations.

Of special interest this year:

Bix Week, August 2-4: Josh Duffee & Gerri from the Bix Historical Society will present aboard the Channel Cat.

Trains Week, July 19-23: Local historians will discuss Quad Cities train history.

River Navigation, June 7-9: Captain John Deluhery, RiverStone Group, will discuss river transportation, review navigation charts, and let the group see barge unloading, from the Channel Cat.



Turtles of Nahant Marsh, July 6-9: Mik Holgersson will present research findings on the turtles that live in Nahant Marsh, including the endangered Blandings Turtle. Riverine Walk.

Iowa MRT Bike Tour, August 10-13: Dean and Deb Mathias will lead a tour and discuss advocacy efforts and plans for expansion.

Mississippi River Photography, June 8-11 or July 5-7: Ange Glade will lead Channel Cat Talks and Riverine Walks while giving tips on how to capture great pictures of the natural and urban environment.

To register for all classes, go to RiverAction.org and click on "Summer Education Series." Riverine Walks for River Action members are free, \$5 for general public. Channel Cat Talks are \$12 each. ☺



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Fostering a new breed of tourism

By Mik Holgersson

Nature thrives in the Midwest. The Quad Cities region is no exception. From the Mississippi River and its tributaries, to their floodplain wetlands and backwaters, to the wooded bluffs and upland plains, more than 16,000 acres of publicly accessible natural areas lie within an hour's drive of the Quad Cities metro area. The sheer scope of these natural areas is impressive, but their existence may come as a surprise to even the most avid local naturalists. Many of our best natural areas have been overlooked in favor of promoting our riverfronts and traditional tourist

attractions, but as Bob Dylan coined, "the times they are a-changin'."

Ecotourism and nature-based recreation are flourishing. The International Ecotourism Society defines ecotourism as "responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment and improves the welfare of local people." Since the 1990s it has been estimated that global ecotourism is growing more than 20 percent annually, a rate that is nearly three times faster than the tourism industry as a whole.

Instead of planning vacations around popular attractions anchored to the hustle and bustle of world cities, ecotourists are spending time and money off the beaten path. They are seeking experiences of exploration and discovery, including hiking, bird watching, wildlife photography, snorkeling and SCUBA diving, sustainable hunting and fishing, and cultural immersion. River Action has taken up the call to bring the Quad Cities region's natural areas to the attention of its communities and to foster ecotourism to these amazing resources. This effort is called "QC Wild Places."

QC Wild Places will emulate the exceptionally successful Chicago Wilderness (see ChicagoWilderness.org). With input from the Upper Mississippi River Grant Writers Partnership, River



Action has envisioned QC Wild Places as a cooperative partnership to advocate awareness, access, and conservation of the diversity of natural areas within the five-county region, which includes Muscatine and Scott in Iowa, and Rock Island, Henry, and Mercer in Illinois.

These counties define a region of dozens of protected natural areas encompassing more than 16,000 acres. In cooperation with public and private land managers, conservation groups, corporate supporters, tourism bureaus, and community leaders, QC Wild Places will promote and support these natural areas, financially and otherwise, in order to better connect people to these resources and cultivate a culture of stewardship.

QC Wild Places will also host a coalition of experts to develop a comprehensive plan to coordinate conservation efforts and promote ecological corridor development throughout the five-county region. The first meeting of major stakeholders took place on Friday, January 21, and received universal support. River Action has since been in the process of gathering information and constructing the QC Wild Places website for its anticipated public debut in summer 2011. ©





iLivehere provides the following resources to empower citizens to take greater responsibility for their community environment:

- Recycling receptacles for special events
- Bags, gloves, litter tongs and safety vests for litter cleanups
- A MAKE it YOURS program, whereby groups can care for an area in our community
- Illegal dumping and littering outreach and education




www.ilivehereqc.org



Top-notch camping minutes away


By Mik Holgersson

For many Americans, Memorial Day weekend ushers in camping season, and Labor Day plays its swan song. This leaves fifteen precious weekends to 'get our fix' of the great outdoors. Amidst our busy schedules we often hope to reserve just one of these weekends for an annual trip to our favorite family camping destination, sometimes hours and multiple states away. These annual camping trips are one of the great traditions of American culture, so maybe it's time we get out more.

The joy of camping need not always come at the end of an eight-hour road trip, preceded by months of planning. In fact, Quad Cities residents do not have to look farther than the Mississippi River for top-notch camping. Several riverfront campgrounds are within minutes of the Quad Cities, including Shady Creek, Clark's Ferry, and Buffalo Shores in Iowa, and Blanchard Island, Andalusia Slough, Fisherman's Corner, and Illiniwek Forest Preserve in Illinois.

Each of these campgrounds boasts a variety of opportunities for weekend visitors to the shores of America's Great River, including fishing and wildlife viewing. Buffalo Shores is locally known for one of the best sand beaches on the Mississippi. Blanchard Island is off the beaten path and offers a more rustic river experience favored by nature lovers. For primitive campers on a budget, Andalusia Slough is a roadside style camping area offering \$4 self-registration. Shady Creek, Clark's Ferry, and Fisherman's Corner offer tent camping and Class A amenities for fully equipped RVs. Illiniwek Forest Preserve also has sites for both tent and RV campers, and includes riverside recreation adjacent to hiking trails that climb into overlooking forested bluffs. Drive a little bit farther north (about an hour) and discover the Grant River recreation area in Potosi, Wisconsin.

Memorial Day will be here before we know it, and our summer weekends will begin ticking away. As we plan our summer trips and block out busy weekends, consider a weekend on the river to break up the routine and get away from it all, even if it's only a few minutes down the road.

For more information about these and other campgrounds along the Mississippi River, visit the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Mississippi River Project website at www.MVR.USACE.army.mil/missriver, the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District website at www.RICFPD.org, and the Scott County Conservation Department website at www.ScottCountyIowa.com/Conservation. 



Grant River Recreation area near Potosi, WI



Clark's Ferry Recreation area south of the Quad Cities near Montpelier, IA



Fisherman's Corner at Lock and Dam 14 near Hampton, IL

Quad Cities Passenger Rail:

A Brief Ride Through the Twentieth Century

By Curtis C. Roseman

On December 31, 1978, the last scheduled passenger train to serve the Quad Cities pulled into the station in Rock Island. It was the Quad City Rocket, a weary remnant of the Rock Island Lines' fleet of Rocket streamliners. The other major railroads serving the Quad Cities had discontinued passenger service to this area about twenty years earlier, while the Rock Island Railroad continued but struggled with its passenger service.

The early twentieth century presented a different story; passenger rail travel was thriving. Three of the largest and most geographically extensive railroads served the Tri Cities (as the area was then known): the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy; the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul; and the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific. Added to the mix was a local switching railroad, the Davenport, Rock Island & Northwestern, which was jointly owned by the Burlington and the Milwaukee.

These major railroads built eight important depots in the Tri Cities during that era, five of them in 1900-1902 alone. Only three remain today, each of them a historic landmark. The Rock Island Lines



depot in Rock Island (1902) functions as a banquet facility. Union Station in Davenport (1924) is used as a visitors center by the Quad Cities Convention and Visitors Bureau. The Milwaukee depot in Moline (1900) will be displaced by a new Mississippi River bridge and perhaps moved to the new riverfront campus of Western Illinois University.



One hundred years ago, as many as fifty passenger trains served the Tri Cities daily. Virtually every major city in the Midwest could be reached easily, in many cases without changing trains. Among the signature trains was the Rock Island's Golden State Limited connecting Chicago with Los Angeles via Tucumcari, New Mexico, El Paso, Texas, and Phoenix, Arizona. Another was the Milwaukee's Southwest Limited, linking Chicago with Kansas City, Missouri. Connections to the East were at Chicago, where the Rock Island Lines terminated at LaSalle Street Station, which handled 1,500 trains a day.

The Tri Cities were well connected to nearby towns. The Milwaukee Road ran trains from Davenport northward to Maquoketa and Monticello, Iowa,

serving numerous small communities along the way. The Milwaukee also served all the towns on both sides of the Mississippi up to Savanna, Illinois. The Burlington ran trains southward to Galesburg, Illinois and beyond to St. Louis, through Barstow, Colona, and Orion, Illinois. Both the Rock Island and the Milwaukee served towns on the Iowa shore of the Mississippi from Davenport to Muscatine. The Rock Island served Walcott, Durant, and West Liberty, Iowa heading west, and Geneseo, Atkinson, and Annawan, Illinois to the east. Compared to today's automobile and many of the longer distance trains, travel on these local lines was slow. A 1928 train to Peoria, Illinois took three hours and twenty minutes while stopping in eighteen towns.

This area also was served by two interurban railroads that provided relatively frequent service between towns using electric trolley cars. One of them was the Rock Island Southern, affectionately known as the "Rocky Doodle," which extended to Taylor Ridge, Reynolds, Matherville, and on to Monmouth, Illinois. The Clinton, Davenport & Muscatine interurban connected numerous intervening towns in Iowa.





Curtis C. Roseman

By the late 1920s and 1930s, however, passenger traffic was steadily declining because of the increasing use of the automobile and the onset of the Great Depression. The railroads needed something new to attract riders. In 1934 the Burlington introduced a series of lightweight, diesel-powered streamliners, the Zephyrs. They breezed through Savanna and Galesburg, but never provided regular service to the Quad Cities.

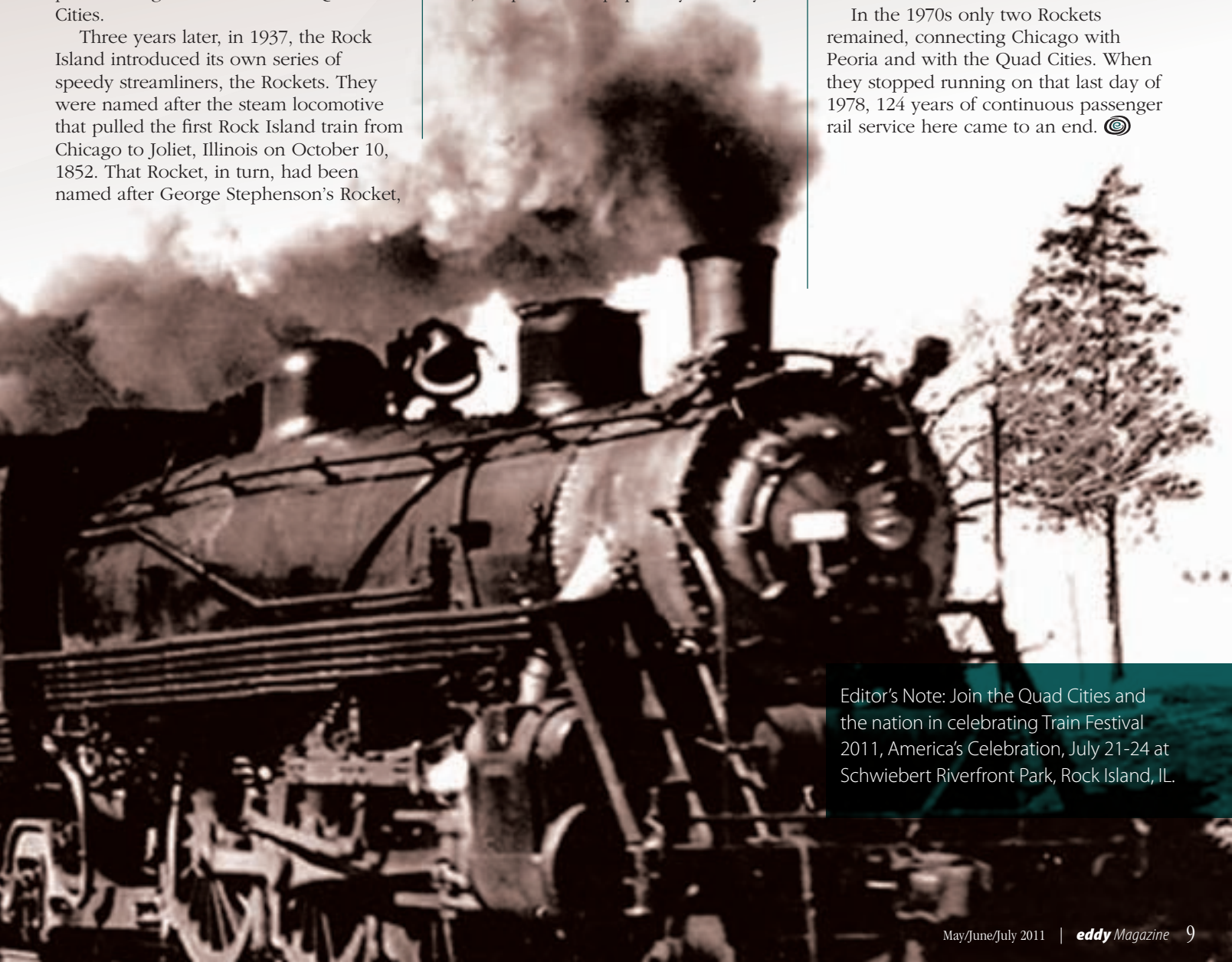
Three years later, in 1937, the Rock Island introduced its own series of speedy streamliners, the Rockets. They were named after the steam locomotive that pulled the first Rock Island train from Chicago to Joliet, Illinois on October 10, 1852. That Rocket, in turn, had been named after George Stephenson's Rocket,

a locomotive that, in 1829, set a world speed record in England: 24 miles per hour. Three of the eight new Rocket streamliners served the Quad Cities, the Rocky Mountain Rocket to Colorado, the Corn Belt Rocket to Omaha, Nebraska, and the Des Moines Rocket.

During World War II rail passenger traffic surged in the United States as part of the war effort. But after the war, in spite of the popularity of many

of the new streamliners, ridership rapidly declined. The continued rise in popularity of the automobile and the rapid emergence of air travel in the 1950s led to deep service cuts. The Milwaukee discontinued its Southwest Limited in 1958. The last Burlington passenger train left the Quad Cities in 1961. The Rock Island discontinued its Rocky Mountain Rocket in 1966 and its Golden State in 1968.

In the 1970s only two Rockets remained, connecting Chicago with Peoria and with the Quad Cities. When they stopped running on that last day of 1978, 124 years of continuous passenger rail service here came to an end. ☹



Editor's Note: Join the Quad Cities and the nation in celebrating Train Festival 2011, America's Celebration, July 21-24 at Schwiebert Riverfront Park, Rock Island, IL.

Not just fun and games:

How water trails pour revenue into the local economy

By Jeff Cornelius

In a community as rich with water as the Quad Cities, it's no wonder paddle sports are gaining popularity. The Mississippi River offers a wealth of recreational activities for those who visit and live by the RiverWay, and the list continues to expand. Not only does this growing interest in paddle sports lead to new opportunities for locals and tourists to experience the river; river recreation is also a great way for large and small communities to diversify their economies.

Over the past decade paddle sports have exploded in popularity as kayakers and canoeists take to the water in urban and rural settings. A 2009 Iowa DNR/Iowa State University survey shows significant growth in paddle sports as the total number of outfitters went from twenty-three in 2004 to fifty-three in 2008. In total these businesses contributed \$5.14 million to Iowa's economy from rentals and related expenses, such as hotels and restaurants. That's an average of \$97,000 per outfitter in expenses that largely stays in local economies.

The Quad Cities saw the growing interest as well, as evidenced by participation in Taming of the Slough, an adventure race in downtown Moline featuring a paddle section, mountain biking, and an off-road hill climb. For five years participation climbed at Taming by attracting novices as well as seasoned racers.

In response to the increased popularity of paddle sports, an outfitter opened for business in Davenport last summer. A collaboration between Princeton Outdoor Adventures and Healthy Habits Bike Shop, Credit Island Adventures rents kayaks, canoes, bikes, and ice fishing gear.

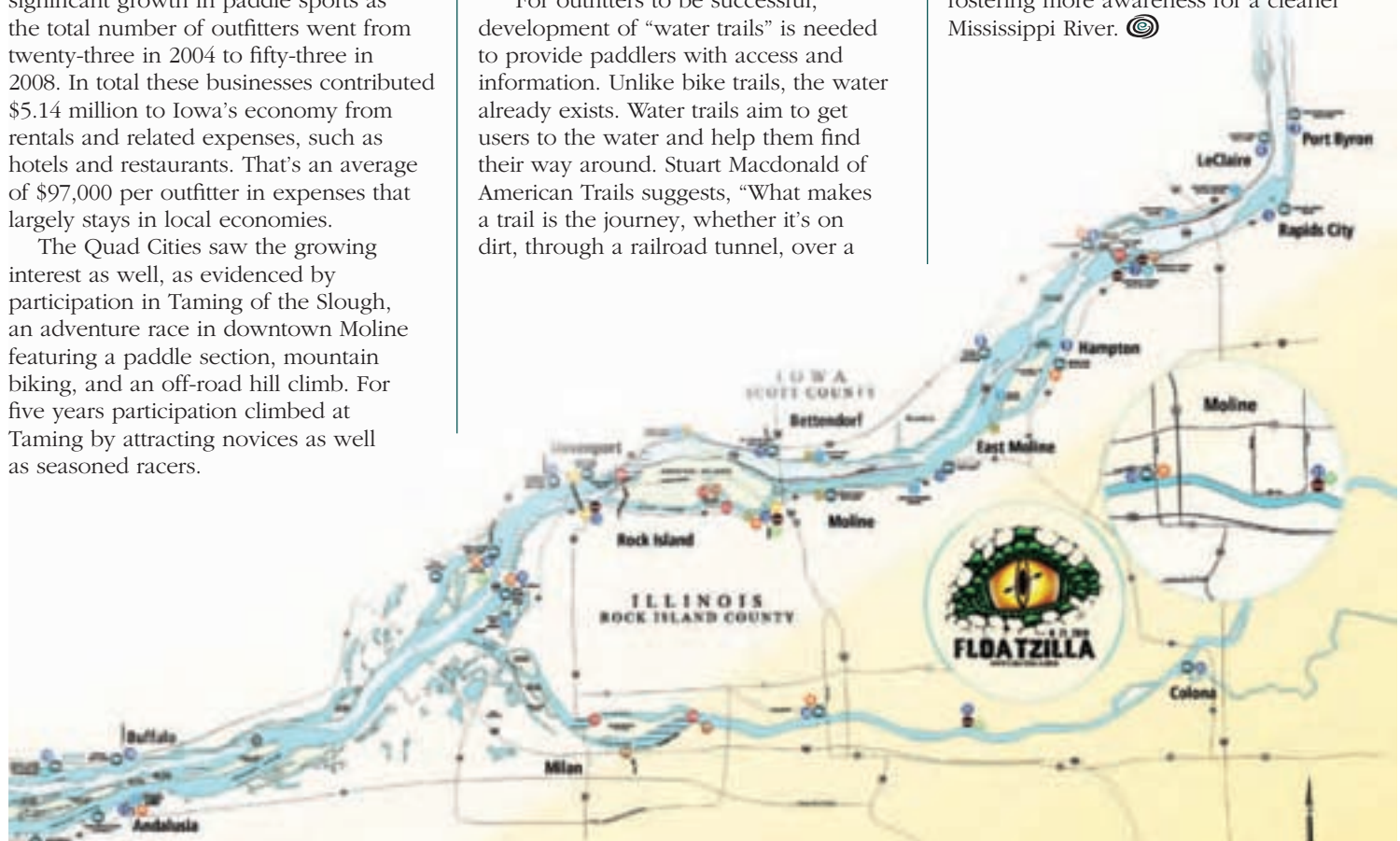
Owner Kevin Kernan says, "We've had great fun bringing paddle sports to Credit Island. Our collaboration with the City of Davenport has allowed for so many more people to get in on the fun of paddle sports. There is truly something for everyone here, no matter what your skill level. I believe we have so much more to offer as the excitement for the sport grows."

For outfitters to be successful, development of "water trails" is needed to provide paddlers with access and information. Unlike bike trails, the water already exists. Water trails aim to get users to the water and help them find their way around. Stuart Macdonald of American Trails suggests, "What makes a trail is the journey, whether it's on dirt, through a railroad tunnel, over a

boardwalk, or along a scenic waterway. Trails in all their variety connect us to our world, our history, and our heritage of wild places."

In 2010 River Action implemented the Quad Cities Water Trails program to highlight paddling on thirty-five miles of the Mississippi and ten miles of the Rock Rivers. The project includes online resources, printed maps, road signage, wayfinding signage, and portages around dams.

The greater Quad Cities has a world-class network of bike trails that is loved by locals and has successfully attracted tourists from the region for decades. The Quad Cities Water Trails is capable of doing the same for paddlers while fostering more awareness for a cleaner Mississippi River. ☺



May

May Day

Sunday, May 1, 1-3 p.m., Quad City Botanical Center
Celebrate the coming of spring and dance around our May pole. Make May Day baskets for your loved ones. Explore the gardens and see if you can find fresh blooms stretching to life in the freshly warm weather. Cost is: Adults, \$5; Seniors, \$4; Children 5-12, \$3; Children 2-4, \$1; Children under 2 and members are free. Quad City Botanical Center, 2525 4th Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201. Call 309-794-0991 for more information.

Two Rivers YMCA Open House

Saturday, May 7, 9 a.m.-Noon, Sylvan Boathouse
Open to anyone interested in learning to row. Get introduced to the skills and techniques needed to see if you are interested in the sport of rowing, and take advantage of the opportunity to join experienced coaches and rowers from the Two Rivers YMCA Rowing Center for a brief outing on the river. Participants must be 14 years of age or older and sign a waiver of liability; parents must sign for minors. Physical requirements include the ability to swim, lift 30 pounds overhead, and have good hip and knee flexibility. Please e-mail dweaver@tworiversymca.org with any questions specific to physical requirements. The open house is free of charge. For those 14-18 years, a stipend of \$50 from River Action is paid to the rowing program to offset a student's class fee. 1701 1st Avenue at the Mississippi River, Moline, IL (next to Stony Creek Inn). Back up date in case of inclement weather is Saturday, May 14th, 9 a.m.-Noon.

Beaux Arts Fair

Saturday, May 7, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, May 8, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Figge Art Museum
Artists' talents range across the spectrum with paintings in all mediums. Food vendors, musical entertainment, and an activity tent for children. The Beaux Arts Fair is an outdoor arts and crafts festival that takes place along 2nd Street in downtown Davenport, in front of the Figge Art Museum. Call 563-326-7804 for more information.

Fish & Fire

Friday, May 13, 5:30 p.m., Black Hawk State Park Lodge

River Action's 9th Annual Fish & Fire friend raiser and fundraiser. Dinner for adults, \$35 each; children 8-16, \$12 each. Tickets online at RiverAction.org. The evening's events will include River Action's Youth Board modeling the latest in outdoor wear from Active Endeavors, a silent auction, and the 11th Annual Eddy Awards to those who go against the current (as does an eddy in the water) to get things done. Sponsors are Active Endeavors, Ascentra Credit Union, and Mancomm. Music by Hot Club of Davenport. Call 563-322-2969 for more information.



Environmental Book Club

Tuesday, May 24, 7 p.m., River Action Office, 822 E. River Drive, Davenport, IA
River Action's book club meets monthly, and it's open to everyone! In May, *Rats*, by Robert Sullivan, will be discussed. Go to RiverAction.org for more information or to be put on the e-mail list for notifications.

Criterion Bicycle Races

Monday, May 30, 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Rock Island Arts & Entertainment District
Free admission, food vendors, live music, and activities for the entire family. Don't miss the excitement of these professional bike races that attract spectators from across the United States. A great Memorial Day weekend event for the entire family. Call 309-788-6311 for more information or go to RIDistrict.com.

June

Ride The River: Annual Father's Day Ride

Sunday, Jun 19, 7 a.m.-4 p.m.

Begin at the Freight House, Davenport

Celebrate our riverfront trails on Father's Day. Enjoy a bi-state tour of the Quad Cities



along riverfront bike trails. Plus, cruise the Mississippi River aboard the Celebration Belle riverboat from Iowa to Illinois, or ride across the historic Arsenal Island. Kids Ride Free, sponsored by Trinity Regional Health Systems, offers opportunities for children 16 and under to ride free with a paying adult. This year Ride the River will also include a duathlon for kids entering grades 6-8, school year fall 2011, on Credit Island. This event combines running and biking legs to discover more of the island, Credit Island Slough, and the Mississippi. Call 563-888-2235 for more information or visit RiverAction.org.

Riverine Walks

Wednesday evenings, June 1-29; Saturday mornings, June 4-25

Summer education during a leisurely stroll – different topics, different locations. Please note this is a walking tour. \$5 per person; free to River Action members. Visit RiverAction.org for more information, or call 563.322.2969.

Join!

For only \$25 a year you can join River Action and receive a FREE copy of eddy Magazine and discounts to educational series and events. Check us out at www.riveraction.org



RIVER ACTION INC



Beginner Sailing Program

Monday, June 6, and Monday, June 20

Plan to sail the very first day! Discuss safety, environmental awareness, sailboat elements, sailing skills, emergency skills, and rules of the "road". Must be at least 14 years of age to enroll. \$185 course fee. For more information, call 563-326-7812.

Channel Cat Talks

Tuesdays and Thursdays, June 7-28, 9-11 a.m.

Get to know the Mississippi River, different topics from a different view! \$12 per person, registrations preferred. Visit RiverAction.org or call 563.322.2969 for more information.

Gumbo Ya Ya: Mardi Gras in The District

Friday, Jun 10, 5 p.m.-12:30 a.m.; Saturday, June 11, Noon-12:30 a.m.; Rock Island Arts & Entertainment District

Cajun food, authentic southern Louisiana music on two stages, Mardi Gras children's activities, and a French Quarter marketplace. Call 309-788-6311 for more information or go to RIDistrict.com.

Ride The River: Annual Father's Day Ride

Sunday, Jun 19, 7 a.m.-4 p.m. [See page 11]

Dodge Brothers National Car Meet

Monday-Friday, June 20-24, Stoney Creek Inn, Moline, IL

Daily driving tours along the Great River Roads of Iowa and Illinois, and a drive to the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and Museum in West Branch, IA. Cars will be displayed at the Stoney Creek parking lot on Thursday, June 23, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., open to the public free of charge. Call 309-743-0101 for more information.

Global Water Dances: Ballet Quad Cities

Saturday, June 25, 5 p.m., Davenport, IA

Address local water issues and create bonds using time, space, and rhythm. Choreographers and dancers from each participating city will present a one-hour dance set with viewing areas in Schwiebert Park, LeClaire Park, the Centennial Bridge, and Sky Bridge to highlight a specified local water issue.



This worldwide event, linked throughout the day via broadcast media and the Internet, will challenge countless observers, locally and online, to deepen their understanding

of the importance of water in human communities. For more information, go to GlobalWaterDances.org.

Environmental Book Club

Tuesday, Jun 28, 7 p.m., River Action Office, 822 E. River Drive, Davenport, IA

River Action's book club meets monthly, and it's open to everyone! In June, *The Lost Art of Walking* by Geoff Nicholson will be discussed. Go to RiverAction.org for more information or to be put on the e-mail list for notifications.

July



IH Mississippi Valley Blues Festival

Friday-Sunday, July 1-3, LeClaire Park, Davenport, IA

26th Mississippi Valley Blues Festival. Performers represent a variety of Blues styles during one of the finest Blues fests in the country. Visit MVBS.org for more information.

Channel Cat Talks

Tuesdays, July 5-26, and Thursdays, July 7-28, 9-11 a.m.

Get to know the Mississippi River, different topics from a different view! \$12 per person, registrations preferred. Visit RiverAction.org or call 563.322.2969 for more information.

Riverine Walks

Wednesdays evenings, July 6-27; Saturdays mornings, July 9-30

Summer education during a leisurely stroll, different topics, different locations. Please note this is a walking tour. \$5 per person; free to River Action members. Visit RiverAction.org for more information, or call 563.322.2969.

Beginner Sailing Program

Monday, July 11, and Monday, July 25

Plan to sail the very first day! Discuss safety, environmental awareness, sailboat elements, sailing skills, emergency skills, and rules of the "road". Must be at least 14 years of age to enroll. \$185 course fee. For more information, call 563-326-7812.



Train Festival 2011

Thursday-Sunday, July 21-24, Schwiebert Riverfront Park, Rock Island, IL

A four-day rail festival featuring steam and diesel engine train rides, model railroads, food vendors, and entertainment for all ages! For prices and information, please visit TrainFestival2011.com.



RAGBRAI: The Register's Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa

Friday-Saturday, July 24-30

37th annual seven-day bicycle ride across the state. RAGBRAI is a bicycle ride, not a race. The RAGBRAI route averages 472 miles and is not entirely flat. It begins along Iowa's western border on the Missouri River and ends at Marquette Street Landing in Davenport on the Mississippi River. For more information, go to RAGBRAI.com.

Order Rain Barrels on line!

Collected rainwater can be used to irrigate lawns, water landscape beds or wash cars. Rain barrels also reduce storm-water runoff lessening the impact on storm sewers, local streams, and rivers.

Only \$75! Go to www.riveraction.org and order today!

For more information call River Action at 563-322-2969



Environmental Book Club

Tuesday, July 26, 7 p.m., River Action Office, 822 E. River Drive, Davenport, IA
 River Action's book club meets monthly, and it's open to everyone! In July, Keeper of the Wild by Joe Paddock will be discussed. Go to RiverAction.org for more information or to be put on the e-mail list for notifications.

Downtown Davenport Street Fest

Friday, July 29, through Saturday, July 30
 Downtown Davenport Street Fest, held in conjunction with the Bix 7 Run. Food, music, arts and crafts, and a family fun area! For more information, call 563-322-1706.



Quad City Times Bix 7 Run/Walk

Sat., July 30, 7:30 a.m., LeClaire Park, Davenport, IA
 Participate or watch as over 20,000 competitors participate in the 35th annual Quad-City Times Bix 7 Run/Walk, one of the top 10 running events in the United States. Two-mile QuickBix for people who don't want to go for seven miles. Over 5,000 kids ages 12 and under will run in Alcoa's Jr. Bix on Friday, July 22. For info, visit the Bix7 website at Bix7.com.

SAVE THE DATE!



40th Annual Bix Beiderbecke Memorial Jazz Festival

Thursday-Sunday, August 4-7
 By moving the annual Bix Festival's date to the weekend of August 4-7, 2011, the Bix Fest returns to its Festival roots – a result of the Bix Beiderbecke Memorial Jazz Band of New Jersey traveling to Davenport in 1971 to play a musical tribute to Bix. Some of the same musicians of earlier festivals will play traditional jazz at the very same venues where Bix himself once played: the Hotel Blackhawk, the Col Ballroom, and LeClaire Park. The Redstone Room will also be included as a venue. Food, refreshments, souvenirs, tapes, and CDs are available at

the venues. The outdoor venue at LeClaire Park features a food court, an outstanding band shell, a bust of Bix and historic plaques, water and restrooms, and a grandstand seat for action on the Mississippi River. For more information, go to BixSociety.org or call 563-324-7170.



Floatzilla

Saturday, August 20
 Go to Floatzilla.org for more information.

Senior Citizens Golf Cart Tour

Thursday, September 8
 Go to RiverAction.org for more information.

Upper Mississippi River Conference

Wednesday-Friday, September 21-23
 Go to RiverAction.org for more information.



start something

plant flowers
 raise graduation rates

Sunday May 1 thru
 Friday May 6

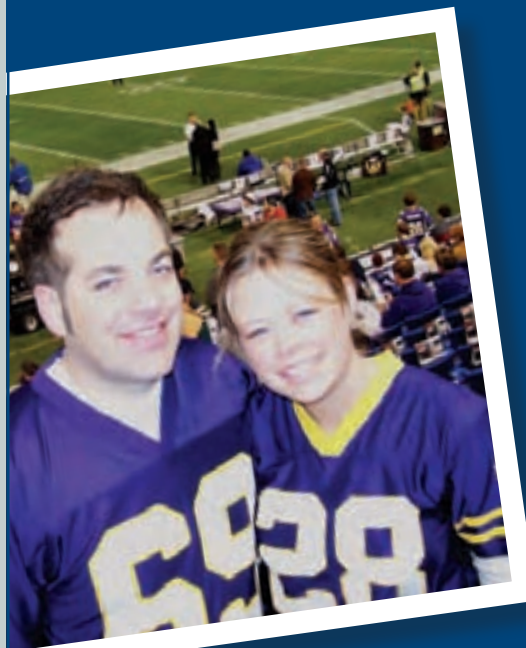
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“eddy Shots” will be a photo feature in each issue of *eddy Magazine*. Please submit your photos for consideration for the August issue of *eddy Magazine* by emailing them (by June 10th) to: EDDY SHOTS (subject line) bethcolbyclark@gmail.com. Photos must be in high resolution (minimum 300 dpi) jpeg format. Please include your name, photo location, and title for the source line. *Thank you!*



Nahant Marsh, Davenport. Blanding's turtle, by Mik Holgersson.



Nahant Marsh, Davenport. Spider web, by Julie Malake.



Crow Creek Park, Bettendorf. Pond, by Beth Clark.



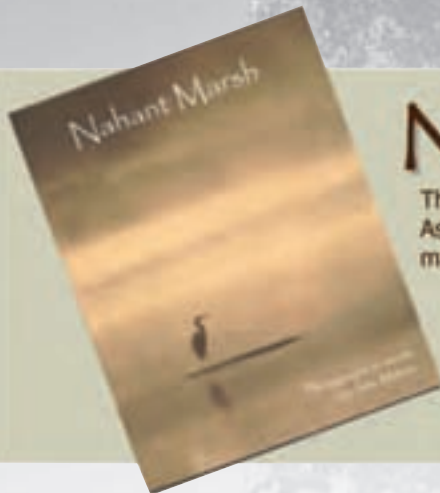
Nahant Marsh, Davenport. Summer day, by Julie Malake.



Nahant Marsh, Davenport. Foggy morning, by Julie Malake.



Crow Creek Park, Bettendorf. The berries, by Beth Clark.



Nahant Marsh—The Book

This 64 page book captures dramatic images of Nahant Marsh over several years. As a friend of Nahant Marsh, Julie Malake makes time stand still as she tells the story of the marsh with her camera. **\$25 purchase includes \$10 donation to Nahant Marsh.**

To purchase a book:

**In person: River Action Office at 822 E. River Drive, Davenport
Nahant Marsh at 4220 S. Wapello Avenue, Davenport
Or visit www.riveraction.org and click on Nahant Marsh or call 563-322-2969**

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