



Seasons

Marshall County Conservation Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 36, Issue 2

Summer 2022



Marshall County's Endowment By Emily Herring, Naturalist

Over the last couple years, Marshall County Conservation has been presented with many amazing opportunities to grow and improve parks located throughout the county. From shower houses and campgrounds, wildlife area acquisitions, to development of a new shooting range, we find our plate full of great things to come.

With these great things to come, we are continuously looking for additional sources of funding through grants, private donations, and philanthropic community groups. The support that we receive from those passionate about conservation and Marshall County is often humbling. As we look back on projects that have been completed in Marshall County Conservation areas, there is not a single special project that could have been completed without the generosity from our community.

Over the last couple of years, Marshall County Conservation has been fortunate to have endowments set up to help fund projects and improvements in our county areas. Many, including myself until recently, did not fully understand the benefits of an endowment, not only to the organization for which it was established, but also the benefits that occur for the donors themselves.

So what is an endowment? In basic terms, an endowment fund is money set aside (invested) to earn income for a non-profit organization. Endowments begin with a donation, which is invested through a foundation. A percentage is disbursed to the non-profit organization in which the endowment was originally established. That means the original donation is held permanently, but allows the supported organization to receive continuous donations. It is the gift that keeps on giving.

It is obvious to see how a non-profit organization can benefit from an endowment, but what about donors? First and foremost, the donation is to a non-profit organization, the donations are immediately tax deductible. However, if a donor donates to an Endow Iowa fund that is held by an accredited Community Foundation in Iowa, their donation is eligible for the Endow Iowa Tax Credit, a 25% state tax credit.

The Community Foundation of Marshall County (CFMC) assists individuals, families, businesses and organizations with their charitable giving goals. By working with CFMC, donors can improve the quality of

life throughout the county by providing ongoing support to charitable organizations or causes that have special meaning to them. Through this form of giving, our community benefits from both large and small donations, and it is an easy way to help support the community you live in and love.

As I had stated earlier, we have been fortunate enough to have endowments established to help benefit the county conservation areas. The Friends of Marshall County Conservation created an Endow Iowa Fund with CFMC, which continues to grow with donations and will be used for Marshall County Conservation special projects and overseen by the Friends of Marshall County Conservation.

Additionally, an anonymous donor whose heart lies in the limestone bluffs of Three Bridges Park, established an Endow Iowa Fund with CFMC that will be used in the future to help with the financial upkeep of the very first Marshall County Park.

These generous donations that have been established to sustain the future of our county areas are greatly appreciated. They are also a great way for you to easily donate and support the future of conservation in our county. If you would like to donate to one of the endowments already established, below are QR codes that will lead you to the Community Foundation of Marshall County page and one of the following Marshall County Conservation Endowments to click and donate towards. If you have any additional questions about Endowment Funds, or would like to establish your own endowment, reach out to the Community Foundation of Marshall County directly. You may also mail a check to CFMC at 11 North 1st Avenue, Marshalltown, IA 50158 and designate which fund you wish to support.

Thank you again for your generosity and support. We would not be where we are today without you!



Friends of Marshall County
Conservation Endowment



Three Bridges County
Park Endowment

MCCB Board Member, Steve Armstrong Inducted into the Pheasants Forever Hall of Fame

Congratulations to Steve Armstrong on his induction into the Iowa Pheasants Forever Hall of Fame. Steve joined the Marshall County Conservation Board in 2018. Steve is a supporter of many conservation efforts such as the Marietta Sand Prairie Preserve project and 2 future land acquisitions with MCCB. He has served as President of the Marshall/Tama County Pheasants Forever Chapter and the Pheasants Forever State Council.



Steve Armstrong






Iowa 2022 Hall of Fame

Marshalltown, Iowa

Family- Wife (Shelia), Daughter (Lisa), Daughter (Tammy), Grandson (Noah) & Granddaughter (McKenzie)

Work Profession- Lineman Supervisor - Consumers Energy - 35 years

Chapter- Marshall-Tama County PF

Officer Positions Held- Secretary, Vice President, President, Banquet Committee, Board member

Years Volunteered- 32 years

Special Habitat Projects- Marietta Sand Prairie Preserve, Iowa River Wildlife Management Area, BAWA Wildlife Area - Tama County, Currently working on 2 future Land Acquisitions, Plant trees, Manage distribution of beans/corn for food plots, Marshall County Conservation Board member

Special Youth Projects- Sponsor Central Iowa Straight Shooters, Award scholarships to area Seniors, Contribute/donate to various youth projects, Hunter Education instructor - 16 years

Hobbies- Hunting, fishing/ice fishing, attending grandkids school activities, family time, traveling

Live & Local Concerts

Free Live Music & Local Food Trucks

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Leonard Grimes Memorial Amphitheater

June 23

**Fat Tuesday and
the Greasfire
Horns**

Food Trucks
Clare's Tenderloins
Nacho Daddy's
Ma Brown's Cookies



July 21

Kaizer Jazz

Food Trucks
Comal Kaxi
The Apple Wagon
The Pie Lady



August 18

**Bob Dorr & Friends
Feat. Jeff Petersen**

Food Trucks
Tacos La Cruz
Chicago Treats
Bakery 146



September 15

The Dueling Fiddles

Food Trucks
Comal Kaxi
Clare's Tenderloin
Lillie Mae Chocolates



October 6

William Elliott Whitmore

Food Truck
Magoo Pizza
Pho Wheel & Sushi
Sweet Smells by Mel



A Leaping Beauty

By Elle Carlson, 9th Grade

You see it gliding through the water in schools of pink and green. Thousands of individual polka dots and stripes run together in a whirlpool of color, unable to identify a singular fish. When the sun hits it just right, it gleams and centers itself in front of all the fish. The rainbow trout stands apart from the rest of the sea as a brilliant yet stubborn wonder.

The rainbow trout inspired me to paint it leaping out of the water after my great fishing experience. I was at Bloody Run stream in Northeast Iowa on a family fishing trip. Heading in, I was hoping to catch a bass of some species. Just something bigger than a sunfish or bluegill from our small pond! I had my pole baited and ready to cast along the shoreline. I pulled back...and casted a smooth, graceful line. I listened to the hissing of the reel and finally heard it *plunk!* I wasn't really paying attention to my pole by that point; I was watching the birds sing, the trees sway, and bathing in the warm sun's glow.

I will never forget what a fight that fish and I had. It caught me off guard; suddenly, my pole snapped forward and my reel buzzed. My dad leaned over my shoulder and cheered me on. What a stubborn fish! I tried to let it fight and then jerk it just a bit so that the hook caught and the fish would stay, just like I was taught.

When my hook was about 20 yards from the bank, a magical sight took place. The trout plunged its tail into the water and for a split second, flailed in the air. I wish I could've watched it in slow motion; the slimy skin shimmered in the glowing sun, the colors were oh so vibrant, and its eyes shone bright. When it splashed back into the water, I stood there for a second, stunned. I reeled my line all the way until I could grab the elegant fish. I held the wriggling, flopping fish in my hands as I examined its fine pattern. I took many pictures and studied its unique colors and stripes. Once I was done, I gently released it back into the stream and watched it swim away.

As I sat at my desk that day, I thought back to the position in which the fish hurdled the wet beneath. I sketched and I sketched until it was just right. The smooth blend of acrylic paint and the meticulous details of the pattern makes art such a joy! There's nothing like finishing the last part of the piece, stepping back, and absorbing your creation. This was such a fun and personal connectory piece that I will always cherish. The beauty of nature will never be forgotten.

Elle Carlson, a freshman at West Marshall, is competing in the Wild Life For Art~ Fish Contest.



Owls Of Iowa

By Bill Carey, Summer Naturalist Intern

Iowa is home to many beautiful and interesting species of birds, but if you ask me, owls are the most fascinating. Every part of an owl is designed to fly silently through the night and effortlessly capture its prey in the dark. What's more interesting, though, is that no matter where you live in Iowa, there's a species of owl suited for that habitat. If you know what to look and listen for, you may be able to spot one of these three species from your own back door!



The largest of all Iowan owls, the great horned owl has tufts of feathers on its head that resemble horns, hence the name. These tufts may actually contribute to a great horned owl's camouflage, allowing it to blend in with trees. If you live on a farm or a non-wooded area in the country, you may hear the great horned owl's call, which is a low "hooooo-hoohooohoo hooooo-hoooo."



The barred owl can be commonly found in heavily forested areas such as river valleys and state parks, where their darker eyes allow them to see using more of the limited light available to them in the woods. Its name comes from the vertical "bars" running down its chest, and it makes its home inside holes in the trunks of trees. If you live in or near a wooded area, chances are you've heard a barred owl call, which sounds like "Who cooks for you? Who cooks for you all?"

Often mistaken for a young great horned owl, a full-grown eastern screech owl is only about as big as your hand. More so than the other two species, eastern screech owls have adapted somewhat to living in cities and towns, often making their homes in dead trees or bushes. If you live in town, keep an ear open for a call that sounds sort of like three high-pitched horse whinnies.



Meet Our Summer Staff

The summer staff are temporary positions with Marshall County Conservation and often times fulfill internship requirements for college. Many of the past summer staff have continued their pursuit of a career in the natural resource field.

We would like to welcome back Julie Stahl to our summer field staff and welcome Ethan Meyer and Hunter Hughlette! We'd also like to welcome Bill Carey as an Assistant Naturalist to help our Environment Education program with our many summer activities.

Ethan Meyer

Hi my name is Ethan Meyer. I'm nineteen years old and just completed my freshman year of college at the University of Northern Iowa. In my free time, I enjoy hiking, gardening, and bird watching. My love for these outdoor activities and my overall interest in the environment led me to select Environmental Science as my major. While I'm not completely sure what specific career I want to pursue, I have recently become interested in the possibility of a job that involves work with water quality. I'm looking forward to spending this summer as a conservation aid for Marshall County where I plan on working at gaining new skills, learning as much as I can, and meeting some of the people who work in the conservation field.



Hunter Hughlette

My name is Hunter Hughlette. I recently graduated from East Marshall high school. During high school I ran cross country and track and participated in band, choir, musicals and plays. Earlier this year I became an Eagle Scout, which was a huge accomplishment. I enjoy being in the outdoors whether it's hunting, fishing, hiking, kayaking, camping, boating, target shooting, or just enjoying nature.

In the fall, I will be attending Hawkeye Community College where I will major in Natural Resource Management. I am going to run cross country and track there. Conservation management seems like the perfect career choice since I have enjoyed being in the outdoors and in nature my entire life. It also falls right in line with my experiences as a Scout. That is why I was thrilled for the opportunity to work at MCCB this summer. It will give me on the job skills and an idea of what it's like to have a job in conservation management. I'm not sure what area of conservation management I want to focus on. I'm keeping my options open at this point and hope this summer job and my college courses will help steer me in the right direction. I look forward to working with the staff at MCCB and learning from them this summer.



Bill Carey

My name is Bill Carey, and I am the Naturalist Intern for the summer. I am a senior at Iowa State University, majoring in Forestry with an option in Interpreting Natural Resources. In my free time, I enjoy hiking, kayaking, and just being outdoors in general. I have previously worked as a part-time Naturalist at Des Moines Y Camp and YMCA Camp Wapsie, and I'm excited to work for MCCB this summer to learn more on the job skills!



Timmons Grove Community Forestry Grant

This spring Marshall County Conservation was a recipient of the Community Forestry Grant through the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. These funds were a part of the Federal Urban Resilience fund to assist with the reforestation of Iowa's public areas after the Emerald Ash Borer infestation. With this grant Marshall County Conservation, with the help from Alliant Energy and other volunteers, were able to plant 80 trees and shrubs in Timmons South. This new planting included increasing diversity in the park. A total of 24 different species were planted including unusual native species like Wahoo, Kentucky Coffee Tree, and Paw Paws. With these trees planted, we are hoping to increase the aesthetic value in the park, as well as provide diverse food sources and shelter for wildlife. Additionally, planting trees will help increase the shade for future campground, playground and boat ramp users.



SUMMER

Nature Story Hour

1st and 3rd Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. at the Leonard Grimes Amphitheater at the Grimes Farm

Nature Story Hour will be in-person and also held via Facebook Live during the summer season at the Leonard Grimes Amphitheater. The program will be held inside the center in case of inclement weather. The program will start with local celebrities reading a storybook, an educational program by the naturalist about the topic, and an activity or craft. Each session will last about 30 - 40 minutes. Upcoming topics include:



June 2 - Ants - Kyle Martin, KFJB Program Manager

June 16 - Endangered Species - Sue Cahill, Iowa State Representative

July 7 - Chocolate - Aimee Deimerly-Snyder, Owner of Lillie Mae Chocolates - With special sweet treat to follow

July 21 - Sharks - Joel Phillips, Marshall County Sheriff

August 4 - Storms - Kim Elder, Coordinator at Marshall County Iowa Emergency Management

August 18 - Falconry - Steve Salasek, Marshall County Supervisor - With special guest Artemis the Red-tailed Hawk

Live and Local - Fat Tuesday and The Grease Fire Horns

June 23, 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Leonard Grimes Memorial Amphitheater
at the GrimesFarm and Conservation Center

Fat Tuesday and the Greasefire Horns will be starting off the Live and Local series this spring at the Leonard Grimes Memorial Amphitheater. Fat Tuesday is a blues-oriented band with a horn section based out of Des Moines, Iowa that is accomplished in both original and cover tunes. Fat Tuesday has played at several blues festivals and opened for groups such as Dr. Hook, Son Seals, and the Little River Band. They were the past winner of the Central Iowa Blues Society blues challenge and represented the state of Iowa in the international blues festival in Memphis. The band has been together for 25 years.



Food Trucks - Clare's Tenderloins, Nacho Daddy's,
and Ma Browns Cookies and More!

Kayaking

Join us as we explore Marshall County waters with kayaks. This family friendly event is to encourage participants to learn the basics of kayaking and how to be safe on Iowa's waters. There is no fee for this program, however you must pre-register to reserve limited spots. To register contact GrimesFarm and Conservation Center by calling 641-752-5490, email mccb@marshallcountvia.gov or text only 641-758-9777.

Wednesday, June 15 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Sand Lake - 2901 Main St. Rd.
Deadline: June 10 Fee: FREE

Tuesday, July 5 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Green Castle Rec. Area - 2891 Green Castle Rd., Gilman
Deadline: July 1 Fee: FREE

Wednesday, August 3 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Sand Lake - 2901 Main St. Rd.
Deadline: July 29 Fee: FREE



History on the Third Thursday

Thursday, June 16 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
GrimesFarm and Conservation Center

Mike Stegmann, MCCB Director will give a presentation on the history of wildlife in Marshall County since the time of European arrival to present day. Information will include the demise of some species that remain absent from the landscape to those species that have been reintroduced and species that have been present throughout time. This program is **FREE!** This will also focus on habitat requirements and what landowners can do to improve habitat for wildlife.

Brown Bag

June - Learn about New Zealand's Birds

Tuesday, June 28 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
GrimesFarm and Conservation Center
Registration Fee: FREE
Registration Deadline: June 24

Everyone loves New Zealand's most famous bird, the kiwi. But what you may not know is that there are actually five species of kiwi, and all five of them are endangered. In fact, many of New Zealand's native bird species are on the endangered species list. However, many native wildlife sanctuaries have been established in the past twenty years, all with one common goal: to save the remaining birds of New Zealand. Join Naturalist Intern Bill Carey as he shares a bit about these beautiful bird species, his visit to the Tawharanui Bird Sanctuary in Auckland, and what you can do at home to help protect our own native birds right here in Iowa. There is no fee for this program, however pre-registration is required by June 24th before 4:00 p.m. Register by calling at 641-752-5490, emailing mccb@marshallcountvia.gov, or text only 641-752-9777.



Brown Bag Programs continued on next page...

Brown Bag Continued...

July - Pollinators and Beekeeping

Thursday, July 28 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

GrimesFarm and Conservation Center

Registration Fee: FREE

Registration Deadline: July 22 by 4:00 p.m.

Join local beekeepers Neal and Dianne Rinehart as they share their knowledge on pollinators and how important they are to our quality of life. They will briefly review the different species of pollinators and then focus on honey bees. They will cover many topics and adjust to the interests of the attendees.

Topics may include: the different kinds of important pollinators, the history of beekeeping in North America, the basics of beekeeping (so you want to be a beekeeper), what/who is in a hive, the chemistry of honey, challenges bees and beekeepers are facing today and the future. Then maybe, just maybe, participants will sample some honey and bee products. Please join in and bring your questions and we look forward to seeing you on July 28th. **There is no fee for this program, however pre-registration is required by July 22 before 4:00 p.m. Register by calling at 641-752-5490, emailing mccb@marshallcountvia.gov, or text only 641-758-9777.**



August - Falconry

Tuesday, August 18 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

GrimesFarm and Conservation Center

Registration Fee: FREE

Registration Deadline: August 12 by 4:00 p.m.

Brenda and Jeremy Smith are just a couple of nature-loving individuals who share a passion for the outdoors and all it has to offer! They also happen to be licensed falconers in the state of Iowa. They started this journey together nearly 5 years ago! They enjoy spending time with nature and sharing their passions with their children as well! They have 5 kids, ages 5-17 and their oldest son plans to start his journey with falconry in September. They have successfully flown three red-tail hawks in the last three years. They released the first two back to the wild following the hunting season, and currently have one female red-tail hawk this season! Her name is Artemis, she caught 25 rabbits, one red squirrel, one gray squirrel, and countless mice last season. She has become quite bonded with the Smiths and she was born in the Spring of 2021. She was trapped in the wild on August 1st, 2021. They look forward to sharing their falconry journey with you and welcome any questions you may have! **There is no fee for this program, however pre-registration is required by August 12 before 4:00 p.m. Register by calling 641-752-5490, emailing mccb@marshallcountvia.gov, or text only 641-758-9777.**



Live and Local - Kaizer Jazz

July 21, 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Leonard Grimes Memorial Amphitheater
at the GrimesFarm and Conservation Center

Kaizer Jazz (the recipe) - take traditional jazz standards, various musicians/instrumentation, mix in some classic rock/pop favorites, add some unique style and specialty grooves done in a jazz feel and you get a perfect musical experience. The core of the group is made up of Lynn and Ed Kaizer, graduates of Arizona State University. Ed's area of study was Jazz Performance and Lynn's Masters is in Vocal Pedagogy.

Food Trucks - Comal Kaxi, The Apple Wagon, The Pie Lady



Live and Local - Bob Dorr & Friends

August 18 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Leonard Grimes Memorial Amphitheater
at the GrimesFarm and Conservation Center

Join Bob Dorr with his unmistakable lead vocals and Jeff Petersen on his 1968 Gibson Flying V guitar, lap steel guitar, vocals, as they will be once again taking the stage at the Leonard Grimes Amphitheater. They will entertain you with their sound that can only be described as

blues/soul/rockabilly/reggae/creole/rhythm! A successful musician and radio host for over 40 years, Bob Dorr has been inducted into Iowa's Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Iowa's Blues Hall of Fame. Jeff Petersen is one of the Eastern Iowa Region's best guitar players and a founding member of The Blue Band. He has performed for over 40 years and has twice been inducted into Iowa's Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame.

Food Trucks - Tacos La Cruz, Chicago Treats, Bakery 146



Nocturnal Scavenger Hunt

Thursday, August 18 8:30 p.m.

Grimes Farm

Registration Fee: FREE

Registration Deadline: August 12 by 4:00 p.m.

Grab your flashlight and family and head out to the GrimesFarm for a nocturnal scavenger hunt. Families will begin the search using flashlights and observation skills while hiking the trails. Reflectors will lead participants on a hunt for prizes. This is a great way to celebrate the final days of summer break and explore nature at night. Participants must pre-register before August 12 at 4:00 p.m. to reserve limited spots. **There is no charge for this event. Please bring your own flashlight(s) and wear sturdy shoes. Register by calling the Conservation Center at 641-752-5490, emailing mccb@marshallcountvia.gov, or text only 641-758-9777.**



PEOPLE IN THE PARK

2022 Stars in the Park Edition

You asked for it and we are bringing it back! People in the Park will return this July to Marshall County Parks. The year of 2022 will be known as Lego® Stars in the Park. Starting July 1st and every day in the month of July, Marshall County Conservation will be posting a picture of a LEGO® Star in one of our county parks. Head out to the park, find the LEGO® Star first, and turn it in for a chance to win a kayak.

Sounds easy... well, maybe we left out the part where the picture won't be 100% focused, or that it can be hidden in any one of our 32 parks. Or that we may post the picture morning, noon, or night, just to keep you on your toes.



Images will be posted starting July 1st, so this gives you 31 chances to win the kayak or one of the other great prizes. Once you found your LEGO® star and returned it to Grimes Farm Conservation Center, your name will be entered into a drawing, which will take place at the intermission of the Live and Local Concert on August 18th. The first name drawn gets the first pick of the prize. One entry per person. Once the LEGO® person is turned in we will post a picture of where they were in our park. We set up an example to show you what to expect. Best wishes and may the force be with you!

Special thanks to our sponsor Theisen's!



THEY'RE BAAA-AACK!!!

SAVE THE DATE

FOR THE PARK APOCALYPSE

OCTOBER 22, 2022 6:30 PM

Ready for a scary good time!?! The zombies will return to the Grimes Farm and Conservation Center on October 22. Join fellow runners and walkers as they avoid getting their brains eaten by the zombies during the Park Apocalypse 5k run/walk! Mark your calendars and watch future newsletters for registration information.



SEASONS

Marshall County Conservation Board
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Tree Planting at Timmons: Alliant Energy, Joe Herring, Erin Carpenter

Newsletter Editing: Bren Lee

If we inadvertently missed someone, our thanks to you also.



Help us keep costs down and save resources.
If you would like to receive the newsletter electronically rather than having it mailed, please send an email to mccb@marshallcountya.gov. Also the electronic version is in color!

MARSHALL COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

2349 - 233rd Street, Marshalltown, IA 50158
(641) 752-5490

mccb@marshallcountya.gov
www.marshallcountya.gov

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Conservation Office Hours

Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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Bill Carey	Summer Naturalist Intern
Ethan Meyer	Summer Field Intern
Hunter Hughlette	Summer Field Intern



Snap a photo with your camera's phone to learn more about MCCB and visit our website.