



Seasons

Marshall County Conservation Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 37, Issue 2

Summer 2023



Big Move By Emily Herring, Director

Marshall County Conservation has added a great new asset to Sand Lake. However, planning for the project began long before that!



Last year MCC was approached by the Emergency Food Box about the shelter that was located next to their building. The shelter was

initially constructed by Roger Brown when the Emergency Food Box was Iowa River Brewing Company, where many customers enjoyed a cold beverage and live music in its shade. When the building's purpose changed to a food bank, the decision was made to find a new location for the shelter, that wasn't being utilized. Garry Fulton reached out to MCC to see if we could benefit from moving the structure to one of our parks.

It took one look to know that the shelter would be a fantastic addition to any of our parks, and with the \$1.00 price tag, MCCB could not say no. We just needed to iron out the little details, like how one would move a 48-foot-long shelter to a new location and exactly where this shelter was going to go!

Sand Lake's proximity to the Emergency Food Box was one of the main selling points for moving the shelter to that location. The park's fantastic water views, closeness to Marshalltown, and popularity with the public solidified the location for the "new to us" shelter. Sand Lake also has amenities, including a port-a-potty, parking lot, and electricity, which would be necessary for the shelter's users.



Now, how does one move a 48 foot-long shelter house? Easy, you hire a six-generation local moving company! Ferneau & Sons House Moving & Raising, LLC. Well, at least it seemed easy to them as the entire family worked to move the shelter to its new location on May 12th. Three generations on site and many other family members ensured the shelter was seated comfortably on its foundation by the end of the day.

The shelter is now resting just north of the parking lot at Sand Lake. You will find that it is taped off until we can get the structure ready for use. It still needs some work to be open to the public, including a new roof, electricity, and picnic tables. Once the structure is ready for public use, it will be available for rent. If the structure is not rented, it will be available first come, first serve for all sorts of gatherings, including weddings, birthdays, family reunions, engagement parties, and more.

There is one last logistical item that needs to be taken care of. What should we name it? During June and July, MCC will be taking suggestions on what the shelter should be named. If you think you have the perfect name for the shelter, email your suggestions to mccb@marshallcountytia.gov or call 641-752-5490 to submit your idea. We will announce the winning name in the Fall edition of the Seasons Newsletter and on Facebook. The winning participant will receive a free 1-day rental of the shelter. We look forward to seeing all your great naming ideas.

We want to thank the Emergency Food Bank and Garry Fulton for thinking of us with this project and giving this shelter a new life! We always love a good "reuse" story! We'd also like to thank Aaron's Handman, Ferneau & Sons House Moving & Raising, LLC, Marshalltown Police Department, and Marshall County Sheriff's Department for making the move successful.

At Marshall County Conservation, we are always looking for ways to get people outside, and this project just gave you all one more place to spend your day in nature!





Summer Camp Sessions Still Open

Crickets

June 20 - 22 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

GrimesFarm and Conservation Center
Ages 4 to out of kindergarten
& accompanying adult

Let's play! Crickets camp is all about nature play and will have kiddos and adults having hands-on outdoor fun!

Fee: \$20

Registration Deadline: June 2



Praying Mantis (Uncle Ike's)

July 18 - 19 3:00 p.m. - 9:00 a.m.
(overnight)

Izaak Walton League

Out of 5th and 6th Grade

Ready for a campout? Come learn how to cook over the fire and pitch a tent, all while learning the basics of survival.

Fee: \$45

Registration Deadline: June 30



SCAN ME

How to Register:

Register online by following this link: <https://bit.ly/3zOSFuo> or taking a picture of this QR Code with your smartphone. Once registered, send payment to Marshall County Conservation at 2349 233rd Street, Marshalltown, IA 50158, or call or stop at the center to pay via credit card.

2023 Annual Friends Members Meeting

Thursday, June 22 6:00 p.m.

The Friends of Marshall County Conservation will host their annual Friends Member Meeting on June 22 at 6:00 p.m. at the Grimes Farm and Conservation Center. The event will begin with a free meal of loose meat sandwiches, sides, desserts, and beverages. There will be a short presentation on current MCCC projects, and election of new board members and officers.

If you are a paying member, would like to become a member, or would like to serve on the board of directors, we would love for you to attend the meeting. We ask that you RSVP by June 16 to rsvp@friendsofmarshallcountyconservation.org, calling 641-752-5490, or register using the below QR Code.



FRIENDS OF
MARSHALL COUNTY
CONSERVATION



Live & Local Concerts

Free Live Music & Local Food Trucks

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Leonard Grimes
Memorial Amphitheater

New
Time!

June 15

Bob Dorr & Friends

Food Trucks

Clare's Tenderloins

Comal Kaxi

Ma Brown's Cookies



July 20

Royce Johns

Food Trucks

Magoo's Pizza

Taco La Cruz

Starry Groves

Sweet Treat



August 10

Flash in a Pan

Food Trucks

Tacos La Cruz

Pitchfork

Scratch Cupcakery



September 14

The Dueling
Fiddles + Band

Food Trucks

Comal Kaxi

Clare's Tenderloin

Lillie Mae Chocolates



Meet Our Summer Staff

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

We want to welcome back Julie Stahl, Bill Carey, and Hunter Hughlette to our summer field staff and welcome Wyatt Benson and Danielle Shadlow!

Julie Stahl

Hello, my name is Julie Stahl. This will be my 4th year working as a summer seasonal for the Marshall County Conservation. I truly love my summer job and working with the great staff here at the conservation. I have learned so many new things these past few years while working here. I got to experience banding geese last year for the first time. I enjoy fishing, camping, traveling and spending time with my daughter. I hope to see you out and about this summer in our parks.



Hunter Hughlette

My name is Hunter Hughlette. I grew up in Marshall County and graduated from East Marshall in 2022. I am currently attending Hawkeye Community College where I am majoring in Natural Resource Management. I enjoy being in the outdoors whether it's hunting, fishing, hiking, kayaking, camping, boating, target shooting, or just enjoying nature. This is my second year at MCCB and I'm glad to be back!



Bill Carey

My name is Bill Carey, and I am back for my second summer as the Naturalist Intern. 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 seasonal Naturalist at Des Moines Y Camp and YMCA Camp Wapsie, and I'm excited to work for MCCB again this summer to learn more on the job skills!



Wyatt Benson

My name is Wyatt Benson I live in Montour, Iowa and I am graduating from East Marshall high school. Next fall, I will be moving to Montana to study wildlife biology at the University of Montana. I have been involved with the outdoors my whole life and I intend to help Marshall County with its conservation efforts.



Danielle Shadlow

I am a 6-8 Grade Science Teacher at BCLUW. I am the ACES (TAG) advisor for Lego League. Students in Lego League, program robots to complete tasks at a competition. I coach JH girls basketball, and JH girls track. I also teach Summer School for students. Within the classroom, we have 2 red-eared slider turtles named Neil and Albert. The students help take care of them and their tanks. We have an aquaponics system the students love to use to grow new flowers and vegetables. They take care of the fish within that system as well. We have a portable greenhouse that was a product of being a Project Classroom winner recipient. My science classroom is a place of discovery and action.

I am a mother of 3. I have a 15 year old daughter, 13 year old son, and a 2 year old daughter. The older ones keep us busy with track and volleyball for our girl. Our son is in football, basketball, and track. Our busy schedule keeps us all on our toes.



Wanted Retired Farm Equipment

Marshall County Conservation is looking for the following donated item:

- 8 to 12 Foot Disc
- Three-Point Sprayer with Foldable Booms

Timmons Grove South/Campground Closure

This summer, we will be construct a new shower house and bathroom at Timmons Grove South. We wanted to make you aware that throughout the construction process, there may be some closures to the campground area, playground, shelter, and road to the boat ramp. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and if you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.



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 held during the summer season at the Leonard Grimes Amphitheater. In case of inclement weather the program will be held inside the center. 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 and guests include:



June 1 - Opossum - Jarret Heil, Marshall County Supervisor

June 15 - Nature Photography - Amy Snyder, Nature Photographer

July 6 - Nature Art - Hallie Crouse, Art Teacher at East Marshall Community Schools

July 20 - Nature's Builders - Paul Geilenfeldt, Marshall County Engineer

August 3 - Water - Haverhill Fire Department

August 17 - Monarchs - Denny Bruck, Entomologist

Live and Local - Bob Dorr & Friends

June 15, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

**Leonard Grimes Memorial Amphitheater
at the Grimes Farm and Conservation Center**

Join Bob Dorr with his unmistakable lead vocals and Jeff Petersen on his 1968 Gibson Flying V guitar, lap steel guitar, and 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: Clare's Tenderloins
Comal Kaxi
Ma Brown's Cookies**



FREE FISHING DAYS

JUNE 2, 3, & 4

The Iowa DNR is once again offering a free fishing weekend for Iowa residents June 2 - 4. No fishing license is required, but all size and catch limits apply.



Brown Bag

June - Nuts for Trees

Monday, June 19 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Grimes Farm and Conservation Center

Registration Fee: FREE

Deadline: June 14 by 4:00 p.m.

Join Trees Forever Director of Community Programs Jeff Jensen to learn about the trees of Iowa, including nut trees. He will also share some updates on the Iowa Hazelnut Project, agroforestry work going on in the state, and educational opportunities for folks to learn more about Iowa's native landscapes. Jeff lives in Northern Kossuth County, where he manages a field staff of seven in Iowa and Illinois, delivering programming across both states. Jeff is a bit nutty, growing hazelnuts and serving in a leadership role with the Iowa Nut Growers Association. Don't miss your chance to learn why Jeff believes "the future of Iowa is nuts!" **There is no fee for this program, however, pre-registration is required by June 14 before 4:00 p.m. Register by calling 641-752-5490, emailing mccb@marshallcountvia.gov, or texting only 641-758-9777.**

July - Identifying Iowa's Birds

Monday, July 17 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Grimes Farm and Conservation Center

Registration Fee: FREE

Deadline: July 14 by 4:00 p.m.

Who knew there were so many bird species right here in central Iowa? From the eastern meadowlark in our prairies, the white-breasted nuthatch in our forests, and the mallard in our waterways, Iowa is full of interesting and beautiful birds. Join Naturalist Intern Bill Carey for a bird hike on the trails at Grimes Farm, and learn about some of the tools available to help you identify any bird you might not recognize. Be sure to wear shoes that are comfortable for walking, and you may bring your own binoculars, but some will be provided by the nature center.



There is no fee for this program, however, pre-registration is required by July 14 before 4:00 p.m. Register by calling 641-752-5490, emailing mccb@marshallcountvia.gov, or texting only 641-758-9777.

August - Monarch Migration in Iowa

Thursday, August 17 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Grimes Farm and Convention Center

Registration Fee: Free

Deadline: August 11 by 4:00 p.m.

Join entomologist Denny Bruck as he talks about the monarchs of Iowa. He will discuss monarch biology, migration patterns, and overwintering habitat. He will also discuss the importance of protecting monarch populations and how to improve monarch habitat in Iowa. **There is no fee for this program, however, pre-registration is required by August 11 before 4:00 p.m. Register by calling 641-752-5490, emailing mccb@marshallcountvia.gov, or texting only 641-758-9777**



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 21 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Sand Lake - 2901 Main St. Rd.
Deadline: June 9 Fee: FREE



Wednesday, July 26 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Green Castle Rec. Area - 2891 Green Castle Rd., Gilman
Deadline: July 14 Fee: FREE

Wednesday, August 23 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Sand Lake - 2901 Main St. Rd.
Deadline: August 18 Fee: FREE

Live and Local - Royce Johns **July 20 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm** **Leonard Grimes Memorial Amphitheater** **at the GrimesFarm and Conservation Center**

Join us for a night of traditional country music with Royce Johns. Royce is a husband, father, guitar picker, and singer/songwriter. He has been pickin' and grinning' for the last decade and has been fortunate to work with some talented singers, songwriters, and musicians. He has played with Sammy Kershaw, Sawyer Brown, Trick Pony, and many others.

Food Trucks - Magoo's Pizza,
Taco La Cruz, Starry Groves
Sweet Treat

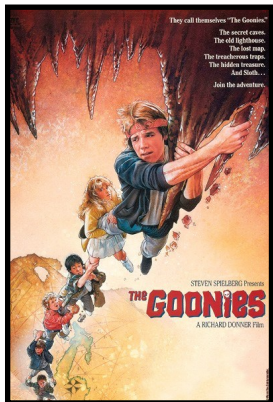


Goonies in the Park

Thursday, July 27 Start at Dusk (approx. 8:45 p.m.)
Leonard Grimes Memorial Amphitheater at Grimes Farms
Registration Fee: FREE!

Grab a blanket, and some snacks, and joins us for a free showing of The Goonies! We will provide free popcorn.

A group of kids who live in the "Goon Docks" neighborhood of Astoria, Oregon, attempt to save their homes from foreclosure and, in doing so, they discover an old treasure map that takes them on an adventure to unearth the long-lost fortune of One-Eyed Willy, a legendary 17th-century pirate. During the adventure, they are chased by a family of criminals who want the treasure for themselves.



Live and Local - Flash in a Pan **August 10 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm** **Leonard Grimes Memorial Amphitheater** **at the GrimesFarm and Conservation Center**

Flash in a Pan is a folk and grass string band from Iowa City, IA. Founded in 2012, the band was named on the assumption



that they would play two shows and dissolve. After many line-up changes, the band is still playing with no end in sight. Flash in a Pan brings a fun mix of folk music of many shades. Noted for their shining harmonies, provocative compositions, and heart felt performances, Flash in a Pan dishes out a sound that is all at once familiar and refreshingly different.

Food Trucks - Tacos La Cruz,
Pitchfork, Scratch Cupcakery

Nocturnal Scavenger Hunt

Thursday, August 17 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 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.**



Brown Bag: Behind the Scenes of Beekeeping

Tuesday, September 5 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
GrimesFarm and Conservation Center
Registration Fee: FREE
Deadline: August 30 by 4:00 p.m.
Fee: FREE



Join Jim and Penny Dolezal as they discuss the behind-the-scenes of beekeeping. They own and run their own business Busy Bee Acres in Tama County. They will be discussing how they got started and what is needed to start beekeeping. Also, the different breeds of bees and what is in the hives you see in the field. **There is no fee for this program, however pre-registration is required by August 30 before 4:00 p.m. Register by calling at 641-752-5490, emailing mccb@marshallcountvia.gov, or text only 641-758-9777.**

Summer Birds in Iowa

By Bill Carey,
Summer Naturalist Intern

I never used to pay much attention to birds. Sure, I knew the difference between a cardinal and a crow, and I've always liked owls, but I never had any idea just how many interesting and unique species of birds there are, let alone how many of them call Iowa home.



Until recently, that is, when one of my college courses consisted largely of birdwatching in various places around central Iowa. Some of my favorite new

birds I learned about were migratory, only sticking around for a small part of the semester. Dark-eyed juncos flew back north at the end of winter, and common loons (a bird I NEVER thought I'd see in central Iowa) were only around for a few weeks mid-spring on their way back to Minnesota. The course ended before any of Iowa's summer migratory species arrived, so we never got a chance to see them in class.

But now, summer is here, and those birds will be back in Iowa soon. There's the indigo bunting, a vibrant blue bird that migrates at night, using the stars to navigate from Central America to Iowa, where it will nest



along roadways throughout much of our open landscape. Red-eyed vireos will migrate from the Amazon Rainforest to Iowa's woodland areas, where each male will sing over 30 different songs that are unique from other birds of his species. Baltimore orioles, easy to spot with their black and bright orange coloring, are already arriving in Iowa, and will be here until mid-to-late summer. Look for their nests in woodland and suburban areas, which look sort of like bags hanging down from tree branches.

There are a lot more birds out there than just cardinals and crows. Iowa is home to over 430 species of birds throughout the year. Will I ever know every species, much less see every one of them? Maybe, maybe not. But do I keep a pair of binoculars in my car, and am I ready at any time to see something new? Absolutely.



STAR GAZING WITH THE CENTRAL IOWA ASTRONOMERS

Solar Picnic

Saturday, June 9 Noon
North Bay Shelter, Green
Castle Recreation Area
2891 Green Castle Rd,
Gilman



This will be a potluck picnic. Theresa Theis will be doing a presentation on "What Can Energy Tell Us About Our Universe?" Scientists use a great many tools to explore the Universe. One source of information traveling all around us is energy, and the Electromagnetic Spectrum is how we can translate that energy into data about our sun, the solar system, and so much more. We will discuss the energy of the universe and how scientists read and use it. What instruments do they use to collect the data and the application of all that information? For more information, contact Jim Bonser at (641)751-8744.

Binocular Viewing

Friday, July 14 Dusk Approximately 8:30 p.m.
Observatory, Green Castle Recreation Area

Bring your binoculars, and we will see what we can find in the night sky just using binoculars. Everyone is welcome – we have extra binoculars you can borrow if you don't have your own. For more information, contact Jim Bonser at (641) 751-8744.

Planets and Meteor Shower

Friday, August 11 Dusk Approximately 8:20 p.m.
Observatory, Green Castle Recreation Area

We will be observing planets that are up during the evening and watching for meteor showers. The Perseid Meteor Shower will be happening at this time. Let's see how many we can see in the night sky. For more information, contact Jim Bonser at (641)751-8744.

Exoplanets

Friday, September 8 Dusk Approximately 7:25 p.m.
Observatory, Green Castle Recreation Area

Theresa Theis will be presenting a program on Exoplanets - We are looking to the heavens in search of solar systems and planets. How is this search going? Citizen Scientists all over the world are sifting through information collected by numerous space agencies to identify planets that circle other stars in the universe. It is an exciting time in astronomy as our instruments become better and more precise. Where there are planets we could find life. What could that life look like? Join us at Green Castle observatory to explore what exoplanets are and how we are finding them. For more information, contact Jim Bonser at (641)751-8744.

PEOPLE IN THE PARK

2023 Good vs. Evil Edition

People in the Park will return this July to Marshall County Parks. The year of 2023 will be known as Lego® Good vs. Evil Edition. Starting July 1st and every day in the month of July, Marshall County Conservation will be posting a picture of a LEGO® minifigures in one of our county parks. Head out to the park, find the LEGO® Good vs. Evil minifigures 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® Good vs. Evil 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® minifigures 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 21, 2023

Ready for a scary good time!?! The zombies will return to the Grimes Farm and Conservation Center on October 21. 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
2349 - 233rd Street
Marshalltown, IA 50158
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Donations: Marshalltown Garden Club, Gary and Bobbi Brandenburg, Linda York, Amy Gage, Paul Maytag, Friends of the Eldora Public Library, Mark Sloopy, Swift Greenhouses

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Tree Planting at Three Bridges: Bob Backes, Duane Perry, Roger Heatwole, Barry Gaarder, Garry Fulton

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Brochure: Leslie Rebelo

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@marshallcountyia.gov and information will be sent on how to register for the electronic version.

MARSHALL COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

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

mccb@marshallcountyia.gov
www.marshallcountyia.gov

www.mycountyparks.com/County/Marshall.aspx
www.facebook.com/MarshallCountyConservationBoard

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

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