



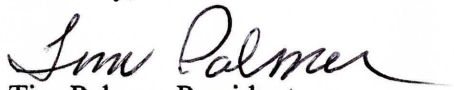
July 9, 2010
3314 Wildrose Ave
Truro, Iowa 50257

Maureen McLaughlin
18597 Iowa City Road
Sperry, Iowa 52650

Dear Maureen,

Thank you so much for yours and the Des Moines SWCD efforts in helping put together a very enjoyable and informative SSCC Summer tour. I heard nothing but compliments. Also, thank you for sending a copy of your CD.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tim Palmer". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Tim Palmer, President
Conservation Districts of Iowa

DC Soil & Water

I want to thank you for the scholarship that I received from you. I will put it to good use in the next 4 years. I am enrolled in the Ag program at SCC for next year and plan to stay there for 2 years and then transfer to Western Illinois to get my degree in Agricultural Business.

This scholarship will help me very much to pay for my college and I really appreciate that you picked me for that honor.

Thank You;

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steve Simpson", written in a cursive style.

3-19-10

Maureen,

Thank you for selecting me for the Des Moines County Soil + Water Conservation District Scholarship. I have enclosed my senior picture for your Annual Report.

Thanks Again!

Jessica Canning

Scholarship available for high school seniors

Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District is offering a scholarship to a high school senior who will pursue an education in any field of agriculture or natural resources.

Application packets are available at high school guidance counselor offices or call the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District at (319) 753-6221.

SWCD offers scholarship

Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District is offering a scholarship to a local high school senior who will pursue a college education in any field of agriculture or natural resources.

Application packets are available at high school guidance counselor offices or call the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District at 753-6221.

MEDIAPOLIS TEACHER CHOSEN TEACHER OF THE YEAR

The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District has chosen Mediapolis School teacher Mrs. Nancy Carter as the local winner in Division 1 of the 2007 Iowa Soil Conservation Awards Program.

The purpose of the award is to recognize public or parochial school teachers who are performing outstanding service in creating public awareness of the need to safeguard our heritage of natural and human resources. Division 1 consists of teachers in grades K through 6.

The SWCD chose Mrs. Carter as their local winner because of her dedication to the environment – both through teaching by striving to gain additional knowledge of conservation topics and personally by researching conservation methods for the family farm. Mrs. Carter gets her students excited about conservation through various

projects ranging from helping a third world country with water purification to participating in a variety of competitions.

Mrs. Carter's application was forwarded for state judging. Judging at the state and local level consists of the effectiveness of the teacher to create a favorable climate for conservation education in the classroom, organize conservation field trips that are meaningful to students, create an awareness of conservation and environmental problems at the local, state and national levels, and motivate students to promote conservation of natural and human resources.

The SWCD was recently informed that the state teacher winner was selected from Clayton County.

For more information about the awards program, please contact the SWCD at 319-753-6221.

Conservation district selling plants, bulbs

The Hawk Eye

Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District is selling landscaping plants, bulbs and flower kits this spring.

Proceeds will go toward the district's scholarship and educational programs.

There are 18 annual and perennial plants and bulbs to choose from including lilies, blazing stars, everbearing strawberries, buttercups and orchids. Each package of bulbs costs \$5.

Every plant and bulb is guaranteed to bloom or it will be replaced for free.

To place an order, contact your local commissioner or stop in the SWCD office at 3625 Flint Ridge Drive. Money is due when the order is placed.

For more information, call Jamie at (319) 753-6221.

Strawhacker Recieves Conservation Award



Jack Strawhacker, winner of the 2007 District 9 Soil and Water Conservation Competition, received his award in Fairfield last September. (L-R) Strawhacker; Jim Flinspach, Jefferson County Farm Bureau Representative; and Jim Gevock, Director of Region 9.

By Betty Massner

In September of this year, Jack Strawhacker, of the Mediapolis area, was chosen as the local winner of the Iowa Soil and Water Conservation District's (SWCD) Iowa Soil Conservation Awards Program, which is co-sponsored by Conservation Districts of Iowa and the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation. There are nine regions in Iowa, and the Des Moines County SWCD is in a region with 12 other counties. Jack was also chosen as the regional winner, and was presented an award at the Region 9 Fall Commissioner Meeting in Fairfield.

Each of the 100 Iowa Soil and Water Conservation Districts can select local winners in three divisions: New Cooperator, Owner-Operator, and Tenant-Operator. The Des Moines County SWCD chose Strawhacker as the winner in the owner-operator division, for which the judging criteria for regional competition includes land adequately treated, conservation

practices accomplished, community service (including conservation activities, service on SWCD committees, and community activities), and general farm husbandry.

For the above, Strawhacker completed the following conservation practices: grassed waterways, a pond, water and sediment control basins, timber stand improvement, filter strips, shallow water areas, field windbreak, wetland developments, wetland restorations, field borders for quail habitat, and biomass switch grass planting.

Jack has also completed numerous other conservation projects:

By planting 250 acres of highly erodible fields to native grasses, Jack has saved 37,500 tons of soil from those fields, which is equal to 1 and 1/2 inches of topsoil over the last ten years.

Jack practices conservation tillage on all of his crop acres, even though they are considered non-highly erodible.

Jack has been interested in developing habitat for waterfowl.

Jack collaborated with neighboring landowners in 2002 to create a complex of wetlands through the Farmable Wetland Pilot Program. Several pools of varying depths were created, and native grasses were planted to buffer the pools totaling over 40 acres.

In 2006, on his farm adjacent to the Mississippi River, Jack added another 10.3-acre wetland restoration project. The restoration project went above and beyond what is required by the program. Jack planted a row of evergreen trees to protect the wetland from the gravel road and add winter cover for birds; he planted a native prairie mix rich in wildflowers and legumes which increased the food value of the seeding; and installed a water control structure that will help to keep water in the wetland during times of migration.

In May 2007, Jack planted 44 acres of switch grass to be used for biomass harvest. This was cost-shared through EQIP, which is a very new practice, but according to SWCD, Jack jumped at the chance to sign up. The fields were old hay fields, but Jack thought establishing switch grass would improve the wildlife habitat. The cost-share also provided an incentive to keep the land in grass rather than plant it to row crops to try and capitalize on recent price increases. Again according to SWCD, "Jack really took a leap of faith on this project. He worked hard to get the ground prepared and the seed no-tilled, all in a very short time frame of two and a half weeks."

Also in 2007, Jack constructed a 5-acre pond, adding to the value of his farm. All the drainage ways supplying the pond are protected by water and sediment control basins to trap silt before it enters the pond. The surrounding area is also seeded to grass to further protect the water quality. Jack also creates a sizable nesting island for waterfowl.

Strawhacker explained the importance of conservation was instilled in him at an early age. "I want to continue it. I really enjoy it," Jack said.

Nominations open for Wagner Land Stewardship Award

BURLINGTON – The Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District is requesting nominations for the Gary Wagner Land Stewardship Award.

in the areas of wetlands, woodlands, wildlife, prairies, conservation awareness/education, and farming practices, and shown commitment to conservation / environment through personal accomplishments, not professional work.

This award is presented to a Des Moines County landowner who has shown long term dedication and commitment to conservation and environment

For more information on the nomination process, contact the Soil and Water Conservation District office at 319-753-6221.

CRP's SAFE program available

DES MOINES COUNTY – The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) has been helping landowners preserve and conserve their land for over 20 years. Originally CRP was designed to reduce erosion on the farm by taking highly erodible land out of crop production and returning it to native grasses.

In the mid 90's research showed that CRP not only significantly reduced erosion but also provided excellent habitat for the wildlife that lived around the established CRP. Over the years new conservation practices were added to CRP, allowing landowners to create different habitat for wildlife while still controlling erosion.

Currently State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE) is the newest program added to

CRP. The primary purpose of SAFE is to create habitat for the surrounding and migrating wildlife where it will be most beneficial. SAFE is specifically designed to increase populations of ring-necked pheasants, dickcissel, bobolink, and the eastern meadowlark where their preferred habitat has been eliminated.

Eligible producers can sign up for SAFE at the Des Moines County USDA Service Center. The sign up is limited to 19,200 acres.

To be eligible for SAFE the land must have been considered cropped 4 out of 6 years starting from 1996-2001. The landowner can then put whole fields into the SAFE program. There are no maximum amount acres that can be put into SAFE, but a mini-

mum of 10 acres has to be enrolled.

After the eligibility is determined, the land being enrolled into SAFE will be turned into a wildlife area either by restoring it to native plants or to a wetland. Like other CRP practices there is cost share available for the landowner to change the SAFE sight to suitable wildlife habitat.

If you miss the morning melody of a meadowlark, the crow of a pheasant, the bubbling song of a bobolink or darting flight of dickcissel, SAFE is the way to get these birds and other wildlife back on your land. If you are interested in the SAFE program or have any questions pertaining to SAFE, contact the Des Moines County FSA or NRCS.

Thursday, November 13, 2008

Potential Cost Share available for installing conservation practices

DES MOINES COUNTY – Erosion is a constant problem we'll have to fight if tillage continues on the landscape each year. During particularly wet years such as this one, erosion sky rockets out of control. If erosion goes unchecked, we will be left with a barren horizon where only the hardiest plants can grow.

The most problematic type of erosion we have to deal with in Des Moines County is running water transporting soil particles downhill where they are deposited and over time can make it to nearby rivers and lakes.

It is the local Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) job to work with local

landowners to prevent erosion. Each NRCS office offers a variety of conservation practices that assist landowners to control erosion.

In Des Moines County, there are State and Federal cost share funds available for the construction of grassed waterways, terraces and basins. If positioned properly these structures greatly reduce the flow of runoff water which in turn slows the rate of erosion.

When out harvesting your crops during the following weeks, if you notice a problem area where erosion has begun, please contact the NRCS office at 319-753-6221. We will gladly come check it out and offer further assistance.

Special signup for USDA Floodplain Easement Program offered through October 1

DES MOINES – USDA is offering an Emergency Watershed Protection—Floodplain Easement Program (EWP-FPE) signup through Oct. 1, according to Rich Sims, state conservationist for the US Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Iowa. EWP-FPE provides farmers with frequently-flooded, river bottom farmland an opportunity to retire that land from production, while creating wildlife benefits and helping to reduce downstream flooding.

Producers should visit their local USDA service center to apply. Local NRCS offices will prioritize all EWP-FPE applications in preparation for the state receiving national funds sometime after the Oct. 1 deadline. Producers who have applied prior to this signup will not need to reapply, Sims said.

Through EWP-FPE, federal funds are available to purchase permanent easements and pay for restoration of wetlands. Riverine floodplains, damaged by flooding within the past year or at least two times during the last 10 years, are eligible for the program. Crop history is not a consideration for eligibility, but cropland fields do receive a higher score during the ranking

process. Upland may be included in the easement area, but can't exceed 50 percent of the total enrollment area.

Once an application is accepted for a potential contact, NRCS will extend the landowner an easement compensation offer. This is a set amount and is non-negotiable. NRCS provides landowners several weeks to consider the offer. Once the landowner accepts the offer, it may take up to a year for NRCS to record the easement and make the land value payment.

Landowners retain several

property rights after the land is placed under easement. These include control access and undeveloped recreational uses like hunting. The landowner must pay all property and other assessed taxes. NRCS acquires the authority to limit or restrict all other land uses.

Restoration work under EWP-FPE includes seeding native plant communities, plugging drainage ditches, breaking tile lines, breaking diversions and breaching flood control levees.

For more information on EWP-FPE please contact the NRCS office at 319-753-6221.

Nominations open for Wagner Land Stewardship Award

The Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District is requesting nominations for the Gary Wagner Land Stewardship Award.

This award is presented to a Des Moines County landowner who has shown longterm dedication and commitment to conservation and environment in the areas of wetlands, woodlands, wildlife, prairies, conservation awareness/education, and farming practices, and shown commitment to conservation/environment through personal accomplishments, not professional work.

For more information on the nomination process, contact the Soil and Water Conservation District office at 319-753-6221.

Soil survey CD available to DMC landowners

The Hawk Eye

There is a Soil survey CD available at the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District office.

This software can be useful to look at the land in Des

Moines County from a bird's eye view. You can then zoom in to see adjusted property lines and to see what types of soil are in Des Moines County or in your fields. This can be important when appraising the value of land in Des Moines County

and calculating corn suitability rating.

Employees at the Soil and Water Conservation District office use similar software to print out maps of their customers' land and to assist them in determining the soil rental

rate for CRP.

These CD's are just another resource the office offers. To get a CD, stop by the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District office or call (319) 753-6221 for more information.

The HawkEye 11/15/08

In Memoriam

As the night follows day, there is a time of passing for each of us. During 2007, that time came for many who shared our love for stewardship of the land. Each in their own way gave us something of themselves. Each in their own way enriched our lives and our land. Our ranks are diminished by their passing, but their accomplishments as stewards will abide with us forever.

W. Robb Morrow
Daniel Fangman
Allen Ott
Don Steffen
Keith Mohning
David Mallinger
Dwight Stucker
Rex Trout
Dale Koehler
Kenneth Ross,
Richard Groves
Robert Penning
Everett Still
Wilbur Crandon
Ward Handorf
Charles Fenner
Douglas Mikel
Lorraine Rock
John E Sellers
Roger H Peterson

Benton SWCD
Buchanan SWCD
Clay SWCD
Clay SWCD
Clayton SWCD
Clinton SWCD
Des Moines SWCD }
Des Moines SWCD }
Floyd SWCD
Floyd SWCD
Hamilton SWCD
Hancock SWCD
Ida SWCD
Marshall SWCD
Marshall SWCD
Poweshiek SWCD
Poweshiek SWCD
Scott SWCD
Wayne SWCD
Webster SWCD



AWARDS (continued)

Conservation Farmers of the Year

Winner: Brink Farms Inc., Elkader

Brink Farms Inc. is a family-run operation that includes three brothers, Jim, George, and Jerry and their families. Their father, Joe Brink, signed on as a Clayton SWCD District Cooperator in 1958 with 80 acres and now the sons have increased the operation to 587 acres of owned/operated land plus 350 acres of other rented land. The Brinks are firm believers in the no-till system and plant all of their corn and beans this way. They are widely known for their breeding livestock (both swine and cattle) and have earned an outstanding reputation. The buildings and farm fields are kept in excellent condition and reflect their pride and farming success.

Woodland Owner of the Year

Presenter: Paul Tauke, Forestry Bureau Chief, Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Winner: F. Gaylord Jones, Woolstock

Gaylord Jones began working his woodland plan of 25 acres in 1981 and currently has about 350 acres in woodland in the Wright SWCD. He has revised, improved, and expanded on his plan eight times. All livestock are fenced out. Interior roadways are constructed for maintenance and fire prevention and suppression. He retired to work on his tree farm and enjoy his grandchildren. Over the years he planted 60,000 seedlings on 22 different sites covering 140 acres. He purchased steep and erodible land to increase his tree acreage. In 2008, he will be harvesting and marketing trees on the first of 129 acres yielding 253 MBF. Managing the woodland is Gaylord's form of recreation. He thoroughly enjoys and shares his woodland. Hunting, berry and mushroom picking, firewood cutting, and bird watching are encouraged for anyone who ventures on his property.

IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE WINDBREAK AWARDS

Presenter: Marion Striegel, President, Iowa Chapter, Izaak Walton League

Farmstead Windbreak

Winner: Reese and Rose Johnson, Odebolt

Over the past 30 years, the Johnsons planted and nurtured a windbreak primarily for shelter of the cattle and protection of their farmstead in the Sac SWCD. Their 12-row windbreak consists mainly of spruce, ash, maple, oak, dogwood and lilac. Fabric mats were installed around all the trees and shrubs planted in 2003. Herbicide is sprayed as needed outside of the mats. Weeds are controlled in the older section by mowing. During dry spells, a water wagon is used. The family dog keeps the deer away for the most part, but damaged trees are replaced promptly.

Newly Established Farmstead Windbreak

Winner: Don and Janice Starman, Arcadia

The Starmans planted a windbreak to protect their new home and existing cow/calf pastures in the Carroll SWCD from winter winds and snow. The windbreak consists of nine rows of evergreens, deciduous, and shrubbery. Mowing and mulching around the trees is the chief method of weed control. Livestock are excluded by a permanent fence. A few trees and shrubs have been lost and quickly replaced.

Field Shelter Belt Windbreak

Winner: Brad and Patricia Manuel, Olin

The Manuels planted their windbreak for protection and wildlife habitat on their property in the Jones SWCD. It is entirely made up of hardwoods and evergreens. About 90% of the weed control is accomplished by mowing and the remainder by non-selective herbicides. Pruning and other maintenance is performed as needed.

The CDI and SSCC wish to thank the following individuals for helping to judge the awards:

Duane Sand-SSCC, Darrell Weems-Iowa Farm Bureau Federation, Deb Ryun-CDI, Laura Greiner-NRCS, Sorrel Brown-ISU Extension, Cathie Graves-DSC, and David Strom-DSC

CRP's Quail Buffer Strips are still available

During 2005, the Quail Buffer Strip practice (CP33) was added to the list of options under the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). At that time there was a large amount of acres available to be put into the program. That number has been whittled down to just 1,739 acres of Quail Buffer Strips that are not under contract for the state of Iowa. These acres are first come first served and will be used quickly.

The purpose behind the Quail Buffer program is to plant a 30-120 foot buffer of native plants around a crop field that is not heavily disturbed, creating safe nesting habitat for upland birds.

Besides providing safe nesting habitat, the plants in the CP33 mix generate many different seeds that are consumed by birds throughout the fall and winter when food is scarce. During the spring and summer the plants in the mix attract a wide variety of insects, which are a high source of protein for birds during the breeding and brood rearing season.

To be eligible for a Quail Buffer Strip, the crop field that the CP33 will go on has to have been planted with primary crops (corn or soybeans) 4 out of 6 years between 1996 and 2001. The rental rate is then figured by averaging the rental rates of the three dominant soil types. In addition to the annual payment there is a one time signing incentive of a hundred dollars for every acre being put into the program.

Not only does the Quail buffer create habitat, they help control erosion and improve water quality as well as adding character to the land with the wide variety of plants and animals it brings to the land. Seeing plants and animals thrive in their native environments is something we all need to strive for. It is up to us to protect these resources, so that future generations have the same opportunities as we do now.

If Quail Buffer Strips sounds like something you would be interested in or if you would like more information about the program, please contact the Des Moines County NRCS office at 319-753-6221 for further assistance.

EQIP Federal Cost-Share Available

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is accepting applications from Des Moines County landowners who want to apply for cost-share funds from the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) for 2009 summer and fall conservation work.

Heavy rains throughout the growing season of 2008 may have caused areas of erosion in crop fields.

EQIP is a federal cost share program for installing conservation practices on privately owned farm ground. EQIP is available for the installation of soil erosion conservation structures as well as other practices that relate to livestock and plant and water quality.

To sign-up, please stop in the NRCS office. If you have any questions, contact NRCS at 319-753-6221.

REAP Cost Share available

DES MOINES COUNTY - Timbers are important resources that are often over looked in Des Moines County. You may have done some timber management on your land in the past but there is always more that can be done to improve the wildlife and economic value of your timber.

Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) are state funds that are allocated to Soil and Water Conservation Districts throughout the state of Iowa. Through the REAP program, there is 75% cost share available to help landowners do tree plantings, timber stand improvements, windbreaks and

native grass plantings.

With help from your District Forester and cost share from REAP, there are a lot of different options that can get you started on improving your timber. It is up to you to get the ball rolling and to use all the resources available to enhance one of America's greatest resources.

If you need assistance on timber management or are interested in REAP, contact the District Forester Lisa Hoffman at 319-523-2213 or the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District Office at 319-753-6221.

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If you miss the morning melody of a meadowlark, the crow of a pheasant, the bubbling song of a bobolink or darting flight of dickcissel, SAFE is the way to get these birds and other wildlife back on your land. If you are interested in the SAFE program or have any questions pertaining to SAFE, contact the Des Moines County FSA or NRCS.

Soil Survey and CSR CD's available

DES MOINES COUNTY – There is a Soil Survey CD available at the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District office. This software can be useful to look at the land in Des Moines County from a bird's eye view. You can then zoom in to see adjusted property lines and to see what types of soil are in Des Moines County in particular the types of soil that are in your fields. This can be important when appraising the value of land in Des Moines County and calculating corn suitability

rating (CSR).

Employees at the Soil and Water Conservation District office use similar software to print out maps of their customers' land and to assist them in determining the soil rental rate for CRP.

These CD's are just another resource the office offers. If you or someone you know needs one of these CD's, stop into the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District office or contact us at 319-753-6221 for more information.

\$6.5 million available from state bonding plan to repair conservation practices and support watershed projects

Northey says Iowans interested in applying should contact their local Soil and Water Conservation District Office. Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Bill Northey today announced that the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship has \$6.5 million available through the state bonding plan to support conservation efforts.

The Department has set \$3 million aside for repairing conservation practices that received damage from storm events and \$3.5 million for Soil and Water Conservation Districts to address water quality improvement and/or flood and erosion control in targeted watersheds.

"The legislature directed these funds to the Department to address conservation practice repair and watershed projects and we are excited to make the funds available and get projects on the ground that will help improve water quality, reduce erosion and potentially address flooding," Northey said.

Soil and Water Conservation Districts can apply for \$3.5 million in funding for watershed projects that address water quality improvement and/or flood and erosion control. Watershed improvement committees, public water supply utilities, county conservation boards, cities and counties are invited to work with their local district if interested in participating as a partner in applying for funds. The maximum cost share rate for practices will be 75 percent from all sources. The initial project application deadline is September 30, 2009.

"A survey we did following the flooding last year showed more than \$40 million in damages to conservation practices across the state, and unfortunately there are still projects that need to be repaired," Northey said. "I encourage farmers with practices that need repair to work with their local Soil and Water Conservation District office."

Individual farmers may apply for the \$3 million set aside for repairing conservation practices that received damage from storm events. Projects damaged during the 2008 flooding as well as other natural disasters are eligible to apply for up to 75% of the repair costs. All applications must be submitted to the local Soil and Water Conservation District office by December 31, 2009. Only repairs of conservation practices, not maintenance, are eligible for funding.

"Each year we have more demand for conservation funding than we have available and hopefully these funds will help address some of the backlog," Northey said.

Thursday, February 4, 2010

State Rep. Tom Sands meets with Des Moines SWCD Commissioners at State Capitol Conservation Event



The state's SWCD commissioners met with State Rep. Tom Sands and other legislators on Jan. 27 at the State Capitol during Iowa Conservation Partnership Day. Sands represents House District 87 (Louisa, Muscatine, Des Moines Counties). Picture are McLaughlin (left) with Sands.

Photo submitted

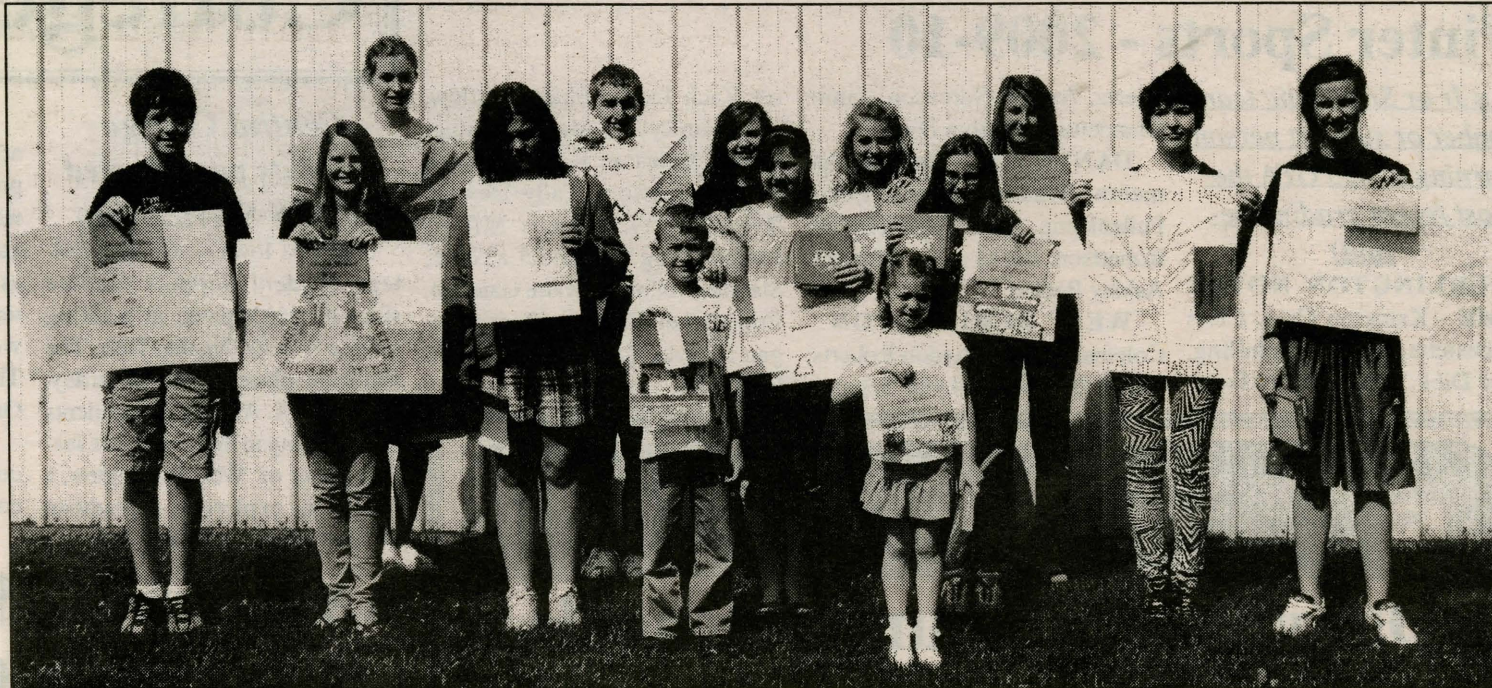
DES MOINES, IA – Commissioners from the Des Moines Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) shared their top resource concerns with Rep. Tom Sands and other legislators at the Iowa

Conservation Partnership Day at the State Capitol Jan. 27.

"Some of the issues discussed included repairing flood damaged areas in southeast Iowa and continued, and even increased, funding for conservation practices and projects," said Des Moines County SWCD Commissioner Maureen McLaughlin.

The Iowa Conservation Partnership Day is an annual event hosted by local Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Conservation Districts of Iowa, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship-Division of Soil Conservation, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Iowa Learning Farm, State Soil Conservation Committee and the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service. More information is available at www.cdiowa.org.

Danville Students earn Poster Contest honors



By Sherry Kaestner

Danville students in grades K-12 recently took part in a poster contest sponsored by the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District. This week Jamie Grimes and Maureen McLaughlin announced the winners and presented the students with a variety of awards, including Pizza Hut Gift Certificates and cash, ranging from \$15 to \$25.

Students who entered were asked to design a poster that reflected the theme "Conservation Habits = Healthy Habits".

Winners pictured include (back row, left to right) Brandy Lowary, Cody Ita, Madison Wolkenhauer, Alexandria Gabeline, Lindsay Schaffer, Brittany Hoelzen and Nora Meierotto; (middle row, left to right) Darren Wolbers, Deidra Stewart, Katy Roby, Meredith Gourley and Sierra Kelman; and (front row, left to right) Jordan Watznauer and Emma Rehman. Randall Williams also received an award, but was not present for the photo.

SWCD Scholarship being offered

DES MOINES COUNTY – The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is offering a scholarship to a local high school senior who will pursue a college education in any field of agriculture or natural resources.

Application packets are available at high school guidance

counselor offices or call the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District at 753-6221. Applications are due by March 3, 2010.

Students living outside of Des Moines County must submit their applications to the soil and water conservation district in which they reside.

Cost share available for windbreaks

The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District has cost share available for windbreaks through the Resource Enhancement and Protection Program (REAP).

Windbreaks consist of multiple rows of trees and shrubs established to protect structures from troublesome winds. Windbreaks also can increase aesthetic value, lessen noise, and provide wildlife habitat.

REAP is a cost share program for forestry practices on privately owned land used for agricultural production. Besides windbreaks, REAP can be used for timber stand improvement, tree planting, site preparation for natural regeneration, and riparian forest buffers.

Since 1989, the Resource Enhancement and Protection Program (REAP) has invested over \$34 million into soil and water enhancement activities throughout Iowa. Locally, the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District has received \$304,843.

Applications are accepted year round. Anyone interested in signing up for REAP or having questions, contact the Des Moines County SWCD at 319-753-6221.

SWCD selling rain barrels

The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District is taking orders for rain barrels and accessories, a tumbling composter, and a potting bench until July 2. Pickup will be scheduled for July 9.

A rain barrel allows you to recycle nature's most precious and most taken for granted resource. The water can be used for watering plants or gardens, cleaning windows, washing cars, cleaning tools, and more. As cities con-

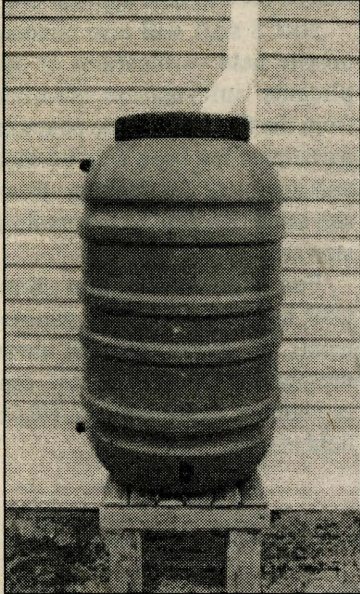
tinue to raise water rates, saving rainwater saves money and helps the environment!

Profits from the sales of these items go to high school scholarships, poster contests, conservation education, and promotion of natural resources in Des Moines County.

For pricing and more information stop by their office at 3625 Flint Ridge Drive, Burlington, or call Jamie at 319-753-6221.

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Rain Barrel Anyone?



Rain barrels like the one pictured above are available for order at the DMC Soil & Water Conservation District office at 3625 Flint Ridge Drive.

By Sherry Kaestner

The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District is offering rain barrels for sale to anyone who's interested in doing a small part to protect our natural resources and in turn enhance our lives.

How, you might ask, will a rain barrel do that? According to information from the group's chairman Maureen McLaughlin, there are several benefits to be gained. First, there's the obvious reduction in the amount of rainwater running down our streets and eventually into the City storm sewers. It's estimated that a rain barrel catching the run-off from the average home would gather 55 gallons of water.

Beyond eliminating the water run-off that taxes our City storm sewer systems, there are the possible uses for that water. What better way to water houseplants and gardens than with a drink from Mother Nature?

Each barrel includes two spigots, one from which to fill buckets and the other for use with a hose.

The barrels can be ordered at the DMC Soil and Water Conservation District office located at 3625 Flint Ridge Drive, next to Sports Worx and Horse 'n Hound. Payment of \$55 is required at the time they're ordered.

In an effort to enhance the group's conservation efforts it's worthy to note that the barrels themselves are recycled olive shipping containers. Along with the rain barrels, the group also offers several other items that may be of interest to area gardeners, such as a tumbling composter and potting bench.

Finally, years ago rainwater was considered the only water in which to wash and rinse your hair.

Des Moines County's group has accepted the "Million Gallon Challenge" issued by State Senator Rob Hogg and a group of citizens from Cedar Rapids. That challenge includes increasing the use of conservation measures by installing permeable pavement and rain gardens and planting native wildflowers or low-mow lawns. It's hoped that measures like these may help keep one million gallons of rainwater from eventually becoming floodwater in local watersheds.

Certainly, the past two years have provided us with a stark reminder of what can happen if water levels can't be controlled and flooding occurs.

Installing a rain barrel beneath your home's gutter system is a relatively simple measure in this effort. The 55-gallon barrels come in four colors – black, gray, terra cotta (reddish orange) and blue. They're also equipped with a fine mesh screen at the intake point to keep mosquitoes and debris out

Signup for new Conservation Stewardship Program set

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will begin continuous signup for the new Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), Aug. 10, with the first signup period cutoff scheduled for September 30. CSP is a voluntary program that encourages agricultural and forestry producers to maintain existing conservation activities and adopt additional ones on their operations.

The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (2008 Farm Bill) authorizes CSP. Congress renamed and revamped the former Conservation Security Program completely to improve its availability and appeal to agricultural and forestry producers. The new CSP is available to all producers nationwide. Eligible lands include cropland, grassland, prairie, improved pastureland, non-industrial private forestland—a new land use for the program—and agricultural land under the jurisdiction of an Indian tribe.

CSP is administered by the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Rich Sims, state conservationist for NRCS in Iowa, says CSP will help Iowa's agricultural producers reach greater levels of conservation performance. "Conservation performance levels derived from maintaining and enhancing natural resources will improve the quality of soil and water, assist in addressing global climate change, and encourage environmentally responsible energy production," said Sims.

Eligible applicants may include individual landowners, legal entities, and Indian tribes. Although CSP is continuous signup, agricultural and forestry producers must submit applications by Sept. 30 to be considered for funding in the first ranking period.

To apply for the newly revamped CSP, potential participants are encouraged to use a self-screening checklist first to determine whether the new program is suitable for them or their operation. The checklist is available online at www.nrcs.usda.gov/new_csp and at NRCS field offices. After self-screening, the producer's current and proposed conservation practices are entered in the conservation measurement tool (CMT). This tool estimates the level of environmental performance to be achieved by a producer implementing and maintaining conservation activity. The conservation performance estimated by the CMT will be used to rank applications.

Priority resource concerns are one of the criteria that will be used to rank applications. Iowa's priority resource concerns include soil quality, soil erosion, water quality and livestock. Iowa will establish a ranking pool to rank applications with similar resource concerns.

NRCS field staff will also conduct on-site field verifications of applicants' information obtained from the CMT. Once the potential participant has been field verified and approved for funding, he or she must develop a conservation stewardship plan.

For information about CSP, including eligibility requirements, producers can visit www.nrcs.usda.gov/new_csp or visit their local NRCS field office.

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Iowa farmers encouraged to sign up early for CSP 10-14-10

The USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is accepting new applications for the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP). The next cutoff date for CSP applications is Jan. 7, 2011.

CSP is a voluntary program that encourages agricultural and forestry producers to maintain existing conservation activities and adopt additional ones on their operations. Eligible lands include cropland, grassland, prairie, improved pastureland, non-industrial private forestland, and agricultural land under the jurisdiction of an Indian tribe.

Eligible applicants may include individual landowners, legal entities, and Indian tribes. Although CSP is a continuous signup program, agricultural and forestry producers must submit applications by Jan. 7, 2011, to be considered for the next round of funding.

Rich Sims, state conservationist for NRCS in Iowa, encourages interested farmers to apply early to be considered for funding. "We realize farmers are very busy right now, but if they can find time to visit their local NRCS office now to sign up for the program, much of the background application work can be completed later in the year," he said.

Potential participants can use a self-screening checklist first to determine whether the new program is suitable for them or their operation. The checklist is available online at www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/new_csp/csp.html and at NRCS field offices. After self-screening, the producer's current and proposed conservation practices are entered in the conservation measurement tool (CMT). This tool estimates the level of environmental performance to be achieved by a producer implementing and maintaining conservation activity. The conservation performance estimated by the CMT will be used to rank applications.

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SWCD Selling Rain Barrels, Composters and More

The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District is taking orders for rain barrels and accessories. Other items also available includes a 50 gallon tumbling composters, potting benches, a 5 gallon mini composter, bird houses and flower boxes. All items are made from recycled products.

Orders will be taken until April 8 with delivery scheduled shortly after that. A rain barrel allows you to recycle nature's most precious and most taken-for-granted resource. The water can be used for watering plants or gardens, cleaning windows, washing cars, cleaning tools, and more. As cities continue to raise water rates, saving rainwater saves money and helps the environment!

Profits from the sales of these items go to high school scholarships, poster contests, conservation education, and promotion of natural resources in Des Moines County.

For pricing and more information stop by their office at 3625 Flint Ridge Drive, Burlington, or call Jamie at 319-753-6221.

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Rain barrels are for sale through April 8

The Hawk Eye

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DNC News 3-10-11

SWCD selling rain barrels, composters and more

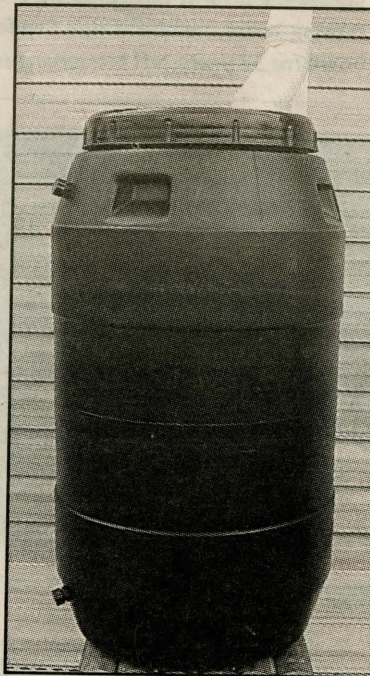
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For pricing and more information, Des Moines County Farm



A rain barrel can save money and help the environment.

Bureau members can stop by the office at 3625 Flint Ridge Drive, Burlington, or call Jamie at (319) 753-6221.

Farm Bureau 3-16-11

S-4-11

DES MOINES

Editor: Lala O'Hara • desmoines.county@ifbf.org • Box 421 • W. Burlington, IA 52655 • p. [319] 752-2729

Mediapolis participates at Envirothon

A team from Maquoketa used its expertise in wildlife and current issues to beat out Mediapolis and 13 other teams from around the state and win the 2011 Iowa Envirothon title at Springbrook State Park in Guthrie Center recently.

The Envirothon, co-sponsored by the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation, is a program for Iowa high school students who want to learn more about our planet's natural resources and current environmental challenges. Teams

are tested in five categories: wildlife, aquatic ecology, forestry, soils and current issues. The theme of this year's current issues oral competition was salt and freshwater estuary systems and the role of wetland creation and management.

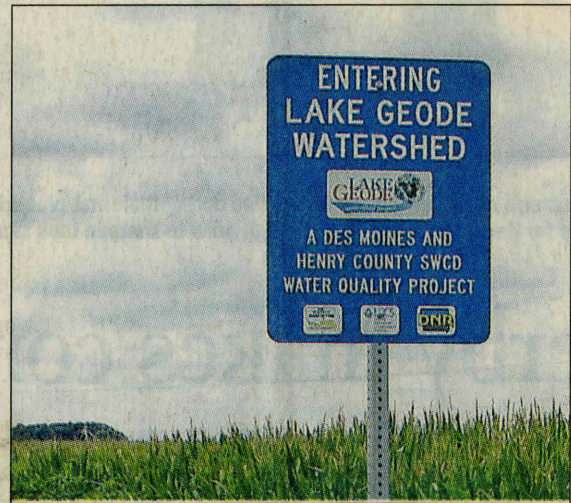
Members from the Mediapolis team include Blake Hubbard, Advisor Stacey Rector, Brody Reis, Caleb Nelson, Garrett Rupe and Kellie Kuenzler. The Iowa Envirothon is a program of the Conservation Districts of Iowa,

Iowa Farm Bureau Federation, Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation, Iowa Pork Producers Association, Iowa NRCS, Iowa Soybean Association, Iowa Department of Land Stewardship – Division of Soil Conservation, Iowa FFA Association, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Agren Inc., and many Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

For complete results from the 2011 Iowa Envirothon, visit <http://www.cdiowa.org/envirothon.html>.

7-11-10

Lake Geode project
making strides
to create pristine
waters to be proud of.



John Gaines/The Hawk Eye

Overflow runs down the spillway at Lake Geode, which is on the state's list of impaired waters due to high levels of E. coli bacteria and phosphorous. A watershed project is taking steps to bring pristine waters to Geode for swimming, fishing and boating.

POLISHING THE GEM

By NICHOLAS BERGIN
nbergin@thehawkeye.com

DANVILLE — Just as his father and grandfather before him, Herb Grinstead farms ground in rural Danville within the Lake Geode watershed. At 62, Grinstead believes he is more than just a farmer, he is the guardian and caretaker of his small corner of earth.

"It's important to be a good steward of the land," said Grinstead, whose family has a long history of supporting area land and water conservation efforts. "My granddad had some of the first terraces in the Geode watershed."

That's why he and many other area farmers are working with Lake Geode Watershed Project Coordinator Caleb Waters on a \$1.2 million, five-year plan to implement a variety of conservation practices within Geode State Park and the surrounding watershed, including planting grass buffer strips along waterways, creating terraces, implementing conservation tillage and contour cultivation.

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources has monitored Lake Geode, which frequently fails to meet national quality standards. Tests have shown high levels of *E. coli* bacteria, indicating the presence of animal and humane waste. Swimming advisories routinely are posted at the beach because of the *E. coli* levels.

Excessive phosphorous from fertilizers also reach the lake, which causes algae to grow rapidly, leading to elevated



John Gaines/The Hawk Eye

Excessive phosphorous from fertilizers in the water cause algae to form on the banks around Lake Geode near Danville.

pH levels that are harmful to aquatic life.

The test results have led to the lake being placed on the state's list of impaired waters.

It wasn't until 2000 that DNR began monitoring state beaches as part of its Ambient Water Monitoring Program.

"(Water quality) was per-

ceived as a new problem. But it (high bacteria and phosphorous) has probably been in the lake the whole time. I'm thinking water quality has probably improved over the years because farming practices have improved. So I would think water quality in the lake is better than it has been in

past decades. Of course there is no way to really prove that," park manager Ulf Konig said during a recent interview.

The watershed

The ultimate goal of the Lake Geode Watershed Project is simple enough: Fix the water quality within the park to provide a beautiful pristine lake for swimming, boating, fishing, hiking and viewing wildlife.

"Basically people want a safe place to swim and a good place to fish while they're camping and hiking," said Drew DeLang of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service. DeLang is Waters' day-to-day manager. Both men work out of the NRCS office in Burlington.

The actual details of making that happen are a little more complex.

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources wrote the Water Quality Improvement Plan for the Geode watershed, which serves as the conservation bible for those working to improve the lake. The plan is often referred to as a TMDL, which stands for Total Maximum Daily Load for pH and indicator bacteria.

"When we did that (watershed) assessment, we walked up every gully, every ditch, every creek in the watershed. When we did that we collected data with a GPS unit. This was done in the fall of 2007 and the spring of 2008. The data we collected, it told us where the worst areas are for

See Watershed page 7A

FROM THE FRONT



A 1950 view of Lake Geode

Contributed Photo



A 2009 view of Lake Geode

Contributed Photo

Watershed

Continued from page 1A

erosion," DeLang said. "We're going back now and focusing on those high gully erosion areas."

If the TMDL is the conservation bible for the watershed, then Waters is the head preacher.

Waters, who grew up on a farm southwest of New London, began work March 1 and is employed by the Des Moines and Henry counties' soil and water conservation districts. It's his job to coordinate efforts for all the partners involved in the project, including landowners, residents, the soil and water conservation districts, NRCS, DNR, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Henry and Des Moines county conservation boards and secondary roads departments and the Iowa Soybean Association and Geode Resource Conservation & Development.

Gem of southeast Iowa

"It's the gem of southeast Iowa," DeLang said of Geode. "It's a great park. We have a tendency to go to Illinois, Missouri and Wisconsin (for recreation), and we have a pretty good secret right out here. Go out and take a look. There are eight miles of trail, abundant wildlife. It's a neat place, and it's yours, it's ours, the taxpayers."

Without conservation practices in the watershed, the lake's lifespan would be reduced greatly, DeLang added.

"Even with the practices there is still siltation happening out there," he said.

Built in 1950s, Lake Geode originally included 187 acres up to 56 feet deep. But gradual sedimentation over the years has eaten away at the lake. It now measures 174 acres, and its deepest part is 44 feet deep, according to DNR figures.

"It's the gem of southeast Iowa. It's a great park. We have a tendency to go to Illinois, Missouri and Wisconsin, and we have a pretty good secret right out here. ... It's a neat place, and it's yours, it's ours, the taxpayers."

Drew DeLang,

Natural Resources Conservation Service

ing field runoff, erosion from within the park, livestock, a healthy population of Canada geese and other wildlife, Waters said.

The Geode watershed, land that drains into the lake, spans 10,327 acres, mostly in Des Moines County. That's a 59-to-1 watershed to lake ratio. About 170 land owners control more than 80 percent of the watershed, which extends north and east from the lake.

The land within the watershed consists of 63 percent row crops, 1.9 percent grazed lands, 8.4 percent farmsteads, roads and residences, 24.8 percent conservation areas and 1.7 percent water.

In-field assessments show an estimated sediment runoff load of about 9,200 tons a year and phosphorus runoff of about 14,235 pounds per year, some of which inevitably end up muddying the waters of Lake Geode. One of the goals of the watershed project is to reduce phosphorus and sedimentation runoff deposited in the lake to 45.8 percent.

Getting to that point means installing a variety of conservation practices on targeted private land that will reduce annual sediment delivery by about 1,624 tons and phosphorus by 2,511 pounds. To accomplish that reduction, Waters plans to work with landowners to construct this

year at least an acre of grass waterway, which officials already have done. They also intend to build 4,000 feet of terraces, 14 water and sediment control basins and at least one pond.

Within the park itself, the plan is to install water and sediment control basins, as well as grade control structures in gullies to reduce the amount of annual sedimentation by 2,596 tons and phosphorus by 4,011 pounds. To accomplish this, officials want to install at least eight grade stabilization structures, or ponds, within the park this year.

"A big part of this project is we're going to be working on DNR ground to control gully erosion, which we haven't really looked at in the past," DeLang said.

Planting grass along waterways helps prevent erosion in creek beds, while the installation of ponds, terraces and dry dams holds runoff briefly, allowing sediment to settle before the water continues on its way through the watershed.

The watershed project is funded through a variety of local, state and federal programs and recently was awarded \$470,000 through the DNR.

Funds are available to provide up to 75 percent cost share to install conservation

E. coli

The presence of *E. coli*, and the percentage each source contributes to the lake, varies. During heavy rains, manure application runoff is responsible. During dry periods, cattle in streams and geese at the beach receive the lion's share of the blame, according to the TMDL study.

Most of the water quality violations for Lake Geode happen during periods of wet weather when excess rainfall runs off land and into ditches and streams, which eventually empty into the lake. The runoff carries feces that has built up on the land over time.

High *E. coli* levels also have occurred during dry to normal periods, during which time there is less water to dilute fecal material being deposited in the lake by livestock, wildlife and septic systems.

Reducing runoff

Officials are careful not to point fingers at any one source. There are multiple factors contributing to Geode's maladies, includ-

practices within the watershed.

Rains this spring have damaged many of the terraces and other grade stabilization structures. Officials will have to wait until after crops are out of the fields this fall to fully assess and begin to repair damages. Waters is looking for additional funds to fix damaged structures.

"There has been a significant amount of erosion throughout the watershed, but because of the conservation practices already installed the impacts were reduced. But like everything, there is always room for improvement," Waters said.

Amenity improvements

Geode has seen several

amenity improvements over the past several years.

A new beach playground area was built at a cost of \$130,000. More sidewalks and another playground structure are planned this fall.

A new shelter house with enclosed bathrooms and kitchen recently was constructed for \$350,000 provided by the Iowa Department of Economic Development plus \$75,000 in funding from private donations, in-kind labor, the Des Moines and Henry counties board of supervisors, as well as several local communities. The sewage system for the shelter will be completed later this summer.

In 2004, three silt ponds were excavated and restored

and a beach boat ramp paved at a cost of \$30,000.

The park road system, including the beach parking lot underwent a \$1.2 million resurfacing in 2007.

Officials purchased \$5,000 worth of new sand in 2009 for the beach and playground.

Also, officials have purchased equipment for picking up goose droppings from the beach.

A great deal of volunteer time and labor went into the beach improvements, as well as contributions from area communities, including New London, Danville, Burlington, West Burlington, Middletown, Mediapolis and Mount Pleasant, Konig said.

Soil & Water Conservation Poster Contest

The Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District is offering a poster contest open to all youth in Iowa. Posters will be judged on the entry's conservation message, visual effectiveness, universal appeal and originality. Divisions will be based on age. Winners will receive cash prizes with honorable mentions receiving gift certificates from Pizza Hut.

The theme of this year's poster contest is "Conservation Habitats=Healthy Habitats".

For more information and poster entry form call the Extension office at 754-7556 or 800-914-1914. Entry deadline is March 31.

Des Moines County Soil & Water
Conservation District Commissioners,

Thank you for the beautiful
yellow potted plant you sent in
memory of Mom. It sits
outside our back door as a
constant reminder of your kindness
and support. Thank you for your
thoughts & sympathy. Sincerely -
Jeff & Family



Thank you all for
giving me the opportunity
to work for the district/NRCS
this summer. I learned
a lot and gained a lot of
experience. I look forward
to seeing everyone again
soon.

Sincerely,
Rachel
Weiss

Many thanks!

Dear Ms. Maureen Mchaughlin,

I would like to thank the Des Moines
County Soil and Water Conservation District
for awarding me the two hundred dollar
scholarship. The scholarship is greatly
appreciated as well as the opportunity to
be considered for the regional scholarship.

Thank You

Amy Hilley

SWCD selling rain barrels and more

BURLINGTON, IA - The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District is selling rain barrels made from recycled plastic food barrels.

Other items available include tumbling composters, potting benches, bird houses and flower boxes also made from recycled products.

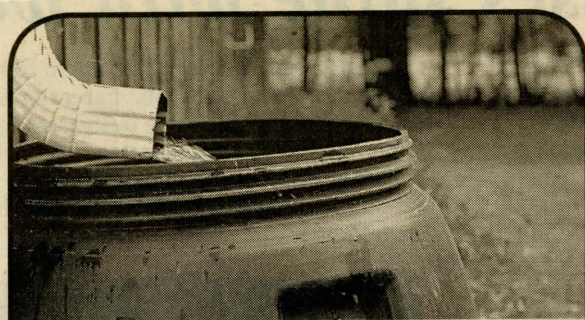
Rain barrels are available in limited supply now. Orders will be taken for the other items until April 20 with delivery scheduled shortly after that.

One rain barrel can save

most homeowners about 1,300 gallons of water during the peak summer months. As cities continue to raise water rates, saving rainwater saves money and helps the environment!

Profits from the sales of these items go to high school scholarships, poster contests, conservation education, and promotion of natural resources in Des Moines County.

For pricing and more information stop by their office at 3625 Flint Ridge Drive, Burlington, or call 319-753-6221.



RAIN BARRELS AND COMPOSTING BINS

The Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District is selling rain barrels and tumbling composters that are made from recycled materials. The barrels and composters are each 55 gallon. Rain barrels are priced at \$70 each, the tumbling composters are \$135 each. Payment can be made with cash or check only. The Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation offices are located at 3625 Flint Ridge Drive, Burlington, IA. Barrels and composters may be purchased during regular business hours of 7:30am-4:00pm Monday-Friday. If you have any questions please call the Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District at 319-753-6221.

Native grass seed available

The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District is selling native grass and wildflower seeds.

Native grass seed is used on farm ground that is being enrolled into CRP but native plantings are beautiful additions to any urban landscape. Native grass plantings are good for the environment due to the root architecture and the low maintenance, once established, provides great

habitat for pollinators such as bees and other insects that have been on the decline and birds. Additionally, native grass is beneficial to control erosion.

Des Moines County Farm Bureau members can call for pricing and more information by stopping by the SWCD office at 3625 Flint Ridge Drive, Burlington, or call (319) 753-6221.

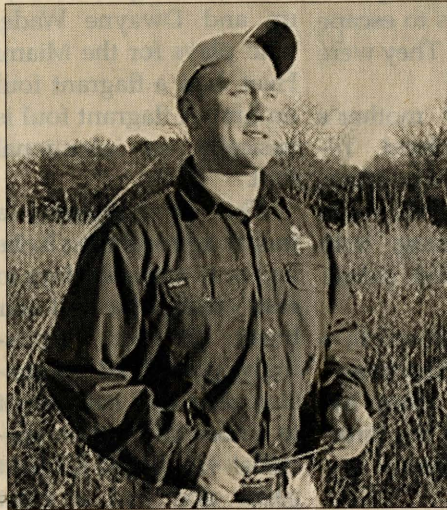
Soil and Water Conservation District Scholarship Offered

Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District is offering a scholarship to a local high school senior who will pursue a college education in any field of agriculture or natural resources.

Application packets are available at high school guidance counselor offices or call the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District at 753-6221. Applications are due by March 2, 2012.

Students living outside of Des Moines County must submit their applications to the soil and water conservation district in which they reside.

Pheasants Forever adds a Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist in Des Moines, Lee, Louisa, and Van Buren Counties



**New Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist,
Casey Bergthold**

Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever announce the hiring of a new Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist, Casey Bergthold, to cover Des Moines, Lee, Louisa, and Van Buren Counties. As a Pheasants Forever Farm Bill Wildlife, Bergthold works in partnership with USDA-

Reserve Program).

Bergthold is a native of Northeast Missouri and holds a BS in Fisheries and Wildlife from the University of Missouri-Columbia and a MS in Biology from Tennessee Technological University. Follow-

ing the completion of his master's degree, he worked for two years as a biologist for the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, after which he relocated to Southeast Iowa in 2010. While in Iowa, he has worked for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and Iowa State University as a biological aide. He also served as an Earth Team Volunteer with the Natural Resources Conservation Service. Now, as a Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist, Bergthold assists private landowners with improving wildlife habitat on their lands. If you are interested in improving wildlife habitat on your farm, Bergthold will likely be able to help.

"The job of a Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist is to serve as a one-stop-shop for landowners looking for technical, programmatic, or financial assistance with managing wildlife habitat on their private lands," Bergthold stated. "Some landowners want to improve hunting, others enjoy watching wildlife and yet others simply want to find a way to earn money from, while protecting, marginal or highly erodible farmland."

The new position is a

result of Pheasants Forever's Reload Iowa effort, a statewide initiative to improve 1 million acres of wildlife habitat on private and public land in the state. Soil and Water Conservation Districts and Pheasants Forever Chapters in the four counties in which Bergthold is working, provided financial support for the position through the Reload Iowa campaign. As a result, landowners in the above counties can call on Bergthold to conduct site visits and develop wildlife management plans free of charge.

For those who reside or own land outside of Des Moines, Lee, Louisa, and Van Buren counties; Pheasants Forever employs 11 other Farm Bill Wildlife Biologists throughout the state and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources employs Private Lands Biologists and Wildlife Specialists that offer similar services.

If you are interested in improving your property for wild life and would like assistance or if you need contact information for a biologist that covers another county, please contact Casey Bergthold at (573) 823-0675 or by email.

Conservation Christmas gift ideas

Des Moines County Farm Bureau members - do you have a gardener or conservation-minded person on your Christmas list that is hard to buy for? The Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District has the perfect gift options for you.

The SWCD has rain barrels and accessories, a tumbling composter, potting benches, flower boxes, and bird houses

for sale. The rain barrels are available now but the remaining items will be available the week of December 19th.

The SWCD has also begun selling native grass and wildflower seeds. There are many seed options available. This seed is used on ground enrolled into CRP but can also be used to control erosion. Wildlife is also attracted to native grasses.

Profits from the sales of these items go to high school scholarships, poster contests, conservation education, and promotion of natural resources in Des Moines County.

For pricing and more information, Des Moines County Farm Bureau members can stop by the SWCD office at 3625 Flint Ridge Drive, Burlington, or call Jamie at 319-753-6221.

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New wildlife biologist in the area

Casey Bergthold will be located in the Donnellson Field Office.

The Hawk Eye

Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever announce the hiring of five new Farm Bill Wildlife Biologists in Iowa, upping its total number in the state to 12.

Among the five biologists, Buchanan, Cherokee, Chickasaw, Delaware, Des Moines, Dubuque, Floyd, Howard, Jasper, Lee, Louisa, Marion, Mitchell,

Plymouth, Polk, Sioux, Warren, Woodbury, and Van Buren counties now will fall under Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist coverage. The additional positions come at an especially critical juncture for Iowa, where the state's pheasant population is at a modern record low.

The new positions are the latest results in Pheasants Forever's Reload Iowa effort, a statewide initiative to improve 1 million acres of wildlife habitat on private and public land in the state. Pheasants Forever's 12 Iowa Farm Bill Wildlife Biolo-

gists work to provide technical assistance to farmers and ranchers — through one-on-one consulting — regarding the benefits of conservation programs (such as the Conservation Reserve Program)

Casey Bergthold will be located in the Donnellson Field Office and will cover Louisa, Des Moines, Van Buren and Lee counties.

Casey is a native of Northeast Missouri and holds a bachelor of science degree in fisheries and wildlife from the University of Missouri-Columbia and a mas-

ter of science degree in biology from Tennessee Technological University.

He spent two years working as a biologist for the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, after which he relocated to southeast Iowa in 2010. Since that time, he has worked for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and Iowa State University as a biological aide. He also served as an Earth Team Volunteer with the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Fairfield.

Sands hosts conservationist



(DES MOINES) - Maureen Hutchcroft of Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation Districts and Lake Geode visited the State Capitol recently and met with Rep. Tom Sands (R-Wapello). Pictured from left to right are Maureen Hutchcroft and Rep. Sands.

Soil and Water Conservation District selling native grass and wildflower seeds

Native grass seed is used on farm ground that is being enrolled into CRP, but native plantings are beautiful additions to any urban landscape. Native grass plantings are good for the environment due to the root architecture and the low maintenance, once established, provide great habitat for pollinators such as bees and other insects that have been on the decline, as well as birds. Additionally, native grass is beneficial to control erosion.

The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District is now selling native grass and wildflower seeds. For pricing and more information stop by the SWCD office at 3625 Flint Ridge Drive, Burlington, or call 319-753-6221.

Group to present findings on creek

By NICHOLAS BERGIN
nbergin@thehawkeye.com

Each time Flint Creek jumps its banks and runs amok, it seems to leave behind destroyed roads, washed out driveways and an assortment of debris.

In the wake of particularly damaging flooding in 2008 and 2009, the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District procured a \$50,000 state I-Jobs grant to do a study of the creek watershed.

The study was done by the Hydrosience and Engineering Department of the University of Iowa's College of Engineering. The results will be presented during a public meeting at 1 p.m. Wednesday in the Leopold Loft at Starr's Cave Nature Center.

The presentation will include recommendations for best management practices that can be implemented within the watershed to reduce future flooding.

The majority of the options presented would have to be installed on private ground. Those measures will be suggestions only and not mandatory, said District Conservationist Drew Delang of with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service.

The Flint Creek drains about 100,000 acres in the northwest and central part of Des Moines County, as well as the east central portion of Henry County, Delang said.

The creek empties into the Mississippi River just north of Burlington.



The MHS Envirothon team participated in the state competition Monday. The team is sophomore Blake Hubbard, coach science teacher Stacey Rector, juniors Caleb Nelson, Brody Reis, Garrett Rupe, and Kellie Kuenzler. The teams compete in environmental science topics through a team exam and scenario presentation.

2012 Soil and Water Conservation Week is April 29 to May 6

Iowa Governor Terry Branstad signed a proclamation recognizing April 29-May 6 as Soil and Water Conservation Week. Soil and Water Conservation Week recognizes that the abundance of our agricultural products and the quality of life we enjoy are dependent upon the proper use and management of soil and water resources.

The severe erosion during the "Dust Bowl" years of the 1930s brought about the first efforts to prevent soil erosion, which also helped protect water resources. Iowa passed a law in 1939 to establishing a state agency and the means for soil and water conservation districts to organize. This legislation declared it the policy of the State of Iowa to: preserve soil and water; protect the state's tax base; and promote health, safety and public welfare of people of Iowa.

Today, Iowa is a national leader in the implementation of water quality and watershed projects, soil conservation and buffer programs. Iowa currently leads the nation in the continuous conservation reserve program buffer initiative with more than 600,000 acres. Iowa also has more than 60 active watershed and water quality projects across the state.

SWCD Selling Rain Barrels And More

The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District is selling rain barrels made from recycled plastic food barrels. Other items available include tumbling composters, potting benches, birdhouses and flower boxes, also made from recycled products.

Rain barrels are available in limited supply now. Orders will be taken for the other items until April 20, with delivery scheduled shortly after that.

One rain barrel can save most homeowners about 1,300 gallons of water during the peak summer months. As cities continue to raise water rates, saving rainwater saves money and helps the environment!

Profits from the sales of these items go to high school scholarships, poster contests, conservation education, and promotion of natural resources in Des Moines County. For pricing and more information, stop by their office at 3625 Flint Ridge Drive, Burlington, or call 319-753-6221.



From L-R: Caleb Nelson, Brody Reis, Kellie Kuenzler, Garrett Rupe and Blake Hubbard.

Mediapolis High School Envirothon 2011

Selected students from Mediapolis High School competed at the Iowa City Regional Envirothon competition on March 15. Mediapolis High School placed eighth at the regional competition and were 15th overall in the state of Iowa. Mediapolis joined 15 other teams on April 18 at Springbrook State Park to compete in state competition and did not place in the top three. The Mediapolis Envirothon team members consist of Caleb Nelson, Blake Hubbard, Garrett Rupe, Brody Reis, and Kellie Kuenzler. The team is coached by Mediapolis High School Science teacher Stacey Rector and the Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Scientist Kindra Bradley. The winning team at the state competition will compete at the Canon Envirothon, July 24-29 at Mount Allison University, Sackville, New Brunswick, Canada. The Envirothon is a team competition for high school students testing their knowledge of natural resources.

In the field and classroom, teams of five students are challenged to use their knowledge and critical thinking skills to conduct hands-on investigations, solve real-life scenarios and answer written questions covering five categories: aquatics ecology, forestry, wildlife, soils, and current environmental issues. The Iowa Envirothon is sponsored by the Conservation Districts of Iowa and their partners. The steering committee for this program consists of representatives from Conservation Districts of Iowa, Iowa Farm Bureau, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Iowa Department of Land Stewardship-Division of Soil Conservation, Iowa FFA Association, USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service, Iowa Pork Producers, Iowa Soybean Association, Pheasants Forever Inc., and the Iowa Chapter of Soil and Water Conservation Society.

Native grass seed available

The Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District is selling native grass and wildflower seeds.

Native grass seed is used on farm ground that is being enrolled into CRP but native plantings are beautiful additions to any urban landscape. Native grass plantings are good for the environment due to the root architecture and the low maintenance, once established, provides

great habitat for pollinators such as bees and other insects that have been on the decline and birds. Additionally, native grass is beneficial to control erosion.

For pricing and more information, Des Moines County Farm Bureau members can stop by the SWCD office at 3625 Flint Ridge Drive, Burlington, or call (319) 753-6221.

2012 Soil & Water Conservation Poster Contest Information

THEME: *Soil to Spoon* –

It is important to understand where the food comes from that you eat each day. You see a wide variety of products in your local grocery store. But where does it all come from? What is the connection to the soil you walk on each day?

DIVISIONS: Division 1 – grades K and 1
Division 2 – grades 2 and 3
Division 3 – grades 4 - 6
Division 4 – grades 7 - 9
Division 5 – grades 10 - 12

CRITERIA: The posters will be judged on the entry's conservation message (50%), visual effectiveness (30%), originality (10%) and universal appeal (10%).

AWARDS: Locally, for each division, 1st place - \$25; 2nd place - \$20, 3rd place - \$15, and honorable mention – Pizza Hut personal pan pizza gift certificate
Regionally, one winner from each division, \$35
State, one winner from each division, \$50

DEADLINE: March 30, 2012

Please deliver completed posters to:

Des Moines County Soil & Water
Conservation District
3625 Flint Ridge Drive
Burlington, IA 52601

For Rules and Questions, call Jamie at 319-753-6221

SWCD selling rain barrels and more

Attention Des Moines County Farm Bureau members: The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District is selling rain barrels made from recycled plastic food barrels. Other items available include tumbling composters, potting benches, bird houses and flower

boxes, also made from recycled products.

Rain barrels are available in limited supply now. Orders will be taken for the other items until April 20 with delivery scheduled shortly after that.

One rain barrel can save most homeowners about 1,300 gallons of water during the peak summer months. As cities continue to raise water rates, saving rainwater saves money and helps the environment!

Profits from the sales of these items go to high school scholarships, poster contests, conservation education and promotion of natural resources in Des Moines County.

Pricing on the items: Rain barrels, \$70; composters, \$125; potting benches, \$140; birdhouses/flower boxes, \$15. For more information stop by the office at 3625 Flint Ridge Drive, Burlington, or call (319) 753-6221.

statewide initiative to improve 1 million acres of wildlife habitat on private and public land in the state. Pheasants Forever's 12 Iowa Farm Bill Wildlife Biologists work to provide technical assistance to farmers and ranchers-through one-on-one consulting-regarding the benefits of conservation programs (such as the Conservation Reserve Program).

Randy Phelan will be located in the Le Mars Field Office and will cover Plymouth, Cherokee, Sioux and Woodbury Counties. Phelan recently retired from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), where he had a long and productive career. His last position with the NRCS was as an Assistant State Conservationist in Montana. He most recently worked for the Plymouth County Conservation District and Resource Conservation and Development as a Contract Specialist. Phelan can be reached by Email.

Tyler Harms will be located in the Indianola Field Office and will cover Warren, Jasper, Marion and Polk Counties. Tyler is a recent graduate of Iowa State University, where he received both his BS and MS in Wildlife. Before deciding to focus on a career in private lands wildlife management, Tyler spent many summers with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources as a Water Patrol Officer. Harms can be reached by Email.

Dan Borchardt will be located in the Charles City Field Office and will cover Floyd, Chickasaw, Howard and Mitch-

Casey Bergthold will be located in the Donnellson Field Office and will cover Louisa, Des Moines, Van Buren and Lee Counties. Casey is a native of Northeast Missouri and holds a BS in Fisheries and Wildlife from the University of Missouri-Columbia and a MS in Biology from Tennessee Technological University. He spent two years working as a biologist for the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, after which he relocated to Southeast Iowa in 2010. Since that time, he has worked for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and Iowa State University as a biological aide. He also served as an Earth Team Volunteer with the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Fairfield, Iowa. Bergthold can be reached by Email.

Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever's Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist program has, in just 9 years of existence, accounted for more than two million acres of habitat being created or improved for wildlife, and currently staffs more than 90 Farm Bill Wildlife Biologists throughout the country. For more information on the Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist program in Iowa, please contact Ginger Walker, Pheasants Forever's Prairie Pothole Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist Manager, at (712) 229-8275 or [Email Ginger](mailto:Ginger.Walker@pheasantsforever.org). For all other inquiries, please contact Rehan Nana, Public Relations Specialist for Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever, at (651) 209-4973 or [Email Rehan](mailto:Rehan.Nana@pheasantsforever.org).

Pheasants Forever adds five Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist positions in Iowa

Additions will help improve habitat for pheasant, quail and other wildlife

IOWA - December 16, 2011 - Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever announce the hiring of five new Farm Bill Wildlife Biologists in Iowa, upping its total number in the state to 12. Among the five biologists, Buchanan, Cherokee, Chickasaw, Delaware, Des Moines, Dubuque, Floyd, Howard, Jasper, Lee, Louisa, Marion, Mitchell, Plymouth, Polk, Sioux, Warren, Woodbury, and Van Buren Counties will now fall under Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist coverage. The additional positions come at an especially critical juncture for Iowa, where the state's pheasant population is at a modern record low.

The new positions are the latest results in Pheasants Forever's Reload Iowa effort, a

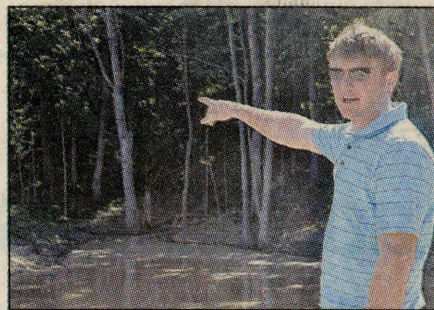
ell Counties. Borchardt will be transitioning from a Wetland Specialist position with the Bremer County Soil and Water Conservation District. He received his BS in Fish and Wildlife Biology from Iowa State University and has considerable experience in fish and wildlife management. Borchardt can be reached by Email.

Chris Hiher will be located in the Manchester Field Office and will cover Delaware, Buchanan and Dubuque Counties. He comes to Pheasants Forever from a similar position with Pheasants Forever in Illinois, where he worked with conservation partners for nearly two years. Chris received his BS in Wildlife from the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point. Hiher grew up on a dairy farm in Northwest Illinois. He can be reached by Email.

CITY & REGION | 3A

Cleaning up Lake Geode

Ponds, basins installed
to stop sediment runoff



SPORTS | 1B

Falcons stun BHS

Loss to Davenport West
ends Grayhounds' season



THE HAWK EYE

No. 318

BURLINGTON, IOWA

TUESDAY

MAY 22, 2012

75¢

Cleaning up the lake



Jeff Hunt/The Hawk Eye

Caleb Waters, Geode watershed coordinator, talks Monday about terraces and ponds constructed near Lake Geode. The structures are used to keep silt out of the lake. The five-year project is entering its third year, and Waters said the nine structures completed will keep about 3,000 tons of silt out of the lake each year.

Cleaning up Lake Geode

Ponds, basins installed to stop sediment runoff into lake.

By JEFF HUNT

jhunt@thehawkeye.com

DANVILLE — The idea is to keep as much silt out of Lake Geode as possible.

Nine new structures at the park are intended to do the trick.

Silt ponds and settlement basins have been constructed around the park as part of a \$1.2 million project to keep sediment from being washed into the lake.

Caleb Waters, Geode watershed coordinator, said runoff from the watershed will drain into the ponds and basins, nine in all, to give silt a chance to settle out before the water continues on to the lake.

He said more structures will be built because they have proven to be helpful in reducing siltation.

"With the rain we've had in the past few weeks, a lot of sediment would be in the lake," Waters said.

He pointed out Lake Darling near Brighton has done the same thing with success.

"They have done a lot of ponds around the lake," Waters said. "We are looking for areas around the lake to build more ponds."

The earthworks are a result of a partnership between several county, regional, state and federal agencies, including the Henry and Des Moines county conservation boards, secondary roads departments from both counties, the Iowa Soybean Association, Geode Resource Conservation and

Development, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Iowa Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service.

"We couldn't do the projects without the partnerships between all these agencies," Waters said.

Waters said his primary job is to pool those resources to improve the water quality.

"I look in the park for ways to improve gully erosion, and now we are looking in other areas for another round of work," he said.

The difference between ponds and basins is whether water is intended to stand in the structures. Waters also relies on terraces to keep silt out of the lake.

Mike McGhee, DNR's program manager for lakes restoration, said there's a lot of work still to be done at Geode.

"Lake Geode is a highly visited lake," he said. "But if you look into the upper end of the lake, you will see there has been some siltation there."

He said attention will turn to work in the lake after the silting is controlled.

"We've lost some lake acreage on the northern portion of the lake," McGhee said.

Waters said park officials will use the new bodies of water.

"I've talked to an Iowa Department of Natural Resources fisheries biologist at the Washington field office and he was thinking about stocking the ponds with fish," Waters said.

McGhee concurred.

"We will stock ponds if there

Beach monitoring continues

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources continue to monitor the beach area at Lake Geode.

"The two impairments to Lake Geode are bacteria and pH levels," said Caleb Waters, Geode watershed coordinator. "That stems from animal waste and runoff."

"The only problem we have now are some of the (Canada) geese issues on the beach now," he said. "We've been looking at some of the options to deter them from coming back to the park. It's just hard to fight Mother Nature."

Water samples are collected at 11 locations through-

out the watershed, and sent to a lab.

Whether beach advisories are posted depends on the results.

"Swimming advisories are available on the DNR website," Waters said. "People can check under beach monitoring and see if there are swimming advisories at any beach in the state."

He expects campgrounds to get heavy use during the Memorial Day weekend, and there will be many people fishing at the lake.

— The Hawk Eye

are sufficient sizes and depths to hold over-winter fish," he said. "The primary initiative is water quality improvements, but sometimes you can have dual benefits."

The ponds already have started attracting wildlife.

"I noticed wood ducks on the ponds just a few days ago," Waters said.

Waters said a trail eventually will be built around one of the ponds.

"We already have an eight-mile trail around the lake," Waters said. "This will be shorter for people who can't spend all day walking."

So far, all of the structures have been built on park property, but that may change.

"We are not only looking for opportunities on public lands,

but on the private lands as well," McGhee said. "It's a cooperative effort between organizations and individuals."

Waters said landowners have been doing a great job with conservation practices.

"Part of my job is to work with landowners in the watershed," Waters said. "This includes over 10,000 acres that drains into Lake Geode."

Funds are available to pay for up to 75 percent of the cost to install stabilization structures on private land in the watershed.

Still, McGhee said people should not get in a hurry to get the lake work done.

"It's long-term work," he said. "It's not a sprint, it's a marathon."



Thank You
FOR YOUR THOUGHTFULNESS


AMERICAN GREETINGS

AGSP10219A
©AGC, LLC





Jamie, Shiloh, Drew
Caleb + Kindra:

It was so nice of you
and appreciated more
than words can say!

My favorite place to
shop!

Thanks, I need
some new summer stuff!

Linda



Notre Dame High School Senior Awards Assembly May 15, 2012

Welcome: Mr. Ron Glasgow

Opening Prayer: Father Anthony Herold

Scholarship Presentation:

- * DAR Good Citizen District Winner Award
- * Dick Wagner Baseball Scholarships
- * Dick Wagner Memorial Scholarship
- * Helen Raider Memorial Scholarship
- * Wesley H. & Barbara Duer Swiler Memorial Scholarship
- * Douglas S. Grinde Memorial Scholarship
- * Gentlemen's Club Scholarship
- * Burlington Fine Arts League Scholarship
- * Boys of Summer Scholarship
- * Burlington Junior Women's League Scholarship
- * Burlington Area Comm. YMCA-YWCA—John Slocum Honorary Scholarship
- * F&M Bank & Trust Depart. Jessie Corbin Trust Scholarship
- * F&M Bank & Trust Depart. Sheridan-Setterberg Memorial Trust Scholarship
- * Access Energy Cooperative Scholarship
- * Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District Scholarship
- * Optimist Essay Scholarship
- * Optimist "16 and Under" Oratorical Scholarship
- * Optimist "Youth of the Year" Finalist Scholarship
- * Mississippi Valley Blood Center Scholarships
- * Burlington High School Class of 1972 Scholarship
- * S.C.C. Foundation Board Scholarship
- * SCC Clifford Lloyd and Winona Rynott Yohe Scholarship
- * SCC Kiwanis Scholarship
- * Brent Slocum Scholarship
- * B&B Propane Community Scholarship – Jet Stop
- * Rich Rump Memorial Scholarship
- * Edward B. Gnahn Memorial Scholarships
- * Dr. Jennie McCowen Scholarship
- * Diocese of Davenport – Marquerite Ritzinger Scholarship

Dear Board Members,

Hello, I wanted to thank you for your sponsorship. I started working with this Envirothon program 4 years ago our team had grown from barely able to get 5 members to almost 11 this year. Many of the students being on the team since the beginning. With your help I have been able to bring environmental concerns to the students with the use of NRCS employees, DNR, and Starr's Cave Naturalists. Thank you, Stacy Locker ^{Mepo} Envirothon

BHS arts students win poster contest

Burlington High School

Two Burlington High School Art Students placed in the 2012 Soil and Water Conservation Poster Contest.

Elizabeth Linneman, senior, placed second place and won a \$20 prize. Amy Carlson, sophomore, placed first with a \$25 prize and her poster will go onto the regional competition.

The theme for this year's contest was "Soil to Spoon" — emphasizing the importance of understanding where the food comes from that you eat each day and what the connection is to the soil that you walk upon each day.



Amy Carlson, left, and Elizabeth Linneman, display their posters from the 2012 Soil and Water Conservation poster contest.

Patrick K. Moore

2000 S. 16th Street, Burlington, IA 52601 319.457.0193

June 1, 2012

Maureen Hutchcroft, Chairperson
Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District
3625 Flint Ridge Drive
Burlington, IA 52601

Dear Ms. Hutchcroft,

I am honored to be the local winner of the 2012 Conservation Districts of Iowa Scholarship. Your generous support is helping me to fulfill a lifelong dream of going to college.

I appreciate your confidence in me and willingness to contribute to my future education and I am glad to have the opportunity to thank you personally for your generosity. Without donors like you, many students would be unable to pursue the career of their dreams.

My future plans include pursuing a career in the field of Conservation. I intend to use the knowledge I gain in college in order to help make my community a better place to live.

Once again, I offer my sincerest thanks for your generous support.

Sincerely,



Patrick K. Moore
Notre Dame High School Class of 2012

"We abuse land because we regard it as a commodity belonging to us. When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect."— Aldo Leopold



Amy Carlson and her winning poster.

Burlington student wins conservation poster contest

Burlington High School

A Burlington High School student has won her category in the Conservation Districts of Iowa 2012 poster contest.

Amy Carlson placed first in the 10th- to 12th-grade category for best portraying the conservation theme Soil to Spoon.

Winners were selected from the regional winners at the CDI Summer Conference, June 11 and 12.

Amy's winning poster will be displayed at the CDI Annual Conference Sept. 5 and 6 in

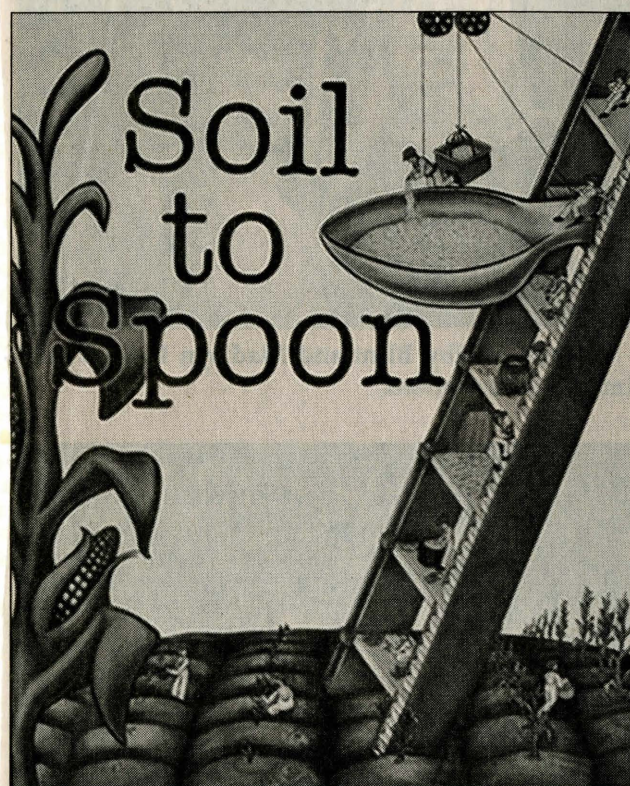
West Des Moines, then will be forwarded to the National Association of Conservation Districts competition in December.

One of the many goals of CDI is to make people aware of the importance of conservation.

"There is no better place to begin this process than with young people who have so much at stake in keeping our water safe, our soil productive, and our ecology balanced," the association said in a press release.

Thursday, May 23 2013

National Poster Contest Winner



The Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District is excited to announce that Burlington High School Junior Amy Carlson has won First Place in the 2012 National Association of Conservation District's (NACD) annual poster contest. The theme for 2012 was "Soil to Spoon".

Each year NACD selects a theme for the poster contest. The Des Moines SWCD participates in the coordination with the Conservation Districts of

Iowa and Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company.

The Des Moines SWCD chose Amy's poster as the local winner for Division 5 which is 10-12th grade. Her poster continued to win through regional and state competition to reach the national level where she earned the top prize against the best posters in her division from each state.

If you would like more information about the poster contest, contact the SWCD at 319-753-6221.

Iowa Soil Conservation recognizes Nancy Carter

The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District is excited to announce that retired Mediapolis School Teacher Nancy Carter was chosen to receive the first place award in Teacher Division I of the 2012 Iowa Soil Conservation Awards Program.

The purpose of the award is to recognize public or parochial school teachers who are performing outstanding service in creating public awareness of the need to safeguard our heritage of natural and human resources. Division I consists of teachers in grades K through 6.

The Des Moines SWCD nominated Nancy because she is a teacher that incorporates conservation and actively involves students in all aspects of the learning process. In turn she garners enthusiasm from her students about conservation projects. She challenges students to think beyond themselves and think globally. Students can carry these lessons into adulthood and be thoughtful, well informed citizens who will work with others throughout life, making a positive impact on their family and community.

Nancy received the award during the Annual Conference for Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners on Thursday, September 6. The award was presented to her by Angie Reid of the Iowa Conservation Education Council.



Photo submitted

Angie Reid (left) of the Iowa Conservation Education Council presents award to retired school teacher Nancy Carter.

Monday • October 1, 2012

7A

KIDS IN THE CLASSROOM

Retired teacher gets conservation award

Retired Mediapolis School teacher Nancy Carter has received the first-place award in Teacher Division I of the 2012 Iowa Soil Conservation Awards Program, according to the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District.

The award recognizes public or parochial school teachers who are performing outstanding service in creating public awareness of the need to safeguard our heritage of natural and human resources. Division I includes teachers in grades kindergarten through 6.

The Des Moines SWCD nominated Carter because she is a teacher that "incorporates conservation and actively involves students in all aspects of the learning process. In turn she garners



Carter

enthusiasm from her students about conservation projects. She challenges students to think beyond themselves and think

globally. Students can carry these lessons into adulthood and be thoughtful, well informed citizens who will work with others throughout life, making a positive impact on their family and community."

Carter received the award during the Annual Conference for Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners Sept. 6. The award was presented to her by Angie Reid of the Iowa Conservation Education Council.



Reid (L) presents Mrs. Carter with the award. -Photo Submitted

DMC Soil And Water Names Carter Award Winner

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Reid (L) presents Mrs. Carter with the award. -Photo Submitted

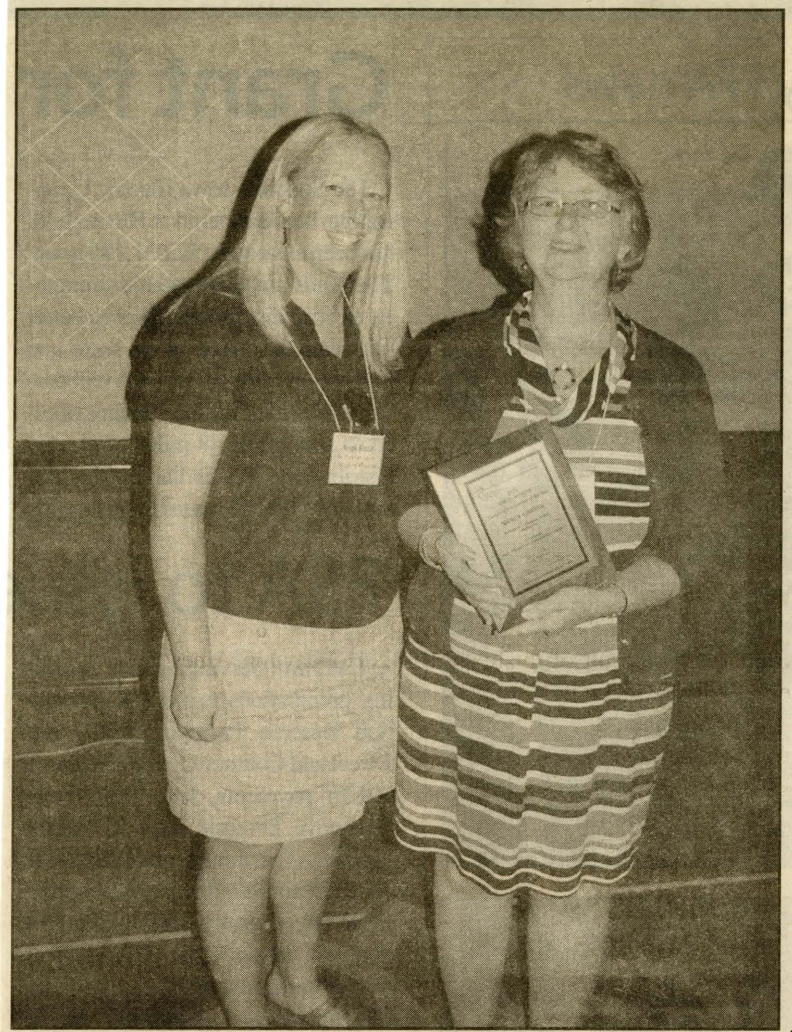
DMC Soil And Water Names Carter Award Winner

The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District is excited to announce that retired Mediapolis School teacher Nancy Carter was chosen to receive the first place award in Teacher Division I of the 2012 Iowa Soil Conservation Awards Program.

The purpose of the award is to recognize public or parochial school teachers who are performing outstanding service in creating public awareness of the need to safeguard our heritage of natural and human resources. Division I consists of teachers in grades K through 6.

The Des Moines SWCD nominated Nancy because she is a teacher that incorporates conservation and actively involves students in all aspects of the learning process. In turn she garners enthusiasm from her students about conservation projects. She challenges students to think beyond themselves and think globally. Students can carry these lessons into adulthood and be thoughtful, well informed citizens who will work with others throughout life, making a positive impact on their family and community.

Nancy received the award during the Annual Conference for Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners on Thursday, September 6. The award was presented to her by Angie Reid of the Iowa Conservation Education Council.



Angie Reid presents Nancy Carter with the Teacher Division I award.

Mediapolis teacher chosen to receive Teacher Division I award

The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District is excited to announce that retired Mediapolis school teacher, Nancy Carter, was chosen to receive the first place award in Teacher Division I of the 2012 Iowa Soil Conservation Awards Program.

The purpose of the award is to recognize public or parochial school teachers who are performing outstanding services in creating public awareness of the need to safeguard our heritage of natural and human resources. Division I consists of teachers in grades kindergarten through sixth.

The Des Moines SWCD nominated Nancy because she is a teacher that incorporates conser-

vation and actively involves students in all aspects of the learning process. In turn she garners enthusiasm from her students about conservation projects. She challenges students to think beyond themselves and think globally. Students can carry these lessons into adulthood and be thoughtful, well informed citizens who will work with others throughout life, making a positive impact on their family and community.

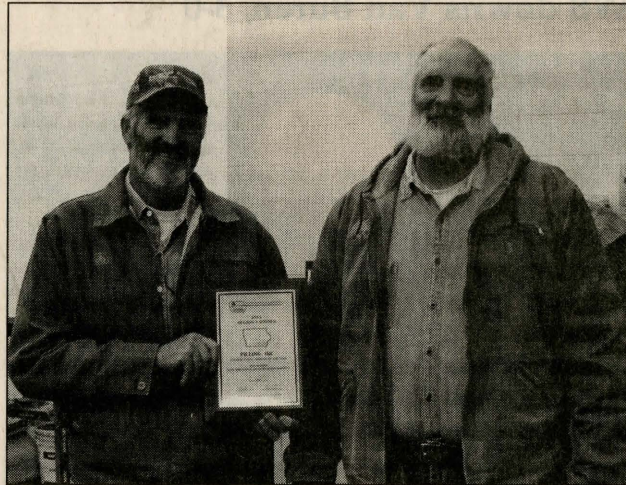
Nancy received the award during the annual conference for Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners on Thursday, Sept. 6. The award was presented to her by Angie Reid of the Iowa Conservation Education Council.

Pillings receive Regional Award

BURLINGTON, IA - The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners are pleased to announce that Charles and Jim Pilling, Mediapolis, have been selected as local and regional winners of the Iowa Soil Conservation Awards Program.

The Pillings were selected by the Des Moines County SWCD as local winners for various reasons including that they are conservation leaders in the community. Jim and Charles have been using no-till for well over 20 years on both Highly Erodible and Not Highly Erodible Land. They began using cover crops before others had heard of it because they knew it would build organic matter, reduce erosion, scavenge nitrogen and suppress weeds on their fields. The Pillings have installed numerous conservation practices such as waterways, terraces, field borders, basins and filterstrips throughout the years. They have made decisions about their land use that shows their commitment to keep the soil in place.

The Iowa Soil Conservation Awards Program



Jim Pilling and Charles Pilling are pictured here with the plaque they received for the award.

is sponsored by the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation in partnership with Conservation Districts of Iowa and Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship. Des Moines County is located in Region 9 which consists of 13 counties in southeast Iowa.

If you would like more information about the awards program, please contact the SWCD at 319-753-6221.

SWCD selling rain barrels

The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District is selling rain barrels and tumbling composters made from recycled plastic food barrels. Rain barrels are available in limited supply now. Additional orders will be taken until April 22 with delivery scheduled for the end of April. One rain barrel can save most homeowners about 1,300 gallons of water during the peak summer months. Profits from the

sales of these items go to high school scholarships, poster contests, conservation education, and promotion of natural resources in Des Moines County. For pricing and more information, Farm Bureau members can stop by the SWCD office at 3625 Flint Ridge Drive, Burlington, or call 319-753-6221. The SWCD will also have a rain barrel display at Earth Day Cleanup at the Port of Burlington on April 20.

Announcements



From L-R: Charles and Jim Pilling upon receipt of the DMC Soil and Water Conservation regional award. -Photo Submitted

Pillings Receive Regional Award

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For more information about the awards program, please contact the SWCD at 319-753-6221.

Business briefcase

The Hawk Eye

The Louisa County Agricultural Extension District hired **Andrea Farrier** to be a county-based program assistant in the areas of agricultural, horticultural and natural resources. The addition to the local staff will expand the amount of local programming in these areas as well as provide a local resource for questions ranging from animal and crop farm operations to gardening and identification of bugs and plants.



Farrier

Farrier is a graduate of Iowa State University with a degree in agriculture education. She worked most recently at Premier Fencing in Washington, which has made her an expert in fencing law and practice. She expects to work with Louisa County residents on many more subjects including pesticide applicator training and master gardener training.

She is a newlywed, having married Nathan Farrier in late August. She and her husband live on a farm in rural Louisa County.

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The Iowa DNR, Louisa County Soil & Water Conservation District and AmeriCorps announced **Erica Yost** has been hired as a private lands habitat specialist.

Yost started in the Wapello field office on



been selected as local and regional winners of the Iowa Soil Conservation Awards Program.

The Pillings were selected by the Des Moines County SWCD as local winners for various reasons, including they are conservation leaders in the community. Jim and Charles have been using no-till for well over 20 years on both highly erodible and not highly erodible land. They began using cover crops before others have heard of it because they knew it would build organic matter, reduce erosion, scavenge nitrogen and suppress weeds on their fields. The Pillings have installed numerous conservation practices such as waterways, terraces, field borders, basins and filter strips throughout the years. They have made decisions about their land use that shows their commitment to keep the soil in place.

The Iowa Soil Conservation Awards Program is sponsored by the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation in partnership with Conservation Districts of Iowa and Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship. Des Moines County is located in Region 9 which consists of 13 counties in southeast Iowa.



Jim Pilling



Charles Pilling

...



The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District commissioners are pleased to announce that Charles and Jim Pilling, of Mediapolis, have been selected as the local and regional winners of the Iowa Soil Conservation Awards Program. Pictured are Jim Pilling, left, and Charles Pilling.

Pillings receive regional award

Des Moines County Farm Bureau Members, Charles and Jim Pilling, were selected by the Des Moines County SWCD as local winners for various reasons including that they are conservation leaders in the community. Jim and Charles have been using no-till for well over 20 years, on both highly erodible and not highly erodible land. They began using cover crops before others had heard of it, because they knew it would build organic matter, reduce erosion, scavenge nitrogen and suppress weeds on their fields. The Pillings have installed numerous conservation practices such as waterways, terraces, field borders,

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Soil & Water Conservation Selling Rain Barrels

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One rain barrel can save most homeowners about 1,300 gallons of water during the peak summer months. Profits from the sales of these items go to high school scholarships, poster contests, conservation education and promotion of natural resources in Des Moines County. For pricing and more information, call 319-753-6221. The SWCD will also have a rain barrel display at the Earth Day Cleanup at the Port of Burlington on April 20.

Thursday, November 21, 2013

DMC Soil & Water Conservation District offering scholarship

BURLINGTON - Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District is offering a scholarship to a local high school senior who will pursue a college education in any field of conservation or natural resources.

Application packets are available at high school guidance counselor offices or call the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District at 753-6221. Applications are due by February 28, 2014.

Students living outside of Des Moines County must submit their applications to the soil and water conservation district in which they reside.

DMC Soil & Water Conservation District offering scholarship

Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District is offering a scholarship to a local high school senior who will pursue a college education in any field of agriculture or natural resources. Application packets are available at guidance counselor offices

or call the DMC Soil and Water Conservation District at 753-6221. Applications are due by March 1. Students living outside of Des Moines Co. must submit their applications to the soil and water conservation district in which they reside.

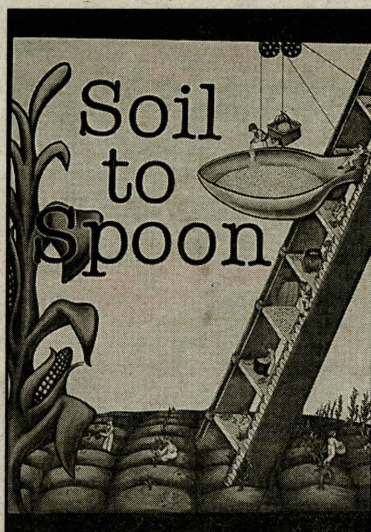
Jan 2013

National poster contest winner named

The Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District is excited to announce that Burlington High School Junior Amy Carlson has won first place in the 2012 National Association of Conservation District's (NACD) annual poster contest.

The theme for 2012 was "Soil to Spoon." Each year NACD selects a theme for the poster contest. The Des Moines SWCD participates in coordination with the conservation Districts of Iowa and Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company. The Des Moines SWCD chose Amy's poster as the local winner for Division 5 which is 10th - 12th grade.

Her poster continued to win through regional and state competition to reach the national level where she earned the top



prize against the best posters in her division from each state.

If Des Moines County Farm Bureau members would like more information about the poster contest, contact the SWCD at 319-753-6221.

Des Moines County SWCD sponsors poster contest

Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District is sponsoring a poster contest, "Where Does Your Water Shed", for all students in Des Moines County, including Farm Bureau members students. The deadline to complete the posters is March 29. For detail information on rules, division categories, judging criteria and awards, please contact the SWCD at 319-753-6221 or 3625 Flint Ridge Drive, Burlington.

DMC SWCD Scholarship

Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District is offering a scholarship to a local high school senior who will pursue a college education in any field of conservation or natural resources. Application packets are available at high school guidance counselor offices or call the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District at 753-6221. Applications are due by Friday, Feb. 28. Students living outside of Des Moines County must submit their applications to the soil and water conservation district in which they reside.

Business briefcase

The Hawk Eye

Jamie Grimes, of Burlington, was awarded the Iowa Department of Ag and Land Stewardship - Division of Soil Conservation's June Employee of the Month. Grimes has worked for the Des Moines and Louisa SWCD as a state secretary for the Department for the last 18 years.



Grimes

IDALS-DSC provides statewide leadership in the protection and management of soil, water and mineral resources, in both rural and urban landscapes.

Grimes was nominated by Des Moines and Louisa County Soil and Water Conservation districts.

Some of the many accomplishments in 2012 are:

- Processed 47 state cost-share payments for Des Moines/Louisa County totaling \$126,635 in state cost-share programs.

- Assisted both offices in completing 44 conservation plans, seeding plans and other paperwork related to enrolling acres into the Conservation Reserve Program.

Presentation of Grimes' certificate was given by Vince

Sitzmann, field services bureau chief; Matt McDonald, field representative; and the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District commissioners.

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IH Mississippi Valley Credit Union welcomed **Marilyn Lauber**, account officer, to the West Burlington branch at 403 S. Gear Ave. in West Burlington.

Lauber has 24 years of mortgage experience. She is a member of the National Association of Mortgage Underwriters, the Mortgage Bankers Association and Compliance Advisors. She also has written a book, "Financing the American Mortgage." She is the mother of four and has nine grandchildren.

...

Nephrologist **Muhammad Khattak** has joined Great River Nephrology in West Burlington.

Khattak received his medical degree from Khyber Medical College, Pakistan. He completed a residency at Mount Sinai Hospital/James J. Peters Veterans Administration Medical Center, New York, and a fellowship at Drexel University/Hahnemann Hospital, Philadelphia. He is certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine.

Great River Nephrology offers treatment of kidney diseases and other illnesses.

Iowa Learning Farms' Conservation Station coming to town

AMES, IOWA—Iowa Learning Farms' Conservation Station is coming to the Des Moines County Fair on Friday, July 26, from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. The fairgrounds are located at 1500 West Agency Board in West Burlington.

The Conservation Station is a mobile learning center that travels across the state teaching all Iowans how they can help to improve water quality and keep Iowa's soils in place—building a Culture of Conservation.

Visitors to the Conservation

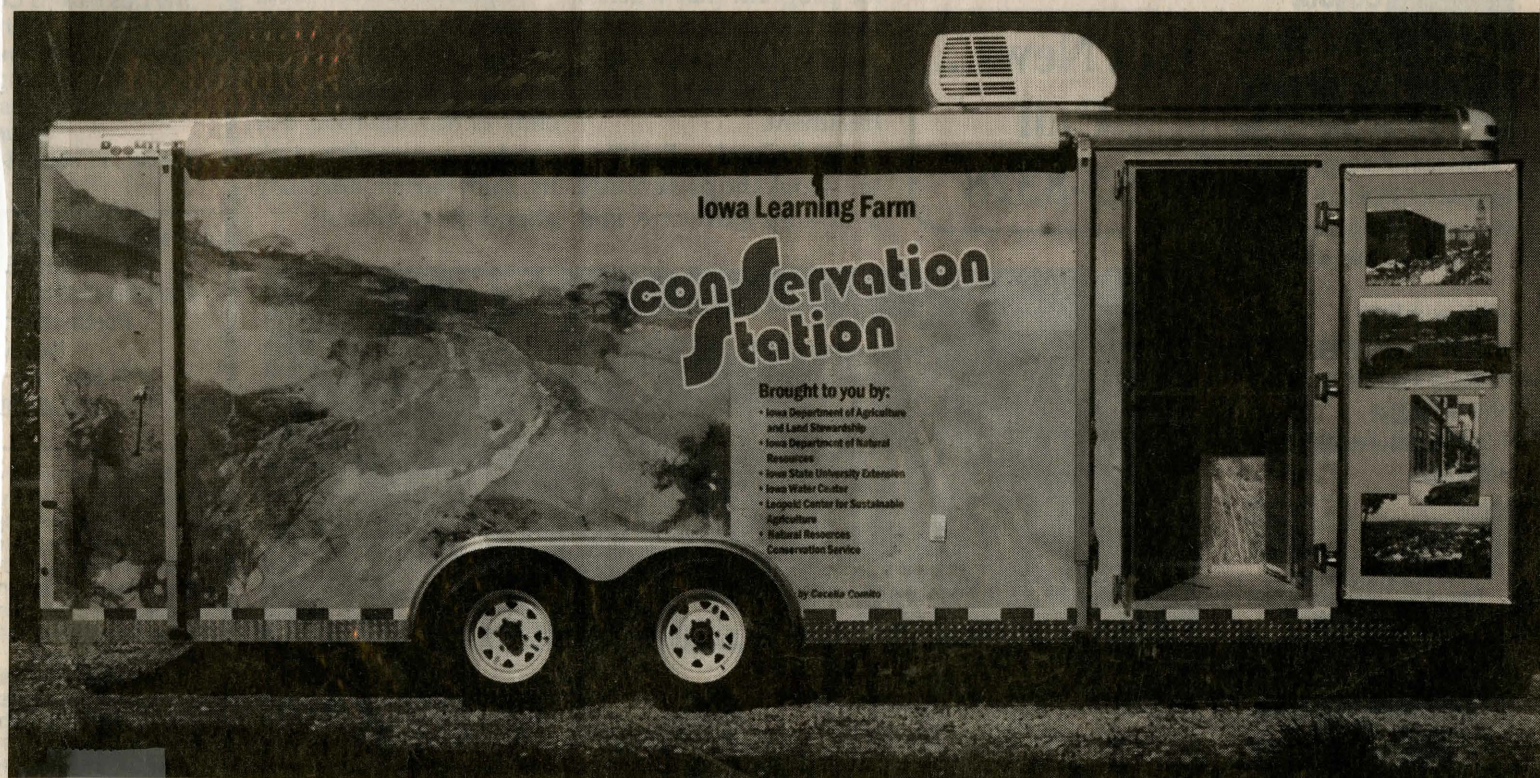
Station can learn why Iowa's water and soils are precious and how to help preserve these natural resources for future generations. The ILF team members who travel with the Conservation Station use demonstrations, pictures, interactive displays, video and sound to convey the message that clean water and good soils are essential to everyone. The Conservation Station's rainfall simulator demonstrates the effects of rainfall on different land surfaces. Water runoff and subsurface drain-

age are collected in clear jars to show what is coming off the various soil surface types including heavily tilled soil, minimum tillage and pervious pavement.

A Conservation Station tour is free. It can be seen at many events including field days, county fairs, farmers' markets and student educational outings all over Iowa this spring, summer and fall. Visit the Iowa Learning Farms' website often for a schedule of Conservation Station appearances, as events are added regularly: [http://](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/ilf/conservationstation)

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Iowa Learning Farms is a partnership between the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Iowa Department of Natural Resources (USEPA section 319), Iowa Natural Resources Conservation Service, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture; in cooperation with Conservation Districts of Iowa, the Iowa Farm Bureau and the Iowa Water Center.



Be sure to watch for the Conservation Station at the Des Moines County Fair.

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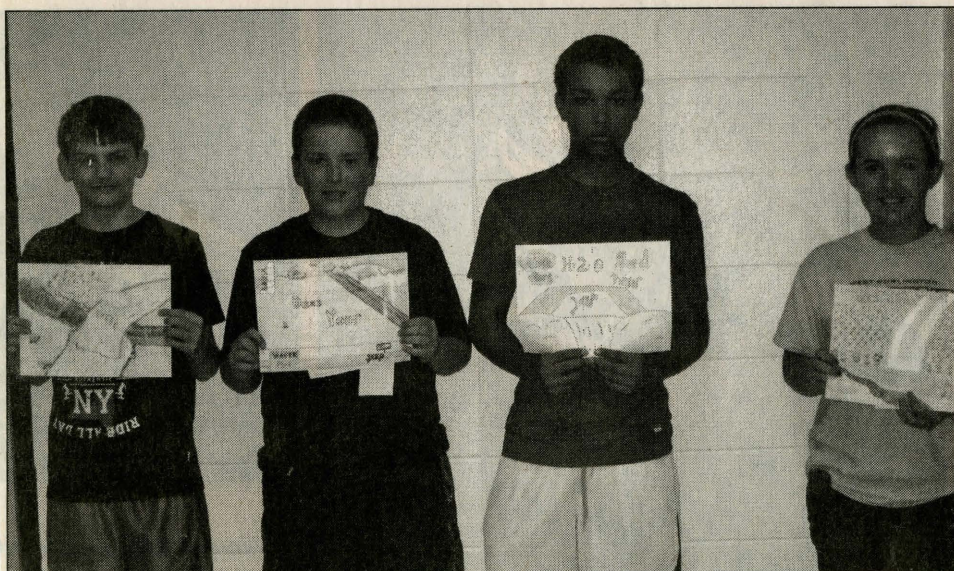
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Des Moines County News -- Page 3

WBJH Art Students recognized



These WBJHS students were winners in the Des Moines County Water Conservation poster contest, with the theme of "Where does your water shed?" The seventh graders are First place Tanner Sherrill (will be entered in district competition), Lydia Vance-second place, Jacob Fritz-3rd and Brian Brem-4th. They are students of Marianne Darnall who submitted the photo.

Cover crop cost share available

The Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District is taking applications for cover crop to be seeded on crop ground in late summer/early fall 2014. The SWCD has set a payment rate of \$25/acre. Funding is limited and applications will be taken until June 30, 2014. For more information or to sign up, stop in the office at 3625 Flint Ridge Drive, Burlington.

May 2014

Cost share available for windbreaks

The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District has cost share available for windbreaks through the Resource Enhancement and Protection Program (REAP).

Windbreaks consist of multiple rows of trees and shrubs established to protect structures from troublesome winds. Windbreaks also can increase aesthetic value, lessen noise, and provide wildlife habitat. REAP is a cost share program for forestry practices on privately owned land used for agricultural production. Besides windbreaks, REAP can be used for timber stand improve-

ment, tree planting, site preparation for natural regeneration, and riparian forest buffers. Since 1989, the Resource Enhancement and Protection Program (REAP) has invested over \$34 million into soil and water enhancement activities throughout Iowa. Locally, the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District has received \$363,431.

Applications are accepted year round. If you are interested in signing up for REAP or have questions, contact the Des Moines County SWCD at 319-753-6221.



Pictured left to right: Don Lounsbury, commissioner; Jason Hinson, commissioner; Maureen Hutchcroft, chair commissioner; Ron Snyder, commissioner; Jeff Burgus, commissioner; Bob Hinson, assistant commissioner; and center, Jamie Grimes, state secretary and Employee of the Month.

Grimes named IDALS-DSC June Employee of Month

Jamie Grimes, of Burlington, was awarded the Iowa Department of Ag and Land Stewardship-Division of Soil conservation's (IDALS-DSC) June Employee of the Month. Grimes has worked for the Des Moines and Louisa SWCD as a state secretary for the department for the last 18 years. IDALS-DSC provides statewide leadership in the protection and management of soil, water and mineral resources, in both rural and urban landscapes. This is accomplished through the many partnerships including the Natural Resources conservation Service, the 100 Soil and Water Conservation Districts throughout the state, and private landowners.

Grimes was nominated by Des Moines and Louisa County Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Some of the many accomplishments in 2012 are: processed 47 state cost share payments for Des Moines/Louisa County totaling \$126,635 in state cost share programs; and assisted both offices in completing 44 conservation plans, seeding plans, and other paperwork related to enrolling acres into the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP).

Presentation of Grimes' certificate was given by Vince Sitzmann, field services bureau chief, Matt McDonald, field representative, and the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners.

DMC Soil & Water ^{Dec 2014} Conservation District

DES MOINES COUNTY - Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District is offering a scholarship to a local high school senior who will pursue a college education in any field of conservation or agriculture.

Application packets are available at high school guidance counselor offices or call the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District at 753-6221. Applications are due by January 30, 2015.

Students living outside of Des Moines County must submit their applications to the soil and water conservation district in which they reside.

Mourning Dove and Food Plot workshop

The Natural Resources Conservation Service is hosting a landowner workshop at Mediapolis City Hall in Mediapolis, IA on Tuesday, April 2 at 5:30 PM. The workshop is open to the public and landowners interested in dove and upland bird wildlife habitat management are encouraged to attend.

Other partners sponsoring the workshop include the Aldo Leopold Chapter of Pheasants Forever, Iowa Department of

Natural Resources, and the Des Moines and Louisa County Soil & Water Conservation Districts.

Speakers will be presenting information on upland bird and green browse food plots, managing for doves in Iowa, rules for food plots on CRP, and availability of food plot seed.

For more information, please contact Drew DeLang with the Natural Resources Conservation Service at 319-753-6221 or 319-523-6411.

Thursday, April 25, 2013

Des Moines County SWCD promotes Soil and Water Stewardship Week

As a part of Des Moines County for 67 years, the Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District wants to remind you that each of us has a connection to natural resources. The National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) is celebrating the 58th year of Stewardship week April 28 - May 5, 2013. The 2013 Stewardship Week is themed, "Where does your water shed?"

Maureen Hutchcroft acts as the Chairperson for Des Moines County SWCD. The District was formed to assist people in Des Moines County with the protection and conservation of natural resources using available programs and educational activities. During Stewardship Week, Des Moines SWCD will provide bookmarks to all K-5 grade students in the county.

Clean water is important to everyone, "says

National Association of Conservation Districts President Earl Garber." "Watersheds come in all shapes and sizes. They cross county, state and national boundaries. Every inch of the land on planet Earth is part of a watershed. In the continental U.S., there are 2,100 watersheds; if we include Hawaii, Alaska and Puerto Rico, the count rises to 2,267. No matter where you are right now, you are in a watershed."

Less than 1-percent of all of the water on our planet is fresh water. The average citizen in the United States uses 70 gallons of water every day; and this does not include the water it takes to manufacture the automobiles, clothing, and food we depend on each and every day. Take time to learn about your local community water supply sources, and volunteer for river, stream or beach clean-up days. You can make a difference.

To find out more about your local watershed, including an app for your computer and smart phone, visit: www.epa.gov/mywaterway.

Des Moines SWCD is a member of the National Association of Conservation Districts which oversees the Stewardship Week program. Stewardship Week is one of the largest national annual programs to promote conservation. NACD represents the nation's 3,000 conservation districts, which were established to encourage resource conservation across the country.

For more information about Stewardship Week and conservation, contact the SWCD at 319-753-6221. Additional information about the "Where does your watershed?" program and other natural resource education materials is available on the NACD website at www.nacdnet.org/education.

Conservation posts up for grabs in Nov.

July 2014

Two Soil and Water District commissioner positions will be on the Nov. 4 general election ballot in Des Moines County.

Commissioners may come from any walk of life, but need is an interest in protecting natural resources. Anyone who is qualified to vote in a general election and resides in Des Moines County is eligible to be a candidate for election to the board of the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District.

Five commissioners are elected at general elections on a nonpartisan basis for staggered four-year terms. Only one commissioner may reside in any one township. Townships open in the next election are Washington, Yellow Spring, Huron, Franklin, Jackson, Danville, Flint River, Tama, Union, Concordia and Burlington.

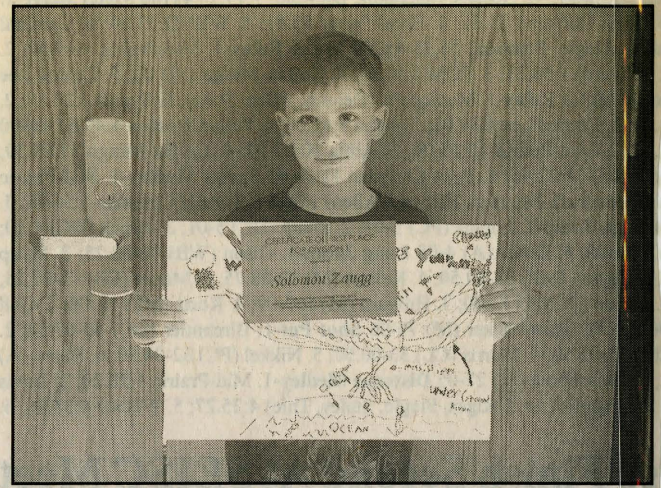
Commissioners help decide the direction of soil and water conservation programs in the county, and can influence state conservation programs.

Other activities include soil loss complaints, establishing acceptable soil loss limits, publishing an annual report, approving soil conservation plans and assisting in the management of district funds and personnel.

Soil and water conservation district commissioners are reimbursed for expenses and protected from personal liability. Commissioners are expected to take part in monthly meetings, become knowledgeable of SWCD laws and programs, develop and carry out soil and water resource conservation plans and help direct financial incentive programs.

Nomination petitions can be picked up from the Des Moines County auditor's office. Nomination papers must be signed by 25 eligible electors and filed with the auditor's office no later than 4:30 p.m. Aug. 27.

Questions about becoming a commissioner may be directed to Des Moines County SWCD at (319) 753-6221.



Division 1: Solomon Zaugg- 1st place.



Division 2: Andrew Kodis- 3rd place, Cami Whitaker, Honorable Mention, Lucas Wagenbach- 2nd place, Taryn Miller, Honorable Mention, Mallory Martin- 1st place.



Division 3: Alaina Oliver, Honorable Mention, Travis Massner- 2nd place, Justyn Wyatt- 3rd place, Maxwell McClure, Honorable Mention, Ruth Jahn- 1st place.

Soil Contest Winners

The above pictures are pictures from the Soil and Water Conservation District's annual poster contest. The contest is for students throughout SE Iowa, but Mediapolis had quite a few award winners this year. This year's theme was *Where Does Your Water Shed?* Students learned what a water shed is and how to protect it. First place winners won \$25, second place won \$20, third place won \$15, and honorable mention winners won a pizza hut gift certificate.

Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District promotes Soil and Water Stewardship Week April 2014

As a part of Des Moines County for 68 years, the Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District wants to remind you that each of us has a connection to natural resources. The National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) is celebrating the 59th year of Stewardship week April 27 - May 4, 2014. The 2014 Stewardship Week is themed, "DIG DEEPER: Mysteries in the Soil".

Maureen Hutchcroft acts as the Chairperson for Des Moines County SWCD. The District was formed to assist people in Des Moines County with the protection and conservation of natural resources using available programs and educational activities. During stewardship week, the SWCD will provide libraries in the county with bookmarks to pass out to people who check out books.

"Soil is an essential natural resource that all of us depend on each and every day," says NACD President Earl Garber. "The Dust Bowl of the 1930's showed our nation the importance of conservation practices. Farmers and ranchers who have experienced recent droughts know that conservation practices are critical in helping their soil endure, even in the most challenging weather events.

Your local conservation district is working with local landowners to assist in a variety of projects and outreach to improve soil health both now and in the long-term.

To find out more about the soil types in your community, visit <http://web-soilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov>. You can also download an app for your smart devices called "soilweb" developed by the California Soil Resource lab in collaboration with the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service.

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For more information about Stewardship Week and conservation, contact Des Moines SWCD at 319-753-6221 ext. 3. Additional information about the "DIG DEEPER Mysteries in the Soil" program and other natural resource education materials is available on the NACT website at www.nacdne.org/education.

Grimes Named June Employee Of The Month

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IDALS-DSC provides statewide leadership in the protection and management of soil, water and mineral resources, in both rural and urban landscapes. This is accomplished through the many partnerships including the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the 100 Soil and Water Conservation Districts throughout the state, and private landowners (continued).



L-R: Don Lounsbury, Commissioner; Jason Hinson, Commissioner; Maureen Hutchcroft, Chair Commissioner; Ron Snyder, Commissioner; Jeff Burgus, Commissioner; Bob Hinson, Asst. Commissioner. Center Jamie Grimes, State Secretary, Employee of the Month

Grimes was nominated by Des Moines and Louisa County Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

Some of the many accomplishments in 2012 are:

- Processed 47 state cost-share payments for Des Moines/Louisa County totaling \$126,635.00 in state cost-share programs.

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Presentation of Grimes' certificate was given by Vince Sitzmann, Field Services Bureau Chief, Matt McDonald, Field Rep. and the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners.

July 2014

Become a Soil Conservation Commissioner

Soil and Water District Commissioners may come from all walks of life; all you need is an interest in protecting our natural resources. If you are qualified to vote in a general election and reside in Des Moines County, you are eligible to be a candidate for election to the board of the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD).

Five commissioners are elected at general elections on a nonpartisan basis for staggered four-year terms. In 2014, there will be two positions on the general ballot in November. Only one commissioner may reside in any one township. Townships open in the next election are Washington, Yellow Spring, Huron,

Franklin, Jackson, Danville, Flint River, Tama, Union, Concordia, and Burlington.

As a commissioner, you'll help decide the direction of soil and water conservation programs in the county, and have the opportunity to influence state conservation programs. Your involvement can include activities such as soil loss complaints, establishing acceptable soil loss limits, publishing an annual report, approving soil conservation plans, and assisting in the management of district funds and personnel.

Soil and water conservation district commissioners are reimbursed for expenses and protected from personal liability. Commissioners are expected to take

part in regular monthly meetings, become knowledgeable of the SWCD laws and programs, develop and carry out soil and water resource conservation plans, and help direct financial incentive programs.

Nomination petitions can be picked up from the Des Moines County Auditor's office. The next general election is November 4. Nomination papers need to be signed by 25 eligible electors and filed with the County Auditor at the Des Moines County Courthouse no later than 4:30 p.m. on August 27, 2014.

Questions about becoming a commissioner may be directed to Des Moines County SWCD at 319-753-6221.

DMC SWCD selling rain barrels

April 2014

The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District has a limited supply of rain barrels and tumbling composters made from recycled plastic food barrels available for sale.

One rain barrel can save most homeowners about 1,300 gallons of water during the peak summer months. Saving rain water not only helps protect the environment, it saves homeowners money and energy. Diverting water from storm drains also decreases the impact of runoff to streams. Therefore, a rain barrel is an easy way for you to have a

consistent supply of clean, fresh water for outdoor use, FREE.

Profits from the sales of these items go to high school scholarships, poster contests, conservation education, and promotion of natural resources in Des Moines County.

For pricing and more information stop by their office at 3625 Flint Ridge Drive, Burlington, or call 319-753-6221.

Have a story?...

Call 752-8328

Soil And Water District Selling Rain Barrels

The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District has a limited supply of rain barrels and tumbling composters made from recycled plastic food barrels available for sale.

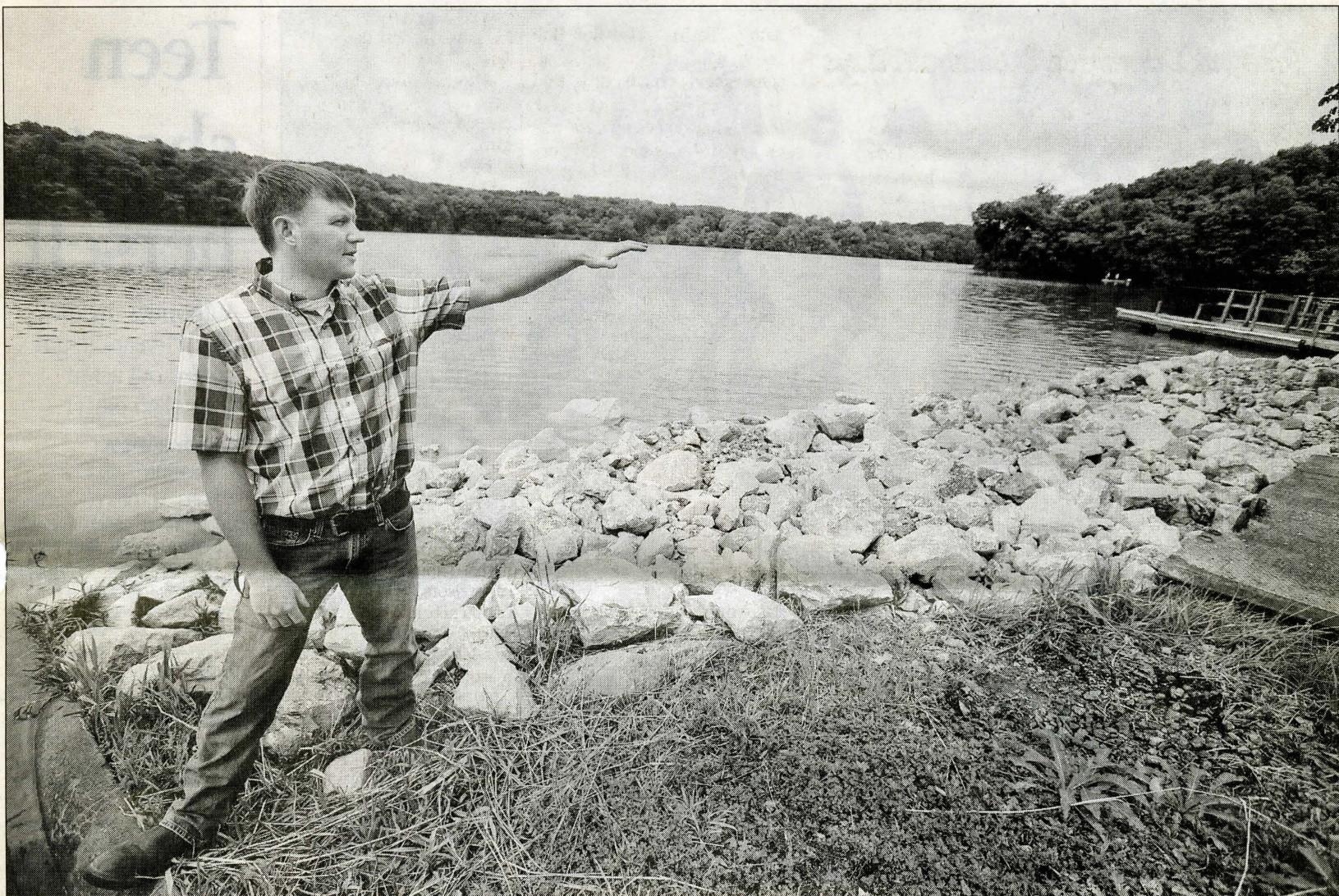
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CITY & REGION

Watershed moment



John Lovretta/The Hawk Eye

Caleb Waters, Geode watershed coordinator, talks about the shoreline restoration project underway at the main boat launch at Geode State Park near Danville. Riprap is being spread along 983 feet of shoreline in an effort to curtail shoreline erosion.

Lake Geode shoreline benefits from facelift

By **RANDY MILLER**
rmiller@thehawkeye.com

DANVILLE — The shoreline at one of the most popular fishing spots at Lake Geode State Park has received a facelift over the past two weeks that should improve the fishing experience from shore while stemming bank erosion.

Caleb Waters, Geode watershed coordinator for the Des Moines and Henry County Soil and Water Conservation Districts, said the \$100,000 project might be a first in the state since the large limestone riprap was installed from a barge on the lake, not by driving big dump trucks to each drop spot.

Waters said a contract was inked with Buford Dozing and Excavating of Bonaparte to riprap 983 feet of shoreline from just north of the fish-cleaning station at the main boat dock south around a natural point on the lake.

Each barge load carries about four truckloads of rock, or about 60 tons of material, but drafts just 2 to 3 feet below the surface so it can get close to the area where the rock needs to be placed, said Dave Buford of Buford Dozing and Excavating.

"Before we got the bid, I went to bed every night thinking about how we could do this project," Buford said, "so I came up with the idea of a barge and talked to the DNR about it."

Buford subcontracted Batey LTD of Mount Pleasant for use

of its barge, which it uses when harvesting trees from river islands, and retrofitted some of its mechanicals before starting the project.

The riprap was placed 3 feet into the water and several feet up the shoreline to help control erosion of the bank by wind and waves, he said, as well as human foot traffic.

The project was funded through the state marine fuels tax fund, which is earmarked for such projects, and a \$5,000 grant through the Iowa Department of Natural Resources lake restoration fund.

The steep topography of the land surrounding the lake hampers shoreline fishing and contributes to erosion, he said. By using a barge to place the riprap workers did minimal damage to the land and trees, which would have happened if they had dumped and moved the limestone at various locations in the park.

"We're also planning to remove some of the scrub brush to make it easier to get down to the edge of the water to fish," he said. "We really want to make it more accessible so people can bring their kids out to fish."

To further improve the lake's water quality, five sediment ponds have been built around the lake over the last several years to reduce runoff into the lake. Those ponds were stocked two years ago by the DNR with bluegill, largemouth bass and channel catfish and also are available for



John Lovretta/The Hawk Eye

Jeremy Neeley, with Buford Dozing and Excavating of Bonaparte, loads riprap onto a barge as part of a shoreline restoration project Wednesday at the main boat launch at Geode State Park near Danville. The riprap is being spread along 983 feet of shoreline in an effort to curtail erosion.

public fishing, he said.

DNR Fisheries biologist Chad Dolan said the fish might not be large enough to keep just yet, but by next year they certainly will be.

"In another year, they should be catchable size," he said.

Dolan said during the past 50 to 60 years the lake has lost 13 surface acres to sedimentation.

He said while officials still see algae blooms, they are not as

prevalent as the used to be, and the water quality has improved in recent years.

The sediment ponds trap 95 percent of the effluent and prevent it from entering the lake, he said.

Two more ponds are planned, which Dolan said the DNR also will stock.

Waters said the ponds now are accessible by foot, but plans are in

the works to create a trail system for easier accessibility.

The DNR conducts weekly water tests at the beach from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Those results are posted online at www.iowadnr.gov/Recreation/Beach/Monitoring

In the last posting, June 3, the E.coli level at the beach was 63, making swimming not recommended.

IOWA & ILLINOIS

Des Moines County Fair



Brenna Norman/The Hawk Eye

ade Marshall, 14, of Mediapolis and Brandon Thye, 10, of Burlington spray water to simulate rainfall on a polluted community at the Iowa Learning Farms' Conservation Station trailer Friday at the Des Moines County Fairgrounds in West Burlington.

Station-ary learning

Fairgoers learn about environment at conservation station.

By JERMAINE PIGEE
jpigee@thehawkeye.com

WEST BURLINGTON — As people walked around the Des Moines County Fair Friday afternoon, some people could not help but ask about a colorful watershed simulator on the fairgrounds.

The watershed simulator was part of the Iowa Learning Farms' Conservation Station, which is a mobile learning center that travels throughout the state teaching Iowans to improve water quality and keep Iowa's soils in place — building a culture of conservation.

"A watershed is an area of land that drains to a common water body," said Liz Juchems, conversation station coordinator and educator. "Land sheds water, and it collects in a common low point, whether it's a creek or a river."

As people at the fair wandered around the watershed replica, Juchems used substances that simulated pesticides, oil and soil, and she washed them away with water. At the bottom of the device was a simulated body of water.

"We use simulated rain to show where the water flows and what it may be carrying, whether it's pesticides, oil or soil," Juchems said. "We want to show people what that

Today at the fair

Time	Event
8 a.m.	Fairgrounds open
Daily activity	Little Toot Express and Bounce House
Daily activity	Mediapolis Jr. Farmers Putt Putt Golf
8 a.m.	4-H Sheep Show, Livestock Arena, followed by 4-H bottle lamb show; beginning bucket bottle lamb and kid goat follows 4-H show
9 a.m.	Nicks Kid's Show, Entertainment Tent
10 a.m.	Hawkeye Heritage Quilt Guild display opens in Room 501 of Trustee Hall. Quilts are on display until 6:30 p.m.
10 a.m.	Extemporaneous speaking contest, Little Theatre
10:30 a.m.	Cookie decorating, Entertainment Tent
Noon	State fair exhibitors' meeting, Exhibit Hall
1 p.m.	Educational presentations, Little Theatre
4 p.m.	Mini Farm Bureau Park, Farm Bureau tent
1 to 4 p.m.	Sawdust Dig for children, Mini Farm Bureau Park — Farm Bureau tent
3 p.m.	Bucket bottle calf show, Livestock Arena
	Beginner bucket bottle calf show (approximate time)
4 p.m.	Pedal pull
4 p.m.	Des Moines County Fair Board & Mediapolis FFA communications exhibitors meeting, Little Theater
4 p.m.	Clothing event stage rehearsal
6 p.m.	The Fun Factory, Entertainment Tent
7 p.m.	4-H state fair exhibitors parade (non-livestock), Exhibit Hall stage. Fashion revue and clothing selection style show to follow exhibitors parade
7:30 p.m.	Antique tractor pull, Livestock Arena
9:30 p.m.	Fireworks by J & M Displays

looks like."

Juchems also talked about different ways to prevent this from happening, which included cleaning up oil from a driveway or limiting the amount of pesticides used at home.

Treyton Turnbull, 8, of Pella was one of the students who was interested in watersheds.

"I enjoyed listening to what (Juchems) was showing us," Turnbull said. "She was showing us about water runoff and how water flows into a stream. I also learned not to litter."

Through demonstrations, dialogue, computer animations and interactive activi-

ties, the conservation station taught fairgoers of all ages why Iowa's water and soils are precious and how they can help protect these natural resources.

Three conservation stations make appearances at county fairs, festivals, farmers markets and student educational events across the state of Iowa.

"We have seven full-time staff, and we have five students this summer that have traveled around the state," said Juchems, who said all the staff and students either attend or graduated from Iowa State University.

The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District invited the conservation station to the fair.

"This is a wonderful educational tool to help kids get into conservation as well as adults," said Maureen Hutchcroft, commissioner in the Des Moines County group. "This also teaches people things they can do to help keep their air and water cleaner for future generations."

Those who visited the conservation station also learned why it's important for people to clean up after their dogs, as dog feces contaminate groundwater and, in turn, affect the soil. Dog feces is one of many sediment-producing materials that can be controlled by people who are willing to care for the environment, Juchems said.

Scholarship and Award Winners – 2013

Mediapolis High School

Olumayowa Adebisi – Academic Gold Cord, National Honor Society Member

Emily Allen – Academic Gold Cord, National Honor Society Member, Alpha Delta Kappa Scholarship, Eastern Iowa Light & Power Cooperative, MCEA Scholarship, Mediapolis Spanish Club Scholarship, Roy H. & Joan Gerling Scholarship

Nicholas Anderson – Academic Gold Cord, National Honor Society Member, Bar Association American Citizenship Award, 2013 Brent Slocum Foundation Scholarship, UNI Coe Incoming Freshmen Scholarship, UNI Rose H. Quick Scholarship, Elks Lodge Scholarship, Grinnell Mutual Scholarship, IOOF Scholarship in memory of Joe Clover, MTC Technologies Scholarship

Brody Armstrong – Academic Gold Cord, Historian National Honor Society Member, Elks MVS Scholarship, University of Iowa Scholars

Lincoln Baxter – National Honor Society Member

Beckman – Mediapolis Athletic Booster Club Scholarship

Beckman – DMC Cattlemen's Association Scholarship, Creelman Scholarship, Myers Tree Farm and Potting Shed Scholarship

Dustin Belknap – Academic Gold Cord, National Honor Society Member, DMC Cattlemen's Association Scholarship, DMC Soil & Water Conservation District Scholarship, River Valley Cooperative Scholarship, DMC Farm Bureau Scholarship, Palmer Junior Achievement Titan Competition Scholarship, Creelman Scholarship, Corey Baker Memorial Scholarship

Joseph Burgus – National Honor Society Member

Jade Coulter – Academic Gold Cord, National Honor Society Member, Iowa State Christina Hixson Opportunity Award, Corey Baker Memorial Scholarship, Mediapolis American Legion Auxiliary Scholarship

Allegra Crews – Academic Gold Cord, National Honor Society Member, Great River Friends Scholarship, Mediapolis Spanish Club Scholarship, Prairie Ridge Care & Rehabilitation Scholarship, IOOF Scholarship in memory of Robert Myers

Jacob Eberhardt – DMC Cattlemen's Association Scholarship, Rob Steiner/DMC Farm Bureau Scholarship, Creelman Scholarship, LiquiGrow/Twin State, Inc. Ag Scholarship, L.W. Matteson Scholarship

Jesse Ertz – Bernie Saggau Award, Kansas State University Athletic Scholarship

Kensley Heater – Academic Gold Cord, National Honor Society Member, Morning Sun Lions Club Scholarship, Morning Sun Lioness Club Scholarship, Mutual Telephone Company of Morning Sun Scholarship, Mediapolis Spanish Club Scholarship, Theresa Carroll Scholarship, James W. & Carolyn Bray Scholarship

Allison Hedges – Academic Gold Cord, Reporter National Honor Society Member, Iowa State University Achievement Award, Iowa State The ARA, Two Rivers Bank & Trust Scholarship

Caleb Hemphill – Academic Gold Cord, Dakota State University Merit Champion Scholarship, First Presbyterian Church Scholarship, Ray Pilling Memorial Scholarship

Haley Hillyard – Academic Gold Cord, National Honor Society Member, FFA Alumni Scholarship, 4-H Hilltop Helpers Scholarship, Creelman Scholarship, M.E.P.O. Scholarship, MTC Technologies Scholarship, Myers Tree Farm & Potting Shed Scholarship

Jessica Holsteen – Academic Gold Cord, Palmer Junior Achievement Titan Competition Scholarship, Wartburg College Junior Achievement and Regents Scholarships, Grinnell Mutual Scholarship, Mediapolis Athletic Booster Club Scholarship, Diane Sue Petersen Memorial Scholarship, Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union Citizenship Scholarship

Blake Hubbard – Academic Gold Cord, National Honor Society Member, Community Service Silver Cord 423 hours, University of Iowa Tuition Scholarship

Alyssa Hull – National Honor Society Member, Alice L. Mullahy Memorial Nursing Scholarship

Kortni Isom – Academic Gold Cord, National Honor Society Member, Community Service Silver Cord 447 hours, Greater Burlington Youth Professionals Scholarship, Manfred A. Nordstrom Scholarship

Kendra Keltzer – Academic Gold Cord, National Honor Society Member, Creelman Scholarship

Mallah Kome – Academic Gold Cord, YMCA-YWCA John Slocum Scholarship, U of I Freshman Tuition Scholarship, Iowa Scholars Award, Engineering at Iowa Scholarship, U of I The Blank Scholarship, Hagan Scholarship, Mediapolis Education Foundation, TTT Scholarship

Chelsea Lippert – Academic Gold Cord, National Honor Society Member, Ellen Hutchcroft Memorial Scholarship, Virginia Kraft Award

Lindsey Maddox – 4-H Hilltop Helpers Scholarship

Rebecca Marker – Academic Gold Cord, National Honor Society Member, Louisiana State University Tiger Excellence Scholarship

William Massner – Academic Gold Cord, Treasurer National Honor Society, Helen Raider Memorial Scholarship, Elks Lodge Scholarship, Iowa State Presidential Scholarship, Iowa State Cardinal Scholar, National Honor Society Scholarship

Kori McLaughlin – Academic Gold Cord, National Honor Society Member, DMC Cattlemen's Association Scholarship, 4-H Hilltop Helpers Scholarship, Creelman Scholarship, Kayla Atkins Memorial Scholarship

Chase Miller – Academic Gold Cord, Mutual Telephone Company of Morning Sun Scholarship, Upper Iowa University Athletic Scholarship, Mediapolis Education Foundation

Kylie Nielsen – Academic Gold Cord, National Honor Society Member, Mediapolis Fine Arts Scholarship, Mildred Johnson Tenglin Scholarship

Andrew Poggemiller – Academic Gold Cord, National Honor Society Member, Community Service Silver Cord 418 hours, DAR Good Citizenship Award, Iowa Scholars Award, Mediapolis Spanish Club Scholarship, Mediapolis Fine Arts Scholarship, Mediapolis Best Thespian Award

Rachel Rigdon – National Honor Society Member, Creelman Scholarship

Patrick Riherd – Academic Gold Cord, National Honor Society Member, Pioneer Scholarship

Mike Rubey – Creelman Scholarship, Corey Baker Memorial Scholarship

Jared Schmidgall – Academic Gold Cord, President National Honor Society, Burlington/W. Burlington Optimist Club Scholarship, Iowa State Presidential Scholarship, Muscatine Chapter of Engineering Scholarship, Iowa State Cardinal Scholar, National Honor Society Scholarship

Brianna Schulz – Academic Gold Cord, National Honor Society Member

Aubrey Siegle – Academic Gold Cord, National Honor Society Member, Messiah Lutheran Church Scholarship, Palmer Junior Achievement Titan Competition Scholarship, Mediapolis Youth League Bill Meeker Memorial Scholarship

Robert Connor Smith – Academic Gold Cord, National Honor Society Member, Palmer Junior Achievement Titan Competition Scholarship, Iowa State University Junior Achievement Scholarship, Mildred Johnson Tenglin Scholarship

Sarah Staley – Academic Gold Cord, National Honor Society Member, TTT Scholarship, Mediapolis American Legion Auxiliary Scholarship

Steffener – Academic Gold Cord, National Honor Society Member, DMC Cattlemen's Association Scholarship, 4-H Hilltop Helpers Scholarship, Creelman Scholarship, Kayla Atkins Memorial Scholarship, Mediapolis American Legion Auxiliary Joyce Hollingsworth Memorial Scholarship, IOOF Scholarship in memory of Larry Reif

Forestt Stellern – Creelman Scholarship, Iowa State Christina Hixson Opportunity Award, Mediapolis Youth League Bill Meeker Memorial Scholarship

Danielle Tapp – Academic Gold Cord, National Honor Society Member

Theresa Thornton – Mediapolis Care Facility Scholarship

Benjamin Vorwerk – Academic Gold Cord, Community Service Silver Cord 415 hours, Secretary National Honor Society, Burlington/W. Burlington Optimist Youth of the Year, Governor's Scholar Recognition Award, Des Moines Register Academic All-State Award, Gentlemen's Club Scholarship, United States JCI Senate Foundation Scholarship, 2013 Brent Slocum Foundation Scholarship, RIITA Scholarship, Iowa Bankers Association Student Athlete Achievement Scholarship, University of Iowa Presidential Scholarship, University of Iowa Old Gold Scholarship, University of Iowa Scholars Award, University of Iowa Blank Scholarship, University of Iowa Tippie Scholars Scholarship, University of Iowa Freshman Tuition Scholarship, Iowa Jaycee Charity (Myron Rogers Scholarship Fund), Keep Iowa Beautiful-Byers Environmental Scholarship, Iowa Elks Foundation Scholarship, Grand Lodge of Iowa, A.F. and A.M., Masonic Scholarship, Burlington Junior Women's League Scholarship, M.E.P.O. Scholarship, Mediapolis Fine Arts Scholarship, Dr. W. L. and Grace Stewart Scholarship, Roy H. and Joan Gerling Scholarship, Mediapolis News Scholarship, Simon Estes Foundation Scholarship

Jordan Wagenbach – Creelman Scholarship, John Ensminger Memorial Scholarship

Karrie Wagenbach – Academic Gold Cord, National Honor Society Member

Rory Wagenbach – Academic Gold Cord, National Honor Society Member

Drew Wagner – Creelman Scholarship, Corey Baker Memorial Scholarship, Mediapolis Lions Club Omega Scholarship

Kourtney Waterhouse – Clifford Lloyd and Winona Rynott Yohe Scholarship, Burlington Steamboat Days Scholarship

Rachel Wilson – National Honor Society Member, Morning Sun Lions Club Scholarship, Solid Rock Baptist Church Wapello Scholarship, Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company and Eland Agency Road to Success Scholarship, Mediapolis News Scholarship

John Wischmeier – Academic Gold Cord, Creelman Scholarship, LiquiGrow/Twin State, Inc. Ag Scholarship, James and Lee Hodges Memorial Ag Scholarship, SCC Agriculture Scholarship

Hannah Wulf – Academic Gold Cord, National Honor Society Member, Eastern Iowa Light and Power Cooperative, SCC Foundation Board Scholarship



L-R: Allie Coates, Ellie Gerber, Helaina Hillyard Back: Rachael Kennedy, Ruthie Jahn, Olivia Moehle, Jagger Gourley

Mediapolis Students Compete In Local Track Meet

By Kim Scheitlin

Seven Mediapolis students recently competed at the George Wright Memorial Track Meet, sponsored by the Ft. Madison Lions Club, Ft. Madison Parks and Recreation Department and Hershey Track and Field Games, held Wednesday, May 8 at the Ft. Madison High School track.

For Allie Coates, Ellie Gerber, Helaina Hillyard, Rachael Kennedy, Ruthie Jahn and Olivia Moehle it was their first time competing in the event sponsored by Hershey's. Jagger Gourley has been in the event before, and two years ago earned a free trip to Pennsylvania to compete in the national event for placing in the state final.

Most of the students found out about the meet from their P.E. teacher, Heather Anderson. "Usually by the time I find out about the meet, the registration deadline has passed, but this year the saving grace was you could register that day at the meet. I got an email from John Luna who was in charge of the event in Ft. Madison. I then announced it to the fourth, fifth and sixth grade classes and gave the information to the junior high girls' track coach," commented Anderson.

"Mrs. Anderson told our whole class about the meet and how to register," remarked Ellie Gerber.

Allie Coates added, "She handed out these forms and you had to fill them out. Then last Wednesday, Cheryl Hillyard and Rachel Moehle took us girls down to the meet."

For the girls, Rachael Kennedy competed in the 100-meter dash, 200-meter dash and the softball throw, Gerber ran in the 200, the 400, the 4x100 relay and the softball throw, Ruthie Jahn ran in the 4x100 relay, the 200-meter dash and the softball throw, Allie Coates ran the 400, the 800 and was in the softball throw, Olivia Moehle was in the 4x100, the 100, the 200 and the softball throw and Helaina Hillyard was in the standing long jump, the 200, the 4x100 and the 100.

Jagger Gourley won the 100, the 200 and the standing long jump and will advance to state competition, Helaina Hillyard will advance in the standing long jump and the 400, the 4x100 relay (Jahn, Gerber, Hillyard, Moehle) will advance and Coates will go on in the 800 and Gerber in the 400. These individuals will compete in the state final to be held sometime this summer.

"It was a lot of fun, and I would do it again," said Moehle. The others agreed. Good luck at the state meet.

10; 2. Forbes (LT) 5-10; 4. McFarland (LT) 5-10; 5. Foster (M) 5-04 **Long Jump**-1. Rivers (CJ) 20-00.50; 2. Van Sickle (LM) 19-01.25; 3. Ramirez (CJ) 19-00.25; 4. S. Bietz (M) 18-08.25; 5. Brockway (W) 18-04.75; 6. Hootman (H) 18-02 **Shot Put**-1. Adam (P) 47-01.00; 2. Stellern (M) 44-10.00; 3. Holloway (M) 40-10; 4. Bond (P) 40-08; 5. Forbes (LT) 40-03; 6. Kessel (LM) 39-07 **Discus**-1. Stellern (M) 149-07; 2. Bond (P) 141.03; 3. Adam (P) 126-09; 4. Forbes (LT) 124-08.50; 5. O'Connor (LM) 122-02; 6. Shadle (M) 120-01.50

Mediapolis Places Four First And Second Places To Finish Second

By Kim Scheitlin

The Bullettes' track and field team totaled 132 points and finished second behind Pekin in the SEISC North Division Track Meet held at Columbus Junction on Monday, May 6. Mediapolis had four first-place and four second-place finishes for the night.

Heidi Hillyard finished first in the 200-meter dash and anchored the winning 4x200 meter relay (Emily Allen, Alyssa Petersen, Tyffanie Kalina, Hillyard) and the 4x400 meter relay (Mikala Denney, Allen, Ashley Hedges, Hillyard). Savannah Keitzer was the champion in the long jump. Allen finished second in the 100-meter dash, Denney was second in the 400-meter dash, Staley was runner-up in the 400-meter hurdles, and the distance medley (Ashley Hedges, Chloe Siegle, Staley, Haley Thie) crossed the finish line in second-place.

Team Results: 1. Pekin, 161; 2. Mediapolis, 132; 3. Columbus, 90; 4. WMU, 69; 5. Highland, 61; 5. Lone Tree, 61; 7. L-M, 55; 8. Wapello, 50; 9. WACO, 37; 10. IMS, 20

Results: **100 Meter Dash**-1. Flemr (LT) 12.61; 2. Allen (M) 13.07; 3. Adamson (H) 13.30; 4. Frier (WACO) 13.35; 5. Arendt (P) 13.41; 6. Canady (LM) 13.48; 7. Kalina (M) 13.55 **200 Meter Dash**-1. Hillyard (M) 26.91; 2. Flemr (LT) 27.02; 3. Allen (M) 27.17; 4. Pretz (CJ) 27.77; 5. McClanahan (LM) 28.08; 6. Doehrmann (LT) 28.16 **400 Meter Dash**-1. Doehrmann (LT) 1:02.68; 2. Denney (M) 1:04.40; 3. Blake (W) 1:04.97; 4. Winn (P) 1:05.00; 5. Tolle (P) 1:05.19; 6. Chaney (CJ) 1:05.49; 7. Johnson (M) 1:10.33 **800 Meter Run**-1. Horras (P) 2:31.02; 2. Marin (CJ) 2:32.22; 3. Earnest (P) 2:33.77; 4. Lampe (H) 2:34.32; 5. Ewart (W) 2:34.68; 6. Thie (M) 2:35.25 **1500 Meter Run**-1. Wright (P) 5:07.66; 2. Lock (P) 5:28.75; 3. Luttrull (LM) 5:30.93; 4. Thie (M) 5:31.15; 5. Banwart (M) 5:32.36; 6. Schmieder (IMS) 5:33.39 **3000 Meter Run**-1. Luttrull (LM) 11:28.58; 2. Lock (P) 11:35.09; 3. Lock (P) 12:03.93; 4. Wehmeyer (LT) 12:07.03; 5. Banwart (M) 12:07.24; 6. Ewart (W) 13:12.82 **100 Meter Hurdles**-1. Kingery (WMU) 15.59; 2. Reed (P) 16.04; 3. Davisson (CJ) 16.15; 4. Pretz (CJ) 16.65; 5. As. Hedges (M) 17.17; 6. Morgan (P) 17.81 **400 Meter Hurdles**-1. Crawford (WMU) 1:09.98; 2. Staley (M) 1:11.06; 3. Wright (P) 1:11.11; 4. Wade (WMU) 1:13.55; 5. Mincks (CJ) 1:14.50; 6. Cooley (P) 1:15.98; 7. Dill (M) 1:17.48 **4x100 Meter Relay**-1. Columbus 50.98; 2. Lone Tree 53.51; 3. WMU 53.86; 4. Mediapolis (Woodruff, Kalina, Siegle, Petersen) 54.02; 5. Pekin 54.28; 6. WACO 54.31 **4x200 Meter Relay**-1. Mediapolis (Allen, Petersen, Kalina, Hillyard) 1:58.32; 2. Highland 1:52.36; 3. WMU 1:52.66; 4. L-M 1:56.66; 5. Pekin 1:57.51; 6. WACO 1:58.32 **4x400 Meter Relay**-1. Mediapolis (Denney, Allen, As. Hedges, Hillyard) 4:17.45; 2. Pekin 4:24.22; 3. Columbus 4:28.24; 4. Wapello 4:28.84; 5. Highland 4:43.87; 6. WMU 4:48.36 **4x800 Meter Relay**-1. Pekin 10:14.60; 2. Columbus 10:20.96; 3. Wapello 11:03.97; 4. Mediapolis (Latty, Buettell, Coates, Johnson) 11:23.43; 5. L-M 11:31.19; 6. Lone Tree 12:03.88 **Sprint Medley**-1. Highland 1:57.70; 2. Columbus 1:58.83; 3. Mediapolis (Woodruff, Petersen, Siegle, Denney) 2:00.03; 4. Lone Tree 2:01.42; 5. Pekin 2:02.25; 6. Wapello 2:03.54 **Distance Medley**-1. Pekin 4:26.55; 2. Mediapolis (As. Hedges, Siegle, Staley, Thie) 4:36.57; 3. Columbus 4:38.78; 4. Wapello 4:39.05; 5. IMS 4:50.14; 6. WACO 4:55.37 **Shuttle Hurdle Relay**-1. WMU 1:07.31; 2. Columbus 1:10.98; 3. Pekin 1:15.46; 4. WACO 1:20.00; 5. Mediapolis (Keitzer, Al. Hedges, Machholz, Kramer-Diewold) 1:22.89; 6. L-M 1:23.14 **High Jump**-1. Dutton (H) 5-00; 2. Slabaugh (IMS) 4-10; 3. Keen (W) 4-10; 4. Skriver (WACO) 4-10; 5. Atwood (P) 4-06; 6. Alt (LT) 4-04 **Long Jump**-1. Keitzer (M) 15-04.50; 2. Blake (W) 15-01.75; 3. Davisson (CJ) 14-11.75; 4. Chandler (CJ) 14-09.25; 5. Vazquez (H) 14-08.50; 6. Greene (WACO) 14-05.25; 9. Kalina (M) 13-06.50 **Shot Put**-1. Williams (P) 35-08.00; 2. Baker (P) 35-05.00; 3. Hargrave (LM) 32-08; 4. Krieger-Coen (WMU) 31-08; 5. Miller (H) 30-10; 6. Reynolds (LT) 30-01; 7. Machholz (M) 30-00; 9. As. Hedges (M) 29-01 **Discus**-1. Krieger-Coen (WMU) 112-10; 2. Hargrave (LM) 108.07.50; 3. Hillyard (M) 106-01; 4. Fritchen (P) 101-10; 5. Baker (P) 98-04.50; 6. Powers (H) 93-09; 14. Strawhacker (M) 72-09.50

Jamie Grimes named June Employee of the Month



Pictured from (l-r) are: Don Lounsbury, Commissioner, Jason Hinson, Commissioner, Maureen Hutchcroft, Chair Commissioner, Jamie Grimes, State Secretary and Employee of the Month, Ron Snyder, Commissioner, Jeff Burgus, Commissioner, Bob Hinson, Asst. Commissioner.

Burlington – Jamie Grimes, of Burlington, was awarded the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship – Division of Soil Conservation's (IDALS-DSC) June Employee of the Month. Grimes has worked for the Des Moines and Louisa SWCD as a State Secretary for the Department for the last 18 years.

IDALS –DSC provides statewide leadership in the protection and management of soil, water and mineral resources, in both rural and urban landscapes. This is accomplished through the many partnerships including the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the 100 Soil and Water Conservation Districts

vate landowners.

Grimes was nominated by Des Moines and Louisa County Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

Some of the many accomplishments in 2012 are:

- Processed 47 state cost share payments for Des Moines/Louisa County totaling \$126,635.00 in state cost share programs.

- Assisted both office in

completing 44 conservation plans, seeding plans, and other paperwork related to enrolling acres into the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

Presentation of Grimes certificate was given by Vince Sitzmann, Field Services Bureau Chief, Matt McDonald Field Rep. and the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners.

Perhaps you sent a lovely card,
Or sat quietly in a chair.
Perhaps you sent a floral piece,
If so we saw it there.
Perhaps you spoke the kindest words,
As any friend could say;
Perhaps you were not there at all,
Just thought of us that day.
Whatever you did to console our hearts,
We thank you so much whatever the part.

The family of

Jim Gevock

Gratefully acknowledging
and thanking you
for your kind expression
of sympathy.

Lloyd Schmeiser
Dorothy

Thank you so much for the
beautiful floral basket in memory
of Jack.

Jack had a passion for soil
and water conservation when he
worked for the Soil Conservation
Service, and he continued to
have that interest and passion the
rest of his life. Thank you for
remembering him. - Betty and Family

AWARDS

Presented at the Thursday Luncheon

IOWA SOIL CONSERVATION AWARDS PROGRAM (ISCAP)

Conservation Teacher of the Year

Presenter: Angi Reid, Iowa Conservation Education Coalition

Division I Winner: Nancy Carter, Mediapolis Community School, Mediapolis, Des Moines SWCD

Nancy Carter is a teacher that incorporates conservation and actively involves students in all aspects of the learning process. In turn she garners enthusiasm from her students about conservation projects. She challenges students to think beyond themselves and think globally. Students are engaged in science and are taught the scientific method in problem solving. Issues are approached in a thoughtful manner, and the impact of conclusions can be properly evaluated. This involves many interactive and hands-on activities. The students soon begin to ask better questions. In each case, a solution must be evaluated for short and long term consequences and each student has individual strengths that can be brought to bear on the problem. Students can carry these lessons into adulthood and be thoughtful, well informed citizens who will work with others throughout life, making a positive impact on their family and community.

Division II Winner: Kim Strunk, Davenport West High School, Davenport, St. Ambrose University, Davenport and Scott County Community College, Scott County, Scott SWCD

Kim teaches 10th through 12th grade at Davenport West. He teaches Environmental Science, Invertebrate Zoology, Investigative Biology, Molecular Biology and Genetics. Kim teaches three other science courses where students earn college credits. Kim always seeks to build a conservation ethic in his students by assisting them to enjoy and appreciate the natural world of Iowa. Kim lived in Alaska for two years. For his students' benefit he is able to contrast the natural wonders of Alaska with the natural wonders of rich Iowa soil. Students are so well equipped and self-confident that many can go out and talk to community leaders, representatives in business and government. Wherever possible, Kim takes students along when speaking publically, and frequently the students also speak as part of the program. Through numerous field trips, students have acquired the value of stewardship of the rural and urban environment.

Conservation Farmers of the Year

Presenter: Craig Hill, President, Iowa Farm Bureau Federation

Recipient: Mike Sporrer, Dedham, Carroll SWCD

Mike has been a no-till farmer since he was a high school junior and he rented 101 acres from his Dad. Anyone looking at Mike's fields can feel the wonderment of his success and the display of his ethic. Mike doesn't think it is anything special; he is just doing what needs to be done to protect soil, water and air. Mike has expanded no-till to all owned and rented land and has noticed an increase in organic matter, water infiltration, and crop yields. Much of the 900 acres of land farmed are rugged; 15% or more with steep slopes. Mike has worked to bring all soil loss levels at "T" or below. Mike combines no-till, contouring, terraces, waterways, field borders, and cover crops to achieve soil protection goals on his Corn-Corn-Soybean rotation. Mike strives to protect his land from ephemeral and gully erosion by maintaining the waterways and keeping everything seeded and shaped for drainage. Mike has installed water and sediment control basins where needed. Mike has side-dressed with nitrogen and used the fall nitrogen stalk test. He analyzes comparison field strips and applies variable rates with GPS technology.

Woodland Owner of the Year

Presenter: Aaron Lumley, Forestry Bureau Chief, Iowa Department on Natural Resources

Recipient: Ron Berns, Monona, Allamakee SWCD

Ron sets an excellent example for other woodland owners on the proper use of practical forestry. Ron carefully follows a written management plan for his 280 acres, a plan that he began in 1981, revised in 2005, 2007 and 2010. Ron performs different timber stand improvements in different areas each year, always with the goal of owning a healthy and productive woodland. Ron has clear cut and harvested oak and maple, and then hand planted oak and walnut. Ron is a NEIFAC member, NE Iowa Woods Co-op member, master manager graduate, and he has put 209 acres in the Forestry Legacy Program.

AWARDS

IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE WINDBREAK AWARDS

Presenter: Tom Holm, Izaak Walton League National Director

Farmstead Windbreak

Recipient: Dennis and Kathy Venner, Arcadia, Carroll SWCD

Dennis and Kathy planted their windbreak to protect the farmstead from winter winds and snow. This included their home, but also the machine shed, grain bins and of course, the cattle lots. The windbreak consists of five rows of Dogwood, Chokecherry, Red Cedar, Norway Spruce, and Concolor Fir. Livestock are not permitted in the windbreak area. Weeds are controlled with mulch and regular mowing. An ice storm in 2009-2010 damaged many trees. Dennis and Kathy have replaced plants where necessary, pruned and trimmed away broken limbs on others.

Newly Established Farmstead Windbreak

Recipient: Dean and Michelle Pudenz, Carroll, Carroll SWCD

Dean and Michelle planted their windbreak to protect an existing grain bin on their property and plans for a future home. All deciduous and evergreens were planted from potted stock. A drip irrigation system was installed and used for the first two years and still is used in dry spells such as the fall of 2011 and summer of 2012. All young trees were supported with bamboo stakes. In addition, a 40 foot strip of alfalfa was planted around the windbreak to help buffer stock from chemical drift from farm ground. Dean and Michelle use mowing, mulching and spot spraying to control weeds. No livestock are allowed near the windbreak area and they are constantly on the lookout for any threats to the trees and shrubs.

Field Shelter-belt Windbreak

Recipient: Rose and Greg Shine, Conrad, Grundy SWCD

Rose and Greg noticed that not many farms in Grundy County have planted field windbreaks. They decided to do something about it. Their ground was marginal and susceptible to erosion. Quite possibly, the kids and grandkids might even benefit from a future cash crop. Regardless, the windbreak that was installed helps prevent soil from blowing away, helps keep the shallow water area between the windbreaks cleaner, and helps reduce the runoff into a nearby creek. For the first five years, Rose and Greg kept a 3' wide black strip spraying for weed control with roundup and has mowed between the rows. Occasional spot spraying is still needed. Rose and Greg trim and prune as necessary. They also planted filter strips along the creek and shallow water area to encourage wildlife.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE AWARD WINNERS!

The CDI and SSCC wish to thank the following individuals for helping to judge the awards: Darrell Weems-CDI, Alex Schmidt, Johnson SWCD, Rick Robinson-Iowa Farm Bureau Federation, Vince Sitzmann-DSC, Amy Kaleita-Forbs-ISU Extension, Laura Crowell-NRCS, and David Strom-DSC

AWARDS

Acknowledgement of awards presented throughout 2012.

CDI Poster Contest State Winners

DIVISION I (K-1): Grant Nelson, Dubuque SWCD, Region 4

DIVISION II (2-3): Kody Noble, Sioux SWCD, Region 1

DIVISION III (4-6): Bailey Hopkins, Union SWCD, Region 8

DIVISION IV (7-9): Tara Tilstra, Sioux SWCD, Region 1

DIVISION V (10-12): Amy Carlson, Des Moines SWCD, Region 9

Poster Contest sponsored by:



2012 Iowa Envirothon State Champions

Marshalltown High School—Coach Susan Fritzell was accompanied by Pat Schlarbaum from Iowa DNR and her team of five students (Brennan Gooman, Molly Finn, Joseph Metzger, Abby Snyder, and Adam Willman) to the Canon Envirothon competition at Susquehanna University in Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania. Marshalltown finished top overall for the Iowa Envirothon last April, out-scoring nearly 60 teams across Iowa at both regional and state competitions. The team finished 17th out of 54 in Pennsylvania, the best overall score for an Iowa team in the history of participation with the Canon Envirothon.

CDI Scholarship Awards

First Place (\$1,800)--Adam Striegel

Keokuk SWCD, Region 9

Second Place (\$1,200)--Rebecca Clay

Plymouth SWCD, Region 1

Third Place (\$1,000)--Todd Manternach

Jones SWCD, Region 4

Other Regional Winners (\$300):

Tate Klocke, Calhoun SWCD, Region 2

Jonathan Gardner, Howard SWCD, Region 3

Alex Cohrs, Harrison SWCD, Region 5

Madison Beeler, Madison SWCD, Region 6

Dustin Lange, Linn SWCD, Region 7

Ethan Stephens, Mills SWCD, Region 8

Art and Lois Ralston Memorial Winner (\$100)

Rebecca Clay, Plymouth SWCD, Region 1

Wednesday, September 5 (continued)

- 5:00 p.m. Waterfall/Atrium
Exhibits and Social
- 6:00 p.m. Benton Room
Emcee: Kelly Tobin, SSCC Chair
Awards Presentations
- 6:30 p.m. Banquet
Live Auction with Auctioneer, Eldon Troester

Thursday, September 6

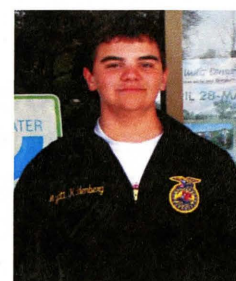
- 6:30 a.m. Dallas Room
SWCD Chairs Meeting
- 7:00 a.m. Benton Room
Breakfast
- 7:50 a.m. Des Moines Room
Announcements
Silent Auction Ends
- 8:00 a.m. **"Soil Health"** - Ray Archuleta, Conservation Agronomist at the NRCS East National Technology Center, Greensboro, North Carolina
- 9:30 a.m. **"Nutrient Reduction Strategy"**- Dr. Matt Helmers, ISU-Associate Professor and Extension Agricultural Engineer
- 10:00 a.m. Break and Exhibits
- 10:30 a.m. **"Preparing for the Future—Follow-up of Spring Regional Meetings"** - Vince Sitzmann, IDALS-Division of Soil Conservation, Field Services Bureau Chief
- 11:00 a.m. **"Field Office of the Future"** - Jon Hubbert, Acting State Conservationist for USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Benton Room
Moderator: Jim Frederick, CDI President
- 11:30 a.m. Awards
- Noon Lunch
- Wrap-up of this year's conference by Alex Schmidt, Johnson SWCD Commissioner

Wednesday , September 4 (Continued)

2:50 PM Atrium, Chambers Room, & Outdoors
Break and Exhibits

3:10 PM Polk, Des Moines, & Dallas Rooms
Break Out Tracks Continue

5:00 PM Atrium, Chambers Room, & Outdoors
Exhibits and Social



Wyatt Kaldenberg

Benton Room
Emcee: Jim Frederick, CDI President & Kelly Tobin, SSCC Chair
Welcome by Wyatt Kaldenberg, Warren County SWCD Assistant Commissioner
6:00 PM Awards Presentation
6:30 PM Banquet
Live Auction with Auctioneer, Thomas Bradley and Scott Evans, B.E.S.T Auction Services

Thursday, September 5

6:30 AM Dallas Room
Partnership Round Table

7:00 AM Benton Room
Breakfast Buffet



Lara Moody



Tim Smith



Bruce Rohwer

7:50 AM Des Moines Room
Announcements

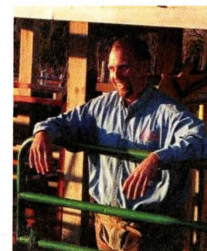
Silent Auction Ends
8:00 AM *The Right Time for Nutrient Stewardship is Right Now*
Speaker- Lara Moody, Director of Stewardship Programs,
The Fertilizer Institute

9:00 AM Break and Exhibits

9:30 AM *Farmer Panel Discussion*

Farmers-Tim Smith, Bruce Rohwer, & Seth Watkins

11:00 AM *Soil Conservation: The Foundation for Climate Resilience*
Speaker- Jerry Hatfield, Laboratory Director &
Supervisory Plant Pathologist, USDA-ARS



Seth Watkins

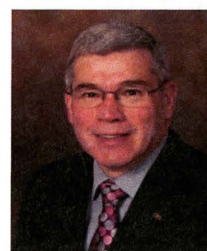
Benton Room

Moderator: Jim Frederick, CDI President

11:30 AM Awards

Noon Lunch

Wrap-up of this year's conference by Jody Kerns, SSCC



Jerry Hatfield

AWARDS

Presented at the Wednesday Luncheon

OUTSTANDING WATERSHED AWARD

Presenter: Jim Frederick, CDI President

Recipient: Rathbun Lake Watershed- Appanoose SWCD, Clarke SWCD, Decatur SWCD, Lucas SWCD, Monroe SWCD, & Wayne SWCD

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Presenter: Kelly Tobin, SSCC Chair

RECOGNITION OF LENDING INSTITUTIONS SUPPORTING CONSERVATION THROUGH SRF

Presenter: Jane Larson, Iowa Finance Authority

Lending Institution: Bank of Iowa, Clarinda

Farmer: Brooke Turner

Presented at the Wednesday Evening Banquet

CDI POSTER CONTEST STATE WINNERS

Division I (K-1): Solomon Zaugg, Des Moines SWCD, Region 9

Division II (2-3): Katy Timmer, Sioux SWCD, Region 1

Division III (4-6): Brandon Roemeling, Sioux SWCD, Region 1

Division IV (7-9): Maia Jenkins, Lee SWCD, Region 9

Division V (10-12): Clayton Olson, Delaware SWCD, Region 4

Poster Contest sponsored by:



2013 IOWA ENVIROTHON STATE CHAMPIONS

Marshalltown High School represented Iowa at the 2013 North American Envirothon Competition August 4-9 in Bozeman, Montana. Marshalltown High School's team of five Sean Finn, Adam Willman, Joe Metzger, Wynn Tan, & Abby Snyder were accompanied by Teacher and Coach Susan Fritzell & Her Husband Peter Fritzell. The team finished 11th out of 57, the best overall score for an Iowa Envirothon Team in the history of Iowa's participation with the Envirothon Competition! Marshalltown High School outscored nearly 60 teams across Iowa at both regional and state competitions!

In Memoriam

As the night follows day, there is a time of passing for each of us. During this past year, that time came for many who shared our love for stewardship of the land. Each in their own way gave us something of themselves. Each in their own way enriched our lives and our land. Our ranks are diminished by their passing, but their accomplishments as stewards will abide with us forever.

Ronald Brownlee, Adair SWCD
Francis Ballou, Audubon SWCD
Virgil Clemesen, Audubon, SWCD
Paul Anderson, Benton SWCD
Gary Johnson, Calhoun SWCD
Buford Floy, Cerro Gordo SWCD
Eldon Wiese, Clinton SWCD
Gerald Forsythe, Davis SWCD
Don Herteen, Davis SWCD
Jerry Rattenborg, Delaware SWCD
Jack Jacobs, Des Moines SWCD
Eleanor Johnston, Dubuque SWCD
James Steward, Fayette SWCD
Donald Koch, Franklin SWCD
Harold Dodd, Franklin SWCD
Robert McClure, Hancock SWCD
Darrell Mullin, Henry SWCD
James Kallevang, Howard SWCD
Jim Gevock, Jefferson SWCD
Mary Somerville, Johnson SWCD
H. Everett Russell, Jones SWCD
Larry Beeler, Madison SWCD
Judy Peterson, Monona SWCD
Albert Tangie, Monroe SWCD
Patricia Findley, Monroe SWCD
Keith Elliot, Taylor SWCD
Dean Black, Wapello SWCD
Susan Rippey, West Pott. SWCD

MANY THANKS TO:

Our Sponsors:

*Iowa's Soil and Water Conservation Districts & Commissioners



The Conference Planning Committee:

*Conservation Districts of Iowa Board & Staff

*State Soil Conservation Committee

*Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land
Stewardship - Division of Soil Conservation

*Natural Resources Conservation Service



Cover Crops Planted in the Geode Watershed





PRACTICAL farmers
of Iowa
working together, always learning

June 5, 2013

Drew DeLang
Des Moines County SWCD
3625 Flint Ridge Dr.
Burlington, IA 52601

Dear Drew,

Thank you for your generous sponsorship of Practical Farmers of Iowa's Field Days! PFI Field Days are often remembered not only for the valuable information shared, but for the connections made. You are making our exciting upcoming Field Day season possible!

In addition to expressing our thanks, this letter is your receipt for income tax purposes for your contribution of \$150.00. Practical Farmers of Iowa is a tax-exempt 501(c) (3) educational organization (tax ID # 42-1255174). Because we have not provided you with "substantial goods or services," the full amount of your contribution is tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.

Enclosed you will find a complimentary copy of PFI's 2013 Field Day Guide. We hope you will be able to get to several of the PFI Field Days; we know you won't be disappointed!

Warm regards,

Teresa Opheim
Executive Director

Thank you, Drew!

P.S. We will recognize your gift as being from "Des Moines County SWCD" If you prefer otherwise, please let me know.

Leaders Information

State Retreat

The 2013 Iowa 4-H Volunteer Retreat will be held on February 8 – 9, 2013 in Ankeny. Open to staff, volunteers, and members who are Intermediate or Senior age, who are involved in the leadership of 4-H at project, club, or county programs. The registration fee includes retreat expenses, snacks on Friday evening and during registration on Saturday, lunch on Saturday, and beverages both days. For more info or to register, please go to this link: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/volunteer>

4-H is FUN Conference

Looking for an opportunity to network with 4-H volunteers from **around Southeast Iowa**? Join us for the third annual 4-H is Fun Conference! On **February 23, 2013** meet everyone at Indian Hills Community College on the Ottumwa Campus for a day packed with information, sharing and fun! Sessions will include information about Clover Kids, Club Dynamics, Communication Projects, and Motivating Youth as well as group sessions on science and fun activities. Registration begins at 9 am and the day concludes with door prizes at 3:15 pm. Cost is \$10 per person and includes lunch. Conference registration and session descriptions will be available at: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/jefferson/4h>

New Leaders Training

Multi region new volunteer training is designed for new 4-H volunteers, both leaders and assistants. Volunteers are required to attend a multi-region new volunteer training within the first 12 months of being screened and approved as a 4-H volunteer.

The 6 hour training is designed to give new volunteers a better working knowledge of positive youth development, the Iowa 4-H Equation, and tools that will help them be more confident and capable in their roles working with youth. Volunteers who attend receive a notebook of positive youth development resources and information and lunch. There is no cost for the training and we are offering one right here in Des Moines County. It will be held **March 23 at the Me-diapolis City Hall**. This event is open to both new and existing volunteers.

2013 Soil & Water Conservation Poster Contest Information

THEME: *Where Does Your Water Shed*

Divisions for k-1, 2-3, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12

CRITERIA The posters will be judged on the entry's conservation message (50%), visual effectiveness (30%), originality (10%) and universal appeal (10%).

Rules for your poster:

The title **"Where Does Your Water Shed"** must be on the poster and must be made on regular poster paper, size 8.5" x 11" up to 22" x 28" ONLY.

Any medium can be used such as paint, magic marker, pencil, cut and paste, crayon or whatever inspires the student. **No three-dimensional effects please.** Each poster must have a **completed, legible entry form** attached to the back of the poster **WITH A PARENT SIGNATURE**. **Posters without a parent signature will not be considered.** Posters should remain flat when submitted for judging Each poster will be created and constructed by the competing student.

The local first place winner from each division will be submitted for regional competition. The regional first place winner from each division will be submitted for state competition. The five state winning posters will be submitted to national competition.

AWARDS: Locally, for each division, 1st place - \$25; 2nd place - \$20, 3rd place - \$15, and honorable mention – Pizza Hut personal pan pizza gift certificate Regionally, one winner from each division, \$35 State, one winner from each division, \$50

DEADLINE: March 29, 2013

Please deliver completed posters to:

Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District
3625 Flint Ridge Drive
Burlington, IA 52601

Questions, call Jamie at 319-753-6221

Plan it Dig it Show it

Are you interested in gardening? Have you ever wondered what it would take? Have you considered taking flower or vegetables to the county fair as an exhibit?

Get ready for a Des Moines County Fair Horticulture project by coming to five two hour workshops February thru July. Each session will give you information on how to plant Vegetables and Flowers, take care of them and getting your project ready for fair. Classes to be held on SCC Campus Greenhouse 9AM – 11AM on the following dates. Please call the DMC Office 319-394-9433 to register for these FREE workshops. **You can attend just one or all!** These sessions are open to the public, but aimed at 4-12 grade youth and their parents. The sessions are available to the first 25 who call and register. Please register by the Wednesday prior to the Saturday morning session.

February 9, 2013:

I think I want to plant a Garden?

Why? Where? What? When? Logging plans for fair!

Planning a garden!

Soil test, Seed selection, Plant selection, pH

March 16, 2013:

Seeding starting inside

How? When? Co-op production, Bring Seeds

April 27, 2013:

Getting ready to plant!

Test results, Composting material, Tilling, Direct seeding, Hardening off – temperature and wind

May 11, 2013:

Ready Set Plant!

Planning direct, Transplanting, Weeding and mulching, Harvesting, What can I do with all this food?

July 13, 2013: Presentation for the Fair

Following the book's instruction

Presentation to show your produce or flowers

Food Safety and Quality Assurance Training - Important Information!

FSQA is required for exhibitors wanting to show animals at the Des Moines County fair in the following breeds: Beef, Sheep, Swine, Dairy Cattle, Goats, Poultry, Rabbits, Bucket Bottle Calf, Bottle Lamb and Bottle Kid Goat. **The training will be held on Monday March 18, 6:00 - 8:00 PM, at SCC.**

TESTING OUT: FSQA is an umbrella certification program, meaning one program or test covers all animals you will be exhibiting. The test has been revised to make it more species generic. There is a 4-H member study book for \$2.50 and you only need 1 book per family. If you already have a book you don't need a new one.

---- Jr. members (4,5,6) must go through the class each year

---- Int. members (7 & 8) can choose to go through the class each year or take and pass a test, which certifies them until they are in 9th grade.

---- Sr. members (9, 10, 11 & 12) can choose to go through the class each year or take and pass a test which certifies them through graduation

The test consists of 30 multiple choice questions over various topics pertaining to Food Safety and Quality Assurance in the raising of market animals. You are allowed to take the test 3 times in one day until you pass. Please call the Extension office 24 hours ahead of when you want to come and test. Hours for testing will be 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM Monday through Friday.

A 4-H livestock exhibitor in Des Moines County must be FSQA trained or tested out by May 15.

Future Dates to Remember

Please mark your calendars.

FSQA Training - March 18, 2013

Swine weigh in - April 13, 2013

Sheep weigh in - May 11, 2013

Animal Identification Forms Due—May 15, 2013

Grimes, Jamie - NRCS-ST, Burlington, IA

From: Ensminger, Doug - NRCS, Mt Pleasant, IA
Sent: Friday, August 08, 2014 1:48 PM
To: Shelman, Barb - NRCS-ST, Mt Pleasant, IA; Grimes, Jamie - NRCS-ST, Burlington, IA
Subject: FW: thanks

FYI

From: Trautman, Bruce [DNR] [<mailto:Bruce.Trautman@dnr.iowa.gov>]
Sent: Friday, August 08, 2014 8:43 AM
To: Ensminger, Doug - NRCS, Mt Pleasant, IA
Cc: Larscheid, Joe [DNR]; Myers, Kelley [DNR]; Gipp, Chuck [DNR]; Fynaardt, Karen [DNR]; Gillespie, Jim [IDALS]
Subject: thanks

Please pass a thank you to you, staff and the commissioners for the engineering work you've done and are doing at Lake Geode. I'll make sure the group gets credit for the significant contribution to this project! The NRC will be reviewing the construction contract at their next meeting. Thanks again, Bruce

BRUCE TRAUTMAN Deputy Director



Iowa Department of Natural Resources
515.281.5742 | bruce.trautman@dnr.iowa.gov
502 E. 9th Street | Des Moines, IA 50319-0034

WWW.IOWADNR.GOV   

Leading Iowans in Caring for Our Natural Resources.

Thank you for the
gift of \$50.00 in Ron's
memory.

Thank you
Maisha Jimmy Shelly
Austin & Grandchildren

Dear Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation,
I want to Thank you for supporting the
youth of Des Moines County. I really appreciate being
awarded the scholarship from you, and feel honored.
I plan to use the money to help pay for classes, books, or
tuition. I hope you continue to support the future of
our county. Thank you again & God bless!

Your Friend,
Curtis J. Messer

For all the kindness you have shown,
we thank you very much,
For sympathy in sorrowing days,
for friendship's healing touch,
With gratitude our hearts are full,
though words cannot convey
The tender thoughts and thankfulness
we hold for you today

By the family of
Emmett Messer

Thank you so much for
the lovely Recipes to Remember
cookbook that I received
from the drawing at the
Des Moines County Fair.

It's a very nice cookbook,
I appreciate the nice gift
and we very much
appreciate the work that
your people do to protect
our soil & water in Des Moines
county. Thank you!

Doris Speer

Speer
804 Melville Ave
W Burlington, IA 52655

Field Day: Cover Crop Management

You Are
Invited

Wednesday, Oct. 23, 2013

4:00-6:00 PM

Southeastern Community College

1500 West Agency Road, West Burlington

Agenda:

- Hosts Adam Raub, Ag instructor, and Chuck Albright, SCC Ag Director
- Tim Knutson and Jim Pilling, area farmers who are using cover crops on their farms
- Jason Steele, NRCS soil scientist
- Enjoy a complimentary supper, prepared by the Des Moines County Cattlemen's Association

Thanks to
Green Valley Seed
for the cover crop
seed donation!

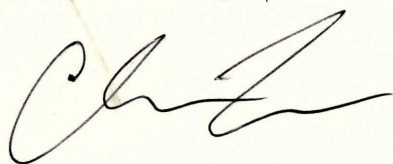
For more information:

Drew DeLang (District Conservationist): 319.753.6221

Liz Juchems (ILF): 515.294.5429

www.extension.iastate.edu/ilf

Thank you for supporting local conservation and youth
shooting sports efforts in and around Des Moines County!



Wilegar Lee

2014 Aldo Leopold Pheasants Forever Banquet Committee

Erica Yost




Joe Chalk
Jerry Yost

Pam an QB. OOO
Tom Horn

Dear Des Moines SWCD,

3-22-09

Thank you for awarding me your 2009 scholarship.
I was very happy to receive your letter. I'm
also excited to know that my application has
been forwarded to the regional level.

I look forward to seeing you at the
Mediapolis awards program.

Thank you again.

Adam Christ

Dear Des Moines County Soil Water Conservation

Thank you so much for selecting me
for the scholarship. It will be
used to further my education at
DMACC in Ankeny. I will continue
my efforts to conserve soil and water.

2017

Many thanks!

Matt

Meeker

Thank you for supporting your local
Pheasants Forever Chapter!

Your contribution will help promote local shooting sports programs, habitat improvements
and conservation education efforts.

Michelle Lee
Amy
Katie
Jerry Yost
Erica Yost
Rachel Weiss
Gina

Aldo Leopold Pheasants Forever Chapter | PO Box 211 | Burlington, IA | leopoldpf@gmail.com | (319) 572-1564



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11100 WILDLIFE CENTER DRIVE
RESTON, VA 20190-5362
1-800-822-9919
www.nwf.org

Populations of migratory songbirds are plunging due to threats such as climate change, oil development and habitat loss. According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), 12 percent of birds worldwide are known to be threatened or extinct. To find out more about National Wildlife Federation's work protecting our nation's treasured birds from the many obstacles they face, visit www.nwf.org/wildlife

Thank you so much for
the Cassie's gift card.
I will put it to good use.

Your kindness means so much!



Maureen & Tom
Hitchcraft

THANK

2017

YOU!

Thank you for allowing me to design my poster for your soil contest. I had a lot of fun designing the poster and was really excited when I found out I placed third.

Jaydon Wirt
Mediapolis
5th grade

AF Thank you 2017

Chub
Matta
Matta
A. Oued
Alode
Greg Yurt
Jury

Ms. Grimes,

My name is Rhiannon de la Rosa, and I am graduating from Burlington Community High School on May 29, 2016. I recently received the Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District scholarship through my school. I wanted to personally thank you for the money that will help me in achieving my goals of pursuing a major in Horticulture, Landscape, and Turf Sciences at the University of Arkansas.

Thank you very much,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "R de la Rosa". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "R".

Rhiannon de la Rosa

Two commissioners needed for soil, water district

The terms of two Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners will be on the ballot for the 2002 general election. The terms of Frank Hedges, Huron Township, and Jeff Bergman, Union Township, will expire on Jan. 2

residing in the soil and water conservation district, which is all of Des Moines County including cities and towns, is eligible for the office of commissioner. No more than one commissioner may be a resident of any one township. Incumbent

Any qualified elector

(con't on pg. 15)

Two DMC Soil & Water Conservation Commissioners to be elected

The terms of two Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners will be on the ballot for the 2002 general election. The terms of Frank Hedges, Huron Township, and Jeff Bergman, Union Township, will expire on Jan. 2, 2003.

Any qualified elector residing in the soil and water conservation district, which is all of Des Moines County including cities and towns, is eligible for the office of Commissioner. No more than one commissioner may be a resident of any one township. Incumbent commissioners are Todd Heckenberg, Benton Township; Don Lounsbury, Pleasant Grove Township; and Ron Snyder, Burlington Township; therefore, residents of these townships would not be eligible for office at this time.

Prospective candidates seeking the office of soil and water conservation district commissioner must file nomination petitions in the same manner as for other elective positions at the general election, except that no political party is designated. Nomination petitions can be obtained from the County Auditor.

These petitions, signed by 25 eligible electors, must be filed with the County Auditor at the Des Moines County Courthouse no later than 5 p.m. on Aug. 28, 2002.

Soil and water conservation district commissioners serve without salary and guide the overall soil and water conservation program in the county. For further information pertaining to the responsibilities of a commissioner, contact Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District office, 3625 Flint Ridge Drive, Burlington or call 319-753-6221.

New London Couple Wins Land Stewardship Award

Doug and Melanie Stucker of New London were recently given the Gary Wagner Land Stewardship Award, presented annually to individuals demonstrating a personal commitment to protecting and enhancing Des Moines County's natural environment. The Stuckers have planted wildlife food plots, native grasses and trees, filter strips, and riparian buffers on their land. They are planning a wetland restoration, and want to make their farm into a model for conservation education.

The Wagner Award comes with \$250, to be used for conservation projects. The award is presented by the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District, the Conservation Board, and Partners for Conservation.

Thacker receives conservation scholarship

Clayton Thacker of Oakville has been chosen as the recipient of an annual scholarship sponsored by the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District in conjunction with the Conservation Districts of Iowa and

CDI Auxiliary. He is the son of Rick and Debra Thacker.

EDUCATION

Mediapolis teacher wins conservation award

The Hawk Eye

MEDIAPOLIS — The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District has chosen Mediapolis High School teacher **Ralph Kaufman** as the local winner in Division 2 of the 2004 Iowa Soil Conservation Awards Program.

The award recognizes public or parochial school teachers who are performing outstanding service in creating public awareness of the need to safeguard natural and human resources. Division 2 consists of teachers in grades 7 through 12.

Kaufman was chosen because of his dedication to the environment, not only through teaching, but also as an example through his daily life. He involves his students in every aspect of conservation activities which, in turn, creates a lasting impression that will benefit natural resources for generations to come.

Kaufman's application has been forwarded for state judging.

Judging at the state and local level consists of the effectiveness of the teacher to create a favorable climate for conservation education in the classroom; organize conservation field trips that are meaningful to students; create an awareness of conservation and environmental problems at the local, state and national levels; and motivate students to promote conservation of natural and human resources.

This is Soil & Water Stewardship Week

"The Living Soil" is the theme of 2004 Soil & Water Stewardship week. While most of us seldom come in daily contact with soil, we all depend on soil for our daily survival, according to organizers of the 2004 Soil and Water Stewardship Week observance, set for April 25-May 2. "In generation after generation, it is important to bring attention back to the central theme- the living soil sustains all life on earth," said Don Lounsbury, chairperson of the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District. "Without the soil, nothing lives. Our conservation district works to protect healthy souls that in turn support a healthy environment, and healthy environments support life," he added.

Modern farmers who practice soil conservation are doing their part to keep the living soil alive. Lessons from the past, such as the catastrophic "dust bowl" of the 1930s, have shown what can happen when the topsoil is not protected from wind and water erosion. Today, private land managers employ a host of conservation practices, such as minimum tillage, to protect the topsoil that feeds the nation.

Soil health becomes important when you learn that millions of beneficial organisms are going through their daily routine of eating, breathing, living, and dying in the soil. One cup of fertile soil may contain as many bacteria as there are people on Earth. In one acre- an area about the size of a football field- there may be a ton or more of microscopic bacteria. That's equal to the weight of two full-grown cows!

We eat the food, drink the water, breathe the air, and enjoy the views, but only a few of us walk the fields and forests on a regular basis and understand what those lands need from us in order to sustain the living soil. However, the local district has suggested three things each of us can do in our own backyards to be better stewards of our soil resources:

1. Protect the soil from wind or water erosion by keeping healthy plants growing on the surface.
2. Restore and maintain organic matter in the soil, such as grass clippings or tree leaves (compost).
3. Protect soil life by using the least amounts and least toxic materials to control pest problems.
4. To learn more about how you can help sustain the living soil, contact the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District at 319-753-6221.

Four Soil Conservation Commissioner terms expiring

The terms of four Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners will be on the ballot for the 2004 general election. The terms of Todd Heckenberg, Benton Township; Don Lounsbury, Pleasant Grove Township; and Ron Snyder, Burlington, will expire on January 3, 2005. The term of Bob Hinson, Tama Township, will expire on November 2, 2004.

Any qualified elector residing in the soil and water conservation district, which is all of Des Moines County including cities and towns, is eligible for the office of Commissioner. No more than one commissioner may be a resident of any one township. Incumbent commissioner is Maureen Fosdick, Franklin Township; therefore, residents of Franklin Township would not be eligible for office at this time.

Prospective candidates seeking the office of soil and water conservation district commissioner must file nomination petitions in the same manner as for other elective positions at the general election, except that no political party is designated. Nomination petitions can be obtained from the County Auditor.

These petitions, signed by 25 eligible electors, must be filed with the County Auditor at the Des Moines County Courthouse no later than 5 p.m. on August 25, 2004.

Soil and water conservation district commissioners serve without salary and guide the overall soil and water conservation program in the county. For further information pertaining to the responsibilities of a commissioner, contact Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District office, 3625 Flint Ridge Drive, Burlington, or call 319-753-6221.

Poster contest winners announced

The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District is pleased to announce the following winners of their annual Soil and Water Conservation Poster Contest.

Winners are: Division 1 (K-1st grades)- 1st Madeline Bozman, Notre Dame, 2nd Isabella Van Harz, Sunnyside, 3rd Tyler Rogers, Mediapolis; Division 2 (2nd/3rd grades) 1st Nicholas Anderson, Mediapolis, 2nd Jared Schmidgall, Mediapolis, 3rd Andrew Poggemiller, Mediapolis; Division 3 (4th-6th graders)- 1st Shannon Sisco, Mediapolis, 2nd Andrew Osborn, North Hill, 3rd Courtney Pohren, North Hill; Division 4 (7th-9th grades) - 1st Michael Fosdick, Mediapolis; and Division 5 (10th-12th grades) 1st Jayson Calvin, Crusade School.

This year's theme was "The Living Soil." Judging criteria included conservation message, visual effectiveness and universal appeal. First place winners have been sent on for regional competition.

For information about the annual conservation poster contest, please contact the Des Moines County SWCD at 319-753-6221.

Women, Land And Legacy Tour Announced

The Des Moines/Louisa County *Women, Land and Legacy* (WLL) Team is hosting a tour of Odessa Vineyards Wednesday, June 24, from 2-4 p.m. The tour will include history of the vineyard and the process of making wine. The vineyard is located at 10448 77th Street, Wapello.

The Des Moines/Louisa County WLL began with two listening sessions in October 2014. During these sessions, local women shared with the team topics of concern and interest for future learning sessions. WLL is locally led and is based on the interest and requests of women in the two counties. Topics for learning sessions in 2015 and the future will be based on what the team has heard and will continue to hear from local women that participate in WLL.

The tour is free to attend. If having questions regarding the tour or *Women, Land and Legacy*, email Jamie Grimes at jgrimes@ia.nacdn.net or call 319-523-6411, Ext. 3, for Louisa County and 319-753-6221, Ext. 3, for Des Moines County.

DMC SWCD sponsors poster contest

The Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District is sponsoring a poster contest, "Celebrate Conservation," for all students in Des Moines County.

Divisions for the contest are Division 1- grades Kindergarten and 1st; Division 2- Grades 2nd and 3rd; Division 3- Grades 4th through 6th; Division 4- Grades 7th through 9th; and Division 5- grades 10th through 12th.

The deadline to complete the posters is March 25. For detail information on rules, judging criteria and awards, please contact the SWCD at 319-0753-6221 or 3625 Flint Ridge Drive, Burlington.

Beekeeping & Pollinator Habitat Landowner Workshop March 2

An informational meeting on beekeeping and pollinator habitat will be held Thursday, March 2, 2017, 6:00 pm, at the Starr's Cave Nature Center Loft, 11627 Starr's Cave Park Road, Burlington.

Topics to be covered include how to start beekeeping, beekeeping basics, pollinator habitat, and cost-share opportunities. Additionally, there will be a Q&A segment with local beekeepers and pollinator habitat professionals.

Door prizes will be awarded.

As part of a federal & state grant, all participants are eligible for a free pollinator tree & shrub seedling packet.

Refreshments will be provided by Mediapolis

Savings Bank.

For more information, contact Erica Yost at (319) 217-3204 or eyost@pheasantsforever.org.

Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District

Mediapolis teacher chosen as SWCD teacher of the year

The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District has chosen Mediapolis High School teacher Ralph Kaufman as the local winner in Division 2 of the 2004 Iowa Soil Conservation Awards Program.

The purpose of the award is to recognize public or parochial school teachers who are performing outstanding service in creating public awareness of the need to safeguard out heritage of natural and human resources. Division 2 consists of teachers in grades 7 through 12.

The SWCD chose Ralph as their local winner because of his dedication to the environment, not only through teaching but also as an example through daily

life. He involves his students in every aspect of conservation activities which, in turn, creates a lasting impression that will benefit natural resources for generations to come.

Mr. Kaufman's application has been forwarded for state judging. Judging at the state and local level consists of the effectiveness of the teacher to (1) create a favorable climate for conservation education in the classroom; (2) organize conservation field trips that are meaningful to students; (3) create an awareness of conservation and environmental problems at the local, state and national levels; and (4) motivate students to promote conservation of natural and human resources.

For more information about the awards program, please contact SWCD at 319-753-6221.

Send your news items by e-mail to

dmcn@lisco.com

Be sure to include name
as well as:

t to appear

Conservation district selling plants, bulbs

The Hawk Eye

Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District is selling landscaping plants, bulbs and flower kits this spring.

Proceeds will go toward the district's scholarship and educational programs.

There are 18 annual and perennial plants and bulbs to choose from including lilies, blazing stars, everbearing strawberries, buttercups and orchids. Each package of bulbs costs \$5.

Every plant and bulb is guaranteed to bloom or it will be replaced for free.

To place an order, contact your local commissioner or stop in the SWCD office at 3625 Flint Ridge Drive. Money is due when the order is placed.

For more information, call Jamie at (319) 753-6221.

Des Moines County SWCD offering scholarship

Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District is offering a scholarship to a local high school senior who will pursue a college education in any field of conservation or agriculture. Application packets are available at high school guidance counselor offices or call the Des

Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District at 753-6221, ext. 301. Applications are due by Feb. 17. Students living outside of Des Moines County must submit their applications to the soil and water conservation district in which they reside.

Corman receives Gary Wagner Memorial award

The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District, with the assistance of the Des Moines County Conservation Board and partners for Conservation Foundation, is happy to announce that Wayne Corman of Sperry has been chosen as the recipient of the annual Gary Wagner Land Stewardship award.

Wayne is a conscientious farmer who not only utilizes wise farming practices such as tillage and residue management but also implements strong conservation ethics when it comes to the non-cropped areas of his farm. Through his hard work, the land will be left in better shape for future generations.

Wayne will receive a \$250 cash award to be used for a conservation or enhancement project and a plaque recognizing his efforts. These will be presented at a later date.

Family and friends of Gary Wagner, to honor his memory and recognize his personal conservation efforts and to encourage others to follow his example, developed the Gary Wagner Land Stewardship award. The award is given to individuals demonstrating a personal commitment to the protection and enhancement of Des Moines County's natural environment.

To be eligible for the award, a nominee must own property in Des Moines County, show long-term dedication and commitment to conservation and environment in the areas of wetlands, woodlands, wildlife, prairies, conservation awareness/education, and farming practices, and show commitment to conservation/environment through personal accomplishments, not professional work.

For more information about the nomination process please call the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District at 319-753-6221.

Memo
News
2-23-05

*The Des
Moines
County*

NEWS

For Official Legal Notices See page 9 & 10

THURSDAY

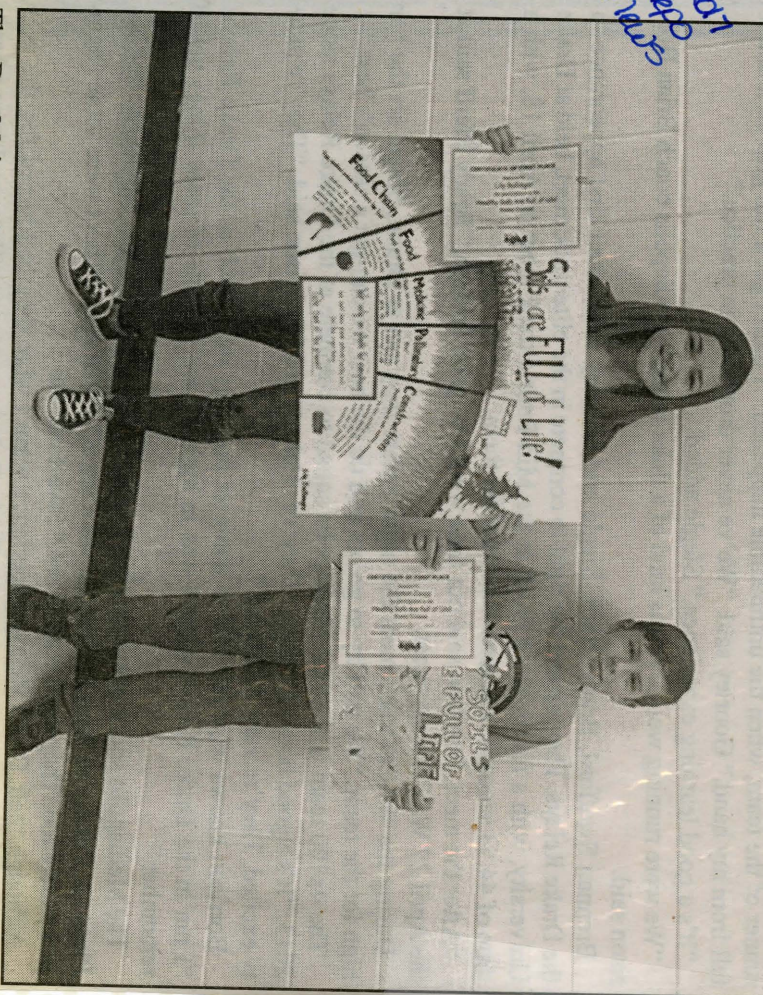
July 3, 2003

Volume 49

Issue 27

50 cents

The Des Moines County Conservation poster contest was held. Winners were: First place, Solomon Zaugg, second place, Ella Russell, third place, Jaydon Wirt, honorable mention, Alyssa Haynie and Larae Steiner. High school winner-Lily Bullinger. Above: Des Moines County Conservation Poster winners Lily Bullinger and Solomon Zaugg.



Local landowners chosen for conservation awards

The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District selected four local landowners as District winners for the annual Iowa Soil Conservation Awards Program and Woodland Owner of the Year.

The Iowa Soil Conservation Awards Program is co-sponsored by the Iowa State Soil Conservation Committee and Conservation Districts of Iowa (CDI) and consists of three Divisions.

Randy Higdon, Danville, and Wayne Wasson, West Burlington, were selected as winners in Division II. This division is for tenant operated farms on which the best conservation program has been established and maintained by the tenant and the landlord.

William Walker, Mediapolis, was selected as the winner in Division I. This division is for

Cont'd on page 7

Landowner conservation awards

Cont'd from page 1

owner-operated farms which the owner-operator has established and maintained the most complete conservation program.

Additionally, the District chose Dennis Peterson, Mediapolis, as a local winner of the Woodland Owner of the Year award. This award, co-spon-

sored by the Forestry Division of the Iowa DNR and conservation Districts of Iowa, is designed to recognize individuals who are doing an outstanding job of woodland management.

For more information on the awards program, please call the SWCD at 753-6221.

Conservation efforts will be saluted this week

State, local programs available to farmers, city residents.

The Hawk Eye

Soil and Water Conservation Week is being observed this week throughout the state.

For more than 60 years, conservation districts have been working with private landowners to implement conservation measures on working lands.

Iowa's soil and water conservation districts, the soil conservation division within the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship and the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service work collectively and share offices in every county.

Conservation districts, in conjunction with their state and federal partners, offer technical assistance and cost-

share incentives to private landowners to stop erosion; build soil productivity; improve water quality in streams, rivers and lakes; enhance plant and animal habitat; and install practices to improve air quality.

Iowa's farmers bring conservation to the land using terracing systems, grassed waterways, reduced tillage and no-till, contouring, buffer strips and field borders, crop rotations, native seedings and other conservation practices.

Urban residents are joining the effort with rain gardens, storm water control, and soil conservation methods in new housing construction.

As a result of these continuing efforts, Iowans are enjoying an enhanced environment and an improved quality of life.

For more information, contact the Lee Soil and Water Conservation District, 507 Elm Street, Donnellson, at (319) 835-5313.

Cover crop cost share available

The Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District is now taking applications for cover crop to be seeded on crop ground in late summer/early fall 2016. Funding is limited and applications will be taken until June 30, 2016.

The payment rate is \$15/acre for producers that have used cover crops in the past. For more information, stop in the office at 3625 Flint Ridge Drive, Burlington.

MEDIAPOLIS TEACHER CHOSEN TEACHER OF THE YEAR

The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District has chosen Mediapolis School teacher Mrs. Nancy Carter as the local winner in Division 1 of the 2007 Iowa Soil Conservation Awards Program.

The purpose of the award is to recognize public or parochial school teachers who are performing outstanding service in creating public awareness of the need to safeguard our heritage of natural and human resources. Division 1 consists of teachers in grades K through 6.

The SWCD chose Mrs. Carter as their local winner because of her dedication to the environment – both through teaching by striving to gain additional knowledge of conservation topics and personally by researching conservation methods for the family farm. Mrs. Carter gets her students excited about conservation through various

projects ranging from helping a third world country with water purification to participating in a variety of competitions.

Mrs. Carter's application was forwarded for state judging. Judging at the state and local level consists of the effectiveness of the teacher to create a favorable climate for conservation education in the classroom, organize conservation field trips that are meaningful to students, create an awareness of conservation and environmental problems at the local, state and national levels, and motivate students to promote conservation of natural and human resources.

The SWCD was recently informed that the state teacher winner was selected from Clayton County.

For more information about the awards program, please contact the SWCD at 319-753-6221.

Conservation district offers scholarship

Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District is offering a scholarship to a local high school senior who will pursue a college education in any field of agriculture or natural resources.

Application packets are available at high school guidance counselor offices or by calling Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District at (319) 753-6221.

and Hospice. Great River Medical Center, a 125-bed long-term care facility, named **Candie Decker** its 2003 employee of the year. Decker, Fort Madison, has been a licensed practical nurse at the center since 2002.

◆◆◆ Several technicians at Deery Bros. in West Burlington were recognized by General Motors Mark of Excellence Guild for customer service and product knowledge, including **Jeff Blackledge**, **Dave McPartlin**, **Joel Proenneke**, **Jay Waterman** and **Jeremiah Walker**. Shop foreman **Tim Heiniger** was recognized for service administration.

◆◆◆ **Jim Knapp**, investment representative at Edward Jones, 3211 Division St., Ste. 2, recently was honored for 10 years of service with the firm at the summer regional meeting in Wisconsin.

◆◆◆ A new cell tower near Oakville has been erected by iWireless, in partnership with Danville-based Southeast Wireless. iWireless is based in Urbandale.

◆◆◆ Great River Medical Center in West Burlington recently was recognized as the country's most energy-efficient hospital in a study conducted by Grumman/Butkus Associates, the third straight year the hospital has earned the honor. More than 100 hospitals nationwide were surveyed. The average utility cost per square foot for all of the hospitals in the study was \$2.31. GRMC's cost per square foot was \$0.81, 65 percent less than the average for all other hospitals in the study. GRMC is powered by the world's largest lake-coupled geothermal heating and cooling system. Instead of burning fuel, the geothermal system transfers heat from one source to another. Variable-speed 150-horsepower pumps push water through a closed-loop piping system that extends from the hospital campus buildings to the bottom of a 12-acre manmade lake.

◆◆◆ Five area landowners have been selected by the Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District as district winners in the annual Iowa Soil Conservation Awards Program and Woodland Owner of the Year. **Curtis Orr**, Mediapolis was chosen in the division for owner-operated farms, while **Nancy Dunn**, Burlington and Larry's Farm Supply, Burlington, were selected for tenant-operated farms. **Darla Chaddock**, Yarmouth, won in the category for landowners who became new district cooperators after Jan. 1, 2003. **Clifford Hinson**, Kingston, was named the local woodland owner of the year. For more information, call (319) 753-6221.

◆◆◆ Madison, Wis.-based Alliant Energy has been ranked the 18th best place to work by Computerworld, a weekly trade magazine for IT professionals. The article can be viewed at www.computerworld.com/careertopics/careers/report.

◆◆◆ **Patrick Broderick** has been named federal security director at the Quad Cities Airport in Moline, Ill. Broderick will oversee Transportation Security Administration activities in Moline and at airports in Burlington, Cedar Rapids and Dubuque.

Business Meetings

ISO information meeting — will be 6:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Southeast Iowa Research Farm near Crawfordsville. The meeting, sponsored by the Iowa Quality Agriculture Guild, will discuss methods for farmers to differentiate their crops from others. For more information, contact the IQAG at (319) 257-3400.

Soybean rust training sessions — will be held July 6 to 9 throughout Iowa, including a July 8 session 8:30 a.m. to noon at the Johnson County Fairgrounds in Iowa City. For more information, call (319) 337-2145 or visit www.aep.iastate.edu/feel/rust.html on the Internet.

Practical Farmers of Iowa field day — will begin at 9:30 a.m. Friday in Harlan. The feature of the event will be an Iowa State University project that allows for the creation of simulated farms. The farm-modeling program has weather and soils data for 12 Midwestern states, along with data for a range of crops and crop rotations, as well as associated practices such as tillage, fertilization, planting, weed control, harvesting and residue removal. Swine and cattle production also are modeled. To make reservations, call (515) 294-5486.

Women, Land & Legacy Vineyard Tour

The Des Moines/Louisa County Women, Land and Legacy (WLL) Team is hosting a tour of Odessa Vineyards Wednesday, June 24, from 2-4 p.m. The tour will include history of the vineyard and the process of making wine. The vineyard is located at 10448 77th Street, Wapello.

The Des Moines/Louisa County WLL began with two listening sessions in October 2014. During these sessions, local women shared with the team topics of concern and interest for future learning sessions. WLL is locally led and is based

on the interest and requests of women in the two counties. Topics for learning sessions in 2015 and the future will be based on what the team has heard and will continue to hear from local women that participate in WLL.

The tour is free to attend. If you have questions regarding the tour or Women, Land and Legacy, please email Jamie Grimes at jamie.grimes@ia.nacdnet.net or call 319-523-6411 Ext. 3 for Louisa County and 319-753-6221 Ext. 3 for Des Moines County.

Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District

Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District is offering a scholarship to a local high school senior who will pursue a college education in any field of conservation or agriculture. Students living outside of Des Moines County must submit their applications to the soil and water conservation district in which they reside. Application packets are available at high school guidance counselors or call the district at (515) 294-5486.

Grimes, Jamie - NRCS-ST, Burlington, IA

From: Mo McLaughlin <mom10xx@msn.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 07, 2017 7:06 AM
To: Grimes, Jamie - NRCS-ST, Burlington, IA
Subject: Fwd: Emailing - NominationForm.pdf

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Paul Beckman <pbeckman@mepotelco.net>
Date: September 7, 2017 at 7:00:22 AM CDT
To: Mo McLaughlin <mom10xx@msn.com>
Subject: Re: Fw: Emailing - NominationForm.pdf

Maureen and Jamie, what a thrill to receive the Iowa Leader Environmental award! Our family thanks you so much for the nomination. We all had a great day at the Iowa State Fair with the highlight being with all the other conservation farmers at the awards ceremony. It was gratifying for the family farm to be recognized for our conservation efforts over the years.

We will continue to support conservational farming and appreciate both your efforts to do the same. After being with all the environmental participants I know we can make a difference in our farming methods and preserve our great soils.

The best to you both, Paul/Lin Beckman

Maureen please forward to Jamie

Awards

Presented at the Tuesday Evening Banquet

RUTH WAGNER AWARD

Presenter: Alex Schmidt, Johnson SWCD

Recipient: Gracia Willis, Calhoun SWCD

Gracia is a very dedicated assistant commissioner who is active in attending district meetings, field days, workshops, and tours throughout the year. She started the district's Backyard Conservation and Gardening Workshop Program sixteen years ago and has created many partnerships to continue the betterment of this popular community event. Gracia is very involved in promoting the district's Tree Sales Program. Using her artistic ability, she has achieved a showcase of plantings and annually hires high school students to work and learn at her gardens, which are open to the public for tours that are both educational and inspiring. Gracia's knowledge of the farm and true conservation spirit make working with her both enjoyable and educational.

KEN WAGNER AWARD

Presenter: Alex Schmidt, Johnson SWCD

Recipient: Kate Giannini, Washington SWCD

Kate not only serves as a commissioner, but is also a Water Conservation Specialist with Johnson County Planning & Zoning. She has had many achievements including securing funds for several REAP projects, writing a successful grant application for the Rapid Creek Watershed, creating the Johnson County stormwater finance, writing an urban assessment report for Kent Lake, and providing technical assistance to landowners. She received a leadership award at the 2015 Iowa Stormwater Conference for this great work. Kate assists with the preparation of the district's booth at the county fair, contacts legislators, and actively publicizes conservation. She is a certified inspector of sediment and erosion control, IOWATER certified, and assists in managing two family businesses. Kate serves as an extraordinary example of a conscientious steward of the land.

OUTSTANDING SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

Presenter: Rod Swoboda, Wallaces Farmer

Recipient: Maureen McLaughlin Hutchcroft, Des Moines SWCD

Maureen is a very active commissioner who has served on many of the district's committees and attends all district, regional and annual meetings. Maureen has assisted the district with organizing a booth at their Earth Day Event and County Fair. She has helped host their State Soil Tour and Spring Regional Meeting, represented the district at local meetings, and judges and presents awards to poster contest winners. She supports the Iowa Learning Farms and Water Rocks Programs and has been on the planning committee for the Women, Land & Legacy Program. Her farm has implemented conservation practices such as waterways, terraces, field borders, and windbreaks. Last year, her family accepted the Heritage Family Farm Award for their 150 year old McLaughlin Family Farm. Maureen's personal conservation ethic shines through in nearly every conversation she has.

Awards

Presented at the Wednesday Luncheon

IOWA SOIL CONSERVATION AWARDS PROGRAM (ISCAP)

CONSERVATION TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Presenter: Linette Bernard, Iowa Conservation Education Coalition

Division I Recipient: Andy Bean, Albert City- Truesdale, Buena Vista SWCD

Andy has taught elementary art for the past 27 years. She intertwines her love of art and agriculture by encouraging her students to do conservation projects in her classroom. Andy actively volunteers for "Ag in the Classroom", sits on the Buena Vista County Fair Board, and was instrumental in landscaping the front of her school. She participates in the CDI Conservation Poster Contest as she feels it is important that her students learn about agriculture and be aware that their livelihood revolves around the industry. Andy does not let an opportunity to teach her students about conservation go by.

Division II Recipient: Susan Fritzell, Marshalltown High School, Marshall SWCD

Susan has been teaching the High School Extended Learning Program for 27 years. She believes that it is nearly impossible to lead students to care about the natural world until they have been exposed to it. This is why she takes her students outdoors. Her students test the water in streams, identify and measure trees, compare soils, take overnight adventures, and participate in the Iowa Envirothon. While having fun, the students are able to learn about their impact on the environment. Susan strives to instill a conservation ethic in her students as she believes that a healthy future for humanity is dependent on everyone valuing and conserving the environment.

CONSERVATION FARMER OF THE YEAR

Presenter: Mark See, Van Wall

Recipient: Tim Smith, Wright SWCD

Tim has been an avid spokesman and promoter for soil and water conservation. He has spoken at multiple field days and community events around Iowa and the country. He implements many practices that prevent soil erosion, improve water quality and provide wildlife habitat. He has installed a bioreactor, added prairie strips seeded with native grasses and forbs, completed nutrient management plans, participated in the Field to Market field print calculator, and much more. All the practices that Tim has installed are because of his desire to preserve the quality of our soil and water, which he feels are our most important resources.

WOODLAND OWNER OF THE YEAR

Presenter: Alex Schmidt, Johnson SWCD

Recipient: Larry & Miechelle Weber, Johnson SWCD

The Weber's are ecologically restoring a parcel of their land they call "Old Man's Timber". The timber has remained relatively protected for several decades, with no known grazing, timber harvest, or other disturbances. The Weber's goal and objectives for their woodland is to remove invasive and undesirable species, provide suitable wildlife habitat, introduce and encourage native plant growth, conduct prescribed burning, and address erosion concerns. They promote woodland management and preservation and keep a blog to update their followers on various topics. Many in their community praise the Weber's for their commitment to and passion for the land.

PF

2015 Gold Level Sponsors

Donation of \$250 - \$499

Sponsor (years of consecutive sponsorships)

- | | |
|--|---|
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| 3. A.J. Construction (2) | 29. Chris & Hillary Lee (4) |
| 4. Shane Baker (19) | 30. Linkin Estates, LLC (16) |
| 5. Big Country 103.1/Country Legends 1360 (24) | 31. Logan's Automotive Repair (1) |
| 6. Winton & Gail Boyd (11) | 32. Mann's McDonalds (9) |
| 7. The Buffalo (2) | 33. Mediapolis Savings Bank (4) |
| 8. Casey & Julie Chadwick (5) | 34. Mike Campbell's Body Shop & Towing (21) |
| 9. City Pawn (1) | 35. Nunnikhoven Art Stone (2) |
| 10. Col. Rod Crowner (14) | 36. Paddlewheel Lounge (8) |
| 11. Corey Baker Memorial (2) | 37. Pet Safe of the Tri-States (11) |
| 12. Dave Bessine Electric (3) | 38. Randall's Performance (3) |
| 13. Des Moines County Conservation (12) | 39. Dave Riley (8) |
| 14. DMC Soil & Water Conservation District (4) | 40. Robert's Tire Center (8) |
| 15. Edle Earthmoving, Inc. (8) | 41. Roederer's Pit Stop (2) |
| 16. Farmers Savings Bank – Wever (6) | 42. Royer's Body Shop (1) |
| 17. Fleck Sales (2) | 43. Service Master of Burlington (7) |
| 18. Fritz Lobberecht & Associates (4) | 44. Shearer's Snacks (1) |
| 19. Great Western Bank (4) | 45. Shottenkirk West Burlington (2) |
| 20. H&L Mack Truck Sales Corp. (8) | 46. Dean Taeger (1) |
| 21. Holtkamp Trailer Repair (1) | 47. TNT Enterprises (1) |
| 22. Huffman's Farm & Home (3) | 48. Two Rivers Bank and Trust (10) |
| 23. The Illinois Boys of Sumner, MO (1) | 49. Brad Weiss (3) |
| 24. Jarrett Dirt Works and Field Tiling (1) | 50. Wild Wings Taxidermy (6) |
| 25. Jimtown Kennels (1) | 51. Joe Wischmeier (9) |
| Klingner & Associates (9) | 52. Yarmouth Filling Station & The Sun Spot (1) |

2015 Platinum Level Sponsors

Donation of \$500 or more

✓ 101.7 The Bull	24 Year Sponsor
✓ Becker's Jewelers	7 Year Sponsor
✓ Daisy Frames Photography	2 Year Sponsor
✓ Danville Mutual Telephone Co.	4 Year Sponsor
✓ DK Real Estate – Jerry Mann Memorial	1 Year Sponsor
✓ F&M Bank & Trust	11 Year Sponsor
✓ Fiberglass Solutions	2 Year Sponsor
✓ George's Lawnmower	6 Year Sponsor
✓ Ideal Ready Mix	26 Year Sponsor
✓ Industrial Motors	6 Year Sponsor
✓ Iowa Land Specialists	2 Year Sponsor
✓ Louie Kantzavelos	2 Year Sponsor
✓ Summer Street Animal Clinic	14 Year Sponsor
✓ W.W. Transport	7 Year Sponsor
✓ Window World	1 Year Sponsor
✓ Yarmouth Gun Club	1 Year Sponsor

FINANCIAL SERVICES (CONT.)

Mediapolis Savings Bank	605 Main St. Mediapolis, IA 52637 319-394-3191 www.mediapolissavingsbank.net
Two Rivers Bank & Trust	222 N. Main St. Burlington, IA 52601 319-753-9100 www.tworiversbank.com

FOOD & DRINK

The Buffalo Tavern	2016 S. Main St. Burlington, IA 52601 319-754-4338 www.thebuffalotavern.ninja
Kelly O'Sheas Pub & Grille	609 S. Main St. Burlington, IA 52601 319-752-9187 www.kellyosheas.com
Mann's McDonalds	1115 Summer St. Burlington, IA 52601 319-753-0722
Paddlewheel Lounge	613 Jefferson St. Burlington, IA 52601 319-752-5934
Roederer's Pit Stop	1100 Chalfant St. Burlington, IA 52601 319-754-5960
Uncle Ronnie's Bar and Grill	1201 Derek Lincoln Dr. West Burlington, IA 52655 319-752-7765

FUNERAL SERVICE

Prugh-Thielen Funeral Home	3940 Division St. Burlington, IA 52601 319-752-2828 www.thielenfuneralhome.com
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GUN CLUBS

Yarmouth Gun Club	21704 205 th Ave Yarmouth, IA 52660 563-320-5223
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PF Banquet Sponsor

HEALTHCARE

Great River Health Systems



**Great River
Health Systems**

1221 S. Gear Ave.
West Burlington, IA 52655
(319) 768-1000
www.greatrivermedical.org

INDIVIDUALS/ORGANIZATIONS

Jay Johnson	
Casey & Julie Chadwick	Corey Baker Memorial
Dave Riley	Illinois Boys of Sumner, MO
Jeremy & Erica Yost	Chris & Hillary Lee
Shane D. Baker	Brad Weiss
Young Farms	Win & Gail Boyd

INDUSTRIAL PAINTING & COATING

Allen Blasting & Coating, Inc.



3195 Highway 61
Burlington, IA 52601
319-671-7121
www.allenblastingandcoating.com

JEWELERS

Becker's Jewelers

401 S. Gear Ave.
West Burlington, IA 52655
319-752-3196
www.beckerdiamonds.com

LAND MANAGEMENT & STEWARDSHIP

**Des Moines County Soil & Water
Conservation District**



3625 Flint Ridge Dr.
Burlington, IA 52601
319-753-6221

Des Moines County Conservation

13700 Washington Rd.
West Burlington, IA 52655
319-753-8260
www.dmcconservation.com

Awards

Presented at the Monday Evening Banquet

CDI SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

First Place (\$4,000): Theresa Brehm, Dubuque SWCD, Region 4

Second Place (\$3,000): Blake Lineweaver, Dickinson SWCD, Region 2

Third Place (\$2,000): Rebecca Roberson, Plymouth SWCD, Region 1

Regional Winners (\$600):

Samantha Reicks, Chickasaw SWCD, Region 3

Megan Owens, Shelby SWCD, Region 5 and \$500 from Region 5 Ron Brownlee Memorial Scholarship

Wyatt Kaldenberg, Warren SWCD, Region 6 and \$350 from Region 6 Larry Beeler Memorial Scholarship

Cole Moody, Tama SWCD, Region 7

Maria Pendleton, Montgomery SWCD, Region 8

Sophia Rotole, Wapello SWCD, Region 9

IOWA ENVIROTHON STATE CHAMPIONS

Decorah Ospreys represented Iowa at the 2016 North American Envirothon Competition, July 24 - July 29 at Trent University in Peterborough, Ontario, Canada. Decorah Ospreys team of five, Shai Shay, Marguerite Schwarz, Dalton Brown, Peter Swanson and Richard Weis were accompanied by chaperones Larry Berland and Barbara Schroeder. Decorah Ospreys outscored nearly 60 teams across Iowa at both Regional and State competitions! The 2017 North American Envirothon Competition will be held July 23 - July 29 at Mount St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

IOWA SOIL CONSERVATION AWARDS PROGRAM (ISCAP)

CONSERVATION TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Presenter: Linette Bernard, Iowa Conservation Education Coalition

Division I Recipient: Julie Schnedler, Mediapolis Community School District, Des Moines SWCD

Julie has been teaching for eleven years. Her participation in FFA and 4H activities inspired her to seek training and opportunities for her own students to engage in conservation. Julie trained in water monitoring through the IOWATER Program and created a new camp for the Des Moines County Conservation Department to teach kids about our water bodies and water quality. She received the National Conservation Educator of the Year Award in 2016 and was the winner of Disney Planet Challenge in 2010. Julie does not let an opportunity to be trained in conservation programs she can take back to her students go by.

Division II Recipient: Elizebeth Logsdon, Centerville Community School District Appanoose SWCD

Elizebeth has been teaching for seven years. Elizabeth provides her students with interactive ways to engage in conservation. Her students have taken field trips to meet with NRCS Staff to learn about judging soil and attended the Mississippi River Student Environmental Conference and National FFA Conventions. She

continues to build and promote agriculture programs and provide her students with leadership opportunities. Many of Elizebeth's students have gone on to college or careers related to agriculture. Her teaching is truly inspiring her students to be good stewards of our land.

Awards

Presented at the Monday Luncheon

CONSERVATION FARMER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Presenter: Mark See, Van Wall Group, Perry

Recipient: Dale and Karen Green, Winneshiek SWCD

The Green's are avid promoters of conservation. They have been featured as Keystone Stewardship Producers by the Winneshiek SWCD for contributing to written publications, implementing signage to market completed conservation practices and mentoring other farmers about conservation. The Green's are considered integral contributors to the success of the Yellow River Headwaters Water Quality Project. Their farm, Spring Valley Farm, is a fifth generation farm. The many conservation practices they have installed are to protect the heritage of the farm for the future generations of the Green Family.

IOWA CONSERVATION WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

Presenter: Laura Crowell, Natural Resources Conservation Service

Recipient: Susan Massman, Fayette SWCD

Sue manages her 160 acre farm with great passion! Her connection and devotion to the land is unparalleled. Sue works with her local SWCD and ISU Extension & Outreach Office on many conservation practices and projects. In 2012, she participated in an Annie's Project to ensure she was making the best decisions for the farm and land. Sue has always been a leader! In 1969, she became the first female in the South Winneshiek FFA Chapter in Calmar. Sue continues to be a tremendous advocate for female landowners today. Sue works off of the farm, but still finds time to invest in continuously improving her farm and in her community as a volunteer. One wonders how she does it all!

OUTSTANDING SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT COMMISSIONER AWARD

Presenter: Rod Swoboda, Wallaces Farmer

Recipient: Wendell Christensen, Kossuth SWCD

For 45 years, Wendell Christensen has been an active and engaged Soil and Water Commissioner in Kossuth County. He has been very involved in the District's scholarship program and attends field days to assist and learn from others about conservation. Wendell believes in leaving the land in better shape than you found it. He leads by example and through his work as an outstanding Commissioner!

Presented at the Monday Evening Banquet

CDI STATE POSTER CONTEST WINNERS

Division 1 (K -1): David Taylor, Sioux SWCD, Region 1

Division 2 (2 -3): Leah Bean, Buena Vista SWCD, Region 2

Division 3 (4 -6): Treyton Bonnema, Sioux SWCD, Region 1

Division 4 (7 -9): Kaitlyn Couchman, Wayne SWCD, Region 9

Division 5 (10-12): Daesha Cale, Lee SWCD, Region 9



PF

2016 SPONSOR LIST

SPONSOR LEVEL & CONSECUTIVE YEARS OF SPONSORSHIP

DIAMOND SPONSORS

DONATION OF \$1,000 OR MORE

Jay Johnson

27 years of dedicated sponsorship

PLATINUM SPONSORS

DONATION OF \$500 - \$999

Sponsor & years of consecutive sponsorships

- | | |
|--|--|
| • 101.7 The Bull <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 25 year sponsor | • Ideal Ready Mix <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 27 year sponsor |
| • Allen Blasting and Coating, Inc. <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 1 year sponsor | • Iowa Land and Home Specialists <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 3 year sponsor |
| • Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 5 year sponsor | • Robert's Tire Center <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 9 year sponsor |
| • F&M Bank and Trust <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 12 year sponsor | • Summer Street Animal Clinic <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 15 year sponsor |
| • Fiberglass Solutions <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 3 year sponsor | • Window World of Davenport <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 2 year sponsor |
| • George's Lawnmower and Small Engine Repair <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 7 year sponsor | • W.W. Transport <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 8 year sponsor |
| • Great River Health Systems <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 1 year sponsor | • Yarmouth Gun Club <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 2 year sponsor |

WHOLESALE

Fleck Sales	2204 W. Mt. Pleasant St. West Burlington, IA 52655 319-754-6735 www.flecksales.com
Shearer's Snacks	3000 Mt. Pleasant St. Burlington, IA 52601 319-754-6551 www.shearers.com

2015 CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS

FY2015 PROGRAM EXPENSES:

- Youth - \$27,843
- General - \$14,582.21
- Habitat- \$26,419.20
- **TOTAL: \$68,844.41**

2015 HABITAT IMPROVEMENTS:

- Food Plots: 12 projects, 40 acres
- Nesting Cover: 15 projects, 200 acres
- Pollinator Habitat: 4 projects, 75 acres
- Rx Burns: 10 projects, 200 acres
- Mowing (planting maintenance/firebreaks): 4 projects, 48 acres
- Total: 45 projects, 563 acres

2015 EVENTS AND YOUTH PROGRAMS:

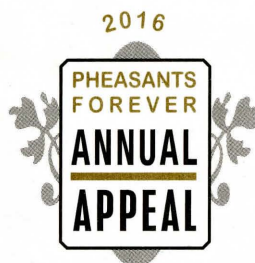
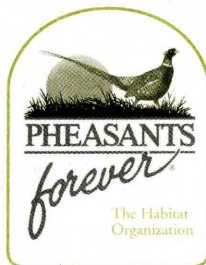
- Shooting Sports: approx. 1,000 participants; \$25,563 spent
- Outdoor Youth Jamboree: 1,020 participants; \$1,000 spent
- Presenting sponsor and co-founders of Burlington, West Burlington/Notre Dame, Danville, Mediapolis, and Southeastern Community College trapshooting teams

0180737

Certificate of Appreciation

Des Moines County Swcd

*has been recognized with the
President's Commendation for
leadership in support of
wildlife habitat conservation.*



Approved by the Pheasants Forever
National Board of Directors

2016
Conservation
Supporter

Howard K. Vincent
President and Chief Executive Officer

0183937

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**2015
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