

WANDERINGS

Fall~Winter 2018-2019

Conservation Newsletter

Volume 30, Issue 3

Nature Center Updates

It was a busy summer at the Nature Center!

The Nature Center expanded their handicap accessible trails thanks in part to grants by the Gilchrist Foundation, Cargill, Siouxland Community Foundation, BNSF Railway Foundation, CF Industries, Wrede & Barbara Smith Legacy Fund of the Siouxland Community Foundation and Old Chicago. The new sidewalk extends to the Discovery Forest Nature Playscape and behind the Raptor House, to allow for better access to these high traffic areas.

With the heavy rains in June and dry conditions in July, it was a challenge to reconstruct our turf after the construction projects. We finally were able to lay sod and keep it watered so that it was able to survive.

Woodbury County Conservation Board was awarded a Federal Highway Administration Urban Youth Corps (UYC) grant from the Iowa Department of Transportation for \$17,514. This grant funded trail repairs for the trail steps, walking bridge deck and habitat improvements. Five young men from the Boys and Girls Clubs of Siouxland worked with our trail crew leader Mark Peterson to repair the trails. During this hot and buggy summer, the trail crew was able to complete all of the identified areas and give our trails some new life. Thanks to Boys and Girls Clubs of Siouxland for their in-kind support with transportation!

In between these construction projects, we had thousands of visitors using our trails and facility, hundreds of youth at our summer day camps and hundreds more people participating in our educational programs here at the Nature Center and in our County Parks.

On the horizon, we will have abbreviated programs and rentals during the next few months as our new HVAC system is installed. This process will require the offices to be temporarily moved to one of our classroom areas in January, February and March. The Nature Center recently turned 23 years old, and it's time to replace our existing system. Fiber Optic lines will be installed this Fall and will greatly improve internet connection speed and productivity. Public WiFi will also be enhanced for visitors.

A new roof will also be installed in early spring 2019, as our current roof is the original from 1995. Please pardon our progress. We ask for your understanding and patience during this period, but we are excited for these new updates!



*Above: Urban Youth Corps working on trails
Left: Summer Campers using the new sidewalk trail to the playscape*

WOODBURY COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

Board Members:

Cindy Bennett - Sioux City
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Aaron Gehling - Salix
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Christine Zellmer-Zant - Bronson

Board Address:

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Sioux City, IA 51109-1657
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web page: <http://www.woodburyparks.org>

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Daniel Heissel - Director
Brian Stehr - Deputy Director
Dawn Bostwick - Administrative Secretary
Dawn Snyder - Education Programs Director
Theresa Kruid - Naturalist
Tyler Flammang - Resource Naturalist
Brianna Martens - Assistant Naturalist
Pam Pfautsch - Receptionist
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Betty West - Receptionist/Volunteer Coordinator

Brown's Lake-Bigelow Park - Phone 712-946-7114
Josh Van Voorst - Resource Manager

Snyder Bend Park - Phone 712-946-5622
Dylan Bales - Assistant Resource Manager
Mike Massey - Resource Technician

Little Sioux Park - Phone 712-372-4984
Bob Fundermann - Resource Manager
Nate Silfies - Assistant Resource Manager
Derek Bean - Resource Technician

Southwood Conservation Area - Phone 712-889-2215
Donald Haahr - Resource Manager
Erik Lindsay - Assistant Resource Manager

Woodbury County Conservation Foundation Board Members:

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Brian Hazlett Anne Shaner Randall Kramer
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Christine Zellmer-Zant

Woodbury Wanderings is distributed free of charge on a quarterly basis. If you are not currently receiving the newsletter and would like to, or if you know of someone who would like to receive a copy, please send a postcard with the name, address and e-mail on it to: Dawn Snyder, Editor, 4500 Sioux River Road, Sioux City, IA 51109-1657; phone: 712-258-0838 or e-mail at <dsnyder@woodburyparks.org>.

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Nature Center Hours

Tuesday through Saturday 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Sunday 1:00-4:30 p.m.
Monday Closed
Thursdays in June & July 9:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

Also closed New Years Day, Thanksgiving Day,
Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

Reminder: Our parking lot is closed and the gate is locked when the building is not open. If you are planning to hike or play after building hours, please remove your vehicle from the main parking lot and park in the lower lot.

Visit our website at
www.woodburyparks.org

 Find us on Facebook
<http://www.facebook.com/DorothyPecautNatureCenter>

Woodbury County Pheasants Forever

For information check website:
www.woodburycountypf.org

For more
information contact:
Scott Rustwick at (712)277-2263 or
sarustwick@cableone.net



From the Director's Desktop

Change is in the air with fall rolling in a little cooler than I would like this year. I was hoping to have a warm fall so we could get more done in the field before old man Winter comes around. If you are to visit Brown's Lake and drive through Bigelow Park you will notice some big changes! We are almost done with our shoreline improvement project which includes tree removal, bank grading, bank stabilization along with the addition of a handicap accessible fishing jetty and the placement of underwater shoals. The shoals will provide habitat for fish as well as provide nooks and crannies for the invertebrates which in turn will provide food for the fish. In the big picture of things, it will attract fish to these spots thus giving our anglers a better chance at catching more fish. The bank stabilization and armoring as we call it will reduce erosion into the lake which in turn reduces turbidity which makes the water clearer and better for the fish and all the other species that inhabit the lake. With clearer water we should see some weed beds in deeper water which is a benefit to the fish and micro invertebrates as well. More plants in the water means better oxygen levels and a healthier system.

The bank along the lake is now accessible and has been seeded down to grass and that area will be mowed. This will give anglers more access to fishing along the shoreline. We plan to replace the old trees we removed with shade trees. These trees will be placed back from the shore so not to interfere with use along the shore but will still provide shade for those recreating along the shoreline. I can see people spreading blankets out and having a picnic and basking in the sun along the shore, something they couldn't do before. We have more plans for Bigelow Park, stay tuned and see what's next for the Brown's Lake Area, I am excited to get started!!

One other big change that the public won't notice is that we are in the final stages of installing over 15,000 feet of fiber optic cable and will be getting the Nature Center hooked up to fiber. Currently we are on an old T-1 line and needless to say, we are in the stone ages and internet service is extremely slow and inefficient. A lot of our work is tied into the county main frame at the courthouse and I can't tell you how excited I am to get hooked up and be able to download documents in seconds instead of minutes, seriously sometimes 5 minutes or more. I want to thank the County Supervisors for partnering with the Woodbury County Conservation Board on this project. They funded 50 percent of the project and we couldn't have done without their

Loess Hills Audubon Society

Loess Hills Audubon meetings:
The First Thursday of each month

7:30 p.m. at Dorothy Pecaut
Nature Center

Meetings are held September - May

For more information contact:

David Hoferer, President, at

David.Hoferer@briarcliff.edu

Loess Hills Audubon Outings, contact:

Jerry Von Ehwegen at jerryvon@cableone.net

Visit the website: <http://lhas.tripod.com/>

help. THANK YOU!! Another partnership was formed during this project as well. FiberComm will be providing free wireless internet service to the Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center. Anyone who is in the parking lot, at the playscape or in the Nature Center will have access to free wireless internet. I can't say Thank You enough to FiberComm for providing this service for free – what a great partner. I hope everyone has a good fall and I encourage you to get out to one of our areas and enjoy the wonders of our great outdoors!!

~ By Dan Heissel, Director

Recycle Your Christmas Trees



The Conservation Board will collect undecorated Christmas trees to be chipped for cover on the trails at the Nature Center. You can drop off your tree with no lights, ornaments, stands or plastic bags and no wreaths at the Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center in the lower parking lot. Sunday, January 13, 2019 will be the last day that trees will be accepted. See page 2 for the Nature Center hours.

Parks Update

Fall is in the air. The leaves are changing, the ducks are flying, and camping season will soon be coming to an end. Yet even after the campgrounds close for the year there is still plenty of things that visitors can do in the parks. Visitors can still go for a hike on one of our many trails, fish at one of our lakes and ponds, hunt the thousands of acres of public hunting that's available, or simply watch the thousands of ducks and geese that come through our areas on their journey south. One new project that will be completed just in time for fall colors is the new observation platform at Southwood Conservation Area located in the beautiful Loess Hills near Smithland. The deck is located at the northeast corner of the conservation area. As you enter Southwood the road splits to go down the hill to the campground or up the hill and runs along the ridge. Just take the east road that goes along the ridge and it will lead right to the platform. From the deck's upper twelve-foot platform or the handicapped accessible two-foot platform people can get a three-hundred-and-sixty-degree view of Southwood Conservation Area and the Little Sioux River Valley. While at Southwood be sure to check out the miles of trails that run through the hills.

Another new addition is our Brown's Lake shoreline improvement project at Bigelow Park near Salix. Brown's Lake is one of Woodbury County's best fisheries. However, shoreline access has been extremely limited due to the trees and the steep banks along Bigelow Park. Thanks in part to Woodbury County Conservation Board and an Iowa DNR Fish Habitat Grant, anglers will now be able to have easier shoreline access. This project entailed removing and replacing trees, regrading the bank, stabilizing the shoreline with rock and vegetation, adding fish structures, and adding a handicapped accessible fishing jetty. The project completion date is scheduled to be the first part of November.

Don't forget that even though the campgrounds are closed for the season, our cabins are open year-round at Southwood Conservation Area and Snyder Bend Park, so there's no reason not to come out and enjoy the parks all year long. Reservations can be made at www.woodburyparks.org.

By Brian Stehr, Deputy Director



New Observation Platform at Southwood Conservation Area

Wish List: Binocular Viewing Scope for Southwood Observation Platform. Contact Dawn at 712-258-0838 for more information.

Thank You M.R.H.D.

Thanks to the Missouri River Historical Development, Inc. (M.R.H.D.) for funding a much needed upgrade to the Nature Center's classroom multi-media system. A \$15,000 M.R.H.D. grant was awarded to WCCB in May. An additional \$10,000 from the MRHD/Penn National Gaming settlement allowed WCCB to upgrade both classrooms with new laser projectors and interactive white board technology. WCCB also purchased a document camera and the sound system and microphones were upgraded with the funds.

The system was recently installed by Kingsbury Electronics. With the additional of the upcoming fiber optic installation, Nature Center staff, visitors and users will enjoy a much improved and enhanced experience. Thank you, M.R.H.D., for your generous grant!



Walking Archery Range at Southwood Conservation Area

The Woodbury CCB received a \$5,000 grant from the Iowa DNR Shooting Sports Division to create a public archery range. WCCB is creating a walking 3-D archery range located at Southwood Conservation Area near Smithland. With assistance from local partners, including Sioux Valley Archery, WCCB will use one of the existing, and least used trails, on the north end of the park to create a walking archery range.

WCCB will purchase 16 Rinehart 3-D animal targets for the range. The targets will be placed at varying distances between 20 and 50 yards depending on landscape, target size and existing vegetation. It is our goal to make the stations as close to lifelike scenarios as possible (e.g. tight shooting lanes and challenging shot angles). We plan to have eight shooting stations with two targets per station. Each station will also have bow holders, station numbers and signage. This target range will be for field archery points only and users must provide their own archery equipment.

Be watching for this project to be completed in the next several months. Because Southwood is a multi-use area, hikers, equestrian users, hunters and all user groups should be aware of the many options available for recreation and be respectful of others.

For more information or to donate to the project contact Erik Lindsay at Southwood Conservation Area at 712-889-2215 or elindsay@woodburyparks.org.



**The Loess Hills
Longbeards Chapter
National Wild Turkey
Federation**



For more information contact
Mark Bower at 712-251-5718 or 712-876-2838

Nature Calls Recap

The Woodbury County Conservation Foundation's 15th annual Nature Calls, held September 22 at the Sioux City Convention Center, was another success. More than \$55,000 was raised to benefit the Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center's educational programs. The event had more attend than ever, with 660 nature, art and beer lovers enjoying the wide array of food, brew and auction items.

The event combined a nature art show, auction, raffles, beer, and wine tasting in a fun, casual atmosphere. This year's event had tremendous crowd that was offered 53 brews and 4 wines to sample. New this year was the addition of two local craft brewers: Jackson Street Brewing and Marto Brewing Co. The response from sponsors and the community was extremely generous and plans are already underway for next year. Thanks to all of our sponsors, volunteers, donors and attendees!

*2018 Nature Calls
Attendees, Vendors &
Volunteers enjoying
the Fun!*



Good-Bye to Assistant Naturalist

Leaving after 6-months at the Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center is Brianna Martens, our assistant naturalist. This position was a temporary position funded by various sources including donations by Scheels, Edward Walding, and a gift from America's Farmers Grow Communities from the Monsanto Fund on behalf of Woodbury County farmers Lane and Kathy Tabke.

Beginning in late April and finishing late October, Brianna has provided educational programming, social media coordinating, and the 2018 Nature Calls fundraiser artwork. Seventy total educational programs were completed, reaching over 6,000 people from Woodbury County and the Siouxland area. Some of Brianna's favorite moments were showing the tarantula borrowed for Fall Fest, working with the most recent raptor addition, Harlan, and trying new programs such as canoeing at Little Sioux Park, a meteor shower viewing at Southwood Conservation Area, and an outdoor movie night in Stone Park. Brianna hopes to continue working outdoors in the natural resource field in the future.

Editors Note: Brianna will fortunately continue her dream of working in the field. She has recently accepted a position with Iowa DNR as Park Manager for Stone State Park and Blood Run. We are excited she will be nearby!



Some captures from Brianna's programs this year!

Where are They Now?

I've been wondering lately where or what has happened to many of our former summer interns. Our first intern was my second summer here in 1998 and we only had one. Now we have 5-6 each summer. You have all helped make the Nature Center and county park programs exceptional. Interns have helped with summer camps, animal care, park programs, habitat projects and much more. I've been lucky enough to stay in touch with some of you but have lost track of so many. I'd love to hear from you and reconnect. Send me an email at tkruid@woodburyparks.org or give me a call at 712-258-0838.

You Can Volunteer!

Opportunities abound for individuals, families, businesses and service organizations to donate their time and talent. Help support our mission of educating people and developing awareness and appreciation for our natural environment. As the seasons change, so do our volunteer opportunities. For more information about volunteering, please call our Volunteer Coordinator, Betty West at 712 258-0838 or e-mail her at bwest@woodburyparks.org.



Volunteers in Action!



SIERRA CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

The Sierra Club

Northwest Iowa Group

"Explore, enjoy and protect the planet!"

Please join us every 4th Tuesday of the month, 6:30-8 PM, for a presentation and discussion held at 2508 Jackson St. Sioux City, Iowa. It's always free and we encourage all members of the community to participate! Come as early as 5:30 PM for potluck and conversation.

Find us on Facebook, or visit our website:
<http://www.sierraclub.org/iowa/northwest-iowa>

Contact us any time by calling 712-986-6210 or by sending an email to nwiasierraagroup@gmail.com
Follow us on Twitter @NWIowaSierra

- Special Note -

As you're dreaming about your summer lawns and gardens, consider our pollinators by purchasing native plants and learning more about neonicotinoids and other harmful pesticides. Your garden will thank you!

Calendar of Events

All events are free and held at the Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center (DPNC) unless otherwise noted.

To Register for Events Call 712-258-0838

Saturday, November 17: DNA Extraction Activity, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m., DPNC. Join Ashley Collins, Western Iowa Coordinator of the Science Booster Clubs today for a fun hands-on activity demonstration. Participants have the opportunity to extract DNA from fruit using simple household ingredients, so you will see and touch DNA! She will be at the Nature Center throughout the afternoon to share this quick and fun demonstration.

Thursday, November 22: Nature Center Closed in observance of Thanksgiving holiday.

Friday, November 23: Nature Center is open shortened hours from 10am – 3pm.

Wednesday, November 28: A Brief History of the American Parks System, 6:00 p.m., DPNC. Join Stone State Park Ranger Jason Dykstra as he shares how early conservationists like John Muir, Stephen Mather and Theodore Roosevelt gave rise to our current parks system and how it led to the creation of Iowa State Parks and Stone State Park.

Tuesday, December 4: Stone State Park Annual Public Meeting, 6:00 p.m., DPNC. Stone State Park Ranger Jason Dykstra will share a brief history of the park including past and current operations, general funding and budgeting for the park. He will also discuss future goals, the Friends of Stone Park and challenges facing Stone State Park. Join us to learn more and to provide input on the Park.

Saturday, December 8: Winter Fun Day and Artist Open House, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., DPNC. Join us for a fun day of winter activities. We plan to have recycled materials crafts for you to create for holiday gifts if you choose. We'll also have snowshoeing or hiking and other fun indoor and outdoor activities. Dress appropriately and join us for some family fun! Free! Area artists will also have their artwork on display and available to purchase. For more information or to be a vendor contact us at 712-258-0838.

Tuesday, December 11: Nature Tales, 10:00 a.m., DPNC. Pre-schoolers, join us with an adult for this special story time about Deer. We'll hike too, weather permitting. Pre-register by calling or email tkruid@woodburyparks.org.

Thursday, December 13: Images Beneath our Feet: Archaeological Discoveries on Highway 20, 6:30 p.m., DPNC. Megan Stroh Messerole, Archaeologist from the Sanford Museum and Planetarium in Cherokee will present

about the 2014 archaeological exploration of the project area near Correctionville where U.S. Highway 20 would be expanded. During survey, archaeologists identified two important ceremonial sites that go back more than 1000 years ago. These sites have geoglyphs underneath the top soil. Geoglyphs are large designs formed on or in the ground. The designs that are displayed at these two sites include images of bison, stickmen or dragonflies, turtles, and a thunderbird. These sites are unique because few others have been identified in the Midwest.

Thursday, December 20: Winter Solstice Snowshoe or Hike, 3:00 p.m., DPNC. Take a walk or snowshoe in the woods on one of the shortest days of the year. If snow amounts are greater than 4 inches, we will strap on a pair of snowshoes and hit the trails. If the snow amounts are less than that, we will still go for a hike to celebrate the upcoming Winter Solstice. Dress for the weather and in layers. Wear comfortable hiking or snow boots with good ankle support. Call 712-258-0838 to reserve a pair of snowshoes. Limit numbers are available.

Monday, December 24: Nature Center Closed in observance of Christmas Eve holiday.

Tuesday, December 25: Nature Center Closed in observance of Christmas holiday.

Tuesday, January 1: Nature Center Closed in observance of New Year's Day.

January 3 – April 1: The Nature Center's Heating and Cooling (HVAC) system is being replaced. There may be limited access to classroom space during this time. Thus, programming and rental space will be limited.

Tuesday, January 8: Nature Tales, 10:00 a.m., DPNC. Pre-schoolers, join us with an adult for this special story time about Bears. We'll hike too, weather permitting. Pre-register by calling or email tkruid@woodburyparks.org.

Tuesday, February 12: Nature Tales, 10:00 a.m., DPNC. Pre-schoolers, join us with an adult for this special story time about turtles. We'll hike too, weather permitting. Pre-register by calling or email tkruid@woodburyparks.org.

Watch our website & Facebook page.
We'll do our best to schedule more programs as construction allows.

Summer Memories from the Interns

The Woodbury County Conservation Board (WCCB) summer internships lasted 12-weeks, beginning in late May through early August. You may have seen the interns around the various county parks conducting educational programs about various topics relating to the environment. Along with their programming these four spend the much of their time planning and conducting the summer day camps that are held at the Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center in Sioux City. During these camps the Summer Naturalists are able to introduce nature to children ranging from three to 15 years old through various outdoor recreational activities such as hiking, canoeing, crafts, and much more.

WCCB also hired another intern for a 12-week position. The Habitat Stewardship Intern worked on habitat management such as prairie restoration, trail maintenance and a variety of other projects. This position is funded by the Woodbury County Conservation Foundation. Below are their insights from the summer.

Sara Larson

I am currently a junior at Morningside College, where I am studying Elementary and Special Education. I have always loved the Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center. From being a camper myself, to a volunteer, and an intern for the second year, the nature center has been a part of my life for a long time. The wonderful people and the fun atmosphere helped make this summer great and has always been one of the many reasons I find myself going back to the nature center. I have been offered so many great experiences and learning opportunities through this internship and I am grateful for each and every one of them. This summer has given me the opportunity to work with kids of all ages and showed me that teaching is definitely what I want to do after I graduate. It has given me different experiences that I may one day use in my own classroom. It helped me to step out of my comfort zone and become more of a leader. I enjoyed the opportunity to be outside and to help engage the children in learning about nature. It was awesome to see the kids fascinated by the different parts of nature. Some of my favorite memories were taking care of the animals of DPNC, getting drenched while canoeing, visiting the county parks, shooting water rockets, and laughing/singing random songs with the other interns. This summer was amazing and I am so thankful for the opportunity to work with such great people and to become more knowledgeable about the beautiful outdoors.

*Summer Naturalists &
Assistan Naturalist
Back Row: Rose Peleo-
Ray, Lilly Sencenbaugh
& Sara Larson
Front Row: Brianna
Martens & Megan Maaske*



Megan Maaske

After being an Intern Naturalist at the Dorothy Pecaut Nature center last summer I was eager to come back and learn more about working with kids and nature. This summer, the interns completed twenty-two summer day camps within a nine-week period. I look back and wonder where the time has gone? It seems like summer only started a few weeks ago, and here we are at the end of summer. I was so busy with camps and planning that the time flew right by! Through the busy weeks I've grown and learned a lot! I've gained new experiences and gathered more knowledge. Although this was my second year as an intern, I was able to learn new things about the outdoors and Iowa, which I was not expecting. This year I was able to become more of a leader for the camps, which I truly enjoyed. I gained great classroom management strategies and other wonderful ideas for my future classroom. I was also able to identify which age group I most enjoy working with. All of these things, together, would not have been possible anywhere else. I am lucky to have spent two summers as an intern at the nature center, I only wish I would've found it sooner! I am so thankful for the experiences and people I have met. All of it will greatly help me in my future.

Rose Pelelo-Ray

This summer, I finally stepped into the place I have always been looking for. I did not always know I wanted to enter an environmental field, but I am sure glad I found it. Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center showed me countless new experiences that I could not have found anywhere else. Many of my daily activities were things that I had never done before, and the days that weren't ordinary were filled with memories I'll keep forever. The skills I obtained from this nature center are something that will help me for any career path I choose. I am extremely grateful to have been given the opportunity to work for a nature center, and for being a part of the Woodbury County Conservation Board.

Continued on page 9

Summer Memories from the Interns Continued

Lilly Sencenbaugh

This summer internship at the nature center was a fantastic experience that really helped me put my educational background into perspective. Sustainability is something I care about but I had only worked with it in the classroom, up until this summer. I really enjoyed how this internship was a job but also a wonderful educational experience. It was great to be able to conduct educational programs and see so many people interested in our natural environment. Prior to this internship I had no background in any animal care, besides dogs and cats, and I found working with turtles, snakes, and birds to be one of my favorite parts of the internship. This internship will help me enter my final year as an undergraduate with experience under my belt and new directions for what I will do with my degree.

Zach Greder

Many people have been able to visit the Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center in Sioux City. Visitors may come inside and see the many exhibits that show the natural history of the Loess Hills or, they may go outside and hike to get a first hand glimpse of what Iowa's natural landscape truly looks like.

Through my internship as a Habitat Steward I got an even more immersive look at the beauty of this area. Not only was I able to take in the sights of the hills every day, but I was also able to improve the landscape in ways that will make a visit to Dorothy Pecaut an easier and more enjoyable experience for people of all ages.

Under the direct supervision of the Resource Naturalist, Tyler Flammang, I started my summer by spreading wood chips on trails to help cushion the pathways where people walk. This made for a good warm up for what was ahead in the coming 10 weeks. Those who visit the playscape on a routine basis will notice the nice concrete path that spans from the building out to the kid-friendly space. That path was poured before I arrived, but the shoulders were backfilled with the help of some big machinery and a little rake. The dirt work on the path would not be the only "dirty job" I would work on though. On the east side of the building dirt was laid and leveled to make for an even surface where sod was laid. This makes for an inviting lawn for people to enjoy a break from a hike with lunch or just fun place for kids to run around.



The leveling would not stop there. Two of my weeks were spent leveling woody vegetation to restore Iowa's natural ecosystem. Crews from Conservation Corps of Iowa and Woodbury County workers spent hours on a property known as Riverside Bluffs. We worked to cut back woody vegetation that has overtaken Iowa's natural prairie landscape. Using brush cutters, chain-saws, and backpack sprayers we found ourselves with a freshly disturbed prairie ripe for native plants such as Big Bluestem, Snow on the Mountain, and Saw-toothed Sunflower to finally take hold once again. People looking for an easier way to view what prairie restoration looks like can hike up to Kestrel Point where similar work was done to improve our hillsides. This work was the highlight of my summer as someone who loves nature and wants to see the beauty of Iowa's natural landscape to be conserved in these hills. A special thank you goes to Tyler Flammang and Brian Stehr who both worked with me directly to show me how conservation looks in the field. I would also like to thank Dawn Snyder and the Woodbury County Conservation Foundation for making this internship possible and the whole Woodbury County Conservation Board for being such an inviting place to spend a summer.

Just a few photos showing the amazing programs our Summer Naturalists helped us with this summer!



Acknowledgements and Thanks

- **Fund for Siouxland—Siouxland Community Foundation** for grant for Nature Center handicap sidewalk project
- **Missouri River Historical Development** for grant for Nature Center projection & sound system
- **BNSF Railway Foundation** for grant for sidewalks/trails
- **Iowa Department of Transportation** for Urban Youth Corps trail grant
- **Boys & Girls Clubs of Siouxland** for Trail grant partnership
- **Dan & Sally Hartley** for cash donation for animal care
- **Dave & Lynn Brown** for cash donation for Nature Center
- **Donna Popp** for birdseed and playscape digging tools
- **Anne Shaner & Carol Blair** for birdseed
- **Perry Creek Elementary 5th Grade** for cash donation
- **Bruce & Jeanette Hopkins** for camp scholarship donation
- **David Butcher** for Helen Eberly memorial gift
- **Battle Creek-Ida Grove 1st grade** for Kestrel adoption
- **Mary Jane Africa** for program supplies
- **Old Chicago Sioux City** for cash donation for sidewalk project
- **Floyd Walmart** for gift cards for summer day camp materials
- **Mark & Barb Taylor** for cash donation for swan interpretive sign
- **Loess Hills Audubon Society** for cash donation for swan aerator system & electrical work
- **Chris Warren** for craft supplies
- **Bob & Phyllis Nickolson** for nature books & suet
- **Sioux Valley Sports Club** for cash donation
- **Rick Schneider** for use of tiller & Nongame certificates
- **Fleet Farm** for gift card for programming
- **Alpha Delta Kappa** for cash donation for programs
- **Denise Oakley** for cash donation for programs
- **Jeanne McCallum** for cash donation for programs
- **Jenny Williams** for cash donation for programs
- **Shelley Sweeney** for cash donation for programs
- **Diana Gardner** for cash donation for programs
- **Loess Hills Audubon** for newsletter ad
- **Scott Moats and TNC staff** for Bison tour
- **Rod Lantz** for aquarium
- **Michael Nguyen & Melissa Brown** for cash donation for programs
- **First Congregational United Church of Christ** for cash donation for programs
- **Bill Zales** for taxidermy assistance
- **Smithfield Foods** for cash donation for programs
- **Linda Roethler** cash donation for Playscape
- **Sue Brown** for craft materials & materials
- **Jolly Time Pop Corn** for popcorn at Nature's Fall Fest
- **Patty Kollbaum, Rick Riemenschneider, Rod Tondreau, Jeff & Beckie Wahlberg, Bill & Dotty Zales and Diane Ten Napel, Diane's Pumpkin Patch** for pumpkins and gourds for Nature's Fall Fest
- **Linda Shaffer** for clerical assistance
- **Leonard Kurtz** for bee keeping
- **Chase Hiser** for washing pumpkins for Fall Fest & cleaning raptor house
- **Bianca Llamas** for animal care, filling bird feeders & cleaning aquarium
- **Katelyn Brinkerhoff** for program assistance & animal care
- **Rose Pelelo-Ray** for providing general maintenance at the Nature Center, cleaning the raptor house, washing pumpkins for Fall Fest and showing animals
- **Gary Shaner** for repairing fishing rods & reels
- **Nichols Rise & Company** for accounting assistance
- **Plymouth County Conservation Board** for PFDs
- **Woodbury County Pheasants Forever** for gun stands
- **Tim Hains** for aquarium
- **Audie Baughman, Julie Baughman, Greg Giles, Barb Small, Catherine Saulsbury, Pam Ridgway, Diana Kincaid, Kathy Koskovich, Tracie Derochie, Lynne Peterson, Michele Schwerin, Cindy Bennett, Chris Zellmer-Zant, Don Dixon, Aaron Gehling, Susan Boden, Neil Stockfleth & Jane Merritt** for Nature Calls coordination & planning
- **Laura Kinnaman, Bennett Snyder, Nick Opsahl, Jacob Noble, Peyton Rea, David Hernandez, Edgar Muñoz & Jessica Palmillas** for trail maintenance
- **Alisha Junge, Hunter Vedral, Patrick Baughman, Ethan Wenger, Olivia Warren, Bre Cline, Grace Junge, Morgan Mahon, Chloe McClure, Kalyope Miller, Emma VonHagel, Katie Larson, Kai Herron, Awo Addo** for summer camp assistance
- **Doris Swanson** for providing S'mores for the campfire
- **Mike Donovan, Elaine Meyer, Gina Myers, Rick Borg, Bob Sweeney, Cheryl Lambrecht, Walt Peterson, Bob Larson** for providing musical entertainment at the campfires.

Continued on page 11

If your name is not included above or the following page and you have helped us, the omission is unintentional. Please accept our apologies and thanks!

Acknowledgements and Thanks Continued

- **Bob Sweeney** for providing hot dogs & buns for the August campfire
- **Morningside Into the Streets, Briar Cliff Retreat Team and Wells Fargo Bank** for Prairie Rescue
- **Judi Deaton, Ginger Martin, Ron Bennett, Katelyn Brinkerhoff & Carol Scott** for garden care
- **Dr. Pat Saulsbury & Siouxland Animal Hospital** for veterinarian care of resident animals
- **Sara Larson & Katelyn Brinkerhoff** for meteor shower program assistance at Southwood Park
- **Dean VanRoekel** for playscape/slides assistance
- **Barb Small** for program assistance at Fleet & Farm
- **Audie Baughman, Julie Baughman, Briana Baughman, Amanda Bentson, Carol Blair, Carol Boellstorff, Troy Bostwick, Katelyn Brinkerhoff, Jeanne Bockholt, Juan Casteneda, Sierra Chapman, Karla Claussen, Steve Claussen, Mark Custer, Kandi Custer, Denise Derby, Tracie Derochie, Dennis Derochie, Abby Duin, Nick Fondoulakis, Roger & Anita Gaswint, Greg Giles, Brittany Gill, Jane Hey, Sue Hinrich, Tammy Hogan, Phyllis Holzrichter, Kacey Hovden, Cindy Hyndman, Matt Hyndman, Chuck Johnson, Diana Kincaid, Kathy Koskovich, Rosie Kuehne, Jen Kuehne-Willmore, Sara Larson, Sara Legler, Keri Leopold, Marjorie Lessman, Marlin Lessman, Kenny Leuenberger, Lyle Listamann, Tina Listamann, Mike Mahney, Ginger Martin, Jane Merritt, Tony Michaels, Judy Miller, Ally Mueller, Conner Mueller, Candice Nash, Austin Newbrough, Erica Newbrough, Megan Newbrough, Lori Newbrough, Lynne Peterson, Annie Peterson, Mark Peterson, Walt Peterson, Kathy Pfautsch, Zach Pike, Donna Popp, Kelly Ridgway, Pam Ridgway, Sandra Riffenberg, Becky Roemmich, Heidi Rouse, Catherine Saulsbury, Alan Schmeckpeper, Kayla Schmipf, Barb Schultz, Michele Schwerin, Chris Schwerin, Anne Shaner, Ellen Shaner, Gary Shaner, Barb Small, Stacey Snyder, Sam Sorenson, Doris Swanson, Kate Swanson, Mike Swanson, Tracy Swanson, Lynette Tullis, Tracey Wenger, Gina West & Jessica Wisniewski** for Nature Calls fundraiser assistance
- **2018 Nature Calls Sponsors and Auction Donors** for Nature Calls fundraiser assistance
- **Tim Hains** for snake aquarium
- **Steve Sargent** for mule deer mount
- **Karen Blatchford** for cash donation

Memorials

In Memory of Shirley Hogan

from Rick & Angie Schneider, Gregg & Rhonda Roepke, Dawn Snyder and Ron & Vicki Schweitzberg

In Memory of John Glesne

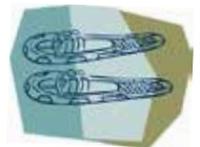
from Mark & Susan Nielsen

In Memory of Roger Gruber

from James & Shirley Soukup, Robert & Karen Junger, Michael Prosser, Gary & Patricia Thompson, Mark & Robin Gambaiana, Sieck and Find, LLC Diane M. Andersen, Diane M. Andersen, Carole Sieck, Rick & Angie Schneider, CMBA Architects, P.C., Christopher & Julie Lohr, Roger & Joy Caudron, Thomas & Patricia Fellows, Joseph & Margaret Lemek, Craig & Jenny Jorgensen, Trisha & Lee Wheelock, Mark & Anna Vestweber, W & C Pedersen, William & Donna Bradbury, Kenneth & Virginia Freyermuth, Roger & Cynthia Johnson, Mike & Kelly Moffitt, Colleen Sernett-Shadle & Steve Shadle, Randall & Deborah Burnight, Betty Wheelock, Bruce & Karen Matthey, Mark & Susan Nielsen and Pam & Eric Pfautsch

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