



The Warbler

A PERIODIC NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF THE WELTY ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER, INC. volume 11, issue 2

LIVE BAT ENCOUNTER: BATS IN BELOIT

Come meet these fascinating creatures up close and personal,
and learn what is "bat fact and bat fiction"

Upcoming Events at the Welty

April 2nd

Weather Watch Badge
Workshop for Girl Scouts

April 9th

Recycled Kites at the Welty

April 9th

Bat House Build

April 10th

Friends of the Welty
Environmental Center Annual
Meeting

April 15th

Live Bat Encounter: Bats in Beloit

April 16th

Nature Rocks: Spring Beauty

April 22nd

A Chorus of Frogs

April 25th

School's Out Earth Day Celebration

May 21st

Nature Rocks: Nature Play Day

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For more information, check out
the Event Calendar starting on
page 5.

On Friday evening, April 15th, the Beloit Memorial High School Environmental Club will partner with the Welty Environmental Center to host the Live Bat Encounter at Beloit Memorial High School. There you will learn about the benefits of bats, why we need to conserve them, and what you can do to help these unique mammals.

Rob Mies, conservation biologist, bat expert, Director of the Organization for Bat Conservation and author, invites you to step into the mysterious world of bats and explore their benefits, habitats, and nocturnal strategies. Learn about



bats from around the world up-close and personal!

The on-going message of the presentation is about the unique wildlife biodiversity around the world and the importance of

(continued on page 2)

BAT HOUSE BUILD

On Saturday April 9, (the Saturday before the Live Bat Program) Welty Environmental Center and BMHS Environmental Club will work together to sponsor a BAT HOUSE BUILD.

Where do bats go during the day? How can I attract the insect-munching power of native bats to my yard? Come learn about bats and their needs, how they help people, and build a bat house to help the bats in return! All materials and tools provided, but participants may bring their own tools if preferred. Adult supervision is required for building a bat house! ONE complementary ticket to the April

15th Live Bat Program is included with each paid bat house project!

Call to reserve your spot early – participation is limited.

Bat House Build

12:30-2:30pm at the Welty Environmental Center in Beckman Mill County Park
All ages welcome, but adults must accompany children
Cost: \$15.00 per Bat House-includes ONE ticket to Bat Program.

Special thanks to the Beloit Memorial High School Tech-Ed Class for helping with this event.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

It's that time of year – finally, spring has arrived in earnest. Even those of us who enjoy the winter relish the return of warm days, wildflowers, longer daylight hours, and watch for the return of those critters that have been away or in hibernation. Here at the Welty Environmental Center we are also looking ahead to what is coming in the spring and summer. As the plants and animals get busier, so does Welty programming!

This spring look for some fun opportunities to celebrate Earth Day. Come listen for amorous frogs on a spring evening, have fun on a day off all day in the great outdoors, and of course we'll be celebrating our nocturnal mammal friends, the bats, this April too. Early in April learn how to make yesterday's

newspaper into a kite to enjoy windy spring days. Bring the whole family to Magnolia Bluff County Park to find some of spring's earliest



flowers.

This summer is bringing back old and new programs to the Welty Environmental Center. Back this year is fishing, day camp programming and Welty Wednesday adventures. New this

year are field trip opportunities included in the summer day camps, chances to learn outdoor living skills, and a new partnership with Rock County Parks with our Nature Rocks Family Nature Club series. The series will now be all year long, and we'll be visiting parks and natural areas throughout Rock County. Get to know Joleen Stinson, the Rock County Parks Community Coordinator, as she works with Welty to help show you hidden natural treasures in the county. Look for the updated schedule coming soon.

Now, get out your best muddy boots, the gardening gloves, and maps to all the great hiking, biking, canoeing, and other outdoor spots. Welcome spring, and enjoy!

BECKMAN MILL PARK'S TRAIL SYSTEM EXPANDS!

A message from Joleen Stinson, Rock County Parks Community Coordinator

The existing savanna trail is expanding with a boardwalk across the wetland to an earth tread loop in the north woods of Beckman Mill Park. The trail system will also expand south adjacent to the savanna with a wheelchair accessible, limestone aggregate trail to the northwest corner of the Visitors Center. A second accessible limestone trail will begin at the southwest corner of the parking lot and run along the old farm lane to the north end of the mill. This trail will have spurs to the ramp on the Cooperage Museum and to the fishing pier. This project is possible through DNR grant funding.

The boardwalk construction was completed in mid-March. The earth tread loop in the northern part of

the park has been cut-in, but the ground is still rough. As soon as the ground dries, slight grading will smooth the trail. The limestone trail will be installed as soon as possible, temperature and weather dependent.

We hope you will explore the new trails this spring! Watch for an

announcement of the trail grand opening, which will be held in May.

To learn more about County Park activities, please contact me at 608-757-5473 or stinson@co.rock.wi.us.

I hope to see you in Beckman Mill County Park soon!

Live Bat Encounter: Bat's in Beloit (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

protecting it from extinction. Bats are shown in a way to interest, excite, and motivate the audience to learn more, take action in their backyard, and work globally to safeguard the earth's natural world.

You will encounter a Big Brown bat from North America and hear its high-pitched echolocation with a "bat detector," meet fruit bats from Africa and Asia, and finally, come face-to-face with the largest bat in the world, the Gigantic Flying Fox

Bat from Malaysia. This beautiful bat has nearly a 6-foot wingspan!

7pm at the Beloit Memorial High School Auditorium

All are welcome!

For tickets call the Box Office at 361-3194 between 3:30 -6:00pm starting April 4th

Cost: \$6 each, \$20 for 4 tickets

This program is generously supported by Genencor, Beloit.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING: APRIL 10, 2011

The Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Welty Environmental Center, Inc. will be held Sunday, April 10th beginning at 2:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at Bushel and Peck's at 328 State Street in Beloit. Due to State street construction, please access from back parking lot.

Board Elections will take place at the Annual meeting. The Nominating Committee of the FWEC Board of Directors recommends the slate of candidates listed at right for election at the annual meeting April 10, 2011.

2011 Nominating Committee:
Stephanie Dobson, Richard Ott,
Nancy Forbeck

After the general membership meeting Patty Bailey, from Patty's Plants in Milton, will present a talk on herbs. She will be discussing a wide range of herbs and organic methods for growing herbs successfully. Patty's business received the "2010 Small Business of the Year" award from the Milton Area Chamber of Commerce, Tourism and Industry. Her web address is: www.pattysplants.com



When you search on the internet, log onto Good Search, and shop via Good Shop – with Welty Environmental Center identified as recipient of the donations Yahoo will make because of your use of their site.

President	Jan Knutson	3 year term (re-election)
Internal Secretary	Karen Niehans	3 year term
Director 1	Mary Driscoll	2 year term
Director 1	John Nevins	2 year term*
Director 1	Paul Roemer	2 year term
Director 1	Pablo Toral	2 year term
Director 1	Susan Wright	2 year term (re-election)

* John was appointed by the board last May to fill a vacancy and now must stand for election, in order to continue.

Those continuing on the Board are:

Vice President	Heidi Andre	2 more years
External Secretary	Stephanie Dobson	1 more year
Treasurer	Tom Evert	1 more year
Director 2	Jan Herber	1 more year
Director 2	Marty Densch	1 more year
Director 2	Dave Dobson	1 more year
Director 2	Richard Ott	1 more year

ANOTHER 'GOLD'-EN OPPORTUNITY . . .

Welty will host another Purple Creek fund-raiser on Tuesday, May 10th, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. This is a safe and fun evening where you can sell your unwanted gold and go home with \$\$\$. Participation is easy, just come to Bushel & Peck, 328 State Street (don't forget, there's construction, so use the parking lot in the back). Purple Creek representatives will tell you how much you could receive for your broken, outdated or no longer loved gold and silver jewelry. It's a no-pressure-to-sell offer . . . if you don't want to sell your items after hearing what you will receive for them, we will still have enjoyed your company for the evening. (There will be complimentary snacks too.) And of

course there's that great part of this event . . . you will be helping Welty Environmental Center continue its mission to introduce children to nature!

"Bring Your Unwanted Gold & Silver" Fundraiser
Tuesday, May 10th, 2011
5:30-7:30 p.m.
Bushel & Peck
328 State Street
Beloit, Wisconsin

For more information, send your request to info@weltycenter.org
We will forward you a brochure with more detailed information.

MEET SOME WELTY BOARD MEMBERS

Tom Evert, Treasurer



Tom Evert was elected to the office of treasurer April 2009. He grew up in Onalaska WI enjoying the beauty of the bluffs along the Mississippi River. UW EauClaire is his alma mater where he received Bachelors and Master's degrees.

He started his long career in education in 1971 as a school counselor for the Beloit school system, then became administrator of student services. In 2009 he retired as the Janesville Superintendent of schools.

Tom is married to Bette Lang who was superintendent of schools of Beloit during early days when the Welty Center was becoming known and accepted as an important educational resource for the schools. She was an encouraging booster for the Welty cause. Tom became aware of Welty when Tanya came to his office to promote the school programs she could offer in Janesville.

Not surprisingly, Tom and Bette have two grown boys who are both

high school teachers! He says they have four grand children and two grand dogs. He enjoys reading history and biography, traveling, walking and maintaining his backyard bird (squirrel) feeders.

John Nevins, At-Large Director

John Nevins was appointed to the FWEC board May 2010 after the resignation of a board member. He became aware of the Welty Center through his friendship with treasurer, Tom Evert. He was born and reared in Rockford IL and graduated from Saint Procopius College in Lisle Il now known as Benedictine University, a school emphasizing Math and Science.



John taught elementary school in Chicago and later in Janesville where he was a principal for years. He has been retired for three years but is by no means retired from administrative work; he serves as the coordinator of the Janesville school's outdoor lab (AKA the Cook arboretum).

Married, father of four, and a recent graduate of Blackhawk Technical School Culinary Arts School, John enjoys cooking, bicycling, and travel.

WINES

IN SPRINGTIME

Got your calendar out ?

Turn to Saturday. 30 April and mark in *Wine Tasting: 6:00 – 8:00 pm*, at Bushel and Pecks Natural Food store in downtown Beloit.

That's when FWEC will feature Wisconsin wines and cheeses at its first annual wine tasting fund raiser. Live music by Lannette Calhoun and interesting food snacks will accompany your tasting experience.

Discounts provided for advance registration.

Watch your mail for further details , or check our website:

www.weltycenter.org

WE ARE ALL ABOUT NATURE

(and we are trying to be as environmentally friendly as possible)

We want to keep you up to date on all the exciting things happening at Welty Environmental Center if you will simply give us your e-mail address. Please send a note to info@weltycenter.org.

In your e-mail to us please provide: Name, Address with City, State, Zip and your e-mail address

We have a new committee working hard to move us to the next levels of convenient communication and your help is much appreciated! And of course, when we send information to you via e-mail, we are trying to be environmentally responsible by saving a piece of paper and eventually maybe a whole tree!

2011 WELTY SPRING EVENTS CALENDAR

For all Welty Center events you can call 608-361-1377 or email info@weltycenter.org for registration and more information.

Weather Watch Badge for Junior Girl Scouts

Sat April 2, 10am-noon and 1-3pm
Not a Girl Scout, but interested? Call for information.

At the Welty Environmental Center
Ages 8 and up

Cost: \$5 per scout

Come learn the science behind forecasting the weather. At this session girls will learn to read the sky, make tools to predict coming weather, and learn how to stay safe during extreme weather conditions. The difference between climate and weather will be examined as well. Be ready to be outdoors for this meteorological experience!

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Recycled Kites

Saturday, April 9, 10am-noon
At the Welty Environmental Center
All ages welcome, but adults must accompany children

Cost: \$6 per kite, \$3 for FWEC members

Spring is here, and the winds are blowing. Come learn basic kite safety and how to make a kite using nothing but newspaper, and other green options. All supplies and instructions will be provided for, but feel free to bring and test your own design as well. After making kites we'll go to the big lawn in Beckman Mill County Park to test our creations! This program is limited to the first 15 kite builders!

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Bat House Build

Saturday, April 9 12:30-2:30pm

Details on front page.

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Live Bat Experience

Fri, April 15 at 7pm

Details on front page.

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Nature Rocks: Spring Beauty

Saturday, April 16 10-11:30am

At Magnolia Bluff County Park

All ages welcome

Cost: \$10 per family, \$5 for FWEC member families

Join us to hunt for spring's earliest wildflowers. This park has some challenging trails, so bring your hiking boots! We'll have a scavenger hunt, flower photography and drawing tips to practice, and time to enjoy this unique park and state natural area. Bring a drink and snack to refuel after the hike. This program is designed for the whole family, from toddlers to grandparents. Come enjoy a day outside with everyone!

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A Chorus of Frogs

Friday, April 22, 6-7:30pm

At Beckman Mill County Park – meet in the main parking lot

All ages welcome

Cost: Donation to the Welty Environmental Center

The days are getting longer, the weather is warming, and love is in the air – especially for the frogs and toads! Celebrate Earth Day with a relaxing evening hike along Raccoon Creek listening and looking for native frogs and toad. Come early and enjoy a picnic dinner in the park.

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School's Out Earth Day Celebration

Monday, April 25 10am-2pm

At the Welty Environmental Center

Ages 6-12 years

Cost: \$15 each, \$12 for FEWC members

Includes a campfire lunch!

Spring is here – what a great time to celebrate Mother Nature and spend a day outdoors. We'll be playing games, exploring the woods, prairie and water, practicing outdoor living skills and maybe even make a new friend by the end of the day. Pledge to be a Friend of the Earth with a special craft. We'll be cooking our lunch over the campfire too!

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Water Everywhere Badge for Brownie Girl Scouts

Not a Girl Scout, but interested? Call for information.

Saturday, April 30 10am-noon

Saturday, May 7 10am-noon

At the Welty Environmental Center

Ages 6 and up

Cost: \$5 per scout

Earth is a planet of mostly water. We'll explore the ways that water affects life in this session. We'll explore Beckman Mill Park looking for water – in places that don't even seem wet. Using nets and viewers we'll peek into Raccoon Creek to investigate life in this water. Finish the day by taking a pledge to be a water saver yourself. This program is limited to 30 participants.

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2010 WELTY SPRING EVENTS CALENDAR CONTINUED

A Garden of Flowers for Daisy Girl Scouts

Not a Girl Scout, but interested? Call for information.

Sat, May 14 10-11:30am & 1-2:30pm

At the Welty Environmental Center
Ages 5 and up

Cost: \$5 per scout

Flowers are all around us! Most plants have flowers, even if they are not showy or smell pretty. We'll walk through the oak savanna to see early spring wildflowers, learn to identify flowers, and look at flower lore. Plant a seed to take home and nurture into a flower for your yard or patio. We'll even have a snack made from a flower! This program is limited to 30 participants.

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Nature Rocks: Nature Play Day

Saturday, May 21 10-11:30am

At the Welty Environmental Center

All ages welcome

Cost \$10 per family, \$5 for FWEC member families

You don't need an electrical outlet or internet connection to have fun. And who needs a playground when you have Mother Nature?! At this program you'll enjoy fun and games using only natural items. This program is designed for the whole family! Bring a sense of adventure, your imagination, and a picnic lunch to help cap off the school year too.

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Nature Rocks: Birds of a Feather

Saturday, June 11 10-11:30am

At the Cooke Arboretum (Janesville School Outdoor Lab)

All ages welcome

Cost: \$10 per family

Kick off the new Nature Rocks Family Nature Club with Welty and Rock County Parks! We'll be meeting at the John Cooke Arboretum, also known as the Janesville Schools Outdoor Lab, to look and listen for native birds. Wear your hiking boots, and bring binoculars, and your favorite bird guide. Don't have those things? Don't worry – We'll have some available to borrow for the day. This program is designed for the whole family, so bring everyone along for a great day in the great outdoors!

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Life in the Past Day Camp

June 20-June 24, 9am-3pm daily

At the Welty Environmental Center

Ages 6-12 years

Cost: \$75 per camper, \$60 for FWEC members

This week is all about living in the Stateline area in ages past, including fossils, prairie life, Native American cultures, fur trade days, and pioneer life. There will be chances to dress up, crafts to make, and even a chance to see a modern way of life like days gone by. This week will include a field trip to a local organic farm. Campers need to bring a lunch each day, and sunscreen, insect repellent, and a hat are recommended. Water bottles will be provided for each camper. Bring the whole family back Friday night at 6pm for a special program. There is an optional Friday Night Family Campout with night hikes, campfire, treats, stories, and Saturday breakfast for an additional \$15 fee, \$10 for FWEC members. This program is limited to the first 15 campers! Note: Mark your calendar for Water Planet Day Camp August 15-19.

Welty Wednesday – Summer Kickoff!

Wednesday, June 29 9-11am

At the Welty Environmental Center

Ages 4-10, under 4 with an adult

Cost: \$8, \$6 for FWEC members

Attend 3 Welty Wednesdays, get a 4th session FREE!

Enjoy a morning of stories, outdoor adventures, crafts and a snack. We'll be checking out the new trail in Beckman Mill Park that goes through the wetland to the woods. Be ready to look and listen for birds, frogs, turtles, flowers, and all the other fun things that come out in summer! We'll meet at the main pavilion in Beckman Mill Park for this adventure!

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Fishing Fun – Angler 101

Friday, July 1 9am-3pm

At the Welty Environmental Center

Ages 6-12 years

Cost: \$15 each, \$12 for FWEC members

Ready, set, fish! This program is for the new and seasoned fisher guy or gal. Bring your own pole, or borrow one of ours. We'll have all the bait and tackle. At this session we'll practice some basic fishing knots, have casting contests, and see who can catch the first, biggest, smallest, etc fish. Bring a lunch and water bottle to keep fueled throughout the day. A special fishing craft is included with registration. This program is limited to the first 15 participants!

Donations from
participants are
always welcome and
appreciated.

JUNE 18th — NATURE RENDEZVOUS: ART & NATURE

CALLING ALL ARTISANS AND NATURE ENTHUSIASTS!

Artistic Adventurers Wanted!

KIDS: At the Rendezvous on June 18th, Welty will feature a Nature Plein Air for Kids ages 7-13. Local artist, Dan Wuthrich, will work with young artists in the morning to explore Beckman Mill Park from an artist point of view and then they will each create a painting during the Welty Nature Rendezvous-to be displayed in the afternoon. Pre-registration is required, a small fee will help cover costs.

ADULTS: At the Rendezvous, adults can explore art in nature photography with local artist/photographer, Jack Johnson. Bring your camera to the Nature Rendezvous on June 18 and join the Walk & Talk with Jack. As you explore Beckman Mill Park, Jack will help you find some great

photos. Later in the afternoon Jack Johnson will also present a talk on how to best utilize your great photographs. These sessions are free...but advance registration is suggested.

Other summer Arts and Nature series events in the planning will include:

- Summer Basket making Class — utilizing natural materials for accents
- Creating your own “Bird-tique”: a birdhouse decorated with recycled and antique items.
- Gorgeous Garden Chair: decorating your old rickety chair with a new look for the garden
- Gourd Birdhouse: Make an easy-to-clean Gourd Birdhouse for your yard

???? Suggest something????

Welty is looking for help to sponsor a series of classes and workshops integrating the arts and nature. We are looking for individuals who would be willing to share time and talents with others. Nature photography? Watercolor painting? Black-line sketches of birds or trees? Quilting with Nature themes? Creating art with natural materials? Creating art with nature as the subject? Creating art with recycled and re-purposed items?

Can you suggest a topic and/or volunteer to lead a class? Give Welty a call...361-1377.

Talk to Kelly about Art and Nature Series.

JACK JOHNSON

Jack Johnson is a local photographer who will be presenting two programs at Welty Nature Rendezvous on June 18. He talks about his art and has shared a photo with us.

I escape to the woods and lakes and mountains to quiet my mind and nurture my soul; and there, when I am lucky, I experience moments of such simple grace and beauty that I am renewed. I feel privileged to share

such moments through my images, a glimpse of what I saw and felt.

And it is only a glimpse - I cannot show you the sweet scent and gentle whisper of pines swaying in the wind; or the submerged clatter of the stones washing up and down the beach of Lake Superior, hidden and revealed by the waves over and over and over again; or the endless roar and electric freshness at the base of a rushing waterfall.

I offer these images as windows into the natural world waiting just around the corner and down the road from the hustle and bustle of our daily lives.

May they please your eyes, soothe your spirit, and brighten your day!

Jack Johnson



WELTY CENTER PROGRAMS: SUMMER FUN!

Get the kids off the couch, away from the computer screen and OUTDOORS!

Back again is weekly day camp programming—one week in June and one in August.

June 20-24: Life in the Past
Explore what life was like for local Native Americans, pioneers, explorers, and native flora and fauna this week including fossils, fur trader days, and prairie life. You will have a chance to dress up, make old-time crafts, and play games. Included is a field trip to a local organic farm.

August 15-19: Water Planet
It's the Dog Days of Summer – time to explore the world of water! Most everything on this Earth is made of water - oceans, rivers, plants, animals, even people! Get ready to get wet as we dive into water in all its forms, see water in action in the weather, and check out what critters live in the water. Activities include making personal weather stations, exploring Raccoon Creek, fishing and watery crafts and games. Also included this week is a field trip to a local wetland.

Details for both:

Ages 6-12 years old; ages 13 and older volunteer as a Junior Naturalist (no fee to volunteer) 9am-3pm each day; bring lunch and water bottle
Registrations limited to 20 campers each week so register early!
Cost \$60 for FWEC members, \$75 for nonmembers

Friday Family Night event with ice cream treats at 6pm

Optional family camp out available each week on Friday night-\$15.00 fee (\$10.00 for Welty members) including campfire activities, night hikes, and Saturday breakfast. Families must provide their own camping gear.

Field trip transportation thanks to a grant from the Stateline Community Foundation

Throughout the summer:

Welty Wednesday programs 9-11am
Wednesdays: June 29-Aug 10

Ages 5-10 years (4 and under with an adult)

Cost \$6 FWEC members, \$8 nonmembers

Attend 3 sessions, get a 4th free!

Friday all-day programs

Ages 6-12 years

Fishing Fun-- July 1 and July 22

Outdoor Living Skills- Living Off

PROGRAMS WISH LIST

The Welty Environmental Center is looking for the following donations to help with upcoming programs. If you have any of the items listed, or anything else you think we could use please drop them by the center at Beckman Mill Park. Staff is usually in Mondays through Fridays 8:30am to 4:30pm. If no one is home, please feel free to leave items on the porch. For any items that need to be brought inside right away please call the center first to make sure someone is in the office. Thank you all for your support of environmental education in the stateline area!

- Waders and waterproof boots of all sizes
- Nets for the water or for insects

the Land--July 8 and July 29

Nature Girls-- July 15

Nature Guys—August 5

All these programs are 9am-3pm; bring lunch/water bottle; \$12 FWEC memb./ \$15 nonmemb.

Nature Rocks—Family Nature

Club...meets monthly ...all

Saturday dates

June 11 and July 16 and Aug. 6.

(August features a kayak, canoe and tube float on Turtle Creek!)

***Watch for Welty at the Rock County Fair in Janesville, the Latino Community Fair, at Harry's Place, at Beloit's Music and More and at the Beloit Community Outdoor Movie, Aug 26.

Call 608-361-1377 or email info@weltycenter.org for registration and more information.

- Fabric and yarn
- Fishing poles and tackle items
- Animal puppets
- Leather scraps and tools
- Miscellaneous craft supplies
- Touch table items, including animal bones and skulls, rocks and fossils, and plant samples

Do you have fur items that have been passed down that you are uncomfortable with? Welty can use these items in programs relating to local animals, demonstrating such adaptations as camouflage, thick winter coats, and giving children who may have never seen a particular animal a chance to feel their fur and understand more about them. Call the center for more information.

PHENOLOGY CORNER BY SANDY KALLAS, ROCK PRAIRIE MASTER GARDENER

Phenology is the study of the timing of recurring biological phenomena and their relationship to the weather. It is useful to gardeners, as a guide for when to plant. Weather can vary from year to year, but you can let the plants and animals tell you when it's time to start seeds. For instance:

- Plant your peas when the forsythia and daffodils bloom.
- Plant potatoes when the 1st dandelion blooms.

It's no guarantee that you won't lose a few plants to a late frost, but phenology is a good guideline to keep you in the ballpark. You can even use it to be pro-active against pests and invasive plants.

- Watch for garlic mustard plants appearing and blooming early in the spring. This is among the most aggressive of the invasive plants that you'll see. The speed with which it appears and blooms in the spring is worth observing, since it's among the reasons this plant is so successful in competing with native plants. The earliness and vigor of its growth is one reason it is able to shade out native plants and kill them. It also is extremely prolific in seed production.

In March and early April watch for the arrival of:

- Redwing blackbirds: Male Redwing blackbirds arrive first and begin putting on dramatic displays to mark out their territories.
- Sandhill cranes: Many times you can hear these beautiful birds without seeing them. They have a voice that carries very far. Listen for them when you are out at Welty.
- Butterflies: The first butterflies begin arriving in March.

In April watch for:

- Gypsy moth eggs hatching when the serviceberry flowers.
- tent caterpillar eggs hatching at the bud break of the flowering crab

Listen for: Spring peepers

Plant: Carrots, cole crops, lettuce, spinach when lilac is in first leaf.

Beets, peas, and onions when the daffodils bloom.

Potatoes when the serviceberry flowers.

Be watching for the following in May:

- Morels when the lilacs are blooming
- Wild geraniums blooming.

Plant: Annuals when there is new growth on burr oak, green ash, and grapes.

Peppers and eggplant outside when the bearded iris is blooming.

Corn when oak leaves are the size of a squirrel's ear.

Tomatoes and peppers when the dogwood is in peak bloom or when the daylilies start to bloom or lily-of-the-valley is in full bloom.

We probably all use Phenology or have been exposed to it without realizing it. Really, it is simply an equation. Like all equations it has two parts. First we notice what is going on around us and, with enough practice, we learn to watch for or do something else. By using Phenology we observe plants, animals and the weather and adjust our schedules accordingly.

TREE SALE

The Janesville Blackhawk Golden "K" Kiwanis in cooperation with the Rotary Botanical Gardens of Janesville is holding their annual tree sale. It will be held on April 22 & 23 from 8 A.M.-2 P.M., rain or shine. It will be held at the Rotary Botanical Garden Horticultural Center off

of Palmer Drive in Janesville. There will be four different varieties of trees for sale: Norway Spruce, Black Hills Spruce, Colorado Blue Spruce and Eastern Arborvitae. These are 2-3 year old transplants and will be sold for \$1.75 each in minimum bundles of five.

For more information on this sale or to order trees in advance go to <http://rotarybotanicalgardens.org/events/annual-tree-sale> or call Lori Ebner at (608) 752-3885, ext. 20

MISSION STATEMENT

To provide leadership in environmental and ecological education to students, teachers and individuals of all ages so that the residents of this region can make informed decisions leading to respect for and the enjoyment, preservation, and sustainable use of our natural resources.

Membership Dues for Calendar Yr 2010

Student/Child (\$10)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Individual (\$15)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family (\$25)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Organizational (\$100)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lifetime (\$1000)	<input type="checkbox"/>

Contributions

Level	Amount
Swallow	\$25
Killdeer	\$50
Goldfinch	\$75
Cardinal	\$100
Bluebird	\$150
Crane	\$250
Great Blue Heron	\$500+

Join the Friends of the Welty Environmental Center, Inc. Today
Help support environmental education and programming in our region. FWEC members receive issues of this newsletter and information about programming and events. We have 501(c)(3) tax exempt status and are solely a private, non-profit educational organization. All dues and contributions are tax-deductible.

NAME(S):			
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	
ZIP		PHONE:	
EMAIL:			
TOTAL (DUES & CONTRIBUTIONS):		\$	
Please make checks payable to and mail to: Friends of the Welty Environmental Center, Inc., P.O. Box 131, Beloit, WI 53512			

FWEC Board of Directors

Jan Knutson, President
Heidi Andre, Vice President
Tom Evert, Treasurer
Stephanie Dobson, External Secretary
Peg Bredeson, Internal Secretary

At-Large Directors

Gillian Batterman Margie Carroll
Marty Densch Dave Dobson
Jan Herbert John Nevins
Richard Ott Susan Wright

'Warbler' Newsletter Editors

Welty Center Director: Lena Verkuilen
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Kelly Washburn

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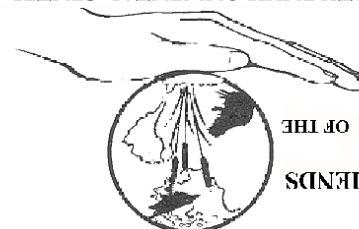
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