



Franklin County Falcon



Volume 1, Issue 4

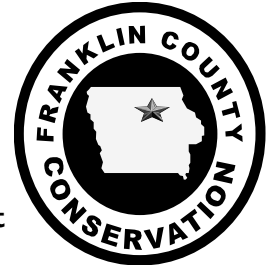
A Quarterly Newsletter of the Franklin County Conservation Board

Fall 2007

Fall Edition 2007

Continuing the Tradition

By Joel Vinson, Naturalist



Just about the time summer seems like it will never end, changes on the landscape unfold right in front of our very own eyes. The temperature starts to drop, birds are gathering into flocks preparing for a long migration south and the leaves on trees turn several shades of colors as if a famous painter has once again created a masterpiece. Then, on the calendar I notice when the first day of fall lies on, and then other dates demand my attention; October 1st, October 13th, October 27th... Finally, I realize that these are the days that I have the privilege to participate in the greatest American tradition of them all. The HUNT!

Hunting is the sport that I have enjoyed the most since I was a young boy growing up in Marshalltown. Now, as a conservationist, it is one of my missions to help ensure that hunting remains an American tradition, and together we can do this through education and getting our youth to participate in the sport. On September 15th, seventeen people (12 of them under 17 yrs. old) successfully completed the hunter safety course hosted by Franklin County Conservation and the National Wild Turkey Federation, and they will be joining the ranks this fall. Hunter safety education is a key element in the development of hunters young and old alike. The course is designed to provide a good foundation for the development of young hunters covering topics such as current Iowa hunting regulations, ethics, survival, first aid, primitive and modern hunting techniques and equipment, game care and wildlife management.

Here in Iowa if you were born after January 1, 1972 it is required that you take the hunter safety course before you can purchase a hunting license. Most other states require a hunter safety certificate as well but their age requirements differ, so if your planning an out of state hunt be sure to check the hunting laws of that state. A certificate from Iowa is acceptable in most cases.

I am often asked where a person can go hunting. Within Franklin County there is over 2200 acres

worth of public hunting areas and over 1500 acres of that ground is managed by Franklin County Conservation. Contrary to what some believe, public ground can provide excellent hunting experiences.

No matter where you hunt, be it public or private land, always practice good land stewardship. Being a good steward to the land is easily accomplished by simply leaving the area that you are in, in better shape than when you got there. That might even mean picking up someone else's empty shell boxes for example, but that's o.k. If you are hunting private land it never hurts to offer a little help to the land owner like planting trees, fixing fence or at the very least offer them some of the game that you harvest from their land. Gestures like this certainly doesn't hurt land owner/hunter relations.

No matter what your quarry of choice is always remember to hunt safe, hunt legal, and hunt ethically. We'll see you in the field!

Upcoming Events

The Thorn Apple Strutters of the NWTF will be hosting it's 5th annual banquet on November 3rd at the Franklin County Convention Center. Social hour starts at 5:00 and the dinner will be at 6:30. The live auction will follow the dinner. For more information or tickets call Bruce Harris at (641) 456-4793 or (641) 456-3908.

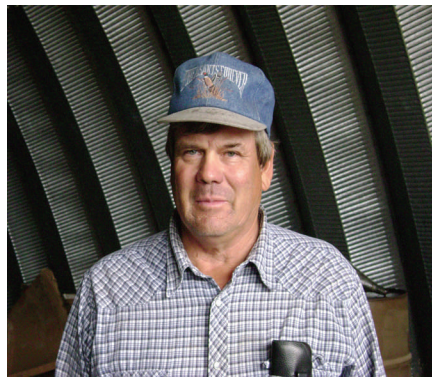
The Beeds Lake Chapter of Ducks Unlimited is having their 29th annual banquet on November 8th at the Franklin County Convention Center. Doors open at 5:30 and dinner starts at 7:00. For more information call (641) 456-1974.

TEN WAYS YOU CAN SAVE THE ENVIRONMENT

- ◆ Compost your leaves and yard waste. You'll improve your garden's soil
- ◆ Walk or ride a bike instead of using the car for short trips
- ◆ Buy products packaged in recycled paper or cardboard
- ◆ Turn off lights in rooms you aren't using
- ◆ Don't pour oil and gasoline into the sewer system or on the ground. Take to your local collection site
- ◆ For a toilet bowl cleaner use baking soda and a brush
- ◆ Ant Killer: Use chili powder to hinder entry
- ◆ Use pump sprays instead of aerosols
- ◆ Educate your children about the environment
- ◆ When using hazardous products use only what is needed. Twice as much does not mean twice the results

Board Member Spotlight

In this issue of the Falcon, Franklin County Conservation Board member Merlyn Wiarda is featured. Merlyn has been a member of the board for nearly twenty years and is currently the board president. He resides in the western part of the county with his wife



Collette who is the kindergarten teacher at CAL. Together they have two daughters, Jocelyn, the oldest, who is currently enrolled in the Vet Med program at ISU, and Shaylyn who is a sophomore at ISU. Both of the girls are CAL graduates. Merlyn himself has a

degree from ISU in Outdoor Recreation, although he continued to farm to make a livelihood for his family.

The Wiarda family enjoys the outdoors together as they take annual pronghorn hunting trips to Wyoming and they go fishing in Canada quite a bit.



In the nineteen years that Merlyn has been a part of the Franklin County Conservation Board, he has seen numerous projects take place. One he is particularly proud to have played a role in was the acquisition and development of Maynes Grove. In the future he would like to see Maynes Grove and Mallory Park connected.

Merlyn has decided that in January when his term is up that he will not be wanting to be re-appointed to the board. This is unfortunate for us but we want to wish him well and thank him for twenty years of dedicated service to the Conservation Board.

Onomatopoeia

Onomatopoeia
(definition)--*noun*;
word that imitates
a natural sound

Across

- 3. What you might do when you are happy
- 4. The sound I  make
- 6. The sound of something getting hit
- 7. The sound I make falling  into water

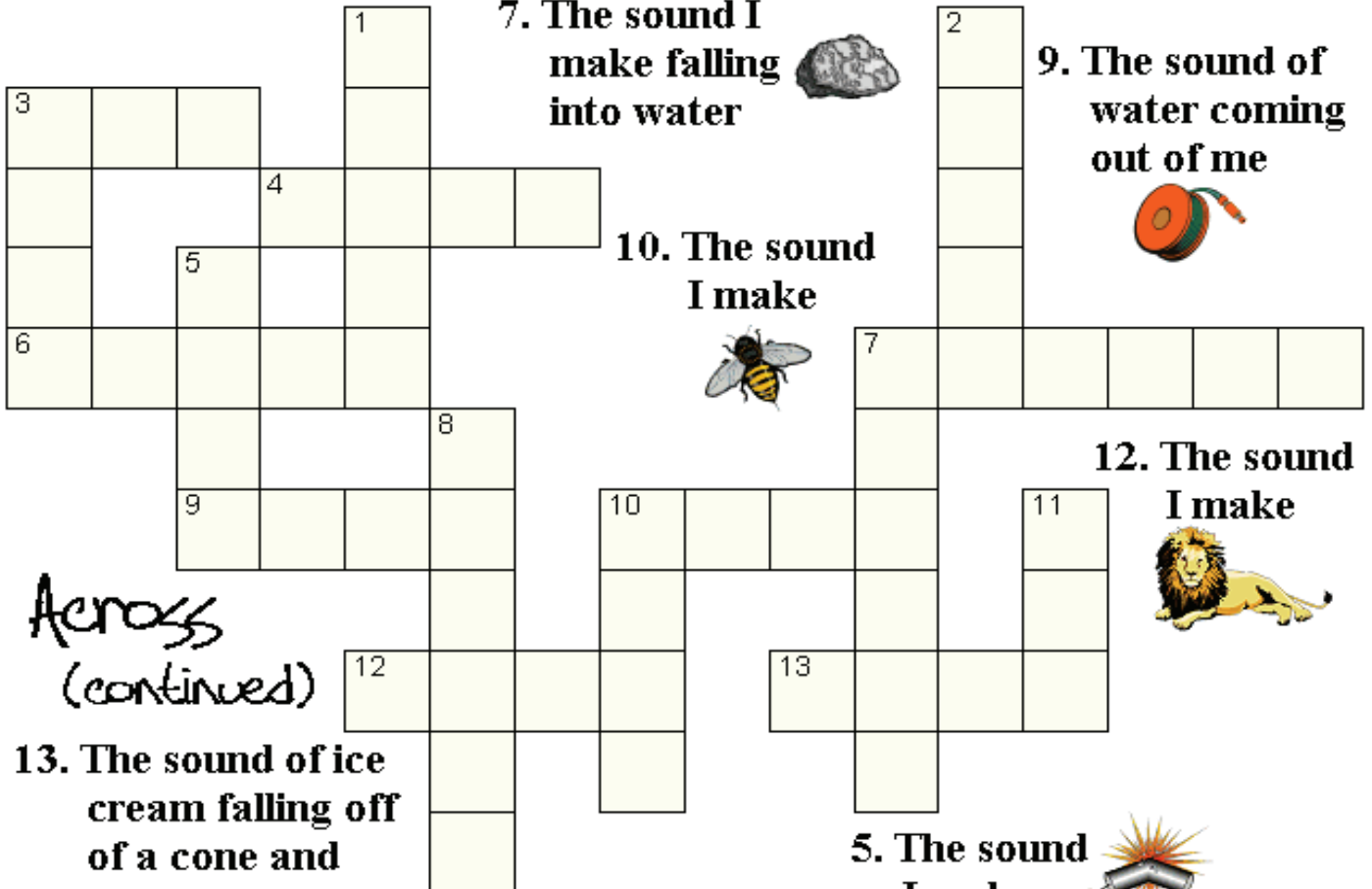
- 9. The sound of water coming out of me



- 10. The sound I make



- 12. The sound I make





Across
(continued)



- 13. The sound of ice cream falling off of a cone and onto the ground

- 5. The sound I make



Down

- 1. The sound I  make falling into a piggy bank
- 2. The sound of something falling in another room
- 3. The sound I  make

- 7. The sound I  make
- 8. The sound of a frisbee flying through the air
- 10. The sound I  make
- 11. The sound of a top coming off of a bottle

Quotes for Thought

“Man did not weave the web of life. He is merely a strand of it. Whatever he does to the strand, he does to himself.” ~Chief Seattle

11. The sound of a top counting off a bottle
 10. The sound I'm making flying through the air
 8. The sound of a fishbe into a piggy bank
 7. The sound I make
 5. The sound I make
 12. The sound I make
 10. The sound I make
 9. The sound of water coming out of me
 7. The sound of something falling into water
 6. The sound of something getting hit
 4. The sound I make
 3. What you might do when you are happy
 13. The sound of ice cream falling off of a cone and onto the ground
 12. The sound of a paved area
 11. The sound of a natural sound
 10. The sound of something falling into water
 9. The sound of something getting hit
 8. The sound of something falling into water
 7. The sound of something falling into water
 6. The sound of something getting hit
 5. The sound of something getting hit
 4. The sound I make
 3. What you might do when you are happy



RURAL RECYCLING:
 Recycling is easy with the rural recycling program the conservation office has to offer. On the 2nd Saturday of every month, simply bring all of your recyclable items to the conservation office located at the SE corner of the fairgrounds in Hampton. With the help of volunteers from the Kiwanis Club, we can collect and recycle everyone's recyclables in Franklin County. The recycling program is held from 8:30 - 11:30 am EVERY 2nd Saturday

A special thanks to the Hampton Kiwanis Club Members for their volunteer work every month with the Rural Recycling Program.
WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!



If you or someone you know would like to be added to the Franklin County Falcon mailing list, fill out this card and send it to our office. If you received this newsletter, you are already on the mailing list.

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____

*MAIL TO:
 Franklin County
 Conservation
 P.O. Box 164
 Hampton, IA 50441*

Or give me a call at the office at (641) 456-4375. I'd be more than happy to put you on the mailing list.

Franklin County Falcon

Mail to: Current Resident or

Franklin County Conservation Board
1002 Central Ave. West
P.O. Box 164
Hampton, Iowa 50441
(641) 456-4375

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Edited by: Joel Vinson

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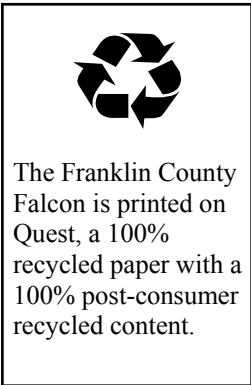
Franklin County Conservation Board

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Mike Weese.....Hampton
Dave Keninger.....Ackley
Rick Rieken.....Hampton

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Dennis Carlson.....Director
Jason Gooder.....Park Ranger
Joel Vinson.....Naturalist



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Office Hours
Mon-Fri 7:30 - 4:00

The Franklin County Conservation office is located in the southeast corner of the Franklin County Fairgrounds.