the month; for all ages, write dreams and goals, share accomplishments, and express gratitude, with facilitator Dr. Jenna Hobbins; live life fun and full; 7pm; donations accepted; for information, e-mail drjenna@excite.com, Bettendorf Public Library, 2950 Learning Campus, Bettendorf, IA, thru Wed, Dec

Toastmaster Speaking Club, on Thursdays; improve communication and leadership skills, and gain more confidence in and out of the office in an encouraging environment; noon for information, visit www.gcspeak.com; Penguin's Comedy Club, 421 River Dr. Davenport, IA, thru Thu, Dec 18th

Artsy Fartsy Ladies Auxiliary Consortium, share enlightened, inspired art methodology and tasteful cuisine; hats & gloves optional; the 3rd Sat on month; 1pm; for information. call 309-737-2066, Bucktown Center for the Arts, 225 E. 2nd St., Davenport, IA, thru Sat. Dec 20th.

Roosevelt Masonic Lodge #626, every Thursday; 7pm; for information, call 563-386-5520, Roosevelt Lodge #626, 1525 Washington St. Davenport, IA, thru Thu, Dec 25th.

Magic Lunch Club, every Sat; informal meeting of magicians of all ages; bring a trick to perform; 11am; for information, call Brian at 563-383-0877, Crooner's Restaurant, 2325 16th St., Moline, IL, thru Sat, Dec 27th

Overeaters Anonymous, for information, call 309-762-0306, Tue 7:15pm, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Kennedy Dr. & 16th Ave., East Moline, Illinois; Sat 9:15am, Bettendorf Public Library, 2950 Learning Campus, Bettendorf, IA, thru Tue, Dec 30th.

Davenport High Twelve #47, on Tuesdays; 11am lunch, noon program, Hickory Grove Restaurant, 3311 Hickory Grove Rd, Davenport, IA, thru Tue, Dec 30th.

Fireside Knitters, an all-ages group that meets weekly to complete projects to be donated to local charities: Tuesdays at 6:30pm; for information, call 563-326-7900, Fairmount Street Library, 3000 N. Fairmount St., Davenport, IA, **thru Tue, Dec**

Tromp-as-Writ Weavers Guild, on Tuesdays at 9am; fo information, call 309-734-3033, Buchanan Center for the Arts, 64 Public Square, Monmouth, IL, thru Tue, Dec 30th.

Knitting Club, on Tuesdays at 7pm and Thursdays at 9:30am; for information, call 563-359-0816, Unitarian Church of Davenport, 3707 Eastern Ave, Davenport, IA, thru Tue, Dec

Ecumenical Fellowship for the Disabled, weekly liberal Bible-study classes, discussion groups, support groups, movie nights, cook-outs, outdoor worship for the ecology-minded, and more; all faiths and the non-disabled welcome; for information, call 563-324-0428, thru Wed, Dec 31st.

Quad City SnB, free gathering for knitting, crochet, and needlepoint; Wednesdays at 7pm in Dewey's Cafe; for information, e-mail quadcitysnb@gmail.com, Bettendorf Public Library, 2950 Learning Campus, Bettendorf, IA, **thru Wed, Dec**

The Friends of Riverside Park Gardens, promoting public involvement and improvement of the park gardens; Wed 9amnoon: for information, visit www.friendsofriverside.org, Riverside Park Greenhouse, 3400 5th Ave, Moline, IL, thru Wed, Dec 31st.

 ${\bf Quad\ City\ Clown\ Troupe}, learn the art of clowning for fun$ and community events; meets most 1st & 3rd Mondays; for information, call 309-788-1278 or 563-570-4650, Duck Creek Park Lodge, Davenport, IA, thru Wed, Dec 31st.

Theological Diversity Group, on Wednesdays; 7pm; for information, call 563-359-0816, Unitarian Church of Davenport, 3707 Eastern Ave. Davenport, IA. thru Wed, Dec 31st.

Narcotics Anonymous, for information, call 563-328-5228 or visit www.qcana.org, thru Wed, Dec 31st.

Farm Leasing Meeting, 1:30pm; for information, call 563-659-5125, Buzzy's, 414 Main St, Welton, IA, Wed, Aug 6th.

Mississippi Valley Directors of Volunteers in Agencies (MVDOVIA) Meeting, with a presentation by author Larry G. Patten, on motivation and organizational development; in the Kelinson Room: \$7.75 for lunch: 11:30am: RSVP to Jennifer at 563-326-7804, ext 2048, Bettendorf Public Library, 2950 Learning Campus, Bettendorf, IA, Thu, Aug 7th.

Davenport Aglow August Meeting, with regional coordinator Roberta Preston, on session 1 emergency preparedness, session 2 AED use, CPR, and first aid; free: 10am 3pm; for information, call Lana at 641-684-6112 or e-mail Belovednel@aol.com, The Women's Choice Center, 2711 Happy Joe Dr, Bettendorf, IA, **Sat, Aug 9th**.

Johnny...vou might have noticed

that I left a stack of old furniture on you

front porch. I figured you could use it.

Labyrinth International World Peace Walk Events Crew Meeting, volunteers needed for load-in and set-up from 2-5pm, and clean-up from 8:30-10pm; greeters also needed; to volunteer, call 563-323-1737, Labvrinths International, 111 E 3rd St Suite 306, Davenport, IA, Tue, Aug 12th.

Iowa Christian Women's Connection Monthly Luncheon with guest speaker Sandy Sipp presenting "From Make Believe to Reality," with special feature "Teaching Sign Language Songs"; \$11; 12:30-2pm; for reservations, call Janice at 563-285-7150, The Lodge Hotel, Spruce Hills & Utica Ridge, Bettendorf, IA, Wed,

Quad-Cities Computer Society Monthly Meeting. Rachel Piper offers a Q&A on blogging, and gives details on how to start your own blog; free and open to the public; 7pm; for information, visit www.qcs.org, Tri-City Jewish Center, 2715 30th, Rock Island, IL, Wed, Aug 13th.

OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteers Needed for Xstream Cleanup, get down and dirty for a good cause, in the 5th annual clean-up on Aug 16, sponsored by Living Lands & Waters; for information, call Steve at 563-332-8000, thru Sat, Aug 16th.

Donations Needed for 19th Annual Benefit Sale for Humility of Mary Housing, Inc., seeking kitchenware, china jewelry, bedding, linens, toys, tools, appliances, furniture, and more; drop-off days Tue $\&\, Thu\, 9am\text{-}3pm;$ for information, call 563-326-1330, Humility of Mary Center, 820 W. Central Park nue, Davenport, IA, **thru Mon, Aug 18th**.

Volunteers Needed for RiverWay 2008 and the Upper Mississippi River Conference, aid needed in setting up and running the water-screen movies, placement/removal of riverfront picnic blankets, registration for the conference, presentation assistants, the Taming of the Slough, the Backwate Gamblers ski show, and more: for information, call 563-322-2969 or visit www.riveraction.org, River Action, 822 E. River Dr., Davenport, IA, **thru Thu, Aug 2**1st.

"Save the Music" Festival, seeking financial assistance and donations of food for Aug. 23 S.O.S. Through M.A.T.E.S. fundraiser, with proceeds going towards the purchase of instruments and/or equipment for free music and theatre classes for Quad City children; for information, call Leeann at 563-499-5220, Hal's Wagon Wheel, 1708 State Street, Bettendorf, IA, thru

Volunteers Needed for Celtic Highland Games, for Aug. 23's 10th annual Scottish festival; for information, visit www.celtichighlandgames.org or e-mail infocelt@ celtichighlandgames.org, Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds, 2815 W. Locust St, Davenport, IA, thru Sat, Aug 23rd.

Harvest Festival 2008, seeking food and craft vendors for Oct 11 festival hosted by the Rock Island County NAACP; for information, call 309-788-6573 or 309-236-2581, 13th St & 5th Ave, East Moline, IL, thru Fri, Sep 12th.

Davenport Central Class of 1968, seeking classmates for its 40-year class reunion, being held Sept 26-27; for information, e-mail Kathy at Central 1968@gmail.com, call 563-323-9764, or visit www.davenportschools.org/central/alumni/classof68.asp, Davenport Central High School, 1120 N. Main St., Davenport, IA, thru Wed, Sep 24th.

Volunteers Needed for Doggie Dash and HSSC Pet Fair for annual Humane Society of Scott County fundraiser on Oct 4; for information, call 563-388-6655 or visit www.hssc.us, Humane Society of Scott County, 5001 Brady St, Davenport, IA, thru Fri, Oct 3rd.

Seeking Students from Rock Island Class of 1963, for informal reunions at Putter's Pub & Grill, Oct. 17 and 18: for information, e-mail Vicki (Fagerburg) Birdsell-Baker at menrbbaker@mchsi.com, thru Sat, Oct 18th

Volunteers Needed for Quad-City Labyrinth Project, aides sought in all areas; students and retirees especially welcome: for information, call 563-323-1737, Quad-City Labyrinth Project, 111 E 3rd St, Davenport, IA, thru Wed, Dec

Volunteers Needed for Homebound, seeking responsible drivers to bring materials to patrons unable to leave their homes for information, call 563-326-7844, Davenport Public Library (Main), 321 Main Street, Davenport, IA, thru Wed, Dec 31st.

Adoption Preservation Program, working with families after an adoption is finalized, to improve their functioning and preserve the adoptive placement; for information, call Deanna at 327-0186 or Nancy at 327-0183, Bethany for Children & Families, 1202 W 3rd St, Davenport, IA, thru Wed, Dec 31st.

Max cannon

Did I say "furniture"...? Ha! I must be going

prematurely senile, John. I meant to say,

'useless spider-and-rat-infested detritus

hand-crocheted cozies for your vestigial flippers

I didn't see any furniture. All I saw was a

big pile of sun-rotted lumber, broken beer

bottles, and a bunch of rusty metal scraps.

CITY SHORTS

by Joe Collins cityshorts@rcreader.com

Davenport Public Library Looking to Branch Out

he Davenport Public Library is moving forward with plans for an Eastern Avenue Library, to be located at 60th Street and Eastern Avenue in the northeast section of **the city.** If you would like to share your thoughts, contact Library Director LaWanda Roudebush at (563)326-7837 or email at (lroudebush@ davenportlibrary.com).

ccording to an annual Reason Foundation Astudy, lowa ranks 32nd and Illinois ranks 34th at maintaining their roads and bridges.

North Dakota does the best job, and New Jersey has the worst-performing, least-cost-effective highway system in the nation. Iowa is 20th in urban interstate congestion, 32nd in rural interstate condition, and 47th in urban interstate condition. Illinois is 21st in urban interstate congestion, tied for first in rural interstate condition, and 31st in urban interstate condition. The full study can be found at (http://reason.org/ps369/).



Jayda Brunkan

he national 14th Annual Reading Rainbow Young Writers & Illustrators Contest has awarded Jayda Brunkan, a kindergarten student from Edward White Elementary in Eldridge, a national third-place award for her story "I Can't Decide." The contest encourages children to use their imaginations to write and illustrate their own "books." Jayda is one of only 12 authors selected from more than 45,000 contest entrants nationwide.

he QC Earth Charter Summit will be held on October 11 at the RiverCenter in downtown Davenport from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

In addition to presentations and displays by local groups and individuals, the event will feature "No Impact Man" (Colin Beavan) and environmentalist Jerald Schnoor. The cost is \$20 per person and includes lunch. Additional details about the summit and participants, along with registration brochures, can be found at (http://www.qcearthcharter.org).

Rock Island-based agency has announced Athe establishment of a new series of leadership-development and coaching programs. Beginning in September, Marriage & Family Counseling Service officials will offer

an 11-workshop program coupled with 12 individual coaching sessions to cultivate dynamic leaders. The Leadership Development Institute

has been designed with a focus on strengthening organizational leaders in not-for-profit, socialservice agencies and among lay and ordained congregational leaders. A brochure and program and scholarship applications can be requested by calling (309)786-4491.

rinity Medical Center has been notified that it will receive a site visit from the **American Nurses Credentialing Center** from September 8 through 11 as part of the application process for the prestigious designation as a Magnet hospital. Site visits are only granted to organizations scoring at the highest level in written documentation. The Magnet designation recognizes excellence in nursing

The Senate Appropriations Committee is planning to include \$10.1 billion in disaster aid in the next supplemental appropriations package. A significant share would go to Midwestern states hit by floods, including Iowa. The legislation will be acted on in September and could become law by October.

■ aiting for Light, a show featuring photographer Michael Johnson, opens Tuesday, August 19, at the Catich Gallery in St. Ambrose University's Galvin Fine Arts Center. The gallery is open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. The show will run through September 19 and is free and open to the public. An opening reception will be held Friday, August 29, from 5 to 7 p.m. in the gallery.

he New Bohemia Group has announced that more than 60 local and regional bands have been booked to perform on nine different stages over Labor Day Weekend. The Second Annual New Bohemia Music Festival will take place from August 29 through 31 in Cedar Rapids, and on Friday, August 29, in both Iowa City and Waterloo/Cedar Falls. Profits from the festival will support future programs and events designed to aid recovery efforts in the New Bohemia Cultural District. For more information, visit (http://www. newbohemiamusicfestival.com).



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