

DuPage Sierran

Sierra Club, River Prairie Group of DuPage County

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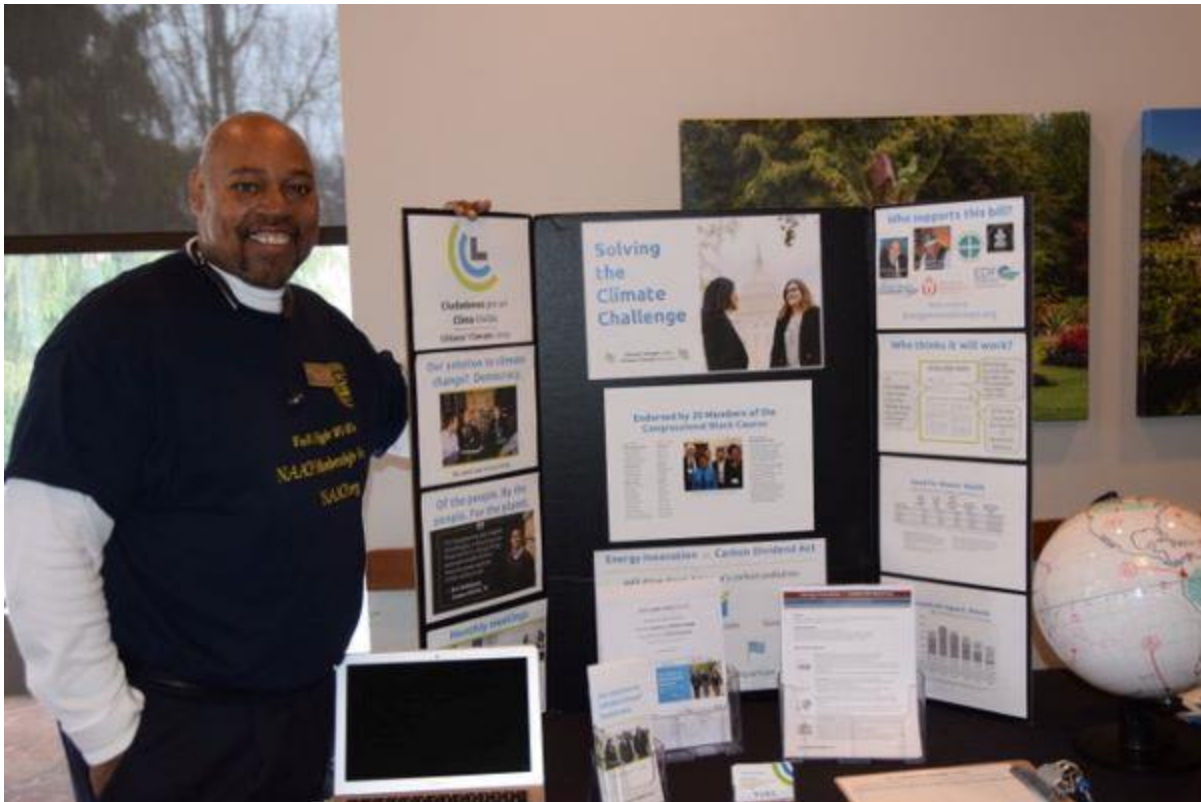
l-r: Jeff Gahris, Tom Kocim, Mike Ander, Rep. Casten, Connie Schmidt, Bobbie Kocim, and Clayton Daughenbaugh

Saving Utah's Red Rock Wilderness

By Bobbie Kocim

Tom and I have had the opportunity to explore the spectacular Red Rock Wilderness of Utah as vacationers and as volunteers for Sierra Club Service trips over a span of 10 years. We benefited greatly from the dedicated Rangers and local area Scientists whose shared mission was to immerse visitors in the historic, archaeological, cultural, environmental, and recreational value intrinsic to these remarkable canyonlands found nowhere else.

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Mike Childress, President, DuPage NAACP

DuPage NAACP presents: Our Planet: Love it because you can't leave it!

By Connie Schmidt

Partnerships and caring about the causes that are important to others is what grows a movement. In January, the River Prairie Group of Sierra Club joined the DuPage County NAACP for their first Environmental and Social Justice Summit at Cantigny Park in Wheaton, Illinois. "Our Planet: Love it because you can't leave it!" was a great success. Ken Mejia-Beal of NAACP DuPage, Andrew Van Gorp of Sustain DuPage, along with Terry Quain of Citizens' Climate Lobby helped to coordinate and facilitate the event.

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JOIN US FOR CLEAN ENERGY LOBBY DAY!

March 4, 2020
ILLINOIS STATE CAPITOL

RSVP here to attend:
ilenviro.org/lobbyday2020

Open to the public, free transportation provided.



By Linda Sullivan

For the last maybe 25 years, I have gone to Lobby Day. Here is why: Minute for minute, there is nothing more effective you can do for the environment than help pass an environmental law. AND there is no way to have more FUN passing an environmental law than to go to Springfield with Sierra Club and IEC for Lobby Day.

This year your attendance at Lobby Day on March 4 will be a key part of passing the Clean Energy Jobs Act (CEJA).

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Upcoming Program Meetings

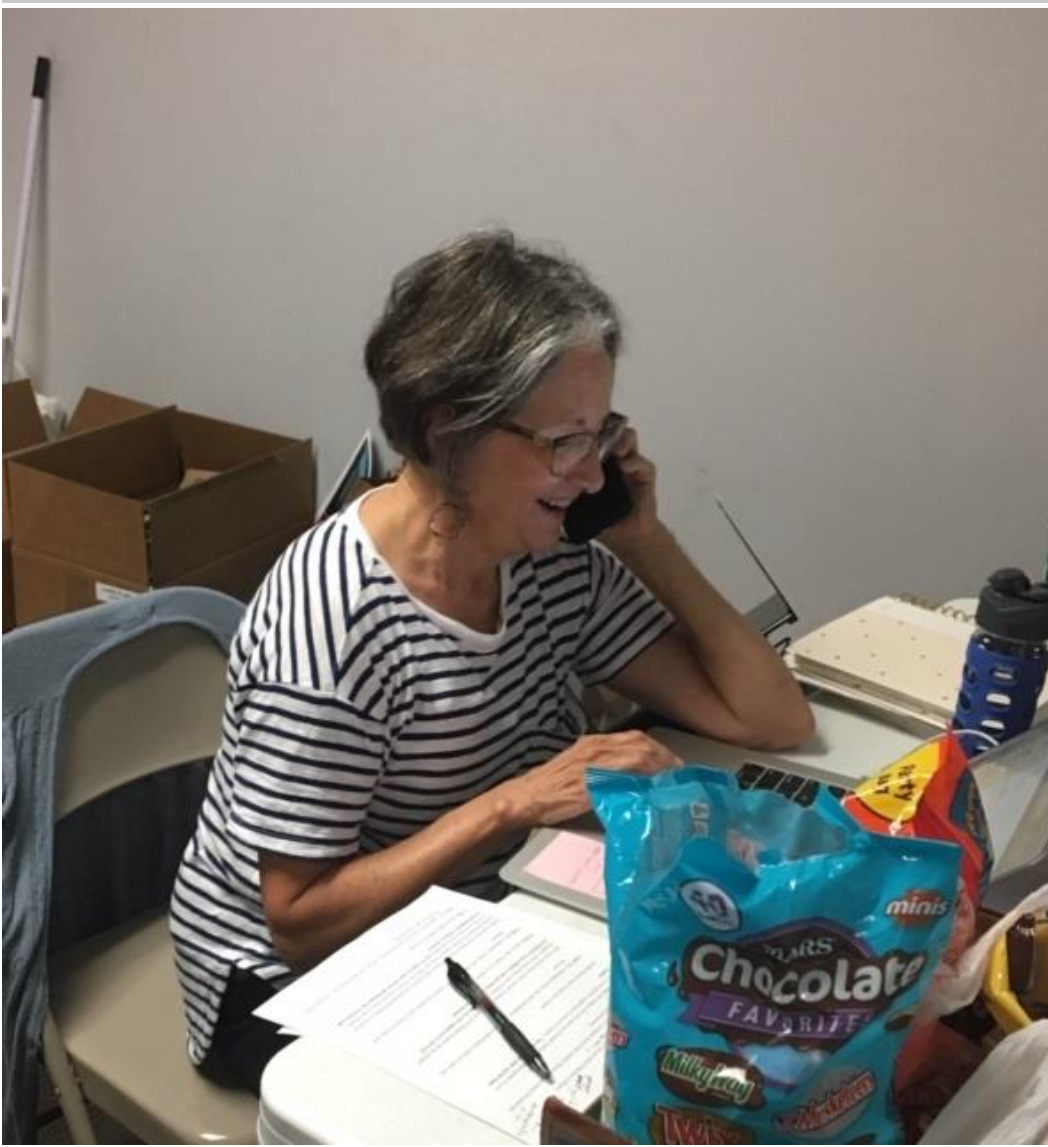
Our exciting lineup includes:

Restless Rivers: Mississippi and Missouri Meanderings, with Bob Gill, February 27, 7 pm, Wheaton Public Library. [Details and registration.](#)

Recycling in Crisis: How We Move Forward, with Kay McKeen, March 25, 7 pm, at the new SCARCE facility in Addison! [Details and registration.](#)

In lieu of an April meeting, we will participate in the Earth Day Fair at the Lake Ellyn boat house in Glen Ellyn. Mark your calendars as the Fair is scheduled for Sunday, April 26. More details forthcoming.

RPG Calendar



Calling Our Elected Representatives

Simply calling our elected representatives about environmental issues we care about makes a difference. Follow the link below to see a list of representatives who have districts that include DuPage County.

[See List](#)

*The River Prairie Group of Sierra Club invites you
to a fundraiser for environmental advocacy*

Party on the Farm
(aka) **Woodstock in Warrenville!**



Live Music, shared food, see animals, and enjoy open space!

Sunday May 17
2:00 – 7:00 pm

Twin Star Ranch

(Connie and Michael Schmidt's Home)

Along the Illinois Prairie Path in Warrenville, IL

(3S. 501 Landon Ave.)

630 234-3029

twenstr111@msn.com

Donation: \$20 per adult
Families Welcome - Kids are Free!

Bring some munchies to share
Soft drinks provided (you are welcome to bring other beverages too)



DuPage Monarch Project Spreads the Word about Saving Monarchs

By Lonnie Morris

Monarch habitat is growing in DuPage County, and communities are taking action to keep it healthy. DuPage Monarch Project's 2019 Annual Report spreads the word about these accomplishments, creating a knowledge base for developing best practices throughout the county and inspiring creative and innovative approaches to solving the pollinator crisis.

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Call for Art for "Pollinators in Action: Flowering Journeys" Exhibit at Mayslake Peabody Estate

Submissions due Feb. 1 – April 15 for exhibit that runs May 6 – June 29

Artists are invited to submit artwork Feb. 1 – April 15 for [“Pollinators in Action: Flowering Journeys.”](#) an art exhibit featuring pollinators May 6 – June 29 at [Mayslake Peabody Estate](#) at 1717 W. 31st St. in Oak Brook.

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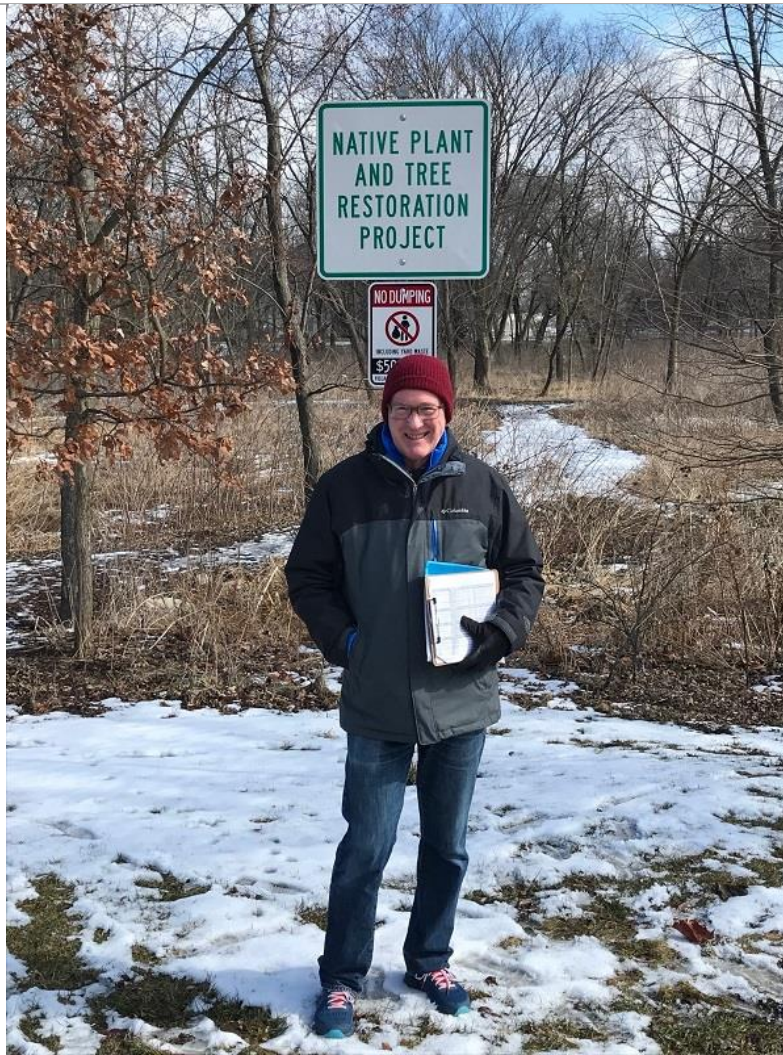
Simitrio Cruz, Owner

Nature's Best Café

By Connie Schmidt

Here is a treat for you: an independent, family-owned restaurant in a residential section of Naperville. Nature's Best Café is located at 1904 Brookdale Road, just a few blocks east of Rt. 59. The owners are husband-wife duo Evonne and Simitrio Cruz, with Simitrio running the day-to-day operations while Evonne teaches school. In 2016 they opened the café with the philosophy: Eat healthy, feel better.

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Jeff's Joys

I will ask tough questions of both candidates and elected representatives about their positions on environmental issues. I also plan to be a resource to help inform them about what we in the environmental movement care about. Please join us on Lobby Day on Wednesday, March 4. We also need your voice and activism moving forward. Together, we can protect and enjoy a healthy environment for all. Thank you for your concern and positive activism.

As I write this the news media suggests to me that we as a nation are struggling politically as we shift to the right. Ultimately, history will judge us as a nation. Over the years, though, I have met good, honest people in government who truly care about our communities regardless of what political party they belong to. My focus this year will be on helping to elect the best candidates for local and state office who understand the importance of environmental issues and who understand that our communities need a healing touch. It's as simple as that.

Last Word

“Action on behalf of life transforms. Because the relationship between self and the world is reciprocal, it is not a question of first getting enlightened or saved and then acting. As we work to heal the earth, the earth heals us.”

— Robin Wall Kimmerer

GET OUTSIDE

Enjoy the outdoors by joining our upcoming local outings! [Sign up here.](#)



Facebook

Follow us on Facebook for news, events and updates on the work we do to keep our communities green!

Donate to Sierra Club Illinois Today!