

Summer 2010

Helping to Clean America's Rivers

Chad Pregracke



Archived Event

**June 13 – 19,
2010**

Video on Demand

Chad Pregracke was a high school student when he first glimpsed the trash that littered the bottom of the Mississippi River, a shocking sight that launched him on a quest to clean up the river. After four discouraging years seeking government help without success, he decided to take his fundraising private—and a corporate sponsor decided to take a chance on this naïve but unshakably determined young man.

After more than a decade Chad's non-profit agency, Living Lands & Waters, has pulled over 4 million tons of garbage from America's rivers. <http://www.livinglandsandwaters.org/>

View a story about Chad from CBS news:

<http://www.cbsnews.com/video/watch/?id=3298421n>

<p>June 24, 2010</p> <p>Thursday</p> <p>6:00PM</p> <p>Brookens Auditorium</p> <p>Video on Demand</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Emiquon</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Mike Lemke</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dr. Lemke tests water quality on the Illinois River.</p>	<p>At 7,100 acres, Emiquon is one of the largest wetland restoration projects in the United States. Levees built by farmers in rural Illinois nearly a century ago cut the Emiquon Preserve from the Illinois River, reducing wetlands to cornfields. Recent restoration work has refilled the wetlands with water and provided a home to birds, waterfowl, aquatic plants and fish. But with the levees still in place, a team of scientists examines the potential impact of reconnecting the wetlands to its lifeblood, a river now changed by invasive species and floodwater from urban development. http://www.uis.edu/emiquon/</p> <p>Born in Northeastern Wisconsin, Dr. Michael Lemke obtained his B.S. degree in Wildlife Management at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, his M.S. in cell biology from the University of British Columbia, and his Ph.D. in aquatic ecology from Michigan Technological University. He completed post-doctorates at The University of Alabama concentrating on wetland ecosystems and at Kent State University in the field of microbial ecology. Dr. Lemke came to UIS in 1999 and now is Associate Professor of Biology and Director of the Therkildsen Field Station at Emiquon. He was named a U of I Scholar in 2002 and currently is a Research Associate at the American Museum of Natural History, NY. Lemke has also published over 30 scientific papers and has presented over 50 papers at scientific conferences.</p> <p>Download the Emiquon Field Station brochure at: http://www.uis.edu/emiquon/documents/EmiquonBrochure.pdf</p>
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<p>Off-Site Event</p> <p>June 26, 2010</p> <p>Saturday</p> <p>7:00PM</p> <p>Theatre in the Park</p> <p>Lincoln's New Salem State Historic Site</p> <p>RSVP Required by June 18</p> <p>To RSVP – and for your <u>free</u> ticket - send an email to emyer01s@uis.edu</p>	<p><i>Yearning to Breathe Free</i></p> <p>Discussion & Performance</p>	<p>Written by local writer and UIS alum Tara McClellan McAndrew, this play portrays the immigration experiences of a few families riding the RMS Campania from Liverpool, England to New York City. The Fengermann family are Russian Jews escaping the Czar and looking for a new life in America. Widower Thomas Townes and his young daughters are hoping to start over. Other passengers are introduced and their experiences are also tracked as this play brings forth the nuances and historically based facts of the journey of Ellis Island. Tara McClellan McAndrew will host the pre-show discussion.</p> <p>A lifelong resident of Springfield, Tara McClellan McAndrew has a bachelor's degree in English and a master's degree in Public Affairs Reporting from UIS. She began her career working in public radio at WUIS, where she covered Illinois state government and later the arts. A freelance writer for the last 23 years, she has been published in more than 35 international, national, and local publications. Tara has produced or helped produce documentaries and news pieces for Illinois Public Radio, National Public Radio, Christian Science Monitor Radio, and the BBC. Her first book, "Stories of Springfield: Life in Lincoln's Town," is being published this summer. "Yearning to Breathe Free" is Tara's second full-length play. She has also written a short, two-woman play about the first female abolitionist agents in America and is currently working on a play about Illinois' first female lawyer, which will be performed at the Chicago History Museum this fall.</p>
<p>June 29, 2010</p> <p>Tuesday</p> <p>11:00AM</p> <p>Brookens Auditorium</p> <p>Video on Demand</p>	<p><i>Human Trafficking: Modern Day Slavery</i></p> <p>Lisa Fedina</p>	<p>Lisa Fedina is the Project Coordinator of the <i>Illinois Rescue and Restore Coalition</i>, a state-wide coalition of social service organizations, law enforcement, advocacy groups, and community members working together to fight human trafficking in Illinois.</p> <p>Fedina will discuss the basics of human trafficking (including child exploitation, sex trafficking, and labor trafficking), trafficking in local and global contexts, U.S. anti-trafficking legislation, and victim identification, as well as how individuals can get involved in local anti-trafficking efforts. www.dhs.state.il.us/rescueandrestore</p>

<p>Archived Event</p> <p>July 4 – 10, 2010</p> <p>Video on Demand</p>	<p><i>The Myth of the Three Abrahamic Religions</i></p> <p>Gabriel Said Reynolds</p> <p>Co-sponsored by: <i>World Affairs Council of Central Illinois</i> and the <i>Notre Dame Club of Central Illinois</i></p>	<p>In recent years academic institutions and the popular press have embraced the idea of the Three Abrahamic Religions, suggesting thereby that Judaism, Christianity, and Islam are united by common origins with Abraham. Cambridge University now has a <i>Centre for the Study of Abrahamic Faiths</i> and Oxford University has established a <i>Chair in Abrahamic Religions</i>. In fact, in all three religious traditions Abraham is a figure meant to divide, not unite. This is evident in the legends of Abraham – a figure who precedes all three religions -- that turn him into a Jew, a Christian, or a Muslim. A sober analysis of the way in which Abraham is used for the sake of religious competition will offer us a more useful starting point to address the conflicts between Jews, Christians, and Muslims today.</p> <p>Gabriel Said Reynolds is an Associate Professor of Islamic Studies and Theology at the University of Notre Dame, where he researches the Qur'ān and Muslim/Christian relations. At Notre Dame, Reynolds is the director of a conference series on the emergence of the Qur'ān and its relationship with Biblical literature. He also translated Abd al-Jabbār's <i>Critique of Christian Origins</i>, the first Islamic history of Christianity.</p>
<p>July 14, 2010</p> <p>Wednesday</p> <p>6:00PM</p> <p>Brookens Auditorium</p>	<p><i>Avatar</i></p> <p><i>Film Screening and Discussion</i></p> <p>Moderated by Edward Beekman-Myers</p>	<p>James Cameron's innovative science-fiction epic is more than just a visual spectacle. Behind the colorful alien imagery lies a timeless story that serves as a clear-cut warning of the harsh repercussions of disrespecting nature. <i>Avatar</i> speaks volumes about how human greed and selfishness can be so overpowering that we sometimes turn a blind eye to the creatures whose very lives may be drastically altered or even destroyed as a result of our actions.</p> <p>**Note: this screening will be the standard 2D version and NOT the 3D version**</p> <p>Edward Beekman-Myers is the author of several short stories, plays, and novels, including the first volume in a sci-fi/comedy series, <i>The Totally Gnarly Adventures of the Galactically Bitchin' Comet Sweat!</i>, which was recently published through CreateSpace. He serves as an instructor for UIS's Speaker Series and as an English instructor for various other colleges in the Springfield area. www.beekmanmyers.com</p>

<p>NEW EVENT!</p> <p>July 20, 2010 Tuesday 2:00PM Brookens Auditorium</p> <p>Video on Demand</p>	<p><i>What is Liberty?</i></p> <p>Dr. William Kline</p>	<p>This discussion focuses on how different conceptions of liberty affect responsibilities and briefly examines the pros and cons of each conception. The goal of this lecture is to foster thought on the importance of balancing liberty and social responsibility while recognizing that any such balance will bring with it both costs and benefits.</p> <p>Bill Kline received his B.A. in Economics from Grove City College and his Ph.D. in Philosophy from Bowling Green State University. His areas of expertise include Business Ethics, and Social and Political Philosophy. In his writings he has consistently focused on the issue of liberty and moral responsibility. He is cofounder of Liberty Studies Inc., a nonprofit dedicated to furthering the interdisciplinary, nonpartisan, study of liberty. Prior to teaching at UIS he was Director of the Center for Business Ethics at Molloy College and lived in Brooklyn New York.</p>
<p>July 22, 2010</p> <p>Thursday 6:30PM PAC C/D</p> <p>Video on Demand</p>	<p><i>Salsa: A Metaphor for Life in the Workplace</i></p> <p>Julio Barrenzuela</p>	<p>This interactive program, led by Julio Barrenzuela, founder of Salsa 29 Productions in Springfield, will encourage students to pinpoint their passion(s) and to let these passions motivate them to live with intentionality. Born in Lima, Peru, Mr. Barrenzuela was one of ten finalists for the 2009 State Journal Register's First Citizen Award, for which he was nominated for his efforts to shatter the barriers of underrepresented groups, particularly youths, older adults, and people with disabilities. In his presentation, Julio will demonstrate how mastery of elements of salsa dancing, such as leading, timing, and social interaction, can be transferred into skills that are useful for collaborating and for practicing an awareness of the diversity of our world.</p>