

SILOS & SMOKESTACKS



2021-2022 VISITOR GUIDE

NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

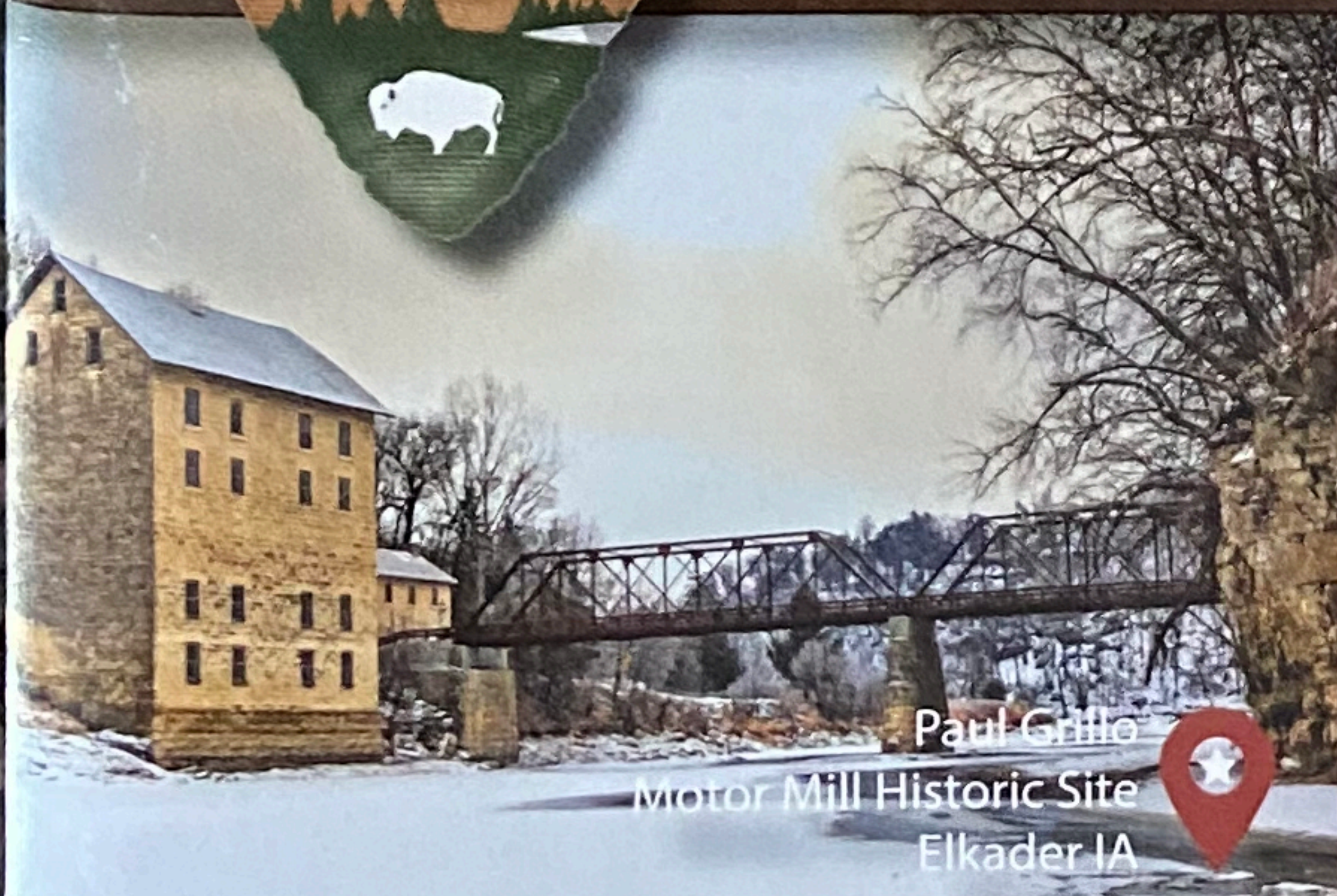
IOWA'S ONLY NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA



Larry Mendenhall
St. Donatus, IA



Where the Story of American Agriculture Comes to Life.™



Paul Grillo
Motor Mill Historic Site
Elkader IA



Kristie Burns
Neal Smith Wildlife Refuge
Prairie City IA



Jordan Hansen
Hansen's Farm Fresh Dairy
Hudson, IA



CARA MILLER

"History, saved and preserved, is the foundation for future generations. Through the preservation of authentic, meaningful places, documents, artifacts, images, and stories we leave a foundation upon which future Americans can build. Without the preservation of our histories, future citizens will have no grounding in what it means to be an American."

These are the words of The History Relevance Campaign, a group of history professionals who answered the question, "what makes history relevant today?" These are also the words that bring meaning to the work of Silos & Smokestacks

National Heritage Area. Twenty-five years ago a small group of local people began to look for ways to save the history of our agricultural area. Today Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area has more than 115 partner sites sharing their stories of the impact agriculture has had on our state, the nation and the world, both past and present.

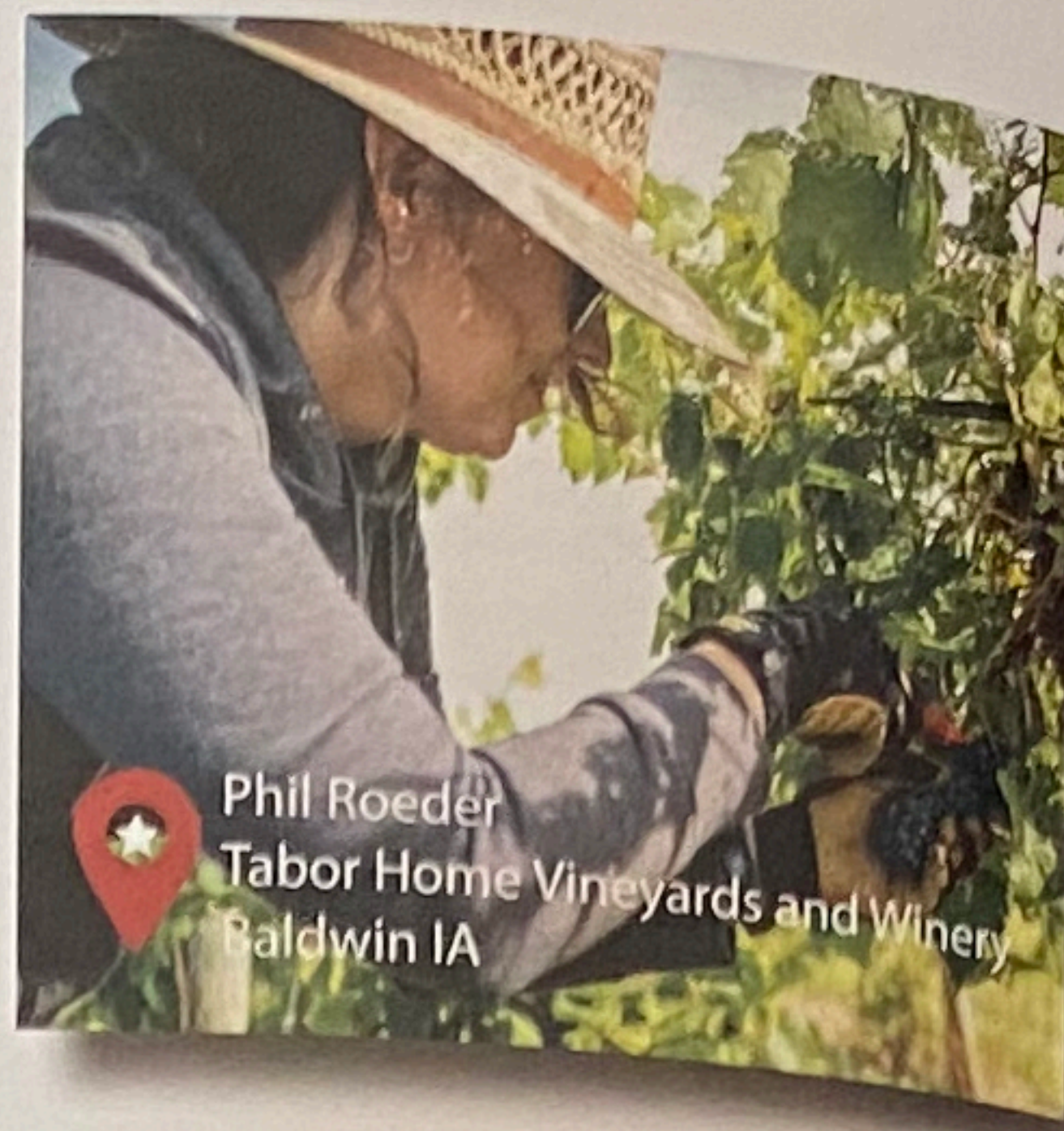
As we celebrate 25 years of preserving and telling the story of American agriculture and its global significance, it's an important time to stop and contemplate our own history. Without the vision of that special group of local people and thought leaders, Silos & Smokestacks would not have become one of the original national heritage areas. Now 25 years later we are proudly headquartered in Waterloo, Iowa where we got our start; we can boast more than three million visitors annually to the heritage area which covers more than 21,000 square miles; and we can take pride in knowing we are helping all citizens, young and old, understand the role agriculture has played, and continues to play, in the growth of American culture and wealth.

Over our 25 year history, Silos & Smokestacks has had some wonderful people sit on our board and craft our future. We have had visionary leaders and staff who have guided this heritage area in its growth and development. And we have had support from people all across Northeast Iowa who have encouraged us to "keep the story of ag alive." No one person, place or organization can take sole credit for the success of Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area. But many people, places, and organizations can proudly claim their part in making Silos & Smokestacks a success.

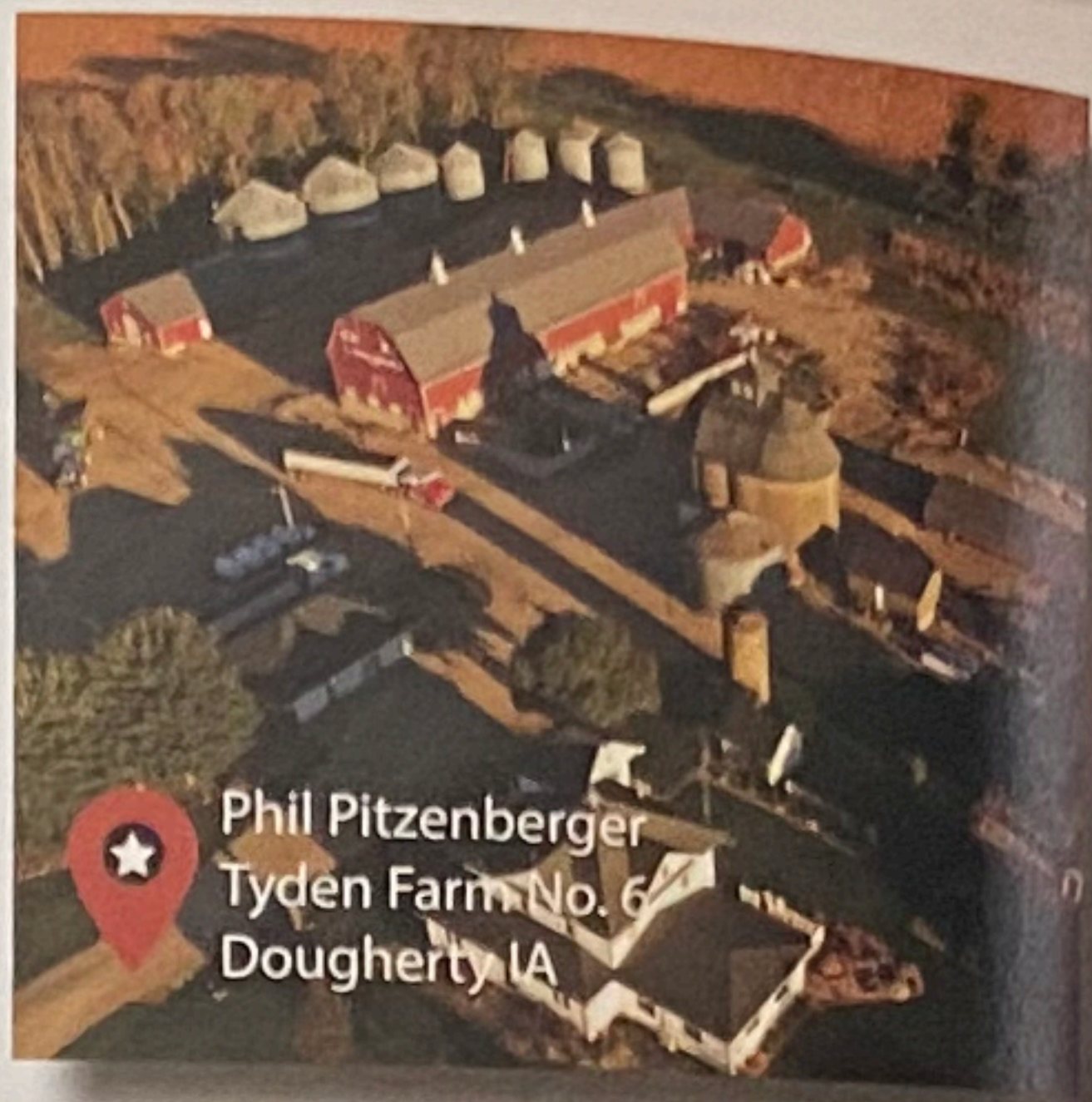
Thanks to all of you who have visited a Silos & Smokestacks heritage site, to those of you who have contributed support of any kind over the years, and especially to those forward thinking visionaries who made it all possible. We are truly grateful for each and every one of you. And we hope you will continue to grow with us over our next 25 years.

Sincerely,

Cara Miller, Executive Director
Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area



Phil Roeder
Tabor Home Vineyards and Winery
Baldwin IA



Phil Pitzenger
Tyden Farm No. 6
Dougherty IA



Mines of Spain
Dubuque IA



Sarah Strandburg
Locust School Museum
Decorah IA

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