

## Sycamore Land Trust increases holdings: [www.heraldtimesonline.com](http://www.heraldtimesonline.com)

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Sycamore Land Trust is holding its annual celebration banquet later this month at the Bloomington/Monroe County convention center, but the land preservation group already has unwrapped one present — a 58-acre tract on Clifty Creek, just north of Koleen in Greene County.

The property was donated to SLT by William Clemens Jr., whose family has owned the property since 1858. Natural features include sandstone bluffs, caves and a mature oak-hickory forest, according to an SLT news release.

Patrick Petro, communications director for SLT, said the group plans to open the preserve to the public at a future date and do ongoing maintenance, much like it does at Beanblossom Bottoms, a popular SLT preserve in Monroe County. Petro said the Clemens property also will be used for educational programming.

Formed in 1990, SLT now protects nearly 6,000 acres in central and southern Indiana, and Petro said the group expects to surpass 7,000 acres by the end of the year.

Expect that to be mentioned at the group's celebration on Oct. 21 at the convention center, where Petro said the organization will unveil a new three-year strategic plan. Nobel Laureate Elinor Ostrom of Indiana University will be the keynote speaker.

Tickets to the event, SLT's largest fundraiser, still are available. Contact SLT at 812-336-5382 or go to [www.sycamorelandtrust.org](http://www.sycamorelandtrust.org) for further details.

A 58-acre parcel on Clifty Creek in Greene County is the latest acquisition of Sycamore Land Trust. It was donated to the trust by William Clemens Jr., whose family settled the land before the Civil War. Photo courtesy Sycamore Land Trust

