DeMolay starts Teacher of the Month program

Starting in November, Bloomington High School South\textsuperscript{258}53s Jay True instituted the Teacher of the Month program, administered and sponsored by Joseph A. Batchelor Chapter Order of DeMolay International.

Several teachers were nominated by students during the month and after a committee meeting, a winner was selected.

Janis Berzins was selected to receive the award for the month of November.

Based on all the great things said about Berzins on his nomination form, he is indeed making a positive influence on our youth.

In the months to follow, the local DeMolay chapter hopes to administer the program in several other Monroe County schools to help give recognition to all the staff members who positively influence our community\textsuperscript{131} future leaders.

Joseph A. Batchelor DeMolay, a character-building and leadership organization for young men from 12 to 21, meets 7-9 p.m. every Wednesday at 4160 S. Walnut St Pike.

For more about DeMolay, contact Scott Pfeiffer at 812-320-5765 or spfeif4485@bluemarble.net.

Sycamore Land Trust recognized for project

The winter conference of the Indiana Chapter of The American Chestnut Foundation was held at the Martell Forest Research area of Purdue University.

Presentations were given on current research in backcrossing and transgenic work for developing high levels of blight resistance.

Several universities, nonprofits and governmental agencies are involved in the work they project will provide for long-term success in reintroducing the highly valued American chestnut to its former range in the eastern hardwood forests.

Among the projects cited in Indiana was the first large-scale planting on a public school property.

Sycamore Land Trust\textsuperscript{475}42s environmental education program director, Carroll Ritter, helped to design and coordinate the plot at Salem Community schools.

One hundred trees planted there by students included Chinese chestnut, pure American chestnut and recent resistant backcrosses.\textsuperscript{415}

The plot on several acres will be used for research and student study. Data flow will also be integrated into the Indiana program studies.

Sycamore Land Trust demonstrates a commitment to preservation of our natural landscape and to encouragement of the next generation in being part of this success.

Education coordinator Ritter believes that the Salem project is demonstrative of Sycamore Land Trusts capability to play a major role in southern Indiana\textsuperscript{381} conservation work.

The exciting synergy provided by combining schools, dedicated students, universities, and organizations like the American Chestnut Foundation can indeed provide hope for our lands future, he said.

Student news

Jay Sojdehei was named to the College of Arts and Sciences Executive Dean\textsuperscript{853}\textsuperscript{5} List for both Spring and Fall Semester 2013 at Indiana University, Bloomington.

Sojdehei is a 2009 graduate of Bloomington High School South and is the son of Bloomington resident Virginia Sojdehei.

Katie Williams, 2013 graduate of Edgewood High School, has made the Dean\textsuperscript{283}\textsuperscript{2} List at Indiana State University. Katie is a freshman majoring in marketing.

The following local students achieved the Fall 2013 Deans List at Belmont University in Nashville, Tenn.: Bailey Tichenor of Unionville and Elizabeth Weiler of Bloomington.

Tiffany McKinney of Spencer has been named to the Deans List for academic achievement during the fall 2013 session at Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau, Mo.

Krista Mary Mitchell, a sophomore of Bloomington, has been named to Campbellsville Universitys Deans academic honors list. The university is in Campbellsville, Ky.

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