Heinze Trust presents Bringing Nature Home awards

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By Lauri Harvey Keagle

Shirley Heinze Land Trust presented its "Bringing Nature Home" awards recently at a luncheon celebrating the 30th anniversary of the organization.

Awarded Nov. 18 at the Pottawattomie Country Club in Michigan City, the honors went to municipalities, developers and non-profits and businesses that used native plants to bring back ecosystems that had been negatively impacted by development.

Bringing Nature Home award winners are: East Edge Homes in Miller, developed by Jay Gallagher; Long Lake Marsh in Ogden Dunes, with restoration led by Susan Mihalo and Gerry Lehmann; Taltree Arboretum native plant garden overseen by Patty Stimmel; Valparaiso Parks Department for its Forest Park Golf Course plantings led by Stephen Martinson, horticulture superintendent; Franklin Academy Native Landscape in East Chicago, with sponsorship by BP Whiting; and Striebel Pond in Michigan City, developed by the Michigan City Sanitary District, Superintendent Mike Milatovic.