

NWI Times Thursday, October 10, 2013

Ridge View's Fifth Grade Mighty Acorns



Contributed by Matt Huguenard | Ridge View 5th Grade Teacher

HOBART | Ridge View Elementary fifth graders are in the first stage of this school year's stewardship of preservation and restoration entitled Mighty Acorns. This is Ridge View's fourth year of the Mighty Acorns program for fifth graders.

Ridge View's stewardship aids Greiner Nature Preserve, located southwest of the intersection of Liverpool Road and Old Ridge Road in Hobart, behind Ridge View School. Greiner is a 73-acre property ecotone (transitional landscape) that ranges from black oak savanna, to wet prairie to swamp.

Fifth graders, with Shirley Heinze Land Trust, work at nursing Greiner back to health. Today, students learned about their local environment and helped collect native Indian Grass seeds. These seeds will be planted later to replenish the preserve. Our goal is to help and restore the natural area, making it less dependant on human to maintain it.

"I like getting out and helping nature. It feels great to help the Earth," said Cierra Walters, fifth grade student.

Shirley Heinze offers educational programs to inform the public about our area's rich natural history and provides numerous volunteer opportunities: www.heinzetrust.org/

