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## Benefit helps Shirley Heinze Land Trust preserve nature



Guests at the Shirley Heinze Land Trust summer benefit included, from left, Tim Griffin and Suzy Vance, Anne Walsh, Jon Hildebrand, Danny Robertson, Ben Hall, Liz Zombik, Kim Newhard, Quinlan Amundson, Paul Quinlan, Beth Sexton, Adam H Cooper, Peg Mohar, Kris Krouse, Jeny Burkhart and Meg Campbell.

CHESTERTON | Shirley Heinze Land Trust welcomed 330 friends and supporters to Sand Creek Country Club for its 10th annual summer benefit last month. This year's benefit celebrated four of Indiana's "natural gems" - Ambler Flatwoods, Ivanhoe South, Little Calumet Wetlands and Meadowbrook.

The fundraiser generated more than \$100,000 to further advance the mission of preserving and restoring natural areas in Northwest Indiana.

Kris Krouse, executive director of the Shirley Heinze Land Trust, proclaimed the evening a wonderful success. "We are extremely thankful to each of our corporate and individual sponsors, along with all our friends and supporters, who helped us raise the funds to continue our mission not just within these four natural gems, but throughout Northwest Indiana."

The annual benefit is a celebration of the accomplishments of Shirley Heinze Land Trust and serves as a key source of support for fulfilling the organization's mission. Since 1981, Shirley Heinze Land Trust has protected and preserved more than 1,300 acres in Lake, Porter, and LaPorte counties. The organization restores and manages the land it owns, and educates children and adults about the value of natural areas in Northwest Indiana.

Upcoming events include a volunteer workday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 13 at Ambler Flatwoods in Michigan City, and a free community hike at the Meadowbrook Conservation Center and Preserve from 10 a.m. to noon July 20. Call (219) 242-8558 for more information.



Cellist Josh DeVries provided musical entertainment during the recent Shirley Heinze Land Trust summer benefit.