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(Neb.)-First Lady Helps Students Plant Tree In Honor Of ReTree Nebraska Event  [Listen](#)



By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 09/25/2013 02:12 PM

Photo: Nebraska First Lady Sally Ganem and Kenwood Elementary School Principal Bill Cogdill pose with the lucky elementary students who helped plant a Burr Oak during the tree planting ceremony on Wednesday morning. (Photo by KCSR-Roxie Graham-Marski) For more photos from this event, visit our home page, www.chadrad.com.

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(CHADRON)-Those are sounds from this morning's tree planting ceremony at the Kenwood Elementary School with Nebraska's First Lady Sally Ganem (Gann-Um). After the official tree planting, the First Lady and Chadron State College horticulturist Lucinda Mays asked the students a variety of questions about trees and state items, such as the Nebraska State Flower, which many of the children guessed correctly as Goldenrod.

Seven elementary students participated in the actual tree planting of a Burr Oak sapling. One of those students was 10-year-old Johonna Black Eyes. She described the experience as...

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Black Eyes explained two of the things she likes best about trees...

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First Lady Ganem says she loves reminding others, especially young people, about the many ways trees contribute to our community and our betterment.

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There were many tree planting ceremonies taking place across the state this week in honor of ReTree Nebraska Week, a celebration of fall tree-planting in Nebraska, which runs September 22-28. However, Ganem is celebrating the week in what

she calls the prettiest part of the state.

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One could tell that Ganem was enjoying her time with the elementary students, asking them questions and taking pictures with them. Her enjoyment probably stems from...

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The Greener Nebraska Towns (GNT) Chadron Celebration also offered participants a tour of the GNT project sites at the Dawes County courthouse and Finnegan Park, a walking tour of campus “Water Wise” projects and GNT tree plantings, and an historic tree care assessment as specialists took a look at Nebraska’s Champion Colorado Blue Spruce near 10th and Main Streets. Lunch was provided at the Sandoz Center Atrium with remarks by First Lady Ganem, and presentations will be offered in the afternoon.

Justin Evetrtson will present “A Broad Look at Greener Nebraska Towns at 1:45 p.m., Lucinda Mays and Jane Darnell will speak on the topic, “Working With Volunteers: What’s Worked in Chadron” at 1:50 p.m., and Doak Nickerson will present “50+ Years of Tree and Forestry Perspectives” at 2:20 p.m. Annie Folck will discuss “Green Infrastructure Success” at 2:40 p.m., Amy Seiler will talk about “Challenges of Green Infrastructure Funding and Management” at 3:10 p.m., and Scott Schremmer will lead out in a “Panel Q&A and Open Audience Discussion” at 3:30 p.m.

(Questions? Comments? E-mail news@chadrad.com.)

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