

# PRESSRELEASE

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## **For Immediate Release**

**Date:** May 22, 2005

## **Arbor Day Banner Contest Winners Announced**

**Michigan City, IN** (May 22, 2005) - The sun shone down on young artists during Michigan City's Arbor Day events at Krueger Memorial Hall on Saturday, May 21, 2005.

Youth groups created Arbor Day and environmental message banners for the event sponsored by NIPSCO. The Michigan City YMCA group and the Michigan City Boys & Girls Club members completed their banners at the event; Safe Harbor and Imagination Station participants completed their banners at their own facilities during the week before the event.

Don Babcock, director of economic development for NIPSCO, said, "The response to this Arbor Day event has been excellent since we began the project several years ago. We had ten banners created this year, and the creativity of the young artists was very exciting. Each of the participating groups will receive \$50 from NIPSCO to use toward their programming."

Dolly Marshall, the Lubeznik Center For The Arts, joined Jan Kostielney, marketing and community relations consultant for the City of Michigan City, to judge the completed banners at Noon.

First place winners were Michigan City YMCA, Edgewood Safe Harbor, and Imagination Station. Each 1<sup>st</sup> place group received an additional \$50 and three youth passes to an area water park.

Second place winners were Springfield Safe Harbor, Mullen Safe Harbor, and Joy Safe Harbor. Third place winners were Knapp Safe Harbor and the Michigan City Boys & Girls Club.

Children from the Boys & Girls Club and the YMCA each received a t-shirt from NIPSCO as a special thank-you for participating in the event on Saturday.

This project will take place again in May 2006. Youth groups including scouting, church, and neighborhood groups, are encouraged to participate in this event next year.



*Eric Daniel, Veronica Zahn and Bruce Zahn display the Michigan City YMCA's entry into the Arbor Day banner contest. The unique design is composed of handprints.*

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