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Southgate celebrates Arbor day with tree education

BY AMANDA JOERING | COMMUNITY RECORDER STAFF WRITER

SOUTHGATE - In celebration of Arbor Day, students at Southgate Elementary School and Saint Therese will learn about forestry - including a visit from Smokey the Bear.

The Southgate Park and Tree Board with the help of the Kentucky Division of Forestry are going to the schools to teach students about taking care of forests.

"We'll be teaching the students a combination of things that will help them have a better understanding about urban forestry," said Joyce Hamberg, chairman of the Park and Tree Board.

The group will visit Southgate Elementary, Thursday, March 29 and Saint Therese, Tuesday, April 3.

At the city's Arbor Day celebration, April 7, the National Arbor Day Foundation will present the board with a Tree City USA Growth Award. The award recognizes cities that have demonstrated environmental improvement and took steps toward strengthening tree care programs.

After the presentation, Hamberg said the board will plant a Dogwood tree in Memorial Park in honor of Southgate's centennial year.

"The Dogwood is a native Kentucky tree," Hamberg said. "It just seemed appropriate for us to use it as our centennial tree."

The community is invited to attend the award presentation, the tree planting and a reception afterward.

"We are really trying to promote a knowledge of everything the Park and Tree Board is doing," Hamberg said.