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Forest of Friendship to Memorialize Nobel Prize Winner

A former Nobel Prize winner with Atchison ties will be memorialized at this year's International Forest of Friendship ceremonies.

Wangari Maathai will be honored during the 46th Annual International Forest of Friendship Celebration on Saturday.

Festivities get underway with Fun in the Forest children's programs at nine, followed by the Parade of Flags at 9:45 and the induction ceremony at 10 at the Forest location west of Atchison.

The 1964 graduate of Mount St. Scholastica College, now Benedictine College, won the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize for her efforts to promote democracy, peace and sustainable development.

In more than 100 years, Maathai is the only Nobel Peace Prize winner with an environmentalist approach.

She established the Green Belt Movement in 1977 and the organization has planted more than 40 million trees worldwide since then. She passed away last September.

Also being honored are Dr. Kathryn Sullivan, the first woman to walk in space, and Susan Larson, president of the Ninety-Nines, the international organization of women pilots founded by Amelia Earhart in 1929. Directions and more information is available at the International Forest of Friendship website.

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