

One man's quest to save his cypress



Stephen Fedele (left) holds the cypress tree he donated to Woodlands Trail and Park before he and Woodlands Executive Director Katie Brasted finalize the planting at the entrance sign.

When Stephen Fedele moved from his home in St. Bernard Parish, he couldn't bear to leave behind the cypress tree that had been growing in his yard from a seed fallen from an older tree. He moved the tree to his mother's home in Jefferson Parish until his home in Plaquemines Parish was constructed. When his home was completed in Belle Chasse, he again dug up the tree and moved it to his yard. As the tree grew taller and taller, Fedele realized it had to be uprooted once again as it was too close to his carport. Concerned about the future of the now over 12-foot-tall tree, he contacted Woodlands Trail and Park to determine if his traveling cypress could have a final resting spot. Fedele and Woodlands Trail and Park agreed that placement beside the entrance sign would be the perfect resting spot where the tree could be viewed for generations to come.