

Contest D :: Yearbook Copy

2015 KSPA State Contest



DIRECTIONS

Failure to follow these directions may result in disqualification from the contest without refund. **Please read, listen and follow carefully.**

1. Please complete the first page of the packet, including your school code and your name using the bubble chart provided.
2. Please take time to write your student code in the top right corner of each page you will use for your writing in this contest.
3. Please do not include your name or the name of your high school on the entry at all. If you do, your entry will be disqualified.
4. You are to write a yearbook feature story of approximately 250 words.
 - a. Please use the information provided below. The writer should determine which information is relevant and important to the story. Students may write in pencil or pen. Students may use dictionary, thesaurus and/or the Associated Press style manual. The use of personal listening devices, recording devices, cell phones, computers or other electronics is prohibited.
5. When you are finished with the writing, please bring this entire packet to the proctors at the front of the room **and remain at the table until they have checked your entry.**
6. Please leave the room quietly. Congratulations on writing well done!

DESCRIPTION

You are a member of Sunflower High School's journalism staff. Your editor has asked you to write a story for the yearbook.

SCHOOL INFO

Name: Sunflower High School

Location: Clinton, Kansas

Mascot: Mighty Buffalo

Enrollment: 800 (grades 9-12)

School colors: yellow and brown

Yearbook: The Sunflower

Newspaper: Sunflower News

Contest Info

This is an on-site contest.

Do not put your name on the entry. If you do, your entry will be disqualified.

Students must not request help or advice from any person other than the KSPA Executive Director Eric Thomas at

staff@kspaonline.org, and that advice must be requested before the start of the contest.

All work must be solely that of the contestant.

Facts from Ted Swarthmore, president of the Community Service Club

- **Who?** Students from the Community Service Club. There are 74 members of the club, which meets after school to plan fundraisers, collections and service projects. Once a year the students participate in a 3-day mission trip to a regional urban community. The moderator of the club is James Whitmore, a social studies teacher and yearbook adviser for the school. Whitmore also supervises after-school detention on most weekdays.
- **What?** Started a fundraiser for people affected by the recent tornado in Bartlesville, Oklahoma. The fundraiser had a goal of raising 2500 dollars in cash donations and 400 relief packages. Each package had toothpaste, a toothbrush, Kleenex, bottled water, a pack of gum, 5 granola bars, a small towel, hand sanitizer and a small flashlight. After two weeks of the fundraiser, the club completed the project with two hundred seventeen relief packages and twelve hundred and forty dollars in donations.
- **Where?** The service project took place mostly at Sunflower High School. Some students solicited donations outside the location Lowe's Home Improvement Store and Wal-Mart. They set up a table with signs and approached people as they entered and exited the store requesting donations. The group met for the fundraiser in Mr. Whitmore's classroom, Room 514 in the Language Arts wing of Sunflower High School.
- **When?** The fundraiser began on April 14 and concluded on the 29th of April. The students collected donations during lunch time during each school day during that stretch. They worked the entrance of Wal-Mart and Lowe's on April 26, 2015 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Quotes from interviews

Ted Swarthmore, president of the Community Service Club

- "I have family down in Oklahoma and their entire neighborhood had damage. My parents and I drove down there the day after the storm hit. The houses barely even look like houses. I had never seen anything like it."
- "As soon as I saw my aunt and uncle at their house, I gave them the biggest hug and they both just cried and cried. I hadn't really even thought about it before I said it, but I promised them while I was hugging them that I would organize some kind of fundraiser."
- "We walked around their neighborhood on the outskirts of Bartlesville and talked to others who had lost their houses. They were so sad, but working so hard to scrape together anything that they could gather from the rubble. It was unbelievable."
- "My family who lives in Bartlesville is my aunt Bridget and my uncle Mark. Bridget is my dad's sister. Their last name is Masterson. They have lived in Bartlesville for 9 years and have no kids."

James Whitmore, moderator of the club, a social studies teacher and yearbook adviser for the school

- "I think the kids were so moved by hearing Ted's story of his aunt and uncle and their neighbors . . . They felt they had to do something. We have tried a bunch of other projects this year. To be honest, most of them have been pretty lame and we haven't had full participation. But when Ted stood up at our emergency club meeting after the tornado, his speech to the club motivated everyone. I think that about a quarter of the club was actually crying. Sitting on the floor of my room, listening to him. It was quite a moment."
- "So, the care packages will likely not actually be sent to Oklahoma. By the time that we had gathered the materials and put together the packages yesterday (May 1), the needs of the people in Oklahoma had mostly moved past the kind of packages that we put together for them. The money will still be headed to Bartlesville, but the packages will likely be headed to the next natural disaster through the Red Cross. That is who we are donating the packages to. The money will go to a fund for Bartlesville that was set up by the local community foundation."

Press release from the City of Bartlesville, Oklahoma

April 10, 2015

This press release is aimed at summarizing the official facts gathered by the City of Bartlesville, Oklahoma about the April 9, 2015 tornado that damaged homes, businesses and land in our city.

At 1:30 p.m. the county announced a tornado watch, meaning that conditions were possible for a tornado. On the advice of the National Weather Service, at 2:18 p.m. the city activated the tornado warning alarm to notify citizens. That alarm sounded for 18 minutes until the tornado was out of the city limits. At 2:22 p.m. a tornado -- estimated by the National Weather Service to be a category EF3 -- touched down in the Southwest area of the city. According to the National Weather Service, EF3 tornadoes create "severe damage" with the following typical effects: "Entire stories of well-constructed houses destroyed; severe damage to large buildings such as shopping malls; trains overturned; trees debarked; heavy cars lifted off the ground and thrown; structures with weak foundations are badly damaged."

The damage from the tornado was about 400 yards wide in some areas. The tornado stayed on the ground for about three-quarters of a mile. The damage was mostly to residential neighborhoods such as Grassland Manor, Wheatfields Estates and Rolling Meadows. The city estimates that 80-95 houses were left uninhabitable by the tornado.

Three deaths have been caused by the tornado and the clean-up effort. Any news outlets seeking additional details on the deceased should contact the Bartlesville Police Department.

The city of Bartlesville is grateful to the immediate assistance of cities both near and far. Those wishing to help can donate supplies to the Red Cross of America. Those wishing to donate monetarily can send funds to the City of Bartlesville Relief Fund at Community Bank of Bartlesville.