

The Kansas Exchange

Letter from the Editor

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Hello Kansas FBLA,

The officers had a great time meeting with Governor Brownback on January 27. The signing of the proclamation went very well. Afterwards, Kymee Noll, Kansas FBLA President, distributed pens from the Governor to the officers.

The district competitions went wonderfully. There was a great turn out of as far as the number of schools and the numbers of students competing in various events. Due to the large number of winners in each district, we have chosen to put the top three finishers in each district under the "District Competitions" tab under the kansasfbla.com website. Feel free to take a look at this year's top district winners. We are proud of our District

Vice Presidents for hosting wonderful competitions.

On March 29-30, the Kansas FBLA State Leadership Conference will be held in Topeka. Many different students who placed at the district competitions will be in attendance.

During the opening ceremony, students who are campaigning for a state office on the Executive Board will perform their skits and/or speeches.

I hope to see each of you all at the State Leadership Conference. Good luck to everyone, whether it be campaigns, performances or presentations. I hope each of you continue to make your way through the "Gateway to Greatness!"

Tayler Graham

Kansas State Editor



Left to Right: Erika Foster, Tayler Graham, Jennifer McNary, Katie Twenhafel, Governor Sam Brownback, Kymee Noll, Makenzie Farnham, Carrie Carlson and Katie Gerard.

Letter from the Kansas State President

Dear Advisers and Local Presidents:

This past year as Kansas FBLA State President has really widened my experiences and expanded my horizons both as a person and a leader. I have had opportunities to work with amazing officers and advisers that will have a lasting impact on my life. It is all coming to an end as our State Leadership Conference in Topeka, Kansas at the Expocentre on March 29-30 continues to sneak up on us. Prepare your members for an unforgettable 2012 SLC!



There is a group of very eager members running for offices this year! These members are bringing new ideas to the table and are ready to serve you, Kansas FBLA! I wish each and every one of them good luck in their campaigns. Here are the following candidates and the positions they're running for:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Grade</u>
President	Katie Gerard	Hanover	11
	Kymee Noll	Jefferson County North	11
	Evan Reese	St. Marys	11
	Taten Stamm	Kingman	11
Secretary	Amanda Sales	Valley Falls	11
Treasurer	BreShawna Briggs	Wamego	11
	Ashley Ebeck	Wellsville	10
	Travisray Salyers	Eudora	11
	Luke Craghead	Wabaunsee	11
Editor	Sarah Niederee	Great Bend	9
	Kortney Kirkland	Anderson County	10
Historian	Rachel Mentzer	Yates Center	10
	Sharon Kerr	Cherryvale	11
District I VP	Josh Clark	Valley Falls	11
District II VP	Jennifer McNary	Hayden	11
District III VP	NO CANDIDATES		
District IV VP	Colton Lagerman	Great Bend	10
	Kaden Littrell	Canton-Galva	10
District V VP	NO CANDIDATES		
District VI VP	Carlie Snethen	West Franklin	10
District VII VP	Blake Edwards	Liberal	11
District VIII VP			

I hope everyone has studied hard and sufficiently prepared for their tests, interviews and presentations. Be ready to compete, because I know how competitive Kansas FBLA members are and how much they push themselves to burst through the Gateway to Greatness. Motivate your members so that they can place in the top of their event and eventually move onto Nationals in San Antonio, Texas. Great memories and experiences come from our State Leadership Conference and our National Leadership Conference that I know you don't want to miss out on! Can't wait to see everyone in Topeka.

Kymee Noll
Kansas FBLA State President

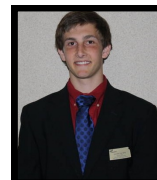
Kansas State Executive Board



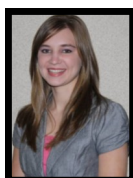
"I am working on my campaign booth, going to job shadow a media relations person and statistician for the KU Men's Baseball Team, enjoying March Madness, and visiting my sister in Emporia."

~Kymee Noll– President

"For spring break I am spending a few days in Mexico with some friends and applying for scholarships."



~David Tauber– Executive Vice President



"I am taking a road trip to see my Mom's side of the family in Maryland. We will be stopping along the way to see landmarks and different sites. I will spend lots of time with my family and enjoy exploring Washington D.C."

~Carrie Carlson– Parliamentarian

"I will be getting ready for the state conference, organizing my books for the next state secretary, redecorating my room and planning for a local Daddy/Daughter dance."



~Whitney Earnest– Secretary



"For spring break I will be catching up on my sleep. And work my campaign for FBLA state President."

~Katie Gerard– Historian

"Over spring break I hung out with my friends and just spent the week relaxing and catching up on sleep."

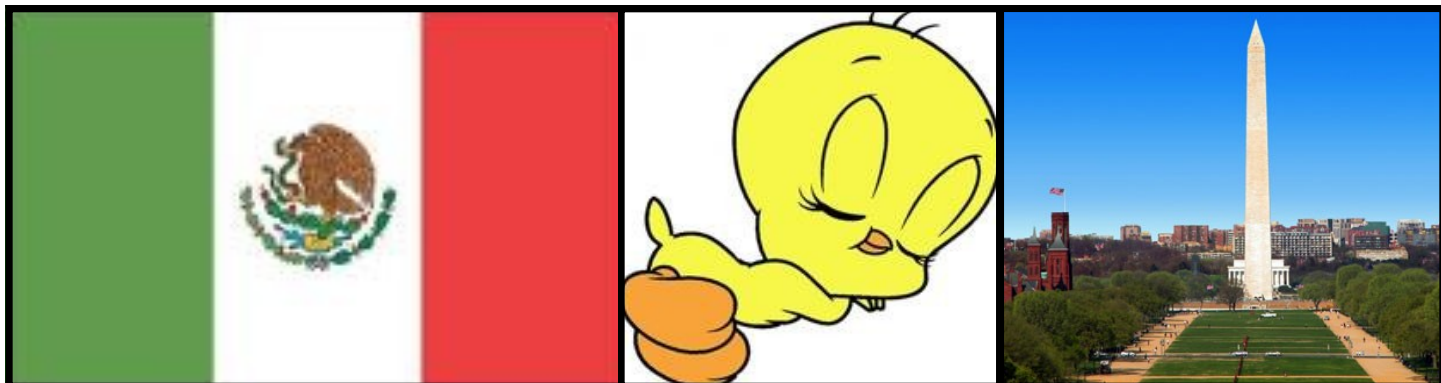


~Tayler Graham– Editor



Katie was in Africa so this was not provided.

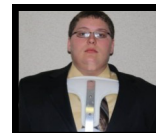
~Katie Twenhafel– Treasurer



Kansas State Executive Board

"I plan on spending my spring break hanging out with friends, working and practicing my state events."

~District I Vice President– Hunter Allison

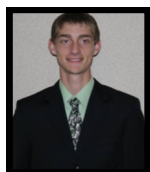


"My spring break is filled with 4-H activities. I have a KAP Communications interview, and I am teaching an Arts and Crafts workshop."

~District II Vice President– Amanda Sales

"Over spring break, I will be attending Kansas City Global Summit through 4-H. After that, I will be getting my campaign booth materials ready for State FBLA. I will also be spending some time just relaxing."

~District III Vice President– Jennifer McNary

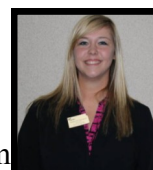


"I am going to just chill at home, hang out with friends and be awesome!"

~District IV Vice President– Martin Howard

"For spring break, I am going on the senior trip with my class to Chicago, Illinois and visiting a variety of tourist attractions."

~District V Vice President– Makenzie Farnham



"I went to Iowa for spring break to visit my grandparents and my wisdom teeth were removed."

~District VI Vice President– Heidi Friedrich

"I plan on being with my friends the majority of the time and getting ready for the State Leadership Conference."

~District VII Vice President– Erika Foster



"I went to Forth Smith, Arkansas to visit my family and I also went to the mall. I visited the parks and lakes located in Arkansas."

~District VIII Vice President– Sharon Gonzalez

Girard High School

Girard FBLA Chapter, consisting of 23 members for the 2011-12 school year, has been involved in "Adopt-A-Family". In December we collected and took gift-wrapped presents of clothing, toys and household items to two local families with a combined number of five children-ages ranging from one and a half to eight years old.

In January we took fifteen members to the District competition at Cherryvale High School.

In February we planned a trip to Kansas City to visit the Federal Reserve and Hallmark.

In March we will compete at Pittsburg State University for "Gorilla Games" with our graphic design project, and we will be taking four members to the State FBLA Leadership Conference on March 29-30.

On April 4, we will be competing at Missouri Southern State University in Joplin, Missouri, where they are hosting their annual Business Contest Day. This will be our eighth year competing in this. We will also hold our local officers elections in April.

The fundraiser we have held at Girard has been to sell flash drives throughout the year.



Anderson County High School

Anderson County celebrated National FBLA Week with club activities such as Official Dress Day, Club T-shirt Day, reading of FBLA facts with the morning announcements and a Friday morning breakfast. Our winter homecoming events went smoothly and provided some fundraising money for state conference expenses. With the state leadership conference just days away, **Anderson County FBLA** is proud to acknowledge

KORTNEY KIRKLAND
for **STATE HISTORIAN**

We have been working on Kortney's campaign, her booth decorations and advertising flyers. In conjunction with our community service project with Parkside Plaza, she was able to practice her speech and skit in front of the residents. Running through the speech several times was both beneficial to Kortney and provided some "comic relief" and entertainment for the residents.

Look for Kortney's "SPECIAL K" campaign posters.

KORTNEY KIRKLAND
for
STATE HISTORIAN



Great Bend High School

By Dylan Dreiling

Great Bend FBLA has been extremely busy lately. We recently competed in the District V competition in Canton-Galva, where Great Bend took first place as a school. Overall we took 48 individual competitors and 40 placed in the top ten of their respective events and will be going on to the state competition. We will be studying and practicing very hard to qualify for nationals.

Don't forget to be on the lookout for two Great Bend FBLA members who will be running for State positions. Colton Lagerman will be running for District V Vice President and Sarah Niederee will be running for State Editor. They



have been working hard on their campaigns and would appreciate your support.

We have also been very busy fundraising. In the spirit of Valentine's Day, we sold students their Data Match results. Data Match is a fundraiser that uses answers from a short survey to match you up with a list of your top ten most and least compatible peers. The results show a top ten list for guys and girls in your

grade and throughout your entire school.



Also, we are doing a new fundraiser this year called "Crush for Crush." Students can buy a can of Crush soda pop for \$1 and have it sent anonymously to a classmate. The classmate will receive the pop on Valentine's Day and can let it remain anonymous or pay \$2 to see the sender. We hope to have success with our fundraising and future competitions.

On behalf of Great Bend High School FBLA, I would like to wish all other FBLA members success within their clubs. We look forward to seeing you at the 2012 State Leadership Conference.



Santa Fe Trail High School

By Blair Urish

2012 has already been quite a successful year for SFT FBLA. We started off the year with the District VII Conference at Emporia State University, where many members received awards in their competitive events. The District VII Conference was held in early February and the state conference will be held during the end of March. We also recently held an FBLA Emblem Ceremony, where we learned the meaning of the FBLA emblem and recited the FBLA Creed.



Jefferson County North

By Cassie Lampen

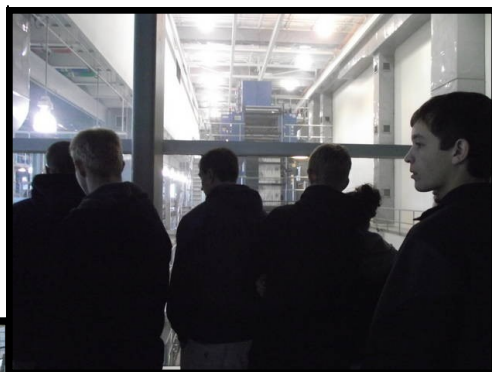
Jefferson County North Future Business Leaders of America



keeps opening “Gateways to Greatness” in everything they do. Recently the JCN chapter has participated in Adopt an Angel, the annual business trip and the District II Conference.



This year, JCN FBLA decided to participate in Adopt-An-Angel again and were able to allow a



family to have a better Christmas. Each member was asked to donate \$3, and the result was numerous gifts for a family of two boys and



a girl, along with their parents. Bailee Deviney headed the project and “Did a really good job,” one



member said. “It was really fun and exciting, because I knew that JCN FBLA was helping out these kids to have a great Christmas. Something they might not have had otherwise,” said Bailee Deviney.

The JCN chapter also attended the annual business trip. Bailee Deviney headed this project with Heather Polson on the committee.

Bailee and Heather organized a full day of tours at the Roasterie and the Kansas City Star and then shopping at the Oak Park Mall afterwards.

The chapter learned the process in which the Roasterie chooses coffee to buy and then how they air-roast and package it. The tour guide said he was surprised with the great behavior JCN FBLA exhibited. Our chapter also learned how the *Kansas City Star* prints the newspapers everyday and even some of this history behind the *Star*. After the day of tours, the chapter went to the mall to shop and eat.

“It was really fun and I especially loved the coffee we got at the Roasterie!” said Cassie Lampen.



The District II Conference was also a huge success for JCN FBLA. This year it was held at Valley Falls High School on January 14 by District II Vice President, Amanda Sales. JCN FBLA had about 65 members competing, with all of them placing and securing first place as a school with 945 total points.

As you can see, JCN FBLA keeps opening “Gateways to Greatness” in everything they do.

Hayden High School

By Jennifer McNary

The Hayden High School FBLA Chapter was host to the District III Conference held on Monday, January 16, 2012, at Hayden High School in Topeka. There were 320 registered FBLA members in attendance along with advisers, judges and helpers. The District III schools attending were Abilene, Axtell, B & B, Bern, Chapman, Hayden, Junction City, Mission Valley, Rossville,

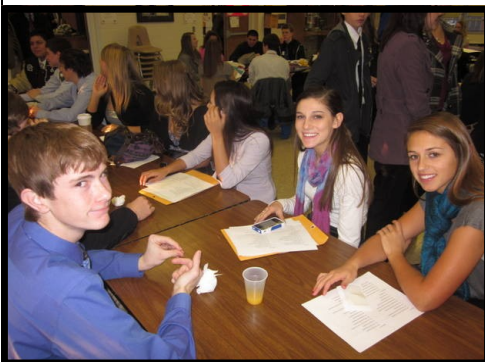


Seaman, St. Marys, Topeka High, Topeka West, Wabaunsee and Wamego. Jennifer McNary, District III Vice President, led the Opening Session with the Pledge of Allegiance and the FBLA Creed.

Two new ideas were presented to District III. The first was that plaques were given to the top three schools based on total points. The



second was that results would be posted on the District III Facebook page as they became available. Kymee Noll, State President, brought greetings on behalf of Kansas FBLA, and she introduced



the candidates running for state office. Those candidates include Evan Reese, St. Marys, for State President; BreShawna Briggs, Wamego, for State Treasurer; and Luke Craghead, Wabaunsee, for State Editor. Katie Twenhafel, State Treasurer, introduced Jennifer McNary, who is the only candidate for District III V.P. Jennifer also gave her candidate speech.



The Opening Session closed with announcements and then the members began their district competition with objective tests and performances.

The top three schools for the 2012 District III Conference were 1st place—Wamego, 2nd place—B&B, and 3rd place—Hayden. Congratulations to all who participated.

Central Heights High School

Central Heights FBLA has a future entrepreneur in its midst. Last fall, five members attended the Extreme Entrepreneurship Tour sponsored by McPherson College. It was a high energy, take action experience and that's what Kalli Craft, freshmen and two year FBLA member did. Kalli entered the Jump Start contest and was selected as one of five finalist to compete for \$5,000 in seed money to start her business. Kalli's passion is photo editing and creating works of art.

On February 15, 2012, Kalli had five minutes to pitch her idea to a panel of five judges. The judges then asked questions for three minutes. Kalli's pitch was awesome and showed off her love of photography and creativity.

While Kalli was not selected for the seed money, she made several new acquaintances and heard from the Future Entrepreneurs of Kansas! It was an impressive gathering of exciting ideas.

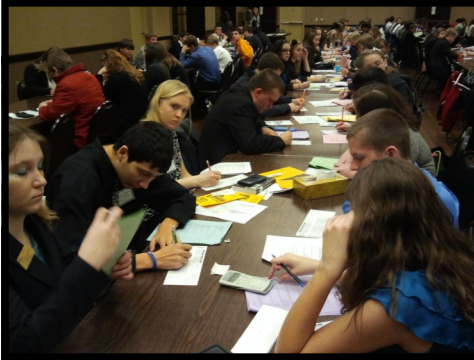
We are thrilled to have Kalli as a member of our FBLA chapter and know she'll be on to her next venture idea soon.



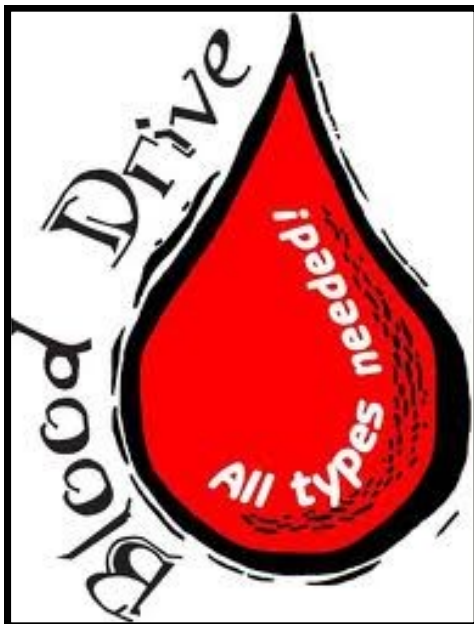
West Franklin

By Courtney Renfro

On February 8, twenty-six West Franklin members attended the District VII conference that was held at Emporia State University. Fourteen members placed in the top ten and are headed to the 2012 State



Leadership Conference in Topeka.
Some upcoming events for



West Franklin include the Spring Blood Drive, the State FBLA Conference, Mommy/Son Softball tournament, and the Daddy/Daughter Dance.

On February 24, WFHS will partner with the Community Blood Center to hold a school Blood

Drive for students and teachers. If you are 16 years or older, you will have the opportunity to donate a unit of blood that has the potential to save lives.

After the Blood Drive, West Franklin members will be attending the FBLA State Leadership Conference in Topeka. The students will attend the conference on March 29-30.



April 14, West Franklin will be running the Mommy/Son softball tournament. This tournament will allow moms and sons to spend some quality time together through America's pastime.

The last event FBLA hosts will be the Daddy/Daughter Dance. The dance is going to be the day after prom and will allow daughters a chance to have an afternoon with their daddy's. There will be food, fun and prizes.

As you can see, West Franklin FBLA will be very busy during these upcoming months. All of these events will help West Franklin FBLA pass through the "Gateway to Greatness".

Blue Valley High School

By Brittney Bouley

By Ashley Peterson

An FBLA meeting was held on January 13, 2012, as FBLA members gathered in the cafeteria to listen to officer Brandon Koch and to discuss FBLA business. All of the committees reported on American Enterprise Day.

Officer Koch spoke about his job as a State Trooper. He explained the duties and responsibilities he encounters dealing with his job.

He also spoke about his education and what inspired him to take on this career. He also answered questions from the FBLA members about his career.

After he had finished presenting, the FBLA members snacked on cookies and tea to end the meeting.



Wamego High School

Seventy members of the Wamego High School Chapter of the Future Business Leaders of America attended the District III Conference at Hayden High School in Topeka on January 16. Adviser Karen Hynek, instructor



Dan Shupe, librarian Brittany Birch, and student teacher Joshua Oldenettel accompanied the group.

During the conference, the WHS chapter took part in a variety of competitions including team presentation events, interview events, impromptu presentation events, public speaking events,



production events, technology events and objective testing events.

Wamego High School had the honor of having two of their students earn the distinction of Mr. and Ms. Future Business Leader for District III. Elizabeth White was named Ms. FBL and Brett

Holle was named Mr. FBL. Wamego High School placed first with a total of 769 points.

Wamego High held many activities to celebrate FBLA week. Among them was a school service project called Valentine Grams. During this project the members, officers and adviser



baked and decorated sugar cookies that the students could purchase and then send to one another, a teacher, staff member, etc. with a personalized message attached. Since we are not allowed to have deliveries brought to the



school, it gives the students an opportunity to send positive messages to each other for Valentine's Day.

FBLA then also sends a free cookie with a message to each of the faculty, paras, cooks, custodians, administration and support staff of WHS, and then also to the District Office. It is our way of letting them know how much we appreciate all they do for the students of Wamego High. We baked, decorated and delivered a total of 920 cookies this year. It was a great activity that involved the entire school in celebrating FBLA week.



Wellsville High School

By Hannah Boehm

Wellsville's Future Business Leaders of America has not stopped helping the community and our school since the start of the new year.

To start off 2012, we held our annual New Year's Pizza Party with almost 60 members joining to eat pizza and win door prizes during lunch.

February 11, 2012 we held our 8th Annual Daddy/Daughter Date Night. This year's theme was Mardi Gras. We had the commons area filled with 217 dads and daughters, who were dressed up and ready to have fun. We provided a meal for



the Dads and Daughters, with over 30 FBLA members helping to serve the meal of chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn and a roll. The daughters ate chicken nuggets mashed potatoes, gravy and corn, and everyone had ice cream and a brownie for dessert. After the dinner was concluded, the FBLA members pulled away the tables and turned on the tunes for the dance to begin. The dads and daughters and FBLA members had a good time. This will be a tradition that will continue for years to come.

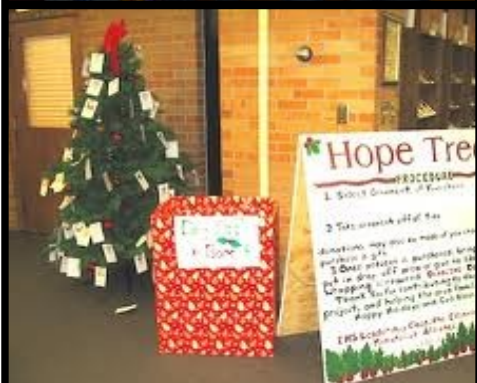
February was a busy month as we also completed the high school and middle school Data Match. We sold the Data Match results for \$1 and the proceeds went to the March of Dimes. We raised approximately \$40. Over the course of the year, we have hosted many activities that have raised several hundred dollars for the cause.

With Valentine's Day, FBLA obtained requests from the residents at the nursing home in Wellsville for small goodies they would like to have. Students choose a resident to buy gifts for then helped deliver the gifts with a card and also spent time with each resident on February 14. The nursing home appreciated our gifts and the time spent with the residents.

On February 8, 2012, fifty-one Wellsville High School FBLA members and nineteen Wellsville Middle School FBLA members headed to Emporia for the District VII Conference. Fourteen schools participated and Wellsville placed first with 449 points. A number of students placed in the top 5 individual and/or team events. Thirty-four of the 51 students who attended plan on competing at the State Leadership Conference in Topeka, on March 29-30. All nineteen Middle School members will be competing as well. The middle school level of FBLA also went to districts for the first time. Nineteen, eighth grade students placed first also, with four other middle schools in attendance. With this being the first year for Wellsville's Middle School level of FBLA, we hope this portion of our chapter continues to grow.

Ellinwood High School

The Ellinwood FBLA Chapter sponsored the community Hope Tree during the month of December. Gifts were donated for children from the ages of birth to nine years old. Members of the community struggling financially could contact the school and obtain gifts for family or friends from the Hope Tree. Community members supporting the project could also give a cash donation to purchase gifts in certain age brackets that were in need of additional presents. It was a wonderful activity and will become an FBLA tradition for the holidays.



Jackson Heights

By Nathan Leach

The Jackson Heights FBLA celebrated FBLA Week last month. Each day was designated to support a group of people starting from the school chapter on Monday to the nation on Friday. Starting with the chapter, members received treats. Next, was the school and the staff who got FBLA water bottles. For the community, items were brought in for Fostering Hope, Inc. which is a new organization for people who have suffered from fires or an emergency and are in need of clothing. For the state, the chapter made a donation to the Kansas

March of Dimes. Finally for the nation, the chapter donated \$25 to the FBLA scholarship fund. FBLA Week was about helping others within and beyond the school walls.

The members of the Jackson Heights FBLA Chapters are preparing for the State Conference in Topeka at the Expo Center on March 29 and March 30. Nine students will compete with the high school students and are setting their sights on competing at nationals in June in San Antonio, Texas!

FBLA is also supporting Fostering Hope, Inc. by sponsoring a school-wide clothing drive. The goal is to fill a school bus full of gently used clothing, shoes,

accessories, and new hygiene items after spring break. A school bus will be parked near the grade school with the goal of filling it up with clothes that others can use. There will be five age divisions and each winning grade will win a class ice cream sundae party. Daily pick up from classrooms will be during the week of March 26. The contest ends on March 30 as the bus will then be driven to Wetmore to help those in need. See Fostering Hope, Inc.'s facebook page for more information about their organization. Clean out those closets and help fill the bus.



Deadlines	Mailing Dates	Article Ideas
April 6, 2012	April 27, 2012	State Leadership Conference Results National Conference Plans

Please submit articles to:

Tayler Graham • Kansas State Editor

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66092*

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