

# The Community Page



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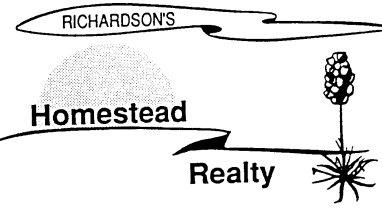
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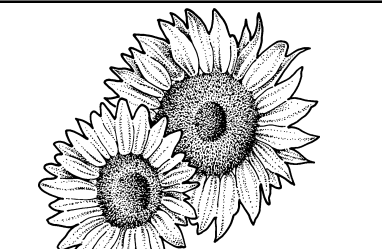
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## Congratulations to the winners of the Goodland Elks essay contest

This year the Elks invited the fifth grade class from North Elementary to enter the essay contest. The winner was Benjamin Waugh who will receive a \$50 savings bond. Second was Allan Alanis and Third was Heidi Lawson. The independent judges were former teachers. The winners will move on to the district competition, and if they make it to the national level, they have a chance to win a \$500 savings bond.



Benjamin Waugh



Allan Alanis



Heidi Lawson

First place essay:  
BANG! How many shots has our country heard? The first and most important was the "shot heard round the world." This started America's march towards freedom. All of this over my favorite beverage — tea. Now I get my tea for free.  
BANG! When Americans fought Americans. All because a great man, my distant relative, Abe Lincoln decided that slavery was wrong. Now I am treated like any other American.  
BOOOOM! The first time that another country threatened America on its own soil. Lots of people lost their lives. My family was lucky we didn't lose anyone. Thanks to them I gained the freedom to stay American and forget fear.  
BBBBBBBOOOOOOMMMM! Bombed by terrorists and the fear returned. I think they attacked us because they were jealous of our rights and freedoms. Scare us to change? It worked.....for the better. I became more, patriotic and aware of my religious freedom.  
"The pen is mightier than the sword." At 18, my pen will let me exercise my right to vote. My voice will be heard from sea to shining sea. This essay wouldn't be possible without my pen and the Freedom of Speech! That's what freedom means to me.

Benjamin Waugh  
Grade 5  
North Elementary

Second place essay:  
I'm proud to live in the U.S.A. because we have the rights to live our own lives without anyone telling us what to do. I have the right what to wear and when to do it. my dad has the. right to work any where he wants.  
George Washington was the leader of the continental army. He fought so we could have freedom. Soldiers risked their lives so we could have freedom. Many soldiers suffered a lot, some were sick or injured.  
Harriet Tubman helped many slaves get their freedom. She took the underground railroad so the police could not see her. She could not read or write.  
Betsy Ross was the one who made the american flag. The stars represent each one of the fifty states. The stripes stand for freedom.  
I think of these people when I hear the word freedom. Because if they hadn't fought we could not have freedom.

Allan Alanis  
5th  
North Elementary

Third place essay:  
Freedom means to me that we all have are own rights. Freedom is a wonderful thing. We all know we have freedom, even. if you are black or white, it doesn't matter.  
To be free is to do things you love to do, to do things you want to do. You can do the things you want to do if you put your mind to it.  
Freedom can be anything you want it to be, a friend, a good thing, a wonderful thing, anything.  
Freedom is a book to me, because I'm a book worm. I think freedom is a book, because the author who writes it is free to write whatever he or she wants to write.

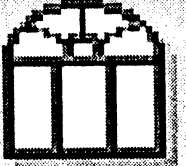
Heidi Lawson  
5th Grade  
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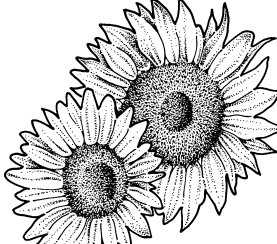


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