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County Wide, SMT Help Recycling Project

FEBRUARY 23RD 2012 BY UNKNOWN

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*By Annabeth Miller,
ShowMe Times Editor*

It's amazing how a little bit of effort will net big payoffs for two good causes.

The staffs at County Wide Insurance, the ShowMe Times joined together recently and rounded up old and unused electronics for a recycling program at Southeast Elementary School in Dexter.

The kindergarten students and teachers are participating in a recycling project with two good purposes – to teach the students more about saving the earth's resources and earning funds for classroom supplies in the kindergarten. By sending the recycled items – from cameras to laptop computers to printer ink cartridges and more – the school can earn credit to be used for the purchase of needed classroom supplies.

“We knew we had some old cameras that were out-of-date or needing repair, so we rounded up what we had for the recycling project,” said Dave Ellinghouse of County Wide Insurance. Ellinghouse's daughter, Anna, is a student in the kindergarten, so he knows how important this project is and the enthusiasm of the students.

By checking cabinets and storage areas, they rounded up more than 10 old cameras and other devices for the program.

“We are glad to be able to help the kindergarten students and the environment,” said Andrew Cato of the ShowMe Times. As a senior at Dexter High School, Cato was a Cadet Teacher in Amy Pixley's kindergarten classroom. The ShowMe Times sports editor knows first-hand the need for classroom supplies for the youngest Bearcats.

Pixley and the other kindergarten teachers are working with the Funding Factory, which takes recycled items and gives programs credit for supplies and items.

“We are asking the businesses and people in town to help out, and are excited that County Wide, the ShowMe Times and MediaLink are helping. We will be recycling old cell phones, print cartridges, mp3 players, GPS devices, and digital cameras,” Mrs. Pixley said. She added she hoped that more local businesses and families would join in the project.

Businesses may signed up with Funding Factory's Business Support Program to get free prepaid shipping labels sent free of charge. When a business needs to recycle something they can simply load boxes and ship using the prepaid label that has a code

for Southwest Elementary.

Businesses wishing to participate are asked to call FundingFactory at 1.888.883.8237. The school identification code to use is 308602.

Photo Above: County Wide Insurance and the ShowMe Times joined together Thursday to donate a dozen old digital cameras and other devices to the recycling program in the kindergarten at Dexter's Southwest Elementary School. On hand for the presentation were (from left) Peyton Jarrell, Dave Ellinghouse of County Wide Insurance, Aubrey Seiter, Anna Ellinghouse, Mia Holden, Tracy Horton of County Wide Insurance, Zachary Parrish, Aiden Medlin, kindergarten teacher Amy Pixley and Andrew Cato, sports editor of the ShowMe Times. (ShowMe Times photo by Annabeth Miller)

LAST UPDATED ON FEBRUARY 23RD 2012 BY UNKNOWN

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