

# Have the Talk of a Lifetime School Program-Sunset Funeral Home Danville, IL

**Who:** Danville, Illinois District 118 Fifth grade classes (Initiated the program through the Superintendent, which then filtered to Assistant Superintendent, then filtered to teachers, which then filtered to students, which finally flowed to parents, family members, mentors etc. Get the drift-we get to touch a lot of people through this in a very positive way!)

**What:** We created a program where the teachers presented the Have the Talk Conversation Cards to the students. The students were then to go interview a parent, or if they did not have a traditional family, someone who played an important role in shaping their lives). The students were required to write an essay about this person. There was one winner per class (we had 18 different classes). Our funeral home (Sunset Funeral Home) then provided a \$100 to each class participating. The class then had to find out all the non-for-profits in the area and create a list of the organizations they felt compelled to give to, and the winner of the essay of each class got to pick the final organization to which they would donate the money. The teachers narrowed the essays from each class down to about 5 top essays and our staff helped to pick the winner of each class. There was also an overall winner picked from the entire fifth grade. That winner received a one-year subscription to Ancestry.com.

We also worked with our local radio station to announce the project for our funeral home which gave us great exposure. We got permission to post on all Social Media outlets for our company.

**When:** Our firm did a trial run in the spring to see how it would go and work out any problems in the program. The school had a year-end assembly where the winners were announced and we were recognized as a Partner in Education.

The District loved the program so much, they decided to do away with their Young Authors program and implement the Have the Talk of a Lifetime each year. This will be done in the month of October to coordinate with the National Family History Month passed by Congress.

**Where:** We spoke with several administrators and we all agreed we felt as though the fifth-grade level was a good age group to participate with this event. It turned out to be a good assessment. They were willing and very interested in the project.

**Why:** This program has touched many people in our community. The schools liked the program because it gave the students interviewing skills, writing skills, and research skills. It met their curriculum standards. Our firm enjoyed the program because it allowed us to be seen in a completely different fashion than what most people are accustomed to. We actually had one parent approach our ownership and thanked her for "planting such a beautiful seed".

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

05/2017

## **D118 and VERMILION COUNTY HOME VISITING**

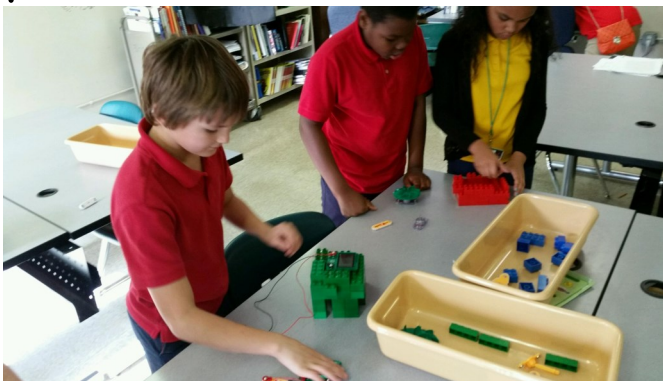
Did you know there are free home visiting services throughout Vermilion County?

The H.O.M.E. Hands On Meaningful Experiences Program provides home visiting services that offer family-focused services to expectant parents and families with children up to age 3 who reside in District 118. Brandye Kizer and Debbie Plush, Parent Educators offer information about what a child should be doing at each developmental stage, help families to locate needed resources, fun family events, education, support, and free books! In addition to personal home visits and group connections, our Family Store helps supply baby items and household products for H.O.M.E. participants. In November we attended the FESTIVAL of TREES, made Swedish Meatballs and had enough to send home to freeze, and in December we will have RUDOLPH come visit and hand out gifts to our Birth-3 families!! If you are interested in home visiting services, or even learning more about them, please

**call Niah at (217) 483-BABY (2229).**

### **PROJECT LEAD THE WAY**

Mr. Skovran and his students have been learning about drones, gears, pulleys, and using drones as emergency rescue devices. Students are getting hands-on experience on how fun and helpful drones can be in our everyday lives.



### **SVUE DRAMA CLUB**



**Congratulations to all of the SVUE Drama Club members for a great presentation of "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" this month.**

**A BIG thank you to Mrs. Frazier and Mrs. Turner for all of their directing and musical skills.**

**#SVUEROCKS**



— SOUTH VIEW UPPER ELEMENTARY —

# SPARTAN NEWS



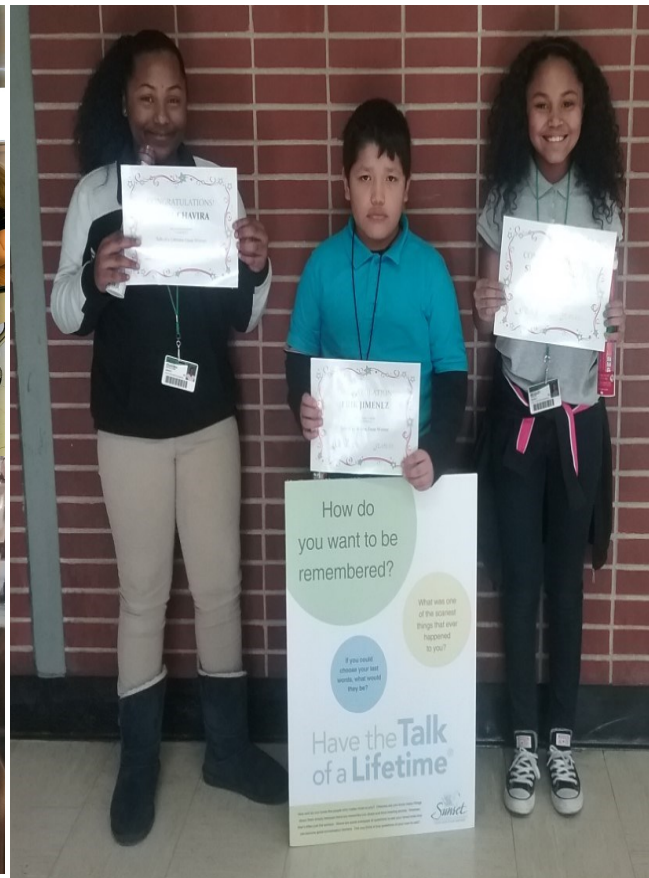
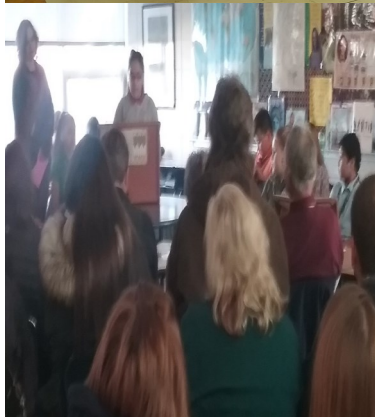
JANUARY, 2018



**This semester, our fifth grade students had the “Talk of a Lifetime” with a close family member or friend. Students then wrote essays on what matters most in people’s lives and how much our loved ones make a difference.**

**Sunset Funeral Homes and the Darby Family recognized one essay from each fifth grade classroom. A holiday donation will be made in each of these students’ names. The winning students also received a personalized certificate and a special surprise for their hard work.**

**Congratulations to our wonderful writers, and a big “thank you” to the Darby Family!**



## January Calendar

School Resumes  
Wednesday,  
January 3rd, 2018

No School  
Martin Luther  
King Jr. Day.  
Monday, January  
15th, 2018

Board of Education  
meeting.  
Jackson Building  
6:30 PM  
Wednesday,  
January 17th, 2018

Half Day  
Attendance  
(9:00 AM-12:00 PM)  
Wednesday,  
January 31st.





## *Music to Our Ears*



Our wonderful music department hosted family and friends for a night filled full of holiday music in mid-December. Our sixth grade band members, South View Singers, and SVUE Orchestra members all performed in front of a crowd. Students put on an amazing show for the audience. Thank you, Mrs. Chasanov, Mr. Legg, Mrs. Williford, and students for all of your hard work!





**GO SPARTANS!**

## Ways to Stay Connected at SVUE



**ClassDojo**



**facebook**

Did you know parents AND students can sign up on Class Dojo? Keep track of daily behavior, Classroom happenings, and upcoming events.

*Have you liked "South View Upper Elementary" on Facebook?*

### SVUE COMPUTER CLUB

Computer Club is in full force and exploring the world of technology.

#### January Meetings

GROUP A: Jan 8, Jan 15, Jan 22, and Jan 29

GROUP B: Jan 8, Jan 17, Jan 24, and Jan 29



**Check out our  
South View  
Extra-  
Curricular  
Information**



### Chess Club Meeting Dates

5th grade: **Jan. 9, 16, 23**

6th grade: **Jan. 4, 11, 18**



SVUE STEM CLUB

Every Tuesday and Thursday in January.

**Science, Technology, Engineering,  
Mathematics**

### YEARBOOK STAFF!

Yearbook staff will begin putting together our 2017-2018 yearbook on January **4th**.

January yearbook staff meetings: January **11th**, January **18th**, and January **25th**.