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Phone book recycling drive nets nine tons of books

Effingham schools gather books, earn money from Consolidated Communications

MATTOON – Consolidated Communications recently awarded a total of \$2,200 to three Effingham schools for their participation in the 2007 phone book recycling drive.

Children who attend St. Anthony Grade School, Sacred Heart School and Effingham Junior High School participated in the program by gathering old phone books from family members and friends from Sept. 10 through Oct. 10. In all, the students gathered 17,782 books which equates to about nine tons of phone books that will not be added to landfills.

St. Anthony Grade School earned top honors and a check for \$1,000 from Consolidated Communications by gathering 10,786 books. Sacred Heart School students gathered the second highest amount with 5,349 books and earned a \$700 check from Consolidated. Students at Effingham Junior High School earned a check for \$500 for gathering 1,647 old phone books.

“Consolidated Communications is proud of the work these Effingham students did to gather old telephone books,” said Randy Barcus, manager, Consolidated Directories. “This program teaches children about the benefits of recycling and provides the schools with funding for other programs and opportunities for the students.”

The books were picked up and housed by Sanitation Service Inc., of Effingham before being delivered for recycling.

Effingham residents who still have old phone books to recycle can take them to the Effingham Communication Center at 1301 West Evergreen Avenue. Additional phone books and mini phone books are also available at the center.

The Effingham and surrounding area directory is also available online at the Consolidated Communications Web site at www.consolidated.com. The online directory includes the same information as the printed directory, including white and yellow pages, and is easily searchable by name and business classification.