

PUBLIC FORUM

Camp Hope spokesman thanks area contributors

Dear Editor,

On behalf of all of the campers and volunteers of Camp Hope, I wanted to express our sincere thanks to you, the community of Great Bend and surrounding areas, for your support.

Camp Hope has happily called this area home for over 30 years. This past year included many challenges for Camp, not the least of which was the fire at Camp Aldrich. Not only did we lose our camp site but also the majority of our supplies. We were unsure if Camp Hope would be able to happen this year.

However, we were again amazed and humbled at the generosity this community showed us. From the cash donations to the in-kind donations to the offers of help, we were constantly in awe by the good will. So many people helped that I can't even begin to name them all, but I did want to give a special thanks to Barton Community College and Great Western Dining Inc. Mark Dean, Jim Ireland, Tracy Wagner and their staff bent over backwards to accommodate more than 170 campers and volunteers at the college facilities for the week of camp.

Truly, it was because of all of you that Camp Hope was not only able to even happen this year but it turned out to be one of the best weeks ever. Words can't begin to express our