

## **Second-grader wins MLK essay contest**

**Austin J. Booth**, a second-grader at **Athens-Chilesburg Elementary School**, landed a first-place prize in the Martin Luther King Jr. Essay Contest, sponsored by the MLK State Commission. Austin, who won a U.S. savings bond, also was recognized at the January Fayette County school board meeting.

Here is Austin's winning essay:

### **"Dr. King's Words"**

When Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was talking to Malcolm X about using words, that moment really inspired me. He said that we should fight with words, not fists, and we should not use violence. Some other people wanted to use violence, but Dr. King insisted on using words. Words can be said or they can be written.

I used written words when I wrote a letter to the mayor. I did not want him to close Meadowbrook Golf Course. In return, he let me have a look around the Government Center and gave me some gifts, including a key to the city.

I used spoken words when someone glued pictures onto my paper. I wanted to glue them on by myself, and I wanted to do it later. I asked my teacher if she saw anyone do it. She said no. I was sort of upset for a while, but then I forgot about it.

Because of the gifts the mayor gave me, I think Dr. King's advice was good advice. Dr. King made a difference by using words, not violence. I like the way he thinks.