

Comfort and compassion are guiding Hospice principles

What is Hospice?

Considered to be the model for quality, compassionate care for people facing a life-limiting illness or injury, hospice and palliative care involve a team-oriented approach to expert medical care, pain management, and emotional and spiritual support expressly tailored to the patient's needs and wishes. Support is provided to the patient's loved ones as well.

The focus of hospice relies on the belief that each person has the right to die pain-free and with dignity, and that loved ones will receive the necessary support to allow them to do so.

- The focus is on caring, not curing and in most cases, care is provided in the person's own home.
- Hospice can be provided in assisted living facilities, nursing homes and other long-term care facilities.
- Hospice is available to persons of any age, religion or race.
- Hospice care is covered under Medicare, Medicaid, most private insurance plans, HMO's, and other managed care organizations.

How Does Hospice Work?

Hospice care is for any person who has a life-threatening or terminal illness. Most reimbursement sources require a prognosis of six months or less if the illness runs its normal course. Patients with both cancer and non-cancer illnesses are eligible to receive hospice care. All hospices consider the patient and family together as the unit of care.

The majority of hospice patients are cared for in their own homes or the homes of a loved one. "Home" may also be broadly construed to include services provided in nursing homes and assisted living facilities.

Typically, a family member serves as the primary caregiver and, when appropriate, helps make decisions for the terminally ill individual. Members of the hospice staff make regular visits to assess the patient and provide additional care or other services. Hospice staff is on-call 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Who is the Hospice Team?

Hospice care is a family-centered approach that includes, at a minimum, a team of doctors, nurses, so-

cial workers, counselors, and trained volunteers. They work together focusing on the dying patient's needs: physical, psychological, or spiritual. The goal is to help keep the person as pain-free as possible, with loved ones nearby until death.

The hospice team develops a care plan that meets each patient's individual needs for pain management and symptom control.

Hospice Services, Inc.

Hospice Services has journeyed with many individuals and families as they have faced difficult, highly emotional situations - journeys for which answers don't always come easily as they face the end-of-life.

Hospice Services' mission and commitment to the communities is simple - to provide the best care possible to enable people to live with hope and dignity while coping with loss and terminal illness. Comfort and compassion are guiding principles. Their hope is that families, caregivers, and all who are so profoundly affected by the most sad and solemn situations along life's journeys might find peace and healing.



EXAMINING their prizes, are Reese Leonard, Teryn Carmichael and Jessie Smith.

Herald staff photo by Casey McCormick

Students recognized for posters

By Casey McCormick

For over 45 years, the Kansas Farm Bureau has sponsored a Safety Poster Program to raise awareness for farm safety, especially among children. This year three Cheyenne County students were recognized for their posters.

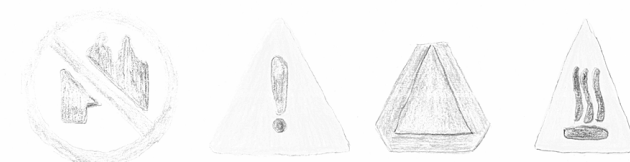
The three students, from Cheylin Elementary in Bird City, were Jessie Smith, fourth grade; Reese Leonard, first grade; and Teryn Carmichael, sixth grade. Jessie placed third in the state, between 30,000 to 40,000 students state-wide. Reese and Teryn were the local Division I and Division III winners.

Royce Cook, the safety chairman for Cheyenne County Farm Bureau, said preventable farm injuries are the leading killer of Kansas children.

"More children die annually from preventable, unintentional injuries than from all childhood diseases combined," Mr. Cook said.

This year it is estimated, one child in four will suffer an injury serious enough to require medical

FARM SYMBOLS - HOW MANY DO YOU KNOW?
LIFT FLAP TO SEE IF YOU ARE CORRECT



THEY COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE!

Poster by Jesse Smith, Bird City, won 3rd place, Div. II.

attention and approximately 2,100 Kansas children under age 14 will suffer an injury serious enough to require hospitalization.

"The great tragedy is that most of these injuries can be prevented," Mr. Cook said.

On Friday, July 1, Cheyenne County Farm Bureau Association board member, Clayton Janicke, presented the three poster winners with picnic backpacks and certificates from the Farm Bureau.

Jesse also received a packet with another certificate, Mag-light and several other items, along with a check from the Farm Bureau for \$15.

Program Open to All Students

The Safety Poster Program is open to all county students from first through sixth grade. This year's award winning posters are on display at the Farm Bureau office in St. Francis.

Foreign land investors reminded

Angie Berens, county executive director of the Cheyenne County Farm Service Agency recently reminded foreign investors who buy, sell or hold a direct or indirect interest in agricultural lands in the United States that they are required under the Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act to report their holdings and transactions to the U.S. Secretary

of Agriculture.

The Secretary of Agriculture has delegated the responsibility for collecting this information to the Farm Service Agency.

According to Mrs. Berens, foreigner investors buying or selling land must report such transaction within 90 days of the date of the sale.

Failure to file an accurate or timely report can result in a penalty with fines up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the agricultural land.

Mrs. Berens said the act requires reports to be filed by:

- individuals who are not U.S. citizens or citizens of the Northern Mariana Islands or the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands;
- individuals who are not lawfully admitted to the United States

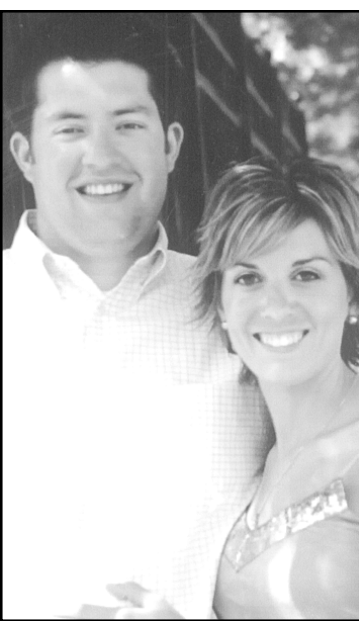
for permanent residence or who are not paroled into the United States under the Immigration and Nationality Act;

- any organization created under the laws of a foreign government or which has located its principal place of business outside the United States;

- any U.S. organization in which a significant interest or substantial control is directly or indirectly led by foreign individuals, organizations, or governments; and

- any foreign governments.

Farm Service Agency form FSA-153 is used to report land holdings and transactions. The completed form must be returned to the Farm Service Agency county office where the land is located.



MacKay and Burton

Wedding is planned

Mandy Burton and Derek MacKay wish to announce their engagement.

Mandy is the daughter of Martin Burton of Bird City and Shelley Heavilin of Blue Springs, Mo. She graduated from Cheylin High School in 1998 and received her bachelor of science degree in journalism from the University of Kansas in 2003.

Derek is the son of Carl and Michelle MacKay of Dallas, Texas. He graduated from Rosehill High in 1999 and received a bachelor of science degree in economics from the University of Kansas.

They live in Chicago, Ill., where Mandy works in the Production and Publishing Division of Pivot Point International. Derek is completing his last year of law school at De Paul University, specializing in securities litigation.

They will be married Sept. 17 at Lake of the Ozarks in Missouri.

Odd Facts

- The name Jeep came from the abbreviation used in the army for the "General Purpose" vehicle, G.P.
- The highest point in Pennsylvania is lower than the lowest point in Colorado.
- The only two days of the year in which there are no professional sports games (MLB, NBA, NHL, or NFL), are the day before and the day after the Major League All-Star Game.
- The mask used by Michael Myers in the original "Halloween" was actually a Captain Kirk mask painted white.
- If you put a raisin in a glass of champagne, it will keep floating to the top and sinking to the bottom.
- Snails can sleep for 3 years without eating.
- Actor Tommy Lee Jones and vice-president Al Gore were freshman roommates at Harvard.

HMC Named Among Top 100 Quality Hospitals

What do Hays Medical Center and the Mayo Clinic have in common? Hays Medical Center has been ranked alongside the Mayo Clinic and other such prestigious hospitals in the Top 100 Quality Hospitals in the United States.

We're pleased to be in such good company and we're proud to be the only hospital in Kansas to receive the Top 100 Award.

The Top 100 Quality award is based on data submitted by hospitals across the country to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS). That data is now available to consumers on the CMS website. And when compared to those hospitals, Hays Medical Center ranks among the best.

Well before CMS launched its initiative, quality patient care has been and continues to be a top priority at Hays Medical Center. Working to develop a 'culture of patient safety' – and introducing our own programs on influenza and pneumonia prevention – Hays Medical Center is the first hospital in Kansas to make its quality data available to the public on its own website – as early as two years ago.

For physicians and staff – who place a high priority on quality and patient care – this national recognition comes as no surprise. In fact, that quality has been recognized numerous times by statewide organizations and journals and now we're pleased to be recognized nationally, too.

Thanks to our physicians and associates for making this award possible.

The Hays Medical Center Board of Directors



HaysMedicalCenter

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