Child's reasons for using drugs may surprise parents

Why does a child use drugs? According to the National Clearing House for Alcohol and Drug Information some parents of drug users think that their child might have been pressured into taking drugs by peers or drug dealers.

But children say they choose to use drugs because they want to relieve boredom, feel good, forget their troubles and relax, have fun, satisfy their curiosity, take risks, ease their pain, feel grown-up, show their independence, belong to a specific group and look cool.

Rather than being influenced by new friends whose habits they adopt, children and teens often switch peer groups so they can hang around with others who have made the same lifestyle choices.

Parents know their children best and are therefore in the best position



doing drugs. Sports, clubs, music think their kids may have been oflessons, community service pro- fered illicit drugs; 53 percent of jects and after-school activities not teens report having been offered an only keep children and teens active illicit substance. and interested but also bring them closer to parents who can attend games and performances.

To develop a positive sense of independence, you could encourage some of the warning signs that their baby-sitting or tutoring. For a taste of risk-taking, suggest rock-climbing, karate or camping.



to suggest healthy alternatives to Ecstasy. Only 20 percent of parents

Since kids today may not turn to their parents for help after being offered drugs, this gap isn't likely to close soon. Parents can miss kids are at risk. For example, cigarette smoking by teens has been linked with an increased chance that

Most parents high school seniors is a daily smocan't imagine ker.

Drug use by kids is high. In 2000, 54 percent of seniors reported having tried an illegal drug — up from 43 percent in 1993. But less than one-third of teenagers name their parents as a source of information about drugs. Is there a connection? You decide.

Inhalants are among the most dangerous substances kids abuse today. Almost one in five kids report having used inhalants by the eighth grade. One half of all eighth graders can name at least three inhalants.

Inhalants are also the easiest substance for kids to get, since they can find them right in the garage or under the kitchen sink. Many kids sniff, snort, "bag" or "huff" ordinary household products like nail Think your kid won't try drugs? they'll try illegal drugs. One in five polish remover, cleaning fluid,

gasoline and spray paint. Kids may not realize the enormous risk they are taking. Inhalants starve the body of oxygen and can cause severe brain damage and even sudden death.

Prescription drugs, such as Ritalin, can be sold and abused as street drugs. Be sure to monitor the medications taken by everyone in your household. Warn your children of the dangers of taking even legal drugs that have not been prescribed for them by a doctor.

Teens live every day with the reality of easily available drugs. Peer pressure and positive images of drug use in the media can push them toward drug abuse.

Parents need to deal with that reality. They need to offer hope and drugs? Call us at the Regional Prehelp. Let your kids know it's okay to act independently. Teach them to by 109 W. 11th.

say no. Experts often recommend role playing as a teaching tool.

Listen to your kids. Student surveys reveal that when parents listen to kids' concerns and feelings, kids feel more comfortable and are more likely to stay drug-free. Kids who receive lots of love and attention from parents feel more secure and have a higher sense of self-esteem. When they confront new or stressful situations, they are less likely to turn to drugs and alcohol.

The average age at which teens start using tobacco is 12. The average age at which they start drinking is almost 13. And the average age at which they start smoking pot is 14.

Are you interested in increasing your awareness about alcohol and vention Center, 899-3848 or come

Brewster has 'new' store; grocery with new owners will fill a need

There is a "new" store in town. It's the grocery store under new ownership, and it should be going in a few days. Shane and Bonnie Holm are the new owners, and Roger and I and others in Brewster wish them the very best in this endeavor.

Many have talked about how fearful it is to think of not having a grocery store, so I hope we will be able to convince them that Brewster is a good place to invest in. If you have any ideas of how they can serve you, please let them know. I am sure they will welcome any input you may offer.

I have been enjoying the new dishwasher at the senior center and believe all who attended the potluck and the center lunch on Friday also enjoyed knowing we didn't have to hurry up and do the dishes.

We have a few projects that we are still working on and look forward to. The carpet has made a big difference this past year, and there



morials that we cannot begin to think about, but a fall or illness can thank everyone for their generosity. We have some more flooring work to begin, and the bathrooms are going to be refurbished soon, so we aren't done yet. That's about the way it is all the time, isn't it? We never find that final stopping spot. I want to remind all those who are interested: on Wednesday, Feb. 12, Oliver and Associates of Colby will join us for potluck at the senior center, and following lunch, they will and investment in assisted living and nursing care facilities.

have been so many things accom- sentation and will give us an idea of we felt like we were well informed. in the hospital at last report, and we

when we might need to rely on others besides ourselves. As independent as

plished through donations and me- something that we don't like to sure change things in a hurry.

> Everyone was saddened by the loss of the Columbia, and our sympathy goes to the families of the astronauts. Being right there via television is something that one never gets used to. Trying to understand what the families who are watching are going through is unimaginable.

It seems there have been too many events that we have been "right there" for. When I was a kid, events of World War II that hap-

pare for a time and keep changing channels hoping to see more

It's hard to believe the other day Roger and I were out working in the yard, peeling layer after layer of coats off. We didn't get down to the tank top and shorts that many did, but then we probably won't do that this summer when it's 100 degrees

This morning, peeling coats off is not an option. We have had some moisture in the form of blowing snow, and I believe there is quite a bit of ice under that, so it must have rained also.

Several local ladies have been hospitalized, and we hope they are soon well and back home. Lucille Lewallen is doing much better at last report, and we hope she will be back to feeling fine.

It is good to hear that Allie Helin is home again, and we hope she will soon be able to join Alvin on their rides together. Lore Depe was still

how we can pre- Now we see things as they happen hope she will soon be home again, during Christmas and is still with enjoying being in her own house.

It seems that Lila Pfalser is doing better than expected following her second surgery on her hip after having a bad fall following the last surgery. She and Gene are former residents but now live in Ponca City, Okla.

Another report is from Maxine Moore, who is doing well after dental surgery in Hays last week. Willard said he rode down with her ers that were in the window of the on the ambulance and thought she withstood the trip better than he did.

Guests of Lyle and Carmelita Clark on the first were Tim and Pam Gilley of Broomfield, Colo.; Nick Hoover and Barbara Gilley of Hays; and Rod, Susan and Branson Gilley of Brewster. The occasion was Carmelita's birthday on the second and Rod's on the third.

We would love to hear from Nettie Mills, who went to Texas

correction

In the Thursday, Jan. 30, edition of The Goodland Daily News, it was correct any mistake or misunderincorrectly listed in the matters of record column that Craig S. and Tharen McKee sold to George M. Jr. and Mary Lee McKee the SE/4 of Sec. 26, T6S, R40W. The deed was for the mineral rights on this land. This was a reporting error. ት ት ት ት ት

her son Jack and his family. If you have made a trip or had

some visitors or done something a little out of the ordinary, others would like to share your good news too. Call me at 694-2645 during the day or drop by the center to let me know what you have been up to.

I hope you had an opportunity to check out the pillows and pot holdsenior center for the past week. They were really neat works of art.

Joyce Crabtree and Barbara Springsteen certainly brought out the hidden talents in the grade school classes that were involved. We'll try to find something else that the center can help with that will show the young folks that we are interested in them. I hope you all have a great week, and I'll see you next time.

The Goodland Daily News will standing in a news story. Please call our office at (785) 899-2338 to report errors. We believe that news should be fair and factual. We want to keep an accurate record and appreciate you calling to our attention any failure to live up to this standard.

matters of record

District Traffic

The following traffic cases were handled by the Sherman County District Court:

Jan. 17 — Dustin J. Krien, 22, of St. Francis was fined \$359 for driving while suspended, \$66 for speeding, 71/55, and \$250 for no proof of insurance.

of Goodland was fined \$254 for speeding, 86/55, and \$300 for no Springs was fined \$239 for failure liability insurance.

Rhonda L. Gatske, 33, of Aurora, Colo., was fined \$203 for speeding, 96/70, and \$10 for no seat belt. Gary Barricklow, 61, of Good-

land was fined \$125 for speeding,

Jan. 21 — Adrian A. Conde, 21, 71/55, and \$10 for no seat belt. Rita K. Harper, 62, of Colorado to stop for an emergency vehicle.

Zi S. Shi, 37, of El Monte, Calif., was fined \$230 for speeding, 99/70. Jan. 22 — Kenneth J. Schroeder, 63, of Oakley was fined \$239 for speeding, 85/55.

Blake Robert Roe, 18, of Goodland was fined \$209 for hunting without permission.

Justin D. Lamb, 21, of Goodland was fined \$1,559 for his fourth offense of driving while suspended.



give a presentation on insurance Iremember going to the movies and watching the newsreels to see It will be about a 30-minute pre- pened weeks or months before, and

we all enjoy being, that is in the shade.

402 East 17th - Goodland 785-899-5988 Sun - Thurs 11am - 9pm, Fri - Sat 11am - 10pm





Expires February 28, 2003



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- Visit our booth at the Ag Show Feb. 13th. (MAX JONES FIELDHOUSE)
- Coming this Spring! Watch for Eagle's new channels!



