

New campaign focuses on protection of elderly

Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services Secretary Phyllis Gilmore announced a new campaign recently that will focus on protection of adults who are vulnerable to abuse or neglect.

Elderly or disabled adults can be targets for physical or financial abuse or neglect from caretakers. The department is responsible for

receiving and investigating reports of abuse or neglect.

"It's a tragedy that often times the most vulnerable in our society are abused or taken advantage of," said Gilmore. "Our goal is to educate... Kansans about the signs of abuse and what they can do to prevent or stop it from occurring."

Signs of adult abuse include

bruises, or other physical marks, saying someone hurt them, drastic loss in weight, increased depression or isolation and new problems paying bills.

From July 1 to March 30 there were 11, 154 reports of alleged abuse, neglect or exploitation of an adult. Of those, 7,632 were assigned for follow-up.

In meetings earlier this year, the department found many Kansans are not aware for adults who are susceptible to abuse or neglect. Through brochures, bookmarks and other printed material, as well as presentation to long-term care facilities, law enforcement, medical practitioners and county attorneys, the agency hopes to grow under-

standing of the unique factors of adults abuse and neglect.

"Our overall goal is for everyone to know they have a part in helping ensure our vulnerable adults are protected, that they get support and resources they need," Gilmore said.

The campaign will distribute book marks and brochures state-

wide while coordinating presentations to raise awareness among various groups.

To request an Adult Protection Service presentation, call Leslie Huss, program manager at (785) 368-8105.

To report suspected abuse of an adult, call the Protection Report Center at (800) 922-5330.

Settlement money goes to state's general fund

More than \$560,000 in workers compensation insurance settlement money paid recently to the Kansas Insurance Department will be deposited into the state's general fund, Sandy Praeger, Commissioner of Insurance, announced today.

The settlement money comes from AIG, the national financial services company, as a result of a multi-stat market conduct examination. The examination by state regulators focused on allegations that AIG underreported its workers compensation insurance revenues.

By Kansas statutory law, insurance settlement money is regularly returned to the state general fund. "Underreporting of premium



sandy praeger

• insurance comm.

include reviews of insurance company practices regarding treatment of policy holders the way premium rates are charged and the way the insurer handles claims.

The AIG investigation began in 2008.

The Kansas Insurance Department, a fee-funded agency, contributed nearly \$143 million to the state general fund last year from premium fees and taxes paid by insurance companies. The department's annual operating budget also comes from insurance company fees and taxes, not the state general fund.

revenues allowed AIG to pay less in taxes," said Commissioner Praeger. "And since workers comp premiums are taxed at a higher rate than auto, liability and other types of insurance, the company gained an unfair competitive advantage."

Under the nationwide settlement, AIG will pay a total of \$146 million to the states.

Market conduct examinations in-

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FUN BY THE NUMBERS

2					1			9
		3	6		9			4
				5				1
3	6	1	9	4				2
	2		8		7			
		8	2	1				
	1			3	4			6
8	7	2						4
			1	2				7

Level: Beginner

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

4th of July Freedom Festival

Celebrate Independence Day!

Sherman County Fairgrounds

<p>6:00 pm MT</p> <p>7:00 pm MT</p> <p>8:30 pm MT</p> <p>9:30 pm MT</p>	<p>Goodland Kiwanis Club Concession Stand Opens</p> <p>Watermelon Feed by Goodland Rotary Club</p> <p>Home-Owned Carnival Rides (\$10.00 Wristband)</p> <p>Live Entertainment by Chasynn Canaan Band</p> <p>Gates Open to the Grandstands</p> <p>Fireworks Show</p>
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www.freedomfest.shermanfairgrounds.com | Hosted by: Sherman County Community Services

Light the way to a cure

Keep the fire of hope burning by purchasing a luminaria candle in memory of someone lost to cancer, in honor of someone still fighting, or in special recognition of someone who has beaten this dreaded disease.

RELAY FOR LIFE OF SHERMAN COUNTY

Friday & Saturday – July 13 & 14
7 p.m. to 7 a.m.
at the High School Track behind Vo-Tech

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The Goodland Star-News, 1205 Main Ave., Goodland, KS 67735

Name: _____

Address: _____

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Please join us for the luminaria ceremony at 9 p.m.
\$10.00 per luminaria please!

In honor of In memory of _____

In honor of In memory of _____

In honor of In memory of _____

Total Enclosed: _____

Make checks payable to: The American Cancer Society

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