

Survey was not 'confessions of school children'

As I read "Survey Highlights 'at-risk' Behavior" in *The Goodland Star-News* for Tuesday, Aug. 31, page 3, I was pleased that the newspaper was so quick to inform people about our efforts of our community and what we are doing.

However, I want to make clear the survey is not a "confessions of school children," but rather a way to gather data about health risk behaviors — such as violence and alcohol, tobacco and other drug use — that can result in injury and/or impede positive development among our youth.



**cris
lovington**

• prevention center

Care (KCTC) student survey is an anonymous survey that is provided free of charge for administration in all public and private Kansas school districts for students in the 6th, 8th, 10th and 12th grades.

The Data and Information Systems Group at Southeast Kansas

Educational Service Center in Girard coordinates statewide administration and data collection and maintains a website, www.ctcddata.org, which provides information and results for each county in Kansas.

Our community has participated in the student survey since 1996. The data has helped us to learn more about the needs of our community's youth and has assisted in planning

prevention and intervention programs to address youth problem behaviors.

Additionally, that data is important to meet state and federal reporting requirements such as those mandated by the No Child Left Behind Act.

When analyzing this data on a county level, there is one factor that needs to be taken into account. This is the participation level, the percentage of students completing the survey in any one year.

For data to be representative of the county, the participation rate needs to be close to 80 percent. In

Sherman County, the participation rate for last year (2004) was 39 percent, for 2003 was 22 percent, and was 42 percent in 2001.

Last year, for example, no sixth grade students completed the survey.

The participation rates for Sherman County for 2000 and 2002 were 73 percent and 78 percent, respectively, and these rates more accurately reflect the actual use by Sherman County youth and are generally consistent with each other.

To reach the goal of 80 percent participation, the Community Part-

ners Coalition will be sponsoring a workshop in October about the survey.

The senior evaluator from the Data Information Systems Group will be in our community to provide information about the survey and to answer questions about our community's data.

If you have any questions and/or concerns regarding the survey, please call Cris at the Regional Prevention Center 785-899-3848 or Diane at 785-462-8152. We can help you navigate the website and understand the data for our county.

Library adds books to shelves in September

The Goodland Public Library has the following new books, cassettes and compact disks as of Sept. 1:

In adult fiction: "Dearest Dorothy, Help I've Lost Myself!" by Charlene Baumbich; "White Hot," by Sandra Brown; "The Exile," by Allan Folsom; "Body Double," by Tess Gerritsen.

"The Winds of Change," by Martha Grimes; "Hear No Evil," by James Grippando; "Dune — the Battle of Corrin," by Brian Herbert; "Dark Justice," by Jack Higgins; "Hunting Fear," by Kay Hooper; "McNally's Bluff," by Vincent Lardo.

"By a Spider's Thread," by Laura Lippman; "The Society," by Michael Palmer; "Brimstone," by Douglas Preston; "Visions in Death," by J.D. Robb; "Divine Evil," by Nora Roberts; and "The Confession," by Sheldon Siegel.

In adult non-fiction: "Guinness Book of World Records — 2005 edition;" "Writer's Market — 2005 edition;" "Woman Power," by Laura Schlessinger; "America's Top-rated Smaller Cities, 2004-05 edition."

"IRAs, 401(k)s and Other Retirement Plans," by Twila Slesnick; "Peterson's College Money Handbook — 2005 edition;" "The Complete Guide to Edible Wild Plants, Mushrooms, Fruits and Nuts;" "Woodcarving Made Easy," by Cynthia Rogers.

"2004 National Football League Record and Fact Book;" "Tennis:

Steps to Success," by Jim Brown; "Dress Your Family in Corduroy and Denim," by David Sedaris; and "Beyond Jennifer and Jason, Madison and Montana," by Linda Rosenkrantz.

In children's books: "Biscuit Visits the Pumpkin Patch," by Alyssa Capucilli; "Second Grade Rules, Amber Brown," by Paula Danziger; "And Here's to You!" by David Elliott.

"Dragon Ride," by Cornelia Funke; "Slam Dunk," by Robert Hirschfeld; "Busy, Busy Mouse," by Virginia Kroll; "More Perfect Than the Moon," by Patricia MacLachlan; "The Ghost of Sir Herbert Dungeonstone," by Kate McMullan.

"Junie B., First Grader: Boo — and I Mean It!" by Barbara Park; "On Thin Ice," by Stephanie Peters; "I Spy Shapes in Art," by Lucy Micklethwait; "The Horse Show Handbook for Kids," by Cheryl Kimball.

In audio books: "White Hot," by Sandra Brown (CD); "Destination Unknown," by Agatha Christie (CD); "Lost City," by Clive Cussler (CD); "Body Double," by Tess Gerritsen (CD).

"Hear No Evil," by James Grippando (CD); "Dark Justice," by Jack Higgins (CD); "Hunting Fear," by Kay Hooper (AC); "Day of the Dead," by J.A. Jance (CD); "The Taking," by Dean Koontz (AC); "By Spider's Thread," by Laura Lippman (CD); "Hark!" by Ed

McBain (CD).

"Dangerous Road," by Marcia Muller (CD); "The Society," by Michael Palmer (CD); "Brimstone," by Douglas Preston (CD); "Divine Evil," by Nora Roberts

(CD).

"Hoax," by Robert Tanenbaum (CD); "Teen Idol," by Meg Cabot (CD JF); and "The Best Halloween Ever," by Barbara Robinson (CD JF).



Sherman County Speedway

September 4

Goodland, Kansas

Race starts at 6:30 Mountain Time (MDT)
Pit opens at 3:00 p.m.

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6 & Under Free	Car Racing Association	Stocks
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A Big Thank You to these people for donating the items for the raffle

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