

Hospice urges families to talk about end-of-life care

This month is National Hospice/Palliative Care Month, and care providers across the country are working to educate people about the range of issues regarding end-of-life care.

The Hospice Services staff is available as a resource to the community to help people understand options for care when facing a serious or life-limiting illness.

Hospice Services Inc., the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization and hospices across the nation are encouraging people to plan for the care they would want and to share their wishes with fam-



hospice services inc.

- end-of-life care

ily and healthcare providers.

One way to do this is by completing an advance directive, also known as a living will or durable power of attorney for health care. Just as important, however, is talking about your wishes with family, friends and healthcare profession-

ing illness.

The end of a life is never easy. But we can take steps to make sure our wishes are honored and that our families receive the support they need.

The conversations we have with each other about our end-of-life

decisions — what we want and what we do not want, the care we choose to receive and the caregivers who provide it — bring up important questions that each of us should answer, regardless of age.

Talk now, before a crisis, to ensure that family conflict or uncertainty about end-of-life treatment decisions don't make a difficult situation even more complicated.

The national organization reports that one million persons and their families were served by the nation's 3,300 hospice providers last year. Hospices helped these people live with dignity, comfort and compas-

sion.

Hospice and palliative care programs provide pain management, symptom control, psychosocial support and spiritual care to patients and their families. They also serve as important sources of information about care options.

National Hospice/Palliative Care Month provides a wonderful opportunity to raise awareness of the options of care available. As hospice professionals, our mission is to serve patients and families, and we're committed to making sure they receive the care they want.

Additional information about

hospice, palliative care, and advance care planning is available from Hospice Services, Inc. The national organization also offers information and free state-specific advance directives at www.caring-info.org, or call the HelpLine at 800-658-8898.

Written by Sandy Kuhlman, executive director of Hospice Services Inc., Box 116, Phillipsburg, Kan. 67661. Contact her or Julia Schemper at 800-315-5122. Hospices serves northwest and northcentral Kansas and has been providing end-of-life care for more than 23 years.

Your life's big headlines can be shared with friends, neighbors

Planning to get married? Expecting a little bundle of joy? Celebrating an anniversary or birthday? Spending time in the hospital? Or grieving over the loss of a loved one?

Sending the information to *The Goodland Star-News* allows your neighbors, coworkers, friends and acquaintances to share in your joys and sorrows.

Most of this news needs to be sent by the family. Hospitals no longer send birth or admittance announcements.

While funeral homes do send us obituaries, if a home in another town is handling arrangements, you

may need to ask them to send it here.

We rely on the couple or their family to send us engagement and wedding announcements. We have forms in our office that give guidelines on the information needed.

Since we are a newspaper, we would like the information to be news when we print it. A lot of wedding stories have been brought in six months to a year late. They need to be brought in within two months of the ceremony. For announcements brought in later, there will be a charge of \$10 per month.

Several have said they didn't get their pictures from the photographer until later. Photographers can

e-mail pictures to us at slcorcoran@nwkans.com in jpeg or tiff format. Or they can loan us a proof to scan in; proofs can be returned to the couple or the photographer in a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Anniversaries and birthdays should be sent in two weeks before the celebration, especially if including a picture. The age of the birthday "boy" or "girl" is needed. An address may be included for a card shower for either.

Pictures are encouraged with all announcements. Prints can be brought in to be scanned or photos can be e-mailed in jpeg or tiff format. The more clear, well-lighted

and close-up the photos are, the better they will show up in the paper.

If a picture is too fuzzy to look good, we will have to run the announcement without one. If in doubt, bring several choices.

We can crop out unnecessary people and do some touchups, but

we cannot perform miracles. If the people are available to come to our office, we can take a picture for you.

Contact *The Star-News* at 1205 Main, Goodland, Kan. 67735, by phone at (785) 899-2338 or fax at 899-6186. Society news can be e-

mailed to slcorcoran@nwkans.com. It's best if the text is part of the body of the e-mail, rather than an attachment. The subject line should say obituary, birth announcement or stork report, engagement or wedding, depending on the contents.

matters of record

Goodland Police

The following crimes have been reported to the Goodland Police Department:

Nov. 5 — 12 p.m. Monica Ford, 790 D'Lao Drive, reported theft of

a watch \$50. Adam N. Stuhlmiller was arrested on theft charge. Case referred to city attorney.

Nov. 6 — 1 p.m. Tamara DeLaRosa reported theft of purse, money and cell phone \$142. Prop-

erty recovered. Case remains under investigation.

Nov. 8 — 12:10 a.m. Jason D. Austin, 790 D'Lao Drive, reported theft of a vehicle \$5,000. Case reported to county attorney.

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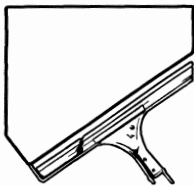
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