

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department Announces Radon Poster Contest Winners

McCook – Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department (SWNPHD) announces their fifth annual local Radon Poster Contest winners.

“Congratulations to the 255 outstanding students that entered our radon poster contest,” shares Denise Ringenberg, Health Educator. “These were some of the best quality in our history. We appreciate the talented students and dedicated teachers from seven different schools that created these excellent posters.”

Judges selected the following posters in this highly competitive contest:

- 1st place – Megan Hodgson – 5th grade – McCook Central Elementary School
- 2nd place – Analise Hernandez – 5th grade – McCook Central Elementary School
- 3rd place – Kora Keslin – 5th grade – McCook Central Elementary School
- 4th place – Emily Kjendal – 5th grade – McCook Central Elementary School
- 5th place – Aryn Seiler – 7th grade – Perkins County Middle School

With so many exceptional posters submitted, we list our following winning posters in the ***honorable mention category***.

- Hannah Whitson – 4th grade – Arapahoe Elementary School
- Lexi Hauxwell – 5th grade – McCook Central Elementary School
- Emma Kehler – 5th grade – McCook Central Elementary School
- Thomas Richards – 5th grade – McCook Central Elementary School
- Isiah Wiemers – 5th grade – McCook Central Elementary School
- Michael Beck – 8th grade – Perkins County Middle School
- Mia Holscher – 8th grade – Perkins County Middle School
- Nathan Kemling – 8th grade – Perkins County Middle School
- Emma Schrotberger – 7th grade – Perkins County Middle School
- Morgan Turner – 7th grade – Perkins County Middle School
- Bryson Warner – 4th grade – Southern Valley Schools

Posters will be displayed in the windows of McCook Abstract at 318 Norris Avenue through the month of November, except the top three posters sent to the state contest. Poster judges were: Camy Bradley, McCook Abstract & Title Company; Becky Dutcher, McCook Housing Agency; Christi Evans, Golden Plains Realty; Melanie Goodenberger, Golden Plains Realty;

Mary Kircher, McCook Economic Development Corporation Housing; JoAnn Neel, 3rd place National Contest Winner; Tamra Neel, Hillcrest Nursing Home Activities Director; and Melanie Jones-Wier, DDS, Bison Dental and SWNPHD board member.

The goal of the poster contest is to raise awareness about the dangers of radon. As the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States, radon is not well known. It is a colorless, odorless and tasteless gas that enters homes and buildings through the soil and cannot be detected unless it is tested. In Nebraska, one out of every two homes tested has a high radon level (above 4.0 pCi/L).

An additional Top 35 posters list and photos of award winners can be found on our website at www.swhealth.ne.gov. To request a listing email educate@swhealth.ne.gov or call Denise Ringenberg at 308-345-4223. SWNPHD is located at 404 West 10th Street, McCook – one block north of Arby's. You can also follow us on Facebook & Twitter.

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