

Hepatitis is generally the result of one of five viruses, health office says

Hepatitis is an inflammation of the liver from any cause. Hepatitis commonly results from a virus, particularly one of five hepatitis viruses—A, B, C, D, or E. Less commonly, hepatitis results from other viral infections, such as infectious mononucleosis, yellow fever, and cytomegalovirus infection. The major nonviral causes of hepatitis are alcohol and drugs. Hepatitis can be acute (lasting less than six months) or chronic; it occurs commonly throughout the world. Hepatitis A virus spreads primarily from the

Healthy Happenings

County Health Department

stool of one person to the mouth of another. Such transmission is usually the result of poor hygiene. Waterborne and food borne epidemics are common, especially in developing countries. Eating contaminated raw shellfish is sometimes responsible.

Isolated cases, usually arising from person-to-person contact, are also common. Most hepatitis A infections cause no symptoms and go unrecognized. Hepatitis B virus is less easily transmitted than hepatitis A virus. One way it can be transmitted is through contaminated blood or blood products. However, because of precautions taken to ensure a safe blood supply, blood transfusions rarely are responsible for the transmission of the hepatitis B Virus in the United States. Transmission commonly occurs

among injecting drug users who share needles, as well as between sexual partners, both heterosexual and male homosexual. A pregnant woman infected with hepatitis B can transmit the virus to her baby during birth. The risk of exposure to the hepatitis B virus is increased for patients undergoing kidney dialysis or in cancer units and for hospital personnel who have contact with blood. Also at risk are people in closed environments (such as prisons and institutions for the mentally ill), where close personal contact exists. Hepatitis B can be transmitted by healthy people who are chronic carriers of the virus.

Whether insect bites can transmit this virus isn't clear. Many cases of hepatitis B have no known source. In areas of the world such as the Far East and parts of Africa, hepatitis B virus is responsible for many cases of chronic hepatitis, cirrhosis, and liver cancer. Hepatitis C virus causes at least 80 percent of the hepatitis cases arising from blood transfusions, plus many scattered cases of acute hepatitis. It is most commonly transmitted by injecting drug users who share needles. Sexual transmission is uncommon. Hepatitis C virus is responsible for many cases of chronic hepatitis and some cases of cirrhosis and liver cancer.

For unknown reasons, people with alcoholic liver disease often have hepatitis C as well; the combination of diseases sometimes produces a greater loss of liver function that would result from either disease alone. A small proportion of healthy people appear to be chronic carriers of hepatitis C. Hepatitis D virus occurs only as a co-infection with hepatitis B virus, and it makes the hepatitis B infection more severe. Drug addicts are at a relatively high risk. Hepatitis E virus causes occasional epidemics similar to those caused by hepatitis A virus. So far, these epidemics have occurred only in underdeveloped countries.

Chorus observing 10th anniversary of charter

By SHEILA KREHBIEL
Chorus Publicist
Hi-Plains Harmony Chorus of Sweet Adelines International is celebrating its 10th anniversary of being chartered. The chapter organized in May 1990 and received its charter in September 1992. Members have enjoyed performing for the young and the young-at-heart.

Northwest Kansas has supported our fund raisers and invited us to perform at various functions. Don Kready is director and Peggy Barton is president. There are 26 members with 3 from Brewster; 3 from Hoxie; 2 from Grinnell; 3 from Goodland; 3 from Selden; 3 from Rexford; and 9 from Colby. Rehearsals are held each Tuesday

at 7:30 p.m. at the Colby United Methodist Church. Guests are always welcome.

Got news? We got room. Call 462-3963

MONTH LONG HOME DECOR SALE!
Featuring a different decor item each week!
~ Week of Sept. 16th-20th ~
20% OFF Home Decor Items
Cash & Carry only!
Someplace special
Floral & Gifts
185 W. 4th
462-7136

GOING OUT OF BUSINESS SALE!
Low, low prices on:
• All Used items -
Stoves, Washers, Dryers, Shelving, lots of Knick-Knacks and some Antiques
JACK'S THRIFTY STORE
314 Center • Oakley
Open every Sat. & Wed.: 7:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. or call for appointment anytime: 785-672-0262

Oakley's Home Owned Carnival
ONE NIGHT ONLY IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE HIGH SCHOOL RODEO
SEPTEMBER 28TH
6:00 - 11:00 P.M.
\$10 Armbands for all you can ride!
Ages 5 and under - \$5

- ATTENTION -
Tired of store-bought meat?
We deliver farm-raised butcher hogs to the Grinnell Locker or Ben-Lee Processing, Atwood. Want to raise your own meat? We sell feeder pigs and bred sows/gilts.
CALL JOE BROECKELMAN • 785-386-4520
~ CLIP AND SAVE THIS AD ~

Claremont Inn
Stratton, CO 80836
1-888-291-8910 www.claremontinn.com
MID-WEEK GETAWAY SPECIAL!
Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays during September & October
Dinner & Room Package
with full Country Inn Breakfast
Enjoy a special fall *From only*
Italian Dinner **\$149** *per couple!!*
in our Wine Cellar Dining Room
Plus...don't forget our -
October Cooking Weekends and November Murder Mystery Weekend
• **CALL TODAY: 1-888-291-8910** •


AirTran Airways flies to the windy city every day.



Low-cost air fares from Wichita to Chicago? Believe it. AirTran Airways flies roundtrip to the windy city twice a day. And three times to Atlanta. From there, it's on to Orlando, New York, Washington D.C., you name it. AirTran Airways connects you to 151 low-cost daily flights to 38 cities. Well, well, well... Wichita's looking better all the time. So why are you making that drive to other airports? Good question.

Fly Wichita Mid-Continent Airport.
It's Worth It.

For air service information, see flywichita.com.
AirTran Airways 800-247-8726 • Frontier Jet Express 800-432-1359


YOU CAN'T READ THE MENU AS IT IS, AND THEY DIM THE LIGHTS.

Wise guys.

Is it a conspiracy? It's like you hit your forties, and the world suddenly turns into a giant eye exam. And if it were, fuzzy restaurant menus would surely be at the heart of it all. Well, perk up, dear boomers; the revolutionary eyeglass lenses from Varilux® let you see near, far and everything in between - even by candlelight. That means no more embarrassing glasses on the tip of your nose, or snickering waiters. If you want to fight for your right to see like Mark Laske, come in and get yours; someday, they'll get theirs.

VARILUX® 
Revolutionary eyeglass lenses

AVAILABLE AT:
DRS. MORRISON & WAHLMEIER
Family Practice Optometrists
180 W. 6th ~ 462-8231
log on at www.visionweb.com

Tubbs & Sons Listings
6X9
83% GDN