

# Family

## Charity check

### Sources available to verify authenticity before giving

*Dear Attorney General Kline: My husband and I are retired and even though we are on a fixed income, we enjoy supporting a variety of charities. But there are so many charities to choose from these days that we're afraid some of them might not be legitimate. What's the best way to determine if we're giving to a bona fide charity?*

Dear Kansas Consumer:

You are correct in that there are many very worthwhile charities in Kansas that perform valuable services for the vulnerable and needy among us.

And as a matter of fact, many needs would not be met if not for the tireless work of charitable organizations and the volunteers who give so much to help their neighbors.

Here are a few suggestions to help ensure that your charitable contributions actually go to reputable groups and causes:

1. Decide in advance the types of charities and causes you are interested in supporting. Take the time to thoroughly investigate charities that promote those causes and serve those needs. A reputable charity welcomes questions from potential donors, so be suspicious if a fundraiser or solicitor refuses to answer your questions.

2. Ask for financial statements. Check the income and expense cat-



**Phill Kline**  
• Consumer Corner

egories and the amount spent for fundraising. Compare the percentages spent carrying out the programs of the organization and the cost of fundraising and the day-to-day operation of the charity.

3. If you purchase merchandise make sure you know what portion of the price paid actually goes to the charity.

4. Beware of solicitations that appear to be bills or invoices. No matter what they say, you are not obligated to respond to these.

5. Carefully note the names of the organizations to which you are asked to contribute. Many bogus charities choose names designed to sound like reputable charities.

6. Beware of something that sounds too good to be true. While many reputable charities use contests and giveaways to encourage contributions, many bogus charities may encourage you to send in a few dollars for the chance to win a large prize.

Again, if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

7. Ask if the organization is registered with the Secretary of State's Office in Kansas.

While there are exemptions, most charitable organizations are required to register.

Visit the Web site at [www.kscharitycheck.org](http://www.kscharitycheck.org) or call 785-296-4564 to see if the charity is properly registered.

# Blood pressure check date changed

Blood pressure check at the Senior Progress Center, 165 Fike Park, has been changed to 10:30 a.m. Tuesday.

Please mark your calendar for this change.

There are plenty of other activities scheduled at the center for the week of May 9-13, including Chewing Gum Day on Monday,

## Senior Progress

pick your choice of flavors. It's also Popcorn Day. Tuesday exercise is at 9:30 a.m. and don't forget the blood pressure check. There will also be a board meeting at 1 p.m. for all

board members. Donuts and coffee with Danielle from the Community Foundation will be at 11:30 a.m. She will be discussing the future needs of the center. Exercise will be at 9:30 a.m. Thursday and it's also Toilet Tissue Day. Help supply the center. Friday exercise is at 9:30 a.m. and it's Lucky Day and Denim Day.

The Thomas County Nutrition Center in Colby wishes to invite those 60 and older and their guests to attend daily luncheons in Colby Monday through Friday.

Reservations may be made by calling (785) 460-2901 the day before.

Home delivery is also available for those unable to attend due to social or physical disabilities. We also invite those working who would like to pick up a meal.

Those meals are available at noon to be picked up.

For individuals 60 and over a contribution of \$2.25 per meal is requested. We also invite those under 60 years of age to attend or pick up a meal at a cost of \$4.50 per meal.

The menu for the next week includes: Monday - hamburger steak, hash brown casserole, peas, bread, peach cup. Tuesday - chicken fajita salad, cantaloupe, chips, cherry cobbler. Wednesday - barbecue meatballs, baked potato, corn bread, fruit mix. Thursday - bierock casserole, cook's choice vegetables, orange juice, cottage cheese, pears. Friday - ham and beans, seasoned carrots, cornbread, strawberries and bananas.

The building is also available for rental for events. For information or lunch reservations, call 460-2901.

## Student News

### Farm Bureau announces scholarship winners

Thomas County Farm Bureau Association recently awarded its annual scholarships to three Thomas County seniors. The students represent three schools in the county. Receiving the awards were

Matt Augustine of Colby High School; Andrie Baird of Brewster High School and Amy Wilson of Pleasant Hill Home School. The scholarships are for \$500 per year up to four years of college.

### Safety poster contest winners announced

Thomas County sponsored the annual safety poster contest for Thomas County students in first through sixth grades. Winners in Division II for grades three and four were Andrew Taylor, first; Lauren Bell, second; Jennifer Mick, third.

Division III, grades fifth and sixth, Andrew Wood, first; Cheyenne Sowers, second; Rachel Myers, third.

Andrew Taylor and Andrew Wood's first place posters were entered in the state competition.

## Babies

### Madelyn Grace Landry

Keith and Jamey Landry of Greencastle, Ind. announce the birth of their daughter, Madelyn Grace Landry.

She was born at the Putnam County Hospital in Greencastle, Ind. on Tuesday, April 12, 2005 at 1:17 p.m.

She weighed 3 pounds, 10 ounces and was 16 inches long.

Maternal grandparents are Sandy and Dave Ellis of Vincennes, Ind. and the late Dave Akin.

Paternal grandparents are Francis and Geri Landry of Colby.

*Bridal Registry*

**Lynn Bandy & Josh Eisenbart**  
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## Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day  
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