

Tobacco Free Kansas Coalition

E-Newsletter

Supporting Tobacco Control for Kansas

August 2006, Volume 1, Issue 7

Welcome to the TFKC E-Newsletter for those interested or involved in tobacco control in Kansas. We would like to hear your comments and ideas for future issues. See the "Sign Up" information on the previous page to receive this e-newsletter every month.

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More Cities Go Smoke-free

Garden City became the first community in southwest Kansas with a smoking ban after city commissioners unanimously approved an ordinance in early August. The ordinance, which will take effect Jan. 8, 2007, was based on one adopted in Lawrence and bans smoking in all restaurants, bars, private clubs/fraternal organizations, educational facilities and public seating areas, such as bleachers. The ordinance will prohibit smoking within 50 feet of an entrance or exit of a facility where smoking already is banned.

Olathe's City Council passed on August 15 by a vote of 6 to 1 an ordinance making workplaces, including bars, restaurants and bowling alleys, smokefree as on November 16, the Great American Smokeout. The only exclusions are approximately six private clubs in the city. An amendment prohibited the hiring of minors in smoking establishments.

Earlier this month, **Lee's Summit, MO**, became the largest Kansas City suburb to pass a tough smoking ban. The new prohibition carries no trigger to delay the regulation until other communities have passed restrictions, such as Prairie Village and Kansas City have done. The Lee's Summit City Council outlawed indoor smoking at public places, except for a handful of establishments. And those exemptions could be wiped away by voters in a November ballot proposal.

In **Manhattan**, the ordinance currently before the City Commission includes three exemptions: private residences, 20 percent of hotel/motel rooms and outdoor areas. But there could be others, such as entire halls or private clubs used for private functions, private enclosed offices occupied exclusively by smokers; performers on stage, if smoking is part of the theatrical production; bowling alleys, and businesses that possess a retail tobacco licence. Another work session on the proposed Manhattan smoking ordinance is scheduled for Tuesday, August 22, at City Hall, beginning at 5 p.m.



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Other Kansas communities with full or partial smoking bans now include Bel Aire, Lawrence, Lyons and Salina. Additionally, 80 of the 125 members of the Kansas Hospital Association have pledged to make their properties tobacco-free zones this year.

State's Tobacco Sales to Minors Lower

The latest Synar report shows Kansas is again back in compliance with the federal requirement to reduce sales of tobacco products to children. The report also notes the cooperative efforts taking place across Kansas to protect youth from tobacco. The report lists some of the activities that were undertaken by local coalitions and county health departments, among others, to reduce tobacco use and help retailers not sell to minors.

A copy of the Kansas report is on the TFKC Web site.

You are Invited

The Kansas Cancer Partnership and Tobacco Free Kansas Coalition will hold a joint meeting on Friday, September 8 in Wichita. The meeting will include a summary of the stakeholder input gathered during the recent Cancer Forums held this summer and recommendations for funding the Cancer Plan.

There also will be an update of the cancer center survey conducted by the Patient Navigator/ Access to Care Workgroup and information about the recently held "Listen and Learn" sessions conducted by the LIFE Project. The meeting also will include an update of recent work conducted by the cancer workgroups and progress to date on other work accomplished.

The meeting is from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, 400 W. Waterman, in Wichita. Registrations are requested by September 1. Please contact Patrice O'Hara, Cancer Section, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, 785-296-1228 if you need information.

British Cartoons Smoking Free

According to the Associated Press, a British TV channel is snuffing out smoking from classic children's cartoons after a viewer complaint about episodes of "Tom and Jerry." Children's channel Boomerang said Tuesday it had cut scenes from two episodes of the violent cat-and-mouse cartoon "where smoking could be deemed to be glamorized."

"We have now pledged to view Boomerang's entire library of favorite cartoons and remove all other references that could be seen as glamorizing smoking in all our shows," said Cecilia Persson, vice president of programming, acquisitions and presentation for Boomerang's parent, Turner Broadcasting UK.

Turner said the decision applied only to Boomerang's output in Britain, which includes "The



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Flintstones,” “The Jetsons” and “Scooby-Doo.” British TV regulator Ofcom said Monday that one viewer had complained about two “Tom and Jerry” cartoons — each more than 50 years old. In “Texas Tom,” Tom tries to impress a female cat by rolling and smoking a cigarette with one hand. In “Tennis Chumps,” Tom’s opponent is seen smoking a cigar.

Ofcom said it welcomed the broadcaster’s decision to remove scenes “where smoking appeared to be condoned, acceptable, glamorized or where it might encourage imitation.” Britain’s broadcasting code says smoking should not be featured in programs aimed at children “unless there is strong editorial justification.”

Submit a Poster Abstract for the TFKC Summit

The Tobacco Free Kansas Coalition Summit seeks poster presentations that will provide tobacco control advocates and other health professionals, students and volunteers with current scientific and practical information on effective tobacco control strategies and developments.

Anyone knowledgeable about any aspect of tobacco control — veterans, newcomers, and everyone in between — is welcome to submit an abstract.

The theme of this event is “Unite, Inform, Empower.” You are encouraged to address this theme in your abstract. Abstracts not addressing this theme will be considered. Abstracts addressing diversity and disparities also are encouraged.

For information on developing an abstract, please visit: http://www.kdheks.gov/tobacco/grantee_resources.html (see ‘Abstract Design’)

Nominate a Tobacco Hero

At the Tobacco Free Kansas Coalition '06 Summit in Wichita this November, the organization will recognize the contributions of individuals and organizations for their part in tobacco control in Kansas. And you can nominate a potential winner.

The Nomination Categories/Award Descriptions are: **Policy Maker Award** will be made to an individual of any age who has made a significant contribution to changing a public policy related to tobacco use, either at the community level or at the state level; **Community Partner Award** has been set up to recognize a local organization, coalition, agency, business, or other group that has led the way in changing a local policy on tobacco use (e.g. smokefree air, tobacco free school grounds, youth access); **Youth Group Award** will be presented to a local club, school or other youth- affiliated organization whose youth members have worked to reduce the number of youth becoming addicted to tobacco use through a successful public relations policy or educational initiative; **Workplace Award** will be designated to a business, public or private, judged to have surpassed the norm in providing a smokefree, healthy workplace environment and/or adopting a broad-based cessation program for its employees; and **Media Award** will

recognize a press writer or advertising agency for electronic or print media that is an accurate and consistent portrayal of tobacco control issues or for its focus on presenting the sequence of an ongoing tobacco control policy issue, such as a smokefree ordinance initiative.

Save the Date

The annual **Kansas Public Health Association Conference** "*Speaking a Common Language*" *The New Voice of Public Health* is **September 26-28** at the Capitol Plaza Hotel, Topeka.

The **Kansas Tobacco Control Summit 2006** - Unite, Inform, Empower - will be held **November 13-14** at the Hyatt Regency in Wichita.

Meeting Photographs

Following are some of the participants and activities at Kansas comprehensive cancer control plan for public health advocates and cancer survivors that was held in Hays on July 27 and the the secondhand smoke policy meeting July 26 at the Manhattan Public Library.

Please share this newsletter with others interested in tobacco control in Kansas. The TFKC electronic newsletter will be distributed monthly to your e-mail. Please report a change of your e-mail address to TFKC .

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