



*Empowering Kansas communities in the fight against methamphetamine*

# Record

Number 11

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## Sedan High School Students Sew to Show Drug Endangered Children They Care

The students of Sedan High School have created a happier world where friendly dolphins leap from deep blue seas, butterflies glide on violet wings and someone is always there to keep children safe and warm.

In the form of more than 180 handmade quilts, these Sedan teenagers are sending a message to the drug endangered children of Kansas. "There is someone out there who cares about them," said Bailey LeGrand, a Sedan High School student who organized the quilt project with a grant from the Kansas Methamphetamine Prevention Project (KMPP) and the help of her classmates and school advisor, Linda Fadely.

Eighteen students and two staff sponsors were recognized for the "Life's Little Treasures" project at a press event at the U.S. Attorney's Office in Wichita on Tuesday, February 6. Representatives from six Drug Endangered Children programs



Students from Sedan High School display quilts they made as part of a community service project to benefit drug endangered children in Kansas. The students were recognized for their efforts in a ceremony at the U.S. Attorney's Office in Wichita on February 6, 2007.

across the state were at the event to collect quilts to distribute in their communities.

"Law enforcement officers see children every day neglected by parents who have lost themselves to drug addiction," said U.S. Attorney Eric Melgren during the event. "Bailey and her friends

have come up with a wonderful way to reach out to these children."

LeGrand and Sedan High School classmate Joni Wolfe organized the 35 classmates and community volunteers who participated in the project. The

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*Regional Prevention Centers provide drug and alcohol prevention education and technical assistance to communities across the state of Kansas.*

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Wyandotte County	Kansas City	913-288-7685
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This newsletter is available to download in Adobe Acrobat (PDF) format from the Kansas Methamphetamine Prevention Project website,  
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# Teens Sew Quilts For Drug Endangered Children

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students dedicated hours, sometimes even after school, to cutting and sewing quilt tops and completing the quilts with backing, batting and ties. Sedan High School received a minigrant in the amount of \$1100 from KMPP to purchase the supplies needed to make the quilts. Through community donations the students collected more than 1,000 stuffed animals to distribute along with the quilts.

The quilts and stuffed animals will be distributed to law enforcement and social service agencies around the state who participate in Drug Endangered Children efforts. The items will be given to children whose lives are disrupted by the effects of methamphetamine and other drugs. Due to contamination from hazardous

chemicals and toxic vapors, children removed from homes where meth is used or manufactured are not allowed to bring along personal items such as clothing and toys.

“The students and staff from Sedan High School should be commended for their excellent work on this project. Their demonstration of compassion is truly inspiring to those of us working to address the problem of drug endangered children in our state,” Cristi Cain, state coordinator of KMPP and co-chair of the Kansas Alliance for Drug Endangered Children, said during her comments at the press event.

Please contact Loretta Wyrick Severin at [lwyrick@parstopeka.com](mailto:lwyrick@parstopeka.com) if you are interested in acquiring quilts or stuffed animals for your local DEC team.

*Little bits of fabric  
Sewn into a quilt  
Form a warm and loving blanket  
From which memories are built  
And when you seek peace and comfort  
In the quiet of the night  
It will keep you warm and snug  
Until the morning's light  
--Anonymous*



Front row (seated), from left, Loretta Wyrick Severin, Kansas Meth Prevention Project Assistant Coordinator; Eric Melgren, U.S. Attorney, Department of Justice; Cristi Cain, Kansas Meth Prevention Project, State Coordinator; Nikita Bradshaw, student; Linda Fadely, Sedan High School FACS and FCCLA advisor; back row (standing), Joni Wolfe; Lauren Bell; Bailey LeGrand; Nathan Persinger; Katie Brim; Haley Ford; Cassie Curran; Kellie Alison; Kirstin Roberts; Martha Stettler; Chad Buttram; Austin Ford; Shane Chrisman, former Sedan High School student; Jayson Stettler; Jef Beckley; Justin McCoy; Brandon McCann; and Taylor Green.

## Kansas Sees Dramatic Reduction in Meth Labs

Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI) Director Larry Welch has announced that Kansas law enforcement seized 168 meth labs across the state in 2006, the first full year of effect of the Sheriff Matt Samuels Chemical Control Act passed by the Kansas Legislature in 2005.

The 168 seizures represent a dramatic reduction of 80% from the peak year of meth lab seizures in Kansas in 2001 (846) and a 73% reduction in meth lab seizures in the state from 2004 (630), the last year before passage of the Matt Samuels Act.

Director Welch attributed the dramatic decrease in meth lab seizures in very large part to the Sheriff Matt Samuels Chemical Control Act of 2005 and thanked the Kansas Legislature for the law. He also commended the cooperation of Kansas pharmacists and the patience and understanding of Kansas consumers which contributed to the success of the legislative measure.

Sheriff Matt Samuels was shot and killed on January 19, 2005, as he entered a rural Greenwood

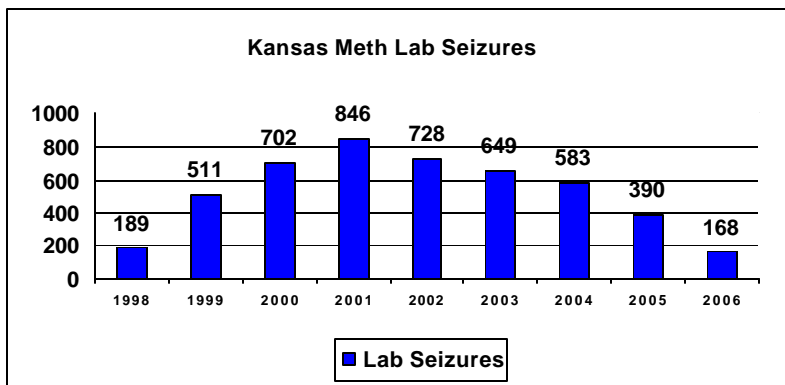
County home which, unbeknownst to the sheriff, housed an operational meth lab. The legislation carrying the Sheriff's name received broad bipartisan support in the Kansas Legislature and was followed, in 2006, with similar federal legislation by the U.S. Congress.

The law restricts public access to ephedrine and pseudoephedrine (precursors in the manufacture of methamphetamine) which are found in over-the-counter cold and allergy tablet-form medicines. Registration and identification at the time of purchase are required. Those cold and allergy remedies are now placed

behind pharmacy counters rather than on more public shelves and counters.

Director Welch noted that 168 meth labs are still too many and that meth labs continue to present dangers for Kansas citizens and Kansas law enforcement.

Nonetheless, he believes the reduction in seizures will permit Kansas law enforcement, in general, and the KBI, in particular, to redirect much of their precious resources toward investigation of the importation and trafficking of methamphetamine and away from locally manufactured methamphetamine.



## DEA Creates First National Meth Lab Registry

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has announced that, as a free public service, DEA's webpage (<http://www.dea.gov/seizures/index.html>) will post locations in each state where known methamphetamine clandestine labs or dumpsites were located so that individuals can be aware of possible meth contaminated sites within their communities.

This is the first such national listing of seized former meth sites available to the public.

"In a cruel twist of fate, people

who have never used or manufactured meth have become some of its hardest hit victims after unknowingly buying property contaminated by chemicals and waste generated from a meth lab," said DEA Administrator Karen P. Tandy. "This registry gives home owners a new tool to help them ensure that their dream house is not a hidden nightmare."

The website contains addresses reported by a variety of law enforcement agencies where chemicals or other items related

to meth production were found or dumped. Users of this posting should be aware of its limitations – data is reported voluntarily from a wide variety of sources, and may not be comprehensive.

Concerned parties should check any entry of interest by contacting local law enforcement and local health departments. Further, these entries should not be used as a substitute for advice from a licensed professional familiar with the specific facts and circumstances

## Lawmakers Consider Paraphernalia and Meth Laws

Senate Majority Leader Derek Schmidt (R-Independence) and Senate Ways and Means Chairman Dwayne Umbarger (R-Thayer) proposed SB 14, a bill that would create a registry of meth offenders in the state.

The bill was crafted with help from law enforcement officials, including the KBI. Under the bill, those convicted of making or selling methamphetamine or possessing meth-making chemicals with the intent of making the drug would be listed on the KBI offender registry.

Offenders would be required to register with the sheriff's office where they live and pay a \$20 fee. Offenders would remain registered for 10 years on a first conviction. A second conviction would result in a lifetime registration.

Currently, the registry has about 4,300 names, 95 percent of whom are sex offenders. The rest are listed for other serious crimes, such as murder.

Montana, Tennessee, Minnesota and Illinois currently have meth offender registries and another half-dozen states are considering the idea, Schmidt said.

"It is shining a spotlight on the fellow down the street who has a meth conviction," Schmidt said. "There is a community exclusion factor that comes into play. People would be particularly observant about unusual activities."

Kyle Smith, Deputy Director of the KBI, said the KBI will need additional money from the Legislature to adequately maintain the expanded registry, although he had no estimate on how much.

The Drug Paraphernalia Task Force, of which the Kansas Methamphetamine Prevention Project is a member, and Wichita Branch NAACP collaborated to introduce changes to strengthen the existing statutes concerning the sale of drug paraphernalia in Kansas.

The recommendations aim to strengthen current law by defining drug paraphernalia more specifically and stiffening penalties for violators.

Under current law, something cannot be classified as paraphernalia unless it contains drug residue. The law allows merchants to defend what they're selling by saying the items are novelties or are used for tobacco products.

Kyle Smith, Deputy Director of the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, said the new proposal would eliminate those grounds.

"Whether we caught it before or after you light up, it's paraphernalia," Smith said.

HB 2359 would also make the definition of drug paraphernalia more detailed to include, among other examples, "bongs or smoking pipes designed to draw smoke through water or another cooling device" and "any smoking pipe manufactured to disguise its intended purpose".

The definition would control items such as the 4-inch glass tubes holding fake flowers, which some merchants call vases, that can be used as crack or meth pipes. HB 2359 would also make it a felony to sell drug paraphernalia within 1,000 feet of a school.

HB 2359 passed out of the House in February 2007 and has been referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

## 25 Counties Receive Minigrants

Twenty-five Kansas counties received minigrant funding from the Kansas Methamphetamine Prevention Project (KMPP) for meth prevention efforts during 2007.

Four counties—Anderson, Brown, Lincoln and Woodson—received minigrant funding for the first time. More than \$18,000 in funding was awarded.

Funding for the mini-grants was made available through Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) as a result of a federal appropriation. KMPP received thanks to the efforts of the

Kansas congressional delegation, including Senator Brownback and Congressman Moran.

Since 2003 KMPP has distributed over \$172,000 to Kansas communities for meth prevention efforts. Seventy-six counties have received funding during that time, representing 72% of Kansas counties.

Minigrant funds have been utilized by communities for a myriad of prevention efforts including Drug Endangered Children programs, Meth Watch implementation and anhydrous ammonia theft prevention.

### Save the Date!

2007 National Alliance for  
Drug Endangered  
Children Conference



**October 10-12, 2007**

Hyatt Regency  
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