TAKE A WAYS FROM THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN WICHITA:

KSNAHRO members are the greatest!

- You are generous with you time. 121 of you showed up in Wichita, KS to participate, teach, share, present, facilitate and have a good time.

- You are generous with your funds. Scholarship events at the conference raised $424.00 and an impromptu challenge to help a child of a HA tenant, who recently lost her mother raised $500.00 in 15 minutes.

- You, when asked, you rise to the challenge. We recently filled three of four vacancies in the leadership without any arm twisting. (that I witnessed anyway)

- You truly care about the people you serve. I witnessed this every time I hear the questions you ask of HUD representatives and your interactions while networking with other members.

KSNAHRO needs to grow the membership.

- As of the Annual Conference date there were 62 member agencies, 11 affiliate memberships and unfortunately 42 agencies that had not renewed their membership

- We know we are a big state with many small agencies. We have certified members who are willing and ready to go on the road to visit you and your neighbor agencies to provide targeted trainings that you request. (Details to follow)

- District Trainings are a possibility. Ask and we will see what can be made available.

I hope to have seen many of you in Kansas City at the SWNAHRO conference by the time you read this.

Thank you,
Tony
Member Services would like to thank everyone for their donations to our "What Home Means To Me" poster contest winner. We presented her with 2 gift certificates from Kansas NAHRO and Kansas NAHRO members in the amount of $250.00 each, for Walmart and Legends Outlet Shopping. We also gave her a gift bag with a few toys she had been wanting. Your generosity was greatly appreciated by the family. Her Aunt will be taking her to use her gift cards on clothing, shoes, school clothes and school supplies.

Thank you again for your donations!

Young girl’s interpretive artwork captures state prize

By MARY MIYERS
Atchison Globe

Life experiences have already taught 5-year-old Isabella “Bella” Wagner that her heart is always at home under the brightest star in the sky.

Bella’s mother, Shaunte Marie Wagner-Patrick, died from pancreatic cancer April 14, in Nortonville. Within three weeks following her mother’s death, Bella, a kindergartner, and her father, Chris Patrick, relocated to Atchison. Patrick is disabled.

Bella’s great aunt, Sandy Johnson, has worked closely with Bella and Patrick throughout Shaunte Wagner-Patrick’s illness; she was initially diagnosed with the cancer in January. She was 56 years old.

Johnson said she was heartbroken about the family’s ordeal, and there was not much time to prepare Bella for her mother’s death before she passed.

“She just lost her mommy,” Johnson said. “I told her, ‘Your mommy is an angel now.’ I told her to look to the sky every night. Look to the biggest and brightest star and that will be your mommy.

Soon after Bella and Patrick relocated to Atchison Housing Authority property, she entered the “What Home Means To Me” poster contest in May. The National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials, an organization comprised of community and redevelopment agencies and public housing authorities throughout the state, sponsored the contest.

Johnson said before Bella submitted her entry, she told her it was something she had to do herself. Bella’s eagerness to make a poster came as no surprise to Johnson, because Bella and her mother spent a lot of time together engaged in artistic and craft-related activities. Since Bella was about 3 years old, she and her mother would draw, color and read together.

Five-year-old Bella Wagner’s state prize-winning poster, “What Home Means To Me.”

Johnson said Bella continues to draw, color and read in her free time.

“She is always drawing,” Johnson said.

Bella’s poster depicts a large star in the sky identified as “Mommy.” A man, identified as “dad,” stands near a tree with a swing attached. Sitting on the swing is a child identified as “me.” An owl is perched atop a tree.

Art

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

branch, and a cat is in the grass near a house. Hearts arching beneath a rainbow enhance the background. A bicycle and flowers are atop the lawn. Johnson said Bella and her mother shared their love of kitty cats, and Bella also loves owls.

Earlier this month Bella was presented a certificate of award for winning the first place at the Kansas Chapter NAHRO, and her entry advanced to the Southwest Regional NAHRO. On June 13, Bella was presented with a $25 Atchison Area Chamber of Commerce gift certificate from Atchison Housing Authority and a toy. Bella was also presented with $500 worth of gift cards from the Kansas Chapter NAHRO to purchase needed items and school clothes when she starts first grade.

Johnson said she believes that her explanation about her mother’s passing might have inspired Bella to depict her mother as a star in the celestial skyscape of her winning entry.

Mary Meyers can be reached at mary.meyers@cox.net.
Does anyone else lay awake at night worrying about LBP? Someone smart needs to make up a name for people in our profession to use for “The Fear of Lead Based Paint Regulations”. How about, “imascaredalead”? Or, “leadapaininaneck”? Eehhh, it really needs a more scientific term with about 25 characters.

In May of 2014, I attended my first Kansas NAHRO Conference as a fluke. Most of you know Annette “The Warden” Wells. She is a Housing Inspector for Johnson County and has been active in NAHRO for some time. Annette talked our Director into sending me to Wichita for two days of the State conference. We were really busy at the time and I didn’t really want to go, but….

You know how the light bulb just pops on sometimes? I had my LBP light bulb moment in the second session of the first day. Larry Hopkins from Baker Environmental was hosting a lead class and roundtable discussion for CR&D. There were about 15 people present. Somehow, I seized the opportunity and started bombarding Larry with LBP questions. The class just kind of quieted and let me keep going. Once, I stopped to ask everyone if they wanted me to be quiet….no one objected. Larry patiently entertained two hours of questioning.

He made the point several times to read the “interpretive guidance” written by HUD about lead based paint. That was the best information that I took away. If your projects involve pre-1978 housing, the guidance is a must read. The publication simplifies LBP into a simple question and answer session that is easy to understand and in plain English. Go to http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=DOC_25476.pdf

Another issue that stayed with me was the exclusion for houses that have been cleared of LBP with a full paint inspection. We have found that many houses built in 1972 and up are showing lead free. So, we started ordering a full paint inspection to test these houses in hopes of permanently exempting them. We have been pretty successful thus far. Our lead inspection company provides us with a report that we copy to the homeowner. Once clear, we never have to do the mandated testing again. Over the past two years, this concept has saved us roughly $3,000 at a cost of only around $900. It works!

LBP isn’t scary! It is just misunderstood and avoided. I would like to personally thank Larry Hopkins and Michelle Nelson from Hernly Environmental for helping tutor me through some of the early days in my grant-generated career. Now years into it, I am able to confidently answer questions and am evolving into a savvy Rehabilitation Specialist. And guess what? I sleep without the fear of lead based paint. Maybe it doesn’t need a special name.

THANK YOU CORPORATE SPONSOR:
Housing Authority Insurance Group supports Kansas NAHRO
2016 Award Winners

2016 Nadine Burch Award Recipient
Annette Wells
Johnson County Housing Authority
Pictured above previous Nadine Burch recipients from left to right: Kathy Rankin, Sherry Swendson, Brad Snapp, Annette Wells, President Tony Hoch, JoAnn Sutton & Roxanne Masson.

Other Agency Publications:
Kinsley Housing Authority

Best Annual Report:
ECKAN

Best Newsletter:
Johnson County Housing Services

Meritorious Achievement:
Chanel Rivera (Johnson County)

Meritorious Achievement:
Sandi Scott and Joyce DePriest
Reading Garden (Olathe)

Unable to Attend:
Media Recognition
Ken Stein
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Corey Stoltz
Olathe Housing Authority
Thank You

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Thank you to everyone who volunteered your time during the 76th Southwest NAHRO Annual Conference in Kansas City, MO. Kansas NAHRO was well represented!

EDITOR’S NOTE

We hope you have enjoyed reading this issue of Kansas NAHRO NOW! The newsletter will be published at the end of every quarter. If you would like to submit an article that you want published in the news please send it to us at ksnahro@brazosnet.com.

2016 Kansas NAHRO Annual Conference Handouts:

- Financial Presentation
- UPCS Guidance and Protocols Clarifications
- FAQ Concealed Carry or Open Carry
- Financial Handouts
- UPCS Clarifications

Click here to view latest job postings in Kansas.

If you are a member of Kansas NAHRO in good standing and have a position open, e-mail your ad to ksnahro@brazosnet.com for posting on this site. All submissions subject to review and approval.