

NEWS RELEASE

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Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department Announces Radon Poster Contest Winners

McCook – Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department (SWNPHD) announces their ninth annual local Radon Poster Contest winners. This year's contest included three age groups and was open to kids between the ages of 9 to 14 years old.

"The radon poster contest encourages students to learn more about radon and its health effects, "explains Myra Stoney, Director. "It is fun to see the new poster designs each year produced by the students."

Judges selected the following posters:

Ages 9 to 10 All from Hitchcock County Schools

1st – Liberty Pianalto 2nd – Aspen Hazlitt 3rd (tie) – Kaiah Johnson & Abbie Whipple

Ages 11 to 12

- 1st Daelyn Mues Hitchcock County Schools
- 2nd Alyssa Briggs Perkins County Schools
- 3rd Dayami Ruiz Perkins County Schools

Ages 13 to 14 All from Perkins County Schools

- 1st Sarah Cockerill
- 2nd Mackayla Wallin
- 3rd Sophia Perez

Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States. It is a colorless, odorless and tasteless gas that enters homes and buildings and cannot be detected unless it is tested.

In Nebraska, one out of every two homes tested has a high radon level (above 4.0 pCi/L). Increasing the number of homes with an operating radon mitigation system for persons living in homes at risk for radon exposure is another way to reduce cancer risk.

Photos of top posters can be found on the website at <u>www.swhealth.ne.gov</u>; also on the Facebook and Twitter pages. SWNPHD is located at 404 West 10th Street, McCook – one block north of Arby's and 501 Broadway, Imperial.





