

NEWS RELEASE

January 6, 2012

For immediate release

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Radon Scholarship Winner Completes Training

McCook – Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department (SWNPHD) awarded a \$500 radon mitigation scholarship to contractor Jan Laux of Stockville. Jan successfully completed the radon mitigation specialist training by the Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services.

“We were very pleased to have Jan trained and licensed in radon measurement and radon mitigation,” stated Myra Stoney, SWNPHD Director. His specialized license will increase the opportunity for citizens of southwest Nebraska to have their homes built radon ready, have radon measurements taken and mitigation of radon by a professional. Jan will be an excellent resource for area contractors wanting to build homes with radon mitigation systems in place, taking measurements of radon in buildings and the installation of mitigation systems.

A list of Nebraska radon specialists can be found at Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services website at the following link

http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/Pages/radon_mitigation.aspx

SWNPHD is working with the U.S. Environmental Agency (EPA) on a nationwide campaign to educate Americans about the dangers of radon exposure. SWNPHD urges area residents to take action by testing their homes for radon during Radon Action Month in January.

Due to the efforts of SWNPHD, the public’s awareness of radon and its risks is on the rise. Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States and the leading cause of lung cancer in nonsmokers. High levels (more than 4 pCi/L) are easily corrected in the home for about the same money as most home improvement projects. Reducing the amount of radon in a home immediately reduces the chances of lung cancer.

For more information on radon, testing, mitigation and radon-resistant new construction, contact Myra Stoney or Denise Ringenberg at envhealth@swhealthdept.com, review our web site at <http://www.swhealthdept.com/environmental.htm> or call the McCook office at 308-345-4223. SWNPHD is also on Facebook at www.facebook.com/swnphd. The health department serves Chase, Dundy, Hayes, Hitchcock, Frontier, Furnas, Perkins and Red Willow counties.

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