

October 6, 1992

TO: Senator Dole
FROM: Vicki *Vicki*
RE: Kansas Learning Center

On Saturday, October 17 at 2:00, the Kansas Learning Center in Halstead will be dedicating their new facility. You are scheduled to make some brief remarks at the ceremony. Congressman Dick Nichols is also scheduled to briefly speak. Representative Ellen Samuelson will also be in attendance.

On June 1, the Kansas Learning Center for Health celebrated its twenty-seventh anniversary by moving into its new 7,000 square foot facility. The Kansas Learning Center is a project of the Hertzler Research Foundation. The foundation was established in 1948 as a memorial to the late Dr. Arthur E. Hertzler. Its mission is to perpetuate Dr. Hertzler's strong interest in medical research and preventive medicine, by teaching children and adolescents the importance of making healthy choices for themselves.

Health education is taught through exhibits. From the exhibits the visitors learn about the structure of the tooth, how a baby is born, or how the body systems interact. They are most proud of the exhibit called, "Valeda", the talking, transparent woman. The exhibit is a plexiglass woman with a tape recording, describing how various body systems work.

Since its opening in 1965, the Kansas Learning Center has hosted over 318,000 visitors from all fifty states. You attended their opening in 1965. It is the first rural museum in the world.

Funding is provided through an endowment established in 1984 and through private donations. They raised in excess of \$500,000, mostly from Harvey County, to build their new facility. The new building is an entire city block -- the same block where the grade school and high school used to be. Over 7,000 students visit the Kansas Learning Center each year.

SENATOR DOLE SPEECH TO
HERTZLER RESEARCH
FOUNDATION'S NEW
KANSAS LEARNING CENTER
OCTOBER 17, 1992

- ◆ THANK YOU. IT IS A REAL PRIVILEGE TO BE HERE TODAY FOR THE DEDICATION CEREMONY OF THE KANSAS LEARNING CENTER'S NEW FACILITY.
- ◆ I HAD THE PLEASURE OF BEING HERE IN 1965 WHEN THE KANSAS LEARNING CENTER OPENED ITS DOORS AS THE FIRST RURAL MUSEUM. NOW, ALMOST THREE DECADES LATER, THEY HAVE HOSTED OVER THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND VISITORS FROM ALL FIFTY STATES AND NUMEROUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.
- ◆ I THINK WHAT THE SUCCESS OF THE KANSAS LEARNING CENTER HAS TAUGHT US IS THAT OUR MOTHERS WERE RIGHT -- AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION IS WORTH A POUND OF CURE. THE FOLKS AT THE KANSAS LEARNING CENTER TOOK HEED TO THIS BIT OF FOLK WISDOM. AND IN THE ENSUING DECADES, WE HAVE SEEN MEDICAL SCIENCE FINALLY CATCHING UP TO THIS INVALUABLE ADVICE.
- ◆ WHAT WE ARE LEARNING FROM FOLKS LIKE THOSE HERE AT THE KANSAS LEARNING CENTER IS THAT A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE, LIKE EATING RIGHT AND NOT SMOKING, IS IMPORTANT TO GOOD HEALTH.
- ◆ I HAPPEN TO KNOW A LITTLE BIT ABOUT THE RED CROSS. AND I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK THAT THE RED CROSS AND THE KANSAS LEARNING CENTER HAVE A GREAT DEAL IN COMMON.

- ◆ AS YOU MAY KNOW, THE RED CROSS IS THE NATION'S LEADING TEACHER OF CPR AND LIFESAVING SKILLS. AND BY TEACHING CHILDREN TO MAKE HEALTHY CHOICES, YOU, TOO, ARE SAVING LIVES.

- ◆ BEFORE I CONCLUDE, I DO WANT TO TAKE JUST A MINUTE TO DO A LITTLE PERSONAL BUSINESS, AND TO PAY TRIBUTE TO YOUR CONGRESSMAN, DICK NICHOLS.

- ◆ DICK MADE A DIFFERENCE IN HIS TWO YEARS IN CONGRESS. AS HE HAS MADE A DIFFERENCE THROUGHOUT HIS LIFE IN KANSAS. YOU CAN BE PROUD OF THE FACT THAT HE WAS YOUR CONGRESSMAN, AND I KNOW HE AND CONNIE WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION HERE IN KANSAS.

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