



ORAL HEALTH KANSAS

ADVOCACY • PUBLIC AWARENESS • EDUCATION

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Congratulations to two members of the Dental Champions Program!

Dr. James B. "Jim" Trotter (Class 8) was presented with the 2018 Harry M. Klenda Award for outstanding council and committee service at the Kansas Dental Association (KDA) Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 7, 2018.

Celebrating 15 Years

In 2003, Oral Health Kansas Inc., was incorporated and began operating as the state's oral health coalition. We are thrilled to celebrate our 15th anniversary this year!



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We are working on a history video that we'll be excited to share with you and a celebration event.

Keep watching for more details!

Your Legislative News This Week

State News

The 2018 Kansas Legislature adjourned



Dr. John T. Fales, Jr. (Class 4) was honored with the 2018 Dentist of the Year Award at the KDA Annual Meeting.

Correction: Successful Dental Screening Clinic

Last week we provided information on the April 3, USD 501 Parents as Teachers dental health fair. This fair had several organizations helping out and we wanted to make sure everyone is acknowledged. The dental health fair was in conjunction with the Brush Book Bed project. The event was sponsored by Oral Health Kansas, United Way of Greater Topeka, snacks were provided by Marian Dental Clinic and dental screenings were done by Grace Med.

This took a lot of coordination and the help from everyone is appreciated!

its regular session shortly after midnight on Sunday, April 8th. Prior to adjournment, the House and Senate passed a five-year, \$525 million plan to boost state aid to K-12 schools.

On Monday, the Kansas Department of Education unveiled an \$80 million error in the school finance plan, and Representative Patton, R - Topeka, is hopeful the Legislature can pass a "technical" correction when they return on April 26th.

There are no updates at this time on SB 312 which would establish dental therapists in Kansas. Veto session begins on April 26th.

Local News

Last night, the Topeka City Council voted to move forward with an appeal to Judge Franklin Theis' March ruling to place a permanent injunction against Tobacco21. Tobacco 21 would raise the minimum age of tobacco purchase and sale from 18 to 21 throughout Topeka city limits. Topeka's news station [WIBW covered the story.](#)



Oral Cancer Awareness Month

According to the [Oral Cancer Foundation](#), oral cancer is the largest group of those cancers which fall into the head and neck cancer category. Common names for it



Sugary Drink Display

One more month of school! But that doesn't mean the education stops. If you would like to reserve a drink display for a summer camp, event or office, let us know! [Sign up!](#)

What is a Sugary Drink Display? It's our drink display that has 10 popular beverages and shows how much sugar is in each. We also include some of our [Tips and Tricks](#) fact sheets and brush your teeth mirror clings! The **display is free** to use for up to a month, and we reimburse postage! We have people reserve the drink display for health fairs and even parent teacher conferences.



Harmony Early
Childhood Center

Send your reservation request ahead of time to ensure you will have one on hold! [Fill out this form](#) and we'll get back with you!

include such things as mouth cancer, tongue cancer, tonsil cancer, and throat cancer. Approximately 51,550 people in the US will be newly diagnosed with oral cancer in 2018.

How can you prevent oral cancer? What we always tell people to do! Brush, floss and don't smoke or chew tobacco. But there are more steps you can follow. Check your mouth. How do you that? Use a mirror and light to look in your mouth. Look for anything that looks unusual. Check your throat. Look for lumps and swelling. If you have swelling longer than a couple of weeks then have a doctor check it out.

Visit checkyourmouth.org for more tips!



Child Abuse Prevention Month

This month, we bring awareness to Child Abuse Prevention Month and steps dentists can take if they suspect child abuse. The [American Dental Association's Principles of Ethics and Code of Professional Conduct includes a statement](#) about a dentist's ethical duty to become familiar with the perioral signs of child abuse and to report all suspected



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cases to the proper authority.

While checking children's mouths, dentists can examine for oral traumas or sexually transmitted diseases. Anything they might find unusual in a child's mouth. It's best to train staff on steps of what to do if they come across this issue and how to report it.

Dental professionals can learn more about their role and responsibilities on this matter through an on-demand, no cost online course from the [Mid-Atlantic Prevent Abuse and Neglect through Dental Awareness Coalition](#).



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