THOUGHTS FROM THE EDITOR for WEEK 1
Dee Jepsen, State Safety Leader

Each June, the National Safety Council encourages citizens to get involved and participate in National Safety Month. Each week of June carries a theme that brings attention to critical safety issues.

To recognize the importance safety has in our lives, there will be five special editions of Ag STAT delivered weekly. The first week is Prescription Drug Overdose Prevention.

For more information about this topic, including posters, crossword puzzles, and tip sheets - go to: http://www.nsc.org/nsc_events/Nat_Safe_Month/Pages/home.aspx

YOUR NAME. YOUR SCRIPT. YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.

Aletha I. Reshan, Emergency Management Planning and Education Program Coordinator

Fact: Unintentional drug overdose is the second leading cause of injury death in the home (National Safety Council).

Prescription drug overdose prevention is National Safety Council’s theme for the first week of National Safety Month, June 1 – June 5. This is an important topic because prescription drugs are present in many homes and therefore can affect individuals of all ages, socioeconomic status, geographic location, and ethnic backgrounds. The age group most likely to die from unintentional drug overdose is 25 – 44 year olds. The three best overdose prevention strategies are:

1. Store medication out of reach of children,
2. Use medications only for their intended use,
3. Consult a doctor or pharmacist before combining medications to ensure there are no harmful interactions

For more information on this topic, please visit the National Safety Council’s website, or call 1-800-621-7615.