



Shriners Hospitals for Children

Prevent Gasoline-Related Burns During Burn Awareness Week, February 1-7, 2004

(NAPSA)—During Burn Awareness Week 2004, February 1-7, the Shriners—members of the fraternal organization that operates 22 Shriners Hospitals for Children throughout North America—want people to take the necessary steps to prevent flammable liquid and gasoline-related burns.

“The greatest tragedy is that most burn injuries are preventable,” says M. Burton Oien, President and CEO of the Shriners of North America. “Every year Shriners get involved in Burn Awareness Week to help people prevent dangerous burns. This year we hope to decrease the number of flammable liquid and gasoline-related burns.”

Nine-year-old Jordan Hill knows firsthand how dangerous gasoline burns can be. He was playing with friends near the tool shed in his Ohio backyard. A lighter, a piece of paper and fumes from a gasoline can started the inferno. Jordan received burns on over 57 percent of his body and spent more than two months at the Cincinnati Shriners burn hospital.

These days he lives a normal life. For that, Jordan’s father, Bob Hill, is thankful to the Shriners. “They made us feel like family,” says Hill. “Thanks to the care at the Shriners Hospital, Jordan’s burns have not slowed him down.”

Shriners Hospitals offer the following tips to prevent gasoline-related burns:

- Keep flammable products,



With a little help from his father, Bob Hill, Shriners’ burn patient Jordan Hill arrives home from the hospital with a smile.

matches and lighters locked up and out of the reach of children.

- Teach children about the dangers of flammable products and vapors.

- Store and use flammable liquids only in approved containers and in well-ventilated areas, away from all sources of ignition, including: hot engines, cigarette lighters or matches, pilot lights on gas appliances, electrical heaters, electrical switches and static electricity.

- Supervise older children/teenagers when filling engines such as lawnmowers with gasoline. Allow an engine to cool before adding more gasoline.

- Always fuel power mowers and other equipment outside where there is adequate ventilation.

- In case of accidental spills,

wash yourself and remove clothing immediately.

- Do not store gasoline in your basement or other living areas in the home; store only a minimal amount or none at all when gasoline is not needed for several weeks.

- Follow the manufacturer’s instructions to elevate the water heater at least 18 inches above the floor level.

Known as the experts in pediatric burn care, Shriners Hospitals operate four burn hospitals in Galveston, Cincinnati, Boston and Sacramento. Through intensive research and state-of-the-art clinical care, a burned child’s chance of survival has more than doubled since the Shriners first opened the burn hospitals in the mid-1960s. Much of today’s research now focuses on improving the quality of life for burn survivors.

The 22 Shriners Hospitals provide care totally without charge to children up to their 18th birthday. The Shriners of North America, an international fraternity with approximately 485,000 members in the U.S., Canada, Mexico and the Republic of Panama, founded the hospital system.

The Shriners offer a booklet on burn prevention free of charge. For your copy of “Burn Prevention Tips,” write to the Public Relations Department, Shriners International Headquarters, P.O. Box 31356, Tampa, FL 33631-3356, or visit the Shriners and Shriners Hospitals’ Web site at www.shrinershq.org.



Note to Editors: This article is appropriate for publication during Burn Awareness Week, February 1-7, 2004.