# Free government grant scam could cost victims big bucks

Dear Attorney General Phill Kline:

I would like to start my own business and have been exploring different options for funding. Recently, I received a phone call notifying me that I was eligible for a free government grant. The caller claimed to be an agent of the federal government hired to help persons like me get grants. Should I be concerned about sending the processing fees that they require or is it OK since they represent the government?

Dear Kansas Consumer:

Con artists and shady businessmen claiming to aid the federal government in grant distribution are making their way across the nation and are, once again, targeting Kansas consumers. The "grant money" scam seeks to sell you material that you can get for free.

Scam artists play upon the vulnerabilities of those they target. In



the "grant money" scam the unscrupulous individual announces, usually with great enthusiasm, that the potential victim has been deemed eligible to receive a "free government grant." Screening is important to make this scam work. The con artist often seeks out individuals who need money for a project like a small business start-up that could, conceivably, be funded through some sort of a loan or grant. In its most basic form, the victim is told that all they need to do to become eligible for the grant is to

give their credit card or bank account information to the grant pro-

cessor. The scam artist claims this information is necessary so that a "one time processing fee" can be debited, promising that soon thereafter a large amount of federal grant money will be transferred into their account.

While the money is promptly removed from the victim's account, the federal monies never arrive. What is often delivered instead is a catalog of available grants. The victim is left to explain to his or her bank or credit card company that what was delivered was in no way what was promised.

If you are truly interested in re-

need to pay for the information because it is readily available for free! The federal government's General Service Organization publishes a catalog of government assistance programs entitled the "Federal Domestic Assistance" catalogue. This publication lists all service programs funded by federal agencies and sets forth the criteria for eligibility. This catalog may be viewed online by going to: http:// www.gsa.gov/fdac. If you are not savvy with a computer then visit your local library and ask the staff to help you access the web page.

What you will learn there is that the federal government administers very few grants directly to individuals. Almost all are first sent to local or state organizations. Anyone representing themselves as an agent of the federal government helping in-

searching federal grants you do not considered to be a con artist.

If you are ever tempted by the "government grant" or other such scams, keep the following tips in mind:

1. Anytime you are asked to pay money to receive a gift, wire transfer money to become a millionaire, or buy an item in order to become eligible for a prize, you should just sav "no."

2. You should never give your credit card or bank account infor- Phill Kline offers this public service mation to anyone who calls you over the telephone. When you are giving such sensitive information to someone, always ask yourself: changed, the cases appearing in "How do I know that they will not abuse this trust?"

3. It is good to enroll your telephone numbers on the Federal No-Call list. This may be done by calling (888) 382-1222. If anyone calls 10th Ave., Topeka, Kansas 66612, to sell you something three months or call the toll-free Consumer dividuals get grant money should be after you have so registered on the Hotline, 1-800-432-2310.

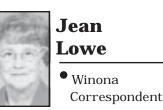
No Call lost, then assume that they are up to no good and turn them into the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division.

For more information on current scams, what can be done to protect yourself from scam artists, and other information about a variety of consumer topics, call Attorney General Phill Kline's 24-hour Consumer Infoline at (785) 296-2424.

Editor's note: Attorney General to help people avoid becoming victims of consumer fraud. Although some of the details have been this column are based on actual complaints or questions. For information or to file a complaint, write Attorney General Phill Kline, Consumer Protection Division. 120SW

# Reunions, visitors keeping Winona residents busy and on the go

Kalin Lewallen and Daniel LaBarge of Hays were weekend guests of Mark and Pam Lewallen. Friends and generosity are key words to the survival of one of their family food traditions. Daniel was amazed at the rectitude of plain upright country folk. He found if one asks in Winona, one receives.



union was held last weekend at the lake in Ellis. Joyce, Dalene and The annual Bartell family re- Kyle hosted the event. Attending Baxter and Linda of Garden City in Baxter and Jean Lowe.

Virgil and Myrna Bartell of Salina, Mike Bartell of Hays, Chancey and Isabel Finch of Garden City, Louie and Del Tholen of Baker, Ore., and Carrie Martinez of Thornton, Colo., and Bonnie Fry and Charleton of Mulvane.

were Glen Kemp, Rhonda Fischer, Scott City Saturday for lunch and an afternoon in the park.

Kelly Hunt and a four-man combo performed in the Oakley High School Auditorium Sunday afternoon.

Winona WPAA members attending were Lois and Warren Starns, LaVonne Baxter met Karen Lindy and Lola Bretz, LaVonne

Tarek Toema, from Guatemala City, Guatemala arrived at the Colorado Springs airport at 11:30 p.m. Wednesday. They were met by host mothers Pam Lewallen and Jean Lowe.

Their quest is to experience the life of a teen at Triplains High School, as compared to their branch

Two teens, siblings Olga and of learning in their native country. Louise Smith met her sister Luella Baalman in Colby for lunch Wednesday.

Marge Ausmus accompanied Michele Werth and boys to Denver the first of the week.

If you are a grandpa with a Winona address and have a grandson whose name is Matthew Davis living in the state of Washington, please call 846-7637.

Just like the Vikings of old, the Triplains Vikings are prepared to make a raid. Unlike those Scandinavian rovers who infested the seas around northern and western Europe, these Vikings plan to take over Winona Friday, Oct. 15.

The Chamber of Commerce ladies will take over the chow line in the early evening and serve up the best barbecued beef you've ever tasted, along with the fixins'. Business owners, housewives, farmers, churches, organizations, classes and yes, even politicians are urged to enter the parade.

The attention was all on Judy Gfeller at a pre-birthday coffee at the Winona Bar and Grill.

Those attending to wish Judy a happy birthday and many more were Erma Latham, Louise Smith, LaVonne Baxter, Wilma and Bob Pfeiff, Pat Margheim, the cake baker, Marge Ausmus and Jean

### State fair attendance estimates hinting at a successful event

though they won't have final attendance figures for two to three weeks, officials of the Kansas State time." Fair feel this year's 10-day run was a success

HUTCHINSON (AP) — Al- Denny Stoecklein. "It's been an average of 342,281. exciting fair. Just overall it seemed

Stoecklein was shooting for attendance of 350,000 for the fair that "My gut feeling is that we've concluded Sunday. Last year it drew ing campaign this year, aimed at done well," said the fair's manager, 343,244, just above the 10-year drawing a younger crowd while

Through Saturday, carnival numlike people who came had a good bers were up 7.6 over last year, and concession sales for the first half of the run had increased by 13 percent.

maintaining the traditional appeal for next year's fair. of the annual attraction.

will renew its contract with the Wichita-based Greteman Group,

Weather was good throughout the run, with temperatures in the 80s and 90s and rain only on one morning in the middle of the week.

'We could not have been more fortunate," Stoecklein said. "Everything seemed to fall into place."

ments and attractions on the grounds, built as part of a \$29 million renovation project that remains incomplete.

sas building.

Whooping cough reports up this year

TOPEKA(AP)—The number of whooping cough cases reported in the past five months is up significantly over recent years, state health officials said Monday.

Thirty-one cases of whooping cough, or pertussis, have been confirmed since May, up from an average of nine over the same period in the last three years, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment reported.

ported so far this year in Kansas.

The majority of cases since May were children who were not vacci- Control and Prevention counted nated or who did not finish their 11,647 cases of pertussis last year, immunizations, said Sharon up from 9,771 the previous year, Watson, a spokeswoman for the and the most recorded in three dehealth department. More than half cades, according to Bonnie Hebert, of those infected were under the age a spokes woman for the agency. of 5, but other cases involved adults. Experts say the actual number may with a steady rise in the number of firmed cases last year, Hebert said.

In all, 43 cases have been re- whooping cough cases globally since the 1980s.

The national Centers for Disease The increase in Kansas coincides be much higher. Kansas had 63 con-

Stoecklein said he expects the fair

which created the campaign.

There were also new improve-

New this year was the Prairie Pavilion, a 92,000-square foot beef barn, and a revamped Pride of Kan-

The 4-H, Oz and poultry build-

Stoecklein said the low point was a \$22,000 loss on Saturday night's Trapt concert, which drew only about 1,600.

The fair lays out between \$300,000 and \$400,000 for booking its grandstand acts, and through Saturday had a profit of only \$7,900 from the seven shows.

REO Speedwagon and .38 Special, which drew 5,561, made about \$31,000, but the other shows made only a slight profit or showed a loss, Stoecklein said.

"We even lost money on the Oak Ridge Boys," Stoecklein said.

Hypnotist Ron Diamond was a popular attraction, performing an act that was illegal in Kansas until state law was changed in May.

Fair board members said volunteers hoping for a chance to get into ings are due for renovation in time the act lined up an hour in advance.

**Check each issue of the Free Press for additional TV Listings** 

TV LISTINGS sponsored by the COLBY FREE PRESS

The fair rolled out a new market-

#### **SATURDAY**

#### **SEPTEMBER 25**

	6 AM	6:30	7 AM	7:30	8 AM	8:30	9 AM	9:30	10 AM	10:30	11 AM	11:30	
KLBY/ABC		Mat- thews	Good Mor America (		Lilo & Stitch	Fillmore (EI) (CC)	Proud Family	That's- Raven	Phil of Future	Lizzie McGuire	Kim Possible	Power Rangers	
KSNK/NBC 8 9	Today (CC	<u>)</u>			Paid Program	Paid Program	Kenny- Shark	Tuten- stein (EI)	Trading Spaces	Endur- ance (EI)	Strange Days	Scout's Safari	
KBSL/CBS	Saturday	Early Shov	v (CC)		Lazy- Town	Miss Spider	Dora the Explorer	Dora the Explorer	Little Bill (EI) (CC)	Blue's Clues	Paid Program	Paid Program	
K15CG 3	Yoga Market- Clifford Clifford Market				Clifford	Clifford	Sesame S (CC) (DVS		Hand- Crafts	Kansas Spotlight	Barbe- cue	Victory Garden	
WGN (13)	Enter- prise	Adelante Chicago	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Handi- capping	Health Corner	Paid Program	Paid Program	
NICK 29	Rocket Power	Rugrats (CC)	Jimmy Neutron	Jimmy Neutron	Spon- geBob	Spon- geBob	Oddpar- ents	Oddpar- ents	Danny Phantom	Teenage Robot	Chalk- Zone	Hey Arnold!	
FAM 30	Bey- blade	Bey- blade	Power Rangers	Power Rangers	Super Robot	Digimon- Digital	Digimon- Digital	Spider- Man	Spider- Man	X-Men (CC)	Full House	Full House	
USA (31)	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Paid Paid Paid Program Program Program Program					e Brady Bu nedy) Shell	Movie: A Very Brady Sequel ★★½				
TBS (37)	Saved by Bell	Saved by Bell			★½ (1995, uttenberg. (	995, Comedy) Movie: Made in America ** <sup>1/2</sup> (1993, org. (CC) Comedy) Whoopi Goldberg. (CC)						Movie: National Lamp.	
TNT (38)	Most Dramatic Movie: Universal Police Chases Return $\star$ <sup>1/2</sup> (1999)				ldier: The		tman Forever ★★½ (1995) Batman faces m the Riddler and Harvey Two-Face.				NASCAR Nextel Cup Happy Hour		
DSC (42)	Paid Paid Paid Program Program Prog			Paid Program	The Amazing m Octopus		Blue Planet: Seas of Life		Animal Face-Off Hippo vs. Bull Shark		Dinosaur Planet Little Das' Hunt		
A&E (47)				Movie: The Lady in Question ** Mystery) Gene Wilder, Mike Starr.								Biography: Harrison Ford	
ESPN (49)	SportsCenter (CC)		SportsCenter (CC) Spo		SportsCenter (CC)		Sports- Center			neday (Live) (CC)		College Football	
HBO (7)	(5:30) Movie: The 'Burbs ★★ (1989)		Movie: Intolerable Cr Romance-Comedy) G						Inside the NFL NFL news and highlights.		Movie: Masterminds (1997)		
DISN (17)	Koala Brothers	The Wiggles	Higgly- town	JoJo's Circus	The Wiggles	Stanley (CC)	Rolie Polie	House of Mouse	Lilo & Stitch	Lilo & Stitch	Barbar- ian	Barbar- ian	
MAX 21	(5:30) Movie: Cannonball Run II ★ (1984) Burt Reynolds. (CC) (1997, Cor						Movie: Brown Sugar (2002) Child friends won't admit they love each						

#### **SATURDAY**

#### **SEPTEMBER 25**

	12 PM	12:30	1 PM	1:30	2 PM	2:30	3 PM	3:30	4 PM	4:30	5 PM	5:30	
KLBY/ABC	Paid Program	Paid Program	Grene Vision	Paid Program	Paid Program	College F	ootball: Washington State at Arizona or Teams TBA. (Live)						
KSNK/NBC 8 (9)	Jeop- ardy!	Paid Program	Gymnasti Champion	<b>cs</b> : T.J. Ma s. <b>(CC)</b>	xx Tour of	College Football: Washington at Notre Dame. (Live) (CC)							
KBSL/CBS	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Football Today	College Football: Alabama at Arkansas. (Live) (CC)							
K15CG 3	Yankee Shop	This Old House	Ask This Old	Home- time (N)	Wood- wright	Find! (CC)	1 Stroke Paint	School- Fine Art	Love of Quilting	Creative Life	On the Money	Ances- tors (CC)	
WGN 13	Soul Train Hurts.	Truth	Movie: Breaking Up <b>**</b> (1997, C Russell Crowe, Salma Hayek. (CC							<b>da</b> The trategem	Home Improve.	Will & Grace	
NICK (29)	Told by Ginger	CatDog	Nick- toons TV	Nick- toons TV	Nick- toons TV	Nick- toons TV	Nick- toons TV	Nick- toons TV	Nick- toons TV	Nick- toons TV	Nick- toons TV	Nick- toons TV	
FAM (30)	7th Heaven There Goes the Bride (CC) (1993, Comedy) Anjelio								ns Family Reunion ★ (1998, Curry, Daryl Hannah. (CC)			Movie: Casper *** (1995)	
USA (31)	(11:00) Movie: A Movie: Very Brady Sequel cheerlea			e: Bring It On (2000) High-school rleaders vie for a coveted national title.			Movie: Bri Anne Juds	ing It On A son-Yager, I	Movie: Bring It On ★★ <sup>1</sup> ⁄ <sub>2</sub> (2000)				
TBS (37)								1994, Comedy) An Army recruits. (CC) Movie: Father of the Comedy) Steve Marti					
TNT (38)	NASCAR Racing: Busch Series Stacker 200. Del. (Live) (CC)					Police Chases Movie: Days of Thunder ★★½ (1990, Drama) Tom Cruise, Robert Duvall. (CC					Movie: Arachnophobia		
DSC (42)	How High Can You Americar Fly? (CC) (CC)			Hot Rod American Chopper Dixie Chopper 2			American Hendon Ro			Rally Round the House (CC)		Double Agents City Slickers (CC)	
A&E (47)		: Empire of a phenomer	f Dreams T non. (CC)	he trilogy	Movie: Ro to make so	ocky **** omething of	(1976) A be himself. Sy	oxer faces f Ivester Sta	the odds llone. (CC)		cky II ***	· (1979, <i>llone.</i> <b>(CC)</b>	
ESPN (49)					College Gmday							ootball: Penn State sin. (Live) (CC)	
HBO (7)	(11:00) Movie: Shark Movie: C Masterminds (1997) Tale: 1st Adventure			ain Reaction <b>**</b> (1996, ) Keanu Reeves. (CC)			6, Movie: Intolerable Ci *** (2003) George C				The orter (2002)		
DISN 17		Proud Family	Movie: Br skater des	ink! ★★½ ( erts his pals	1998) An in s to join a ri	-line val team.	Lilo & Stitch	Brandy & Mr.	Kim Possible	Proud Family	Brace- face	Lizzie McGuire	
MAX (21)	(10:50) Mo Matrix Re			e Untouch	ables *** r. (CC)	★ (1987,			** (2002, Crystal. (CC	(2002, Comedy) Movie: Kangaroo Jack ★ (2003) (CC)			

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### **SEPTEMBER 25**

	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
KLBY/ABC	News (CC)	Seinfeld (CC)	Movie: Cast Away *** (2000, Drama) A contract executive is marooned on a remote island. 7						News (CC)	Seinfeld (CC)	Entertain Tonight (N	
KSNK/NBC 89	News Wheel of Fortune		The Apprentice (CC)		Law & Order Paradigm (CC)		Law & Order: Special Victims		News Saturday Timberlake		Night Live Justin e. (CC)	
KBSL/CBS	News Friends (CC) (CC)		Cold Case Maternal Instincts (CC)		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation		48 Hours Mystery (Season Premiere)		News (CC)	Drew Carey	Drew Carey	Drew Carey
K15CG 3	Antiques Roadshov	v Chicago	Keeping Up	As Time Goes By	The Lawrence Welk Show		Baxter Black	Red Green	Austin City Limits (CC)		Soundstage Yes performs. (CC)	
WGN 13	MLB Base Cellular Fie	eball: Kansa eld. (Live) (	as City Royals at Chicago White Sox. U.S. CC)				WGN News at Nine (CC)				eddy's Dead: The ntmare ★ (1991)	
NICK 29	Drake & Josh	Spon- geBob	Grown Up	Romeo!	All That	Amanda	Father- hood	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	Cosby Show	Rose- anne	Rose- anne
FAM 30	(5:00) Mov Casper *;		Movie: Nine Months <b>**</b> (1995, Comedy) Hugh Grant, Julianne Moore.				3rd Rock	3rd Rock	3rd Rock	3rd Rock	3rd Rock	3rd Rock
USA (31)	(5:00) Movie: Bring It On ★★½ (2000)		Law & Order: Law & Or Special Victims Special V				Law & Order: Special Victims		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		The District On Guard (CC)	
TBS (37)	College Football: USC at Stanford. (Live)							Movie: Men at Work (1990) Two fun-loving C trash men sniff out a toxic waste cover-up.				
TNT 38	(5:00) Movie: Arachnophobia Iearns his world is a computer simulation. (C											Movie: Johnny
DSC (42)	New Deter Forensic		The FBI Files High The FBI Files   Stakes (CC) Dangerous Gamble					The FBI Files High Stakes (CC)		The FBI Files Dangerous Gamble		
A&E (47)	(4:30) Mov Rocky II (*						Movie: Rocky IV (198 Rocky Balboa faces a				Movie: Rocky III *** (1982) (CC)	
ESPN (49)		lege Footb isconsin. (L					Gambling leads to ent from baseball. (CC)			nter (Live)	College Gameday Final (Live) (CC)	
HBO (7)	(5:15) Mov Transport		Movie: Runaway Jury *** (2003) A man tries to manipulate an explosive trial. (CC)			Boxing: Glencoffe John Memphis, Tenn. (Live) (				Jr From	The Wire (CC)	
DISN (17)	Phil of Future	That's- Raven	Brandy & Mr.	Kim Possible	Lilo & Stitch	Barbar- ian	Lizzie McGuire	Phil of Future	Brace- face	Boy Mts. World	Proud Family	That's- Raven
MAX (21)	(5:00) Movie: The Matrix Reloaded *** (2003) Freedom Movie: fighters revolt against machines. <i>Keanu Reeves.</i> (CC)						Movie: In the Cut <b>**</b> (2003) An English teacher suspects her lover of murder. (C				Black Tie Nite	Black Tie Nite





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