

Family

Taxpayers warned about 'phishing' scam

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) warns taxpayers that they have more to worry about than owing money to the Internal Revenue Service this year — they need to beware of identity thieves posing as the IRS to steal personal information.

The IRS and Treasury Department have reported an increase in "phishing" scams this year in which fraudulent spammers send e-mails that use the IRS logo in an effort to dupe taxpayers into providing such personal information as their Social Security number. The e-mails soliciting personal information may look real, coming from such addresses as "tax-refunds@irs.gov" or "admin@irs.gov", but, in fact, they redirect the responses to scammers.

The scammers can then use the falsely obtained information to commit such financial crimes as opening lines of credit, applying for loans, or filing false tax returns. According to NCPC identity theft is one of the fastest growing crimes in America, but this type scam can be prevented by taking some simple precautions:

- Never give out your personal information over the phone or Internet unless you have initiated

the contact. Government agencies and companies do not communicate about personal information via e-mail, or ask for passwords, personal identification numbers, or other private information about financial accounts unless you contact them.

- Check your credit records once a year with the three major credit bureaus (Equifax, Experian, or Transunion). You are entitled to one free credit report from each credit bureau every year. You can obtain additional copies for a small fee. Look for anything unusual in any of your accounts.

- Report suspicious activity right away. Alert the credit bureau to the possible fraud, close the account you think has been compromised, file a police report in case you need to provide proof of the crime, and file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission at its Web site (www.consumer.gov/idtheft).

Victims of this particular scam can file a report to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration at 800-366-4484.

For more information about identity theft and how you can prevent yourself from becoming a victim, visit the National Crime Prevention Council's web page at <http://www.ncpc.org>.

Engagement announced

Jessica Borsella and Elizabeth Stegman of Kansas City and Mrs. and Mrs. Tom Ouellette of Kansas City announce the engagement of their mother and daughter, Kim Ouellette of Kansas City to Phillip Lee Stegman of Kansas City, and formerly of Colby.

Stegman is the son of Linda Damon of Colby and the late Kenneth Stegman.

His grandparents are Betty Nondorf and the late Willie Nondorf of Atwood and the late Xavier and Lela Stegman of Colby.

Ouellette's grandparents are Jerry Ashland of Florida and Thelma Martin of Topeka.

She attended high school in Topeka and is employed by McDonald's in Kansas City.



Phillip Stegman and Kim Ouellette

Stegman is a graduate of Colby High School and he works for BFI Waste Services in Kansas City.

A March 29 wedding is planned in Kansas City.

Spring break event to be held at library

As part of the monthly program for middle school students (grades sixth through eighth) held at Pioneer Memorial Library, the March event will be full of fun for those looking for something to do during Spring Break.

The Third 2 on Tuesday, March 21, will be "Dance Revolution."

Judy Kleinsorge, children's librarian, pointed out that this event will center around the popular "Dance Dance Revolution" video game with snacks and prizes.

"Though students love the break from school, they miss hanging with their friends so we hope they will come to the library," Kleinsorge said. "We are looking forward to seeing some new faces."

The program will be held in the library basement from 3:45-5:15 p.m.

The event is free and no registration is required.

"There will be two more Third 2 programs this spring," Kleinsorge said. "April 18, Change Your World and May 16, Creature Feature."

Call 460-4470 or stop by the library at 375 W. Fourth St. for more information.

Faced with a Drinking Problem?
Perhaps
Alcoholics Anonymous Can Help
Meetings are Open to the Public
City Hall Basement
Mondays & Thursdays - 8:30 p.m.

Eunice and Dick Sanford

Open house planned March 25

Kenneth, Julie and Sara Sanford invite everyone to help celebrate the 50th anniversary of Dick and Eunice Sanford. An open house will be held from 2-4 p.m. Saturday, March 25 at the Red Barn in Rexford. They request no gifts, only the presence of friends.

Thank You

A special thanks to Dr. Victor Hildyard, Dr. Ladonna Regier, Brian Unruh, Jeannie Solko, Father Dana Clark and the nurses and medical staff for the kindness and care that was given to our father and husband, Bob Nelson. Also, thanks to everyone for all the expressions of sympathy during this most difficult time.

Mrs. Patricia Nelson
Judy and Dan Watkins
Joyce and Larry Washburn
Marilyn and Rue Sowers

K-State nutrition program next week

Karen Jones from K-State extension will present a nutrition program at 11:30 a.m. Monday at the Senior Progress Center, 165 Fike Park.

She always gives lots of good information so come learn some new facts about what to eat.

There are plenty of activities scheduled at the center for the week of March 20-24, including exercise with Diann Gerstner at 10 a.m. Monday, followed by the K-State nutrition program at 11:30 a.m. It's also Blue Day, wear blue. Tuesday exercise is at 9:30 a.m. Exercise

Senior Center

with Diann Gerstner at 10 a.m. Wednesday and Mary Ramsey will be at the center to help with prescription drug insurance. Exercise is at 9:30 a.m. Thursday. Friday exercise is at 9:30 a.m.; exercise with Diann Gerstner at 10 a.m. and it's Denim Day.

The Thomas County Nutrition Center in Colby wishes to invite those 60 and older and their guests to attend daily luncheons in Colby Monday through Friday. Reserva-

Lions have last meeting for month

Colby High Plains Lions gathered in the Prairie Rose Dining Room for their last meeting in March.

President Sheryl Brenn called the meeting to order by leading the group in the flag salute.

The group sang "America" before President Sheryl asked for Lions with guests.

Lion Larry Brenn introduced his guest Don Tedford and Lion Larry Koon had his grandson, Troy Koon.

The new managers for the Prairie Rose Room came in and visited

with the group. They indicated that they wanted to continue food service to the club. They look forward in providing dinner to the club on April 24.

The district governor's letter was briefly read for the group. Announcements of upcoming events were discussed. March 19 the Rexford club will have a Sunday buffet for the public. April 15 the McDonald will celebrate their 75th anniversary. April 22 the Smith Center club will celebrate their 60th anniversary.

Appointments of Lion Melda

tions may be made by calling (785) 460-2901 the day before. Home delivery is also available for those unable to attend due to social or physical disabilities. Those who work are also invited to come to pick up a meal. Those meals are available at noon to be picked up. For individuals 60 and over a contribution of \$2.50 per meal is requested. Anyone under 60 years of age is invited to attend or pick up a meal at a cost of \$4.50 per meal.

The menu for the next week includes: Monday - barbecue meatballs, tossed salad, corn, bread,

cook's choice fruit. Tuesday - turkey, sweet potatoes, mixed vegetables, dinner roll, cinnamon apple slices. Wednesday - Philly steak sandwich, hash brown casserole, peas, bun or bread, peach crisp. Thursday - chili, pineapple salad, crackers, cinnamon roll. Friday - cook's choice entree, broccoli salad, peas, dinner roll, pudding.

The building is also available for rental for events. For information or lunch reservations, call 460-2901.

The Thomas County Public Van is owned by the county but is scheduled and dispatched by the Senior Progress Center. The van is not a taxi service. It will be scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis.

It must be scheduled at least 24 hours in advance of its use and be ready at least 30 minutes in advance of appointment. Sometimes there are four to six calls per time frame.

Calls for the van need to be made between the hours of 8 a.m. and noon, Monday through Friday.

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