

Family

Deaths

Clay Elliott

Clay Elliott, 22, formerly of Colby, died Saturday, March 11, 2006.

Services are pending with Kersenbrock Funeral Chapel in Colby.

Caution urged about Medicare phone scam

TOPEKA — Insurance Commissioner Sandy Praeger wants Kansans to know that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is warning seniors and people with disabilities to be aware of a scheme that asks Medicare beneficiaries for money and checking account information to help them enroll in a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan.

This scheme is called the "\$299 Ring" for the typical amount of money Medicare beneficiaries are talked into withdrawing from their checking accounts to pay for a non-existent prescription drug plan. The important thing to remember with regard to the purchase of any drug plan is that legitimate Medicare drug plans will not ask for payment over the telephone or the Internet. They must bill the beneficiary for the monthly premium.

Medicare has already received complaints from several states which have been made against a number of different companies. Authorities believe that the companies are the same and are typically based outside the U. S. CMS is working with federal law enforcement authorities as complaints are received. Consumers should report

these cases to their local law enforcement agencies or 1-877-7SAFERX (1-877-772-3379).

Consumers should be aware that no Medicare drug plan can ask a person with Medicare for bank account or other personal information over the telephone. No beneficiary should ever provide that kind of information to a caller. They should contact their local police department if they believe someone is trying to take money or information from them illegally.

People with Medicare should also remember that they should be on the lookout for anyone trying to take advantage of them and take steps to protect themselves by remembering:

- No one can come into your home uninvited.
- No one can ask you for personal information during their marketing activities.
- Always keep all personal information, such as your Medicare number, safe, just as you would a credit card or a bank account number.
- Whenever you have a question or concern about any activity regarding Medicare, call 1-800-MEDICARE.

Tips offered to help insure a safe Spring Break

WASHINGTON, D.C. — In a ritual known as "spring break," many college students use their spring vacations to travel to warm, exotic locations for some sun and fun. For collegians, having a good time and forgetting about the stress of their studies is a top priority.

Unfortunately, these young adults are often targeted by criminals, who can turn a fun-filled week into trouble.

The National Crime Prevention Council offers these tips to prevent the most common crimes committed against college students while they are on spring break.

Getting there is half the fun
Always lock your doors. Keep valuables in the trunk of your car. Never pick up hitchhikers. Park in well-lighted areas, or close to the building.

Checking in
Use all locks and other security devices, even when you're inside

your room. Store valuables in the room safe or in the facility's main safe.

Guard your room keys. Don't leave them out and visible in the restaurant, at the pool, or elsewhere.

Don't invite strangers back to your room, no matter how nice they seem.

Going out
Avoid carrying large amounts of cash. Pay with checks or credit cards when feasible.

Take only the cash you need in your purse or wallet. Keep your purse closed and carry it snugly against your body; use a front pocket or coat pocket to carry your wallet.

Stick to well-lighted, well-traveled streets. Know your route; know where you are and where you are going.

If you feel threatened, try to go to a place with a lot of people.

Happenings

Rexford Lions holding lunch buffet

The Rexford Lions Club is holding Sunday lunch buffet from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Rexford Community Hall. Items on the buffet include homemade noodles and chicken or noodles and beef,

mashed potatoes, corn, salads and homemade desserts. Free will donations accepted. Proceeds will be used to send a student to Kansas Lions state band and other community projects.

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Rexford residents hold reception

Dwight and Sharla Williams held an Open House Reception in celebration of their recent marriage at the Red Barn on Sunday. There was a nice turn out for the special event.

Morgan Wark, daughter of Chad and Desiree, had a second birthday on March 8. A special celebration was given for her at the Colby Pizza Hut on Saturday, March 11. Those attending were grandparents Samantha Lode and Don Lode, Colby; Vicki and Dennis Allison,



Vicki Allison

• Rexford Correspondent

Rexford; a great aunt, Norma Niemeyer and cousin Sydney, Great Bend; Cassie Stevenson and children, Cameron and Kiley, Great Bend; Nolan Hull, Colby; Aunt Shay Niemeyer, Colby; Ryan Shaw

and father Gary, Selden; Bailey Belair and parents, Billy and Tasha, Selden; Dana and Derek Juenemann, Selden; Aunt Rebecca Wark, Chance Rains and cousin Jaren, Victoria; Aunt Kristin Wark, Lawrence, and Aunt Jami Wark, Rexford. Everyone had a fun time, especially Morgan who was very happy with all the gifts she received.

Those attending the Tumbleweed Chorus on Saturday were Sondra Barnett, Hulda Wark, Deborah

Gamboa, Grace Cheney and Deb Stepper.

Sunday, March 19, the Rexford Lion's Club will have a soup luncheon at the Community Hall in Rexford from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. The free will donations will help to support students to attend Lion's State Band.

During the weekend at the Shepherd's Staff facility there were 30 ladies doing scrapbooking.

Those at the Red Barn this week for Barnswallows were Rex and Betty Carswell, Mary and Lawrence Juenemann, Dick Sanford, Lawrence Horinek, Pat and Chuck Williams, Grace Cheney, Jean Hawkins, Estelle Bugbee and Deb Stepper.

Koffee Klatchers on March 10 were Berneda Zoberst, Grace Cheney, Eunice Sanford, Deb Stepper, Liz Rall, Delores Dible, Margaret Arasmith, Sondra Barnett, Velma Barnett, Jean Hawkins, Clea Moeder and Vesta Roth.

The Golden Plains Lady Bulldogs placed fourth at the State 1A Basketball Finals held in Hays. They beat Deerfield, 63-61, on Wednesday, losing to Claffin, 45-54, Thursday, and letting Olpe win the game, 45-46, on Thursday.

The school will have spring break, March 13-17.

College dates coming up soon

The Colby High School Career Center has many resources available on colleges, scholarships and upcoming visits from college representatives. Below are some upcoming events and deadlines.

College/Scholarship Info
Students who have been admitted to KU for fall 2006 are invited to participate in the Freshmen Summer Institute. There are two sessions to choose from — June 4-30 or July 2-28. Deadline is May 1 for applications.

KU Super Saturday, an informative family day, will be May 6. More information is available at the Career Center.

Information on the United States

Military Academy annual summer leaders seminar is available in the Career Center. The academy will host two sessions. The first is June 3-9 and the other is June 10-16. Applications are due by April 1, 2006.

Barton County Community College applications for the sports medicine program are available. Students who are interested can become athletic trainers while continuing their education in college.

Information on the athletic education program at the University of Nebraska in Kearney is available. Call (308) 865-8627 or e-mail unruhsa@unk.edu.

Pre-application worksheets for

the FAFSA are available to students and postsecondary schools at www.fafsa.gov.

Information on the Colby Community College dental hygiene program can be picked up in the Career Center.

Cowley College scholarship deadline is March 15. Applications can be picked up in the Career Center.

Tulsa Welding School has vacancies. Come to the Career Center for more information.

Harvard summer school information is available in the Career Center. Choose from special programs, and some courses are available online.

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