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Police warn of e-mail, phone scams

By Kevin Bottrell

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What would you do if you received an e-mail or phone call that your grandson had been arrested in a far-away place and needed money wired immediately to make bail?

The Colby Police Department is hoping that you'll check with someone first.

Police Chief Randy Jones said he has been tracking a scam where an e-mail claims a relative or friend is in trouble and needs money immediately. The e-mail has the person's name and may even look like it was written by that person.

Jones said these scams have been around for a long time, but recently several people in Colby have gotten this particular one. An elderly resident received an e-mail that said her grandson was in jail and needed bond money.

"Luckily, she made a phone call first," Jones said. "She called a relative who would know if he was in jail."

Jones himself received an e-mail that claimed to be from a friend of his, former Sheriff Mike Baughn, who was stuck in England and needed money. He said the e-mail was poorly written and did not include an address to send the money to, both signs that it was not legitimate. Jones said he knew that at the time he received the e-mail, Baughn was not in

England.

However, the e-mail did contain Baughn's header and signature, the user-set text automatically put at the beginning and end of an e-mail, making it look as though it had come from him. Scammers get this information by a process known as "spoofing," invading a person's computer, gaining access to his or her e-mail account and contacts, and using their information, such as headers and signatures, to send spam e-mail to everyone in that person's address book.

The scammers also try to get people by phone. Colby resident Maxine Nelson said she received a call that her grandson was in jail in Canada. The caller claimed to be her grandson, and claimed that he had a cold so she wouldn't recognize her voice.

The caller said he was in jail for a car accident and needed her to send \$2,900 to an attorney right away. Nelson said she called her grandson, who was safe at home.

Cpl. Richard Barrett of the Colby Police Department said there have been at least five reports of these calls in the past several weeks. The caller usually tries to create a false sense of urgency so that the targeted person feels like they don't have time to confirm the situation. The caller asks the target not to tell their parents for fear they'll be in trouble.

Barrett said the phone scam

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Mobile artillery stop for gas



STEVE HAYNES/Colby Free Press

Nervous? Two trucks hauling Army 155 mm self-propelled howitzers stopped side by side Thursday afternoon to fuel up at Oasis Travel Center at Range and Horton in Colby. The mobile, armored gun mounts long ago replaced truck-hauled

artillery. Known as Paladins, the 27-ton behemoths are listed as capable of 35 mph on roads, but that's at a wallet-grabbing 1.5 miles per gallon. In combat, they can lob shells 12 to 15 miles.

Paper to temporarily deliver some routes by mail

To Our Readers:

As many of you know, *The Colby Free Press* has been having a terrible time with our carrier delivery in some areas.

After the loss of a couple of long-time and dependable carriers, we have been searching for dependable replacements. We have not found them. The people who showed up asking for work have not been up to our standards — and certainly not up to yours.

This is a problem being faced by newspapers across the country, especially small dailies like ours. School kids today have too much to do. Most are not interested in work.

We have terminated a couple of contract carriers and have no immediate prospects for replacement. At least eight routes have been placed on mail service, so delivery will be dependable if not prompt.

Mailed papers will be at your home the next

day. Please accept our apologies for this temporary measure. Our office employees have been out delivering these routes, but they all have jobs to do.

Know that we are working on this problem and will see that, one way or another, it is fixed to your satisfaction. And please bear with us until we can accomplish that.

— Steve Haynes, publisher

Long time downtown business moving

By Vera Sloan

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After nearly six years in business at 365 N. Franklin Ave., J & B Meat Market is moving to new quarters.

The last day of business at the old building will be today, with plans to be open at the new location at 1996 S. Range, formerly occupied by Dairy Queen, on Thursday, Nov. 5.

"The meat business is growing," said Becky Klippert, who runs the shop with husband Jeff. He agrees it is hard to leave their downtown location, but said it will be nice to have more room at the new store.

"We will not be carrying grocery items, but will expand on the restaurant business, which is where we need the room," Jeff said. "All the sandwiches and burgers will be made with freshly cut meat, and we will still serve Village Pies and will have bulk Brach chocolate."

An addition to the menu will be soft-serve ice cream, he said, plus they will be making an ice cream treat called a Whirlwind.

The new location will give the Klipperts more room to display the meat cases together, so that the



Vera Sloan/Colby Free Press

After nearly six years of doing business on Franklin Ave., Jeff and Becky Klippert owners of J & B Meat Market are closing their present location today. They will re-open for business on Nov. 5 at the former Dairy Queen, 1996 South Range. The Klipperts said it will be a hard day for them to say good bye to their neighbors, but they are looking forward to additional space at the new location.

pork items will be more visible. They will be adding marinades, rubs and seasonings for sale, he said.

"All our meat is custom cut to order," Jeff said, "and as we do

now, there will be meat bundles available, with all cuts being choice to prime.

Hours will be 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and they will still serve coffee to those who want to come and visit.

The Klipperts said people are welcome to call to call ahead for a meat order, to be ready for pick up. They can be reached at (785) 460-0414 beginning Nov. 5.

States conduct livestock disease drill

TOPEKA (AP) — Trucks that could be hauling livestock along the Kansas and Oklahoma border were detained and their drivers questioned Thursday during a drill aimed at protecting the nation's food supply from foot-and-mouth disease.

State and local officials set up roadblocks and pulled livestock vehicles over near Sitka, Kan., and Turpin, Okla., to ask questions about their loads and destination. It was part of what officials said was the first two-state exercise to halt the movement of livestock should the disease break out.

"Right now, we have three 18-wheelers pulled over, but all these cattle trailers have been empty so far," said Jack Carson, spokesman for the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture. "Nobody expected it, but everybody has been courteous."

The exercise comes only two days after final congressional approval of the first \$32 million for planning and construction for a proposed lab that would research foot-and-mouth and

other animal diseases at Kansas State University in Manhattan. The 520,000-square-foot National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility would replace an aging lab on Plum Island, N.Y.

Thursday's test, which was monitored by states including Colorado, Iowa and Nebraska, was based on the scenario of a presumptive case of foot-and-mouth disease in another state that would prompt Kansas officials to declare an emergency and clamp down on borders.

There are more than 5,000 access points along Kansas' borders with its four neighboring states, but only 500 that can handle large semi tractor-trailer livestock haulers. Kansas Livestock Commissioner George Teagarden said the state believes that at any given moment, about 50,000 head of livestock are on Kansas roads.

"We realize that we can't stop traffic on every road," he said. "We need to reduce the risk and we don't want to move the dis-

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Briefly

For latest flu info, call 460-4599

A hot line for answers to questions on seasonal influenza and the H1N1 flu strain will be available throughout the flu season at (785) 460-4599. The Thomas County Health Department said information about the status and availability of vaccines, priority groups and the like will be available at this number.

Spooky sale at Pioneer Library

The Pioneer Memorial Library will continue its Spooktacular Book Sale from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. Bring the kids. For questions, call librarian Melany Wilks at 460-4470.

Coaches offer coffee, talk

Join the Colby High School football staff for "Coffee with the Coaches" at 9 a.m. Saturday and every Saturday after home and away games at the Sports Shoppe, Fourth Street and Franklin Avenue. For

information, call Eagles' Coach Chris Gardener at 460-1390.

Town hall meeting Tuesday

The City of Colby and the Colby Pool Committee will hold an open "town hall" meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Community Building to discuss the proposed sales tax that will pay for the fire station and a new pool. For information, call City Manager Carolyn Armstrong at 460-4400.

Here's a chance to help a child

If you would like the chance to make a difference in the life of a child, join Saint Francis Community Services for a Foster and Adoptive Parent Experience from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at our offices, 180 W. Fifth Street. Recruitment Supervisor Valerie Leon said the agency will provide refreshments and answer questions about becoming a foster or adop-

tive parent. Bring your family. For information, call (866) 999-1599 or go to www.st-francis.org.

Last chance to get free massages

The Therapeutic Massage Department at Colby Community College will hold its last public clinic of the month on Wednesday in Thomas Hall, Room 402. Cubicle and chair massages are 30 minutes, starting at 6:15 p.m., 7 p.m., 7:45 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Massages will focus on feet this week. Donations are accepted. To make an appointment or for information, contact Director Debra Waites at (785) 460-5427 or e-mail debra.waites@colbycc.edu.

Hospital auxiliary needs help

The Citizens Medical Center Auxiliary is looking for volunteers to greet visitors, operate the gift shop and help patients and their families, among other things. If you'd like to become involved, call Tama

Unger at (785) 460-1214 or Mary Smith at (785) 462-3387.

Come get a scare at soccer house

The American Youth Soccer Organization will have a haunted house from 7 to 10 p.m. Thursday, 7 to midnight next Friday and 8 to midnight on Saturday, Oct. 31, at 660 North Franklin Ave. There will be a children's matinee for kids under 12 from 5 to 7 p.m. Halloween. Admission will be \$3 for kids under 12, \$5 for everyone 12 and over and \$2 at the matinee, or \$1 with a food item for Genesis-Thomas County food bank. All proceeds will go to the soccer organization. For information, call Emily Griffin at 460-0467.



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