

Beware of bogus e-mails

Dear Attorney General Kline: I recently received an e-mail, supposedly from the "Security Team" with PayPal, an on-line payment service for eBay, asking that I send my credit card and bank account information. The message appeared to be authentic but I decided not to respond. Is this a scam?



phill kline

• attorney general

gram from an e-mail without contacting you first.

• Request for Personal Information: Legitimate companies will never request that you send your private and personal bank and credit card information via e-mail.

Instead, they will require you to log in to its secure server before giving access to your account.

Would-be scam artists continue to come up with new and creative ways to try and separate you from your hard-earned money. But no matter how creative these tactics are, by carefully guarding your personal and financial information, you can avoid mistakenly forwarding that information to an identity thief.

Attorney General Phill Kline offers this public service to help you avoid becoming a victim of consumer fraud. Although some of the details have been changed, the cases appearing in this column are based on actual complaints or questions.

For information or to file a complaint, write Attorney General Phill Kline, Consumer Protection Division, 120 SW 10th Ave., Second Floor, Topeka, Kan. 66612, or call the toll-free Consumer Hotline, (800) 432-2310.

Dear Kansas Consumer: Schemes designed to persuade consumers to divulge their personal banking and credit card information take many forms, and you are to be commended for recognizing one of them.

Scams involving bogus e-mails posing as legitimate messages from such well-known on-line sites like eBay and PayPal continue to circulate, and many like the one you refer to are particularly convincing. Many times these messages even contain logos identical to the real ones and even a disclaimer in "fine print."

In some of these fake e-mails, consumers are informed that their accounts have been selected at random for maintenance and placed on a "limited access" status and instructs the account holder to send personal bank or credit card information.

Other e-mails ask for private information due to a problem with the system or that the customer's billing and personal information is

"temporarily unavailable."

Many times these fraudulent e-mails will request information including your full name, account password, credit card and bank account numbers, Social Security Number or your mother's maiden name. Again, it is vital to be extremely careful and protective of this information.

While these e-mails appear to be legitimate, don't be tricked into providing information that would permit your identity to be stolen. Here are some clues to use to help determine whether e-mail you receive is from a legitimate source:

• Subject Line: Scammers send out bulk e-mails to random consumers hoping to snare people in their trap. Legitimate agency e-mails will address you by your first and last name or the business name associated with your account, not a generic greeting such as "Dear Member."

• E-mail Attachments: Companies will not ask you to download an attachment or a software pro-

matters of record

Real Estate

The following real estate transactions were reported by the Sherman County Register of Deeds:

Melcher Goodland LLC, a Colorado Limited Liability Company, Louisville, Boulder County, Colo. to Lovell Real Estate LLC, all of Lot 7, Block 59, Original Town of Goodland.

Leo Townsend and Eunice Townsend to Darol E. Peter and Carrie A. Peter, an undivided 36 percent interest in N22' of Lot 1 and all of Lot 2, Townsend Estates Subdivision, City of Goodland.

Georgia A. Hagney quiclaims to Lois E. Brassfield, Laura Evelyne Reeser, Georgia A. Hagney, and Earl R. Booker, Trustees of the Booker Family Revocable Living Trust, Lot 1, Block 34, Second Addition to the City of Goodland.

First National Bank of Hutchinson, Hutchinson, Successor Trustee of the Charlotte H. Chew Trust, mineral deed an undivided 3/4 interest to Chew Minerals, LLC, an Oklahoma Limited Liability Company, Tulsa, and an undivided 1/4 interest to El Charoly Properties, LLC, a Louisiana Limited Liability Company, Great Bend; an undivided 1/2 of 1/3 interest in mineral estate NE/4 Sec. 9, T6W

R37W; an undivided 1/2 of 1/3 interest in mineral estate SW/4 Sec. 15, T9S R37W; an undivided 1/2 of 1/3 interest in mineral estate SW/4 Sec. 4 and SE/4 Sec. 5, T10S R39W; an undivided 1/2 of 1/3 interest in mineral estate SW/4 Sec. 28, T9S R40W; an undivided 1/2 of 1/3 interest in mineral estate SE/4 Sec. 35, T9S R40W; an undivided 1/2 of 1/3 interest in mineral estate NE/4 Sec. 21, T9S R39W; an undivided 1/2 of 1/3 interest in mineral estate of S/2 NW/4 and N/2 SW/4 Sec. 33, T9S R39W; and an undivided 1/2 of 1/6 interest in mineral estate W/2 Sec. 32, T7S R37W.

Lois M. Thomas and Neal A. Thomas, Lancaster County, Neb. to David R. Leonard and Lori A. Leonard, all interest in SE/4 Sec. 29, T6S R41W.

Margaret D. Neel, Red Willow County, Neb., to David R. Leonard and Lori A. Leonard, all interest in SE/4 Sec. 29, T6S R41W.

Cindy J. Tibbles and Larry L. Tibbles, Pottawattamie County, Iowa, to David R. Leonard and Lori A. Leonard, all interest in SE/4 Sec. 29, T6S R41W.

Brenda L. Bailey and Shane D. Bailey, Spokane, Wash., to David R. Leonard and Lori A. Leonard, all interest in SE/4 Sec. 29, T6S R41W.

Linda K. Behnke and John L. Behnke, Buffalo County, Neb., to David R. Leonard and Lori A. Leonard, all interest SE/4 Sec. 29, T6S R41W.

Max E. Linin and Brenda K. Linin to Jeff Henderson and Anita Henderson, SE/4 Sec. 20, T9S R41W. Ephron D. Brent and Jonathan E.

Money raised for pheasants



Rita and Rick Billinger of Goodland were among the 300 or more guests attending the Pheasants Forever banquet and auction at the City Limits Convention Center in Colby Saturday. The amount of money raised at the event will be made available later this week.

Patty Decker/The Colby Free Press

Looking for work?



SER's employment and training specialists may be able to help you find a permanent full-time job in the field of your choice. They can also assist with the training to start a new career. To be eligible, you need to have worked in any of the following in the last two years: farms, ranches, harvest fields, greenhouses, feed yards, grain elevators or other agricultural-related jobs. Income guidelines apply.

For more information call:

Hays: 785-623-4016 or 877-723-4016

Bonner Springs: 913-422-7229 or 877-422-7229

Garden City: 620-275-2181 or 877-275-2181

Wichita: 316-264-5372 or 877-664-5372

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Pictured are Bob & Melody Hartzler and the Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce and Ambassadors.

The Goodland Star-News

and The Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce and Ambassadors

welcomes



Melody's Picnic in the Park

January 27th marked the Grand Opening of Melody's Picnic in the Park under the new owners, Bob & Melody Hartzler pictured here with the members of the Goodland Ambassadors.

Bob is a retired Marine and Melody is a retired Cosmotologist. Previously, the couple worked at a resort in Cape Cod and purchased the restaurant on January 20th. Their hours are 11 am to 8 pm Monday through Saturday and will offer delivery in the near future.

Their menu offers old favorites as well as new ones including red and green chili.

Melody's Picnic in the Park ~ 1016 Main ~ 890-3911



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"Learning how to respond to and master the process of change - and even to excel at it - is a critical leadership skill for the 21st century. Constant, rapid change will be a fact of life for all of us."

Jennifer James

The Goodland Star-News

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