



The front of this postcard tells recipients the card is “not a coupon” for a free dinner for two.

By LARRY PHILLIPS

- Leader & Times

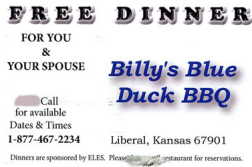
Even though the words, “Please do not call restaurant for reservations” on one side of the postcard and “This is not a coupon” are on the reverse side, local residents have been showing up at Billy’s BBQ in Liberal searching for a free meal for two.

“I have no idea who is doing this or who mailed them out,” said Billy’s owner Bill Hill. “We started getting calls all day Monday, and people are actually coming down with them.”

Local restaurant victim of mysterious postcard, possible scam

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The postcard has a return address of ELES, 2219 40th Place, Des Moines, IA, but the postage paid box says it was paid in Lewisville, Texas, a suburb north of Dallas.



It asks those receiving the card to “Call Us,” and includes a toll free number.

When dialed, this is the total response from a pre-recorded message:

“Hello, thanks for calling the Easy Living Complimentary Dinner Reservation line, educating homeowners throughout the mid-west for over 33 years.

“Now please write down the following information:

“No. 1 – we ask that you leave your purses and wallets at home – there is nothing to buy at our dinner programs.

“No 2 – Our dinner programs start promptly at 6 p.m. and finish between 7:30 and 7:45 p.m..

“Now at the tone, please leave us your name, phone number and the dinner location printed on your card.

“Within 48 hours, call the schedule into the very next program that we have available.

“Thanks, and have a great day.”

ELES was not found on several online searches, let alone in Des Moines, and Hill is befuddled.

“We have nothing to do with this outfit,” Hill said. “I don’t know where it came from or who it is. We didn’t authorize it. All I know is we don’t have a thing to do with it.”

Those who have received the postcard can do with it what they want – call the number and leave their name and number or throw it away – but they can save themselves a trip by not taking them to Billy’s BBQ.

“Sorry, but it’s not good here,” Hill added.