February 7, 2014

Friday, 07 February 2014 11:22

TASTE of CHINA
CHINESE BUFFET
EAT IN and CARRY OUT
CRAB LEGS ALL WEEKDAY & SUNDAY
Lunch $6.29 & Dinner $8.59
We Now DELIVER
Sunday - Crab Legs All Day $9.99 • Wednesday - Crab Night $9.99
Kids Lunch 3.5 $2.99 • Kids 4-7 only $4.69
www.tasteofchinaks.weebly.com
Dine-In Only
Take Out 10%
Dine-In 10%

Kansans targeted by court scams

• Great Bend Tribune

TOPEKA — Kansas residents who receive unusual phone calls or emails from a person claiming to be affiliated with a court need to be aware they might be the target of a scam.

In one scam, residents report they received a phone call from someone who claimed to be a court official and demands the person pay a fine for failing to report for jury duty.

In another scam, residents of all ages who receive an email from a Kansas court that encourages them to click on a link to confirm a court complaint was filed.

Both scams ask the recipient to delete a virus onto the recipient's computer when it is clicked.

Anyone who receives an email of this type should not open the email.

A person who receives an unusual communication that does not fit the profile of either of these scams can contact a local court official to confirm whether it is a scam.

The 45th International Pancake Dip is March 6, and racers of all ages can begin signing up for the event on Feb. 7 at the Liberal Recreation Center (1109 W. 7th St.) in Blue Springs Park. Sign-ups continue through Feb. 21. Those sign-ups are for all races and all ages except the Pancake Dash, Pasta and Best Pancake Chefs. The number of contestants in each race is limited to 15, and a category will be closed once the limit is reached. There is no entry fee. No early or late sign-ups will be accepted.

Hawaii student finds snail in school lunch

HONOLULU (AP) — Officials at a high school on Hawaii's Big Island say they're increasing the level of food inspections at the cafeteria after a student found a snail in his lunch.

Officials at Waiakea High School in Hilo say a student served at the Kealakehe High School cafeteria Principal Wilfred Morishima said the school has been in contact with the student's parents and the cafeteria staff.

"We denote it, mean it is a violation of our food service and it isn't acceptable," he said. "And for this

See SNAIL/Page 5A

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 7, 2014
LEADER & TIMES
Your daily news & views for 127 years

City turns to new software

SMARTGov

City of Liberal to convert from Black Bear's PTWin system to track all aspects of zoning and codes including permit issuance, inspections and code enforcement with SMARTGov software

Herald to the Leader & Times

Palatka Data Systems Corporation announced the City of Liberal has contracted for SMARTGov, Palatka's community development software that manages the full lifecycle of any permit, license, inspection, code enforcement or action for jurisdictions. This is the second client for Palatka in the state of Kansas.

The City of Liberal, Kansas, was another former Black Bear PTWin customer to convert to SMARTGov software. The City of Liberal will use the technology at Liberal to track all aspects of zoning and codes including permit issuance, inspections, code enforcement and a public portal to self-service public

See CITY/Page 5A

Kan. universities could join regional online group

TOPEKA (AP) — A bill before the Kansas Legislature would allow the state's universities to streamline their online offerings to students in out-of-state students according to regulators.

The bill would allow the Kansas Board of Regents to participate in a regional group that would establish standards for online courses and authorize the member states to provide online courses to each state. The group would be known as the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement, or SARA, The Lawrence Journal-World reported.

Current regulations require each school to get approval from each state where it enrolls online students.

Only public universities currently participating in the agreement are in Kansas, officials said.

"The movement to develop regional reciprocity agreements is a response to the growth of distance education and the need to ease the burden of state authorization requirements of 50 states," Andy Tompkins, president and chief executive officer of the regents, said Thursday before a hearing on the bill by the House Higher Education Committee questioned whether joining such a group would allow unreliable universities to offer courses in Kansas.

Tim Weiss, dean of continuing education at Kansas State University said he believed that safeguards in the reciprocity agreement would prevent problems with those who offer courses in Kansas. He said the agreement would allow SARA to have one entity to address student complaints and recover actual costs related to complaints.

House panel to vote on gun rights measure

TOPEKA (AP) — A Kansas House committee is expected to vote on a measure that would bar local governments from enacting gun control measures and from requiring gun owners to register their guns with the state.

The House Federal and State Affairs Committee is expected to approve the measure Friday and send it to the full chamber for debate. National and state gun control measures are stalled.

The bill would nullify existing local gun ordinances throughout Kansas. It would ensure that the open and concealed carry of firearms is legal in all cities and counties from regulating gun and ammunition sales.

The measure would also bar counties and cities from requiring gun owners to register their guns with the state and prohibit local governments from regulating knives.

Local government groups oppose the bill, noting city and county officials know their communities best.

Opponents surge against wind energy project

By DONALD BRADLEY and STEVE FRIEZ
• Goodland Star

FORGAN, Mich. (AP) — Mike Ford showed this ally his camera from cameras onto the dashboard, and his old Dodge diesel truck took out rumbling over frozen snowdrifts and bumpy roads.

A bumper sticker plastered behind him Ford started to ride the people living in — his word — "Wind" his land. "They don't tell you the truth," he said.

"Look at this."

"It was this sun," he said, the window down and pointing toward the sky.

Ford, 52, runs a wind-farm operation on 700 acres north of this little town of Forbs, about 25 miles from Michigan's Lake Huron. He and his family have lived his entire remembered life here, and farming — and business ever to Ford sort.

Now, he is a leading opponent in the war of a private company's $2 billion proposal for high-voltage transmission lines to carry Kansas wind-generated electricity to Kansas cities. Ford and some neighbors along the route of the Grain Belt Express — the line would stretch from Kansas to Indiana, cutting a 200-foot swath across Missouri — is unsuccessfully the bills of Milwaukee, and will harm property values, impair production and generally destroy their way of life.

"Know what I've worked for all these years," Ford said. "I'm fighting that for my kids and I'll all the way."

Grain-and-beef Clean Line Energy, which would construct the line, has been fighting back. It has hired outside firm that predicts the company stands to net a tidy and says its working hard to address the concerns of Ford and others.

"The future of Kansas wind energy depends on the export market and we're going to have to build transmission lines," said Jim Lanthe, director of development for the company.

Step aside, Keystone XL. Today our fix not only pipelines but wires that get a debate going about the country's energy policy.

But after all the dirty talk of fossil fuels and global warming, the debate is now about the wind, the sun.

— In Kansas, you find NIMBY-ism strong, firsthand, in something else for sure.

Kansas is on the hook for a mandate to increase its share of electricity that is wind-generated from the current 15 percent to 20 percent by 2020 — which is good for Kansas, which is the nation's fourth-windiest. The entity has been dubbed "the Saudi Arabia of wind."

Some farmers along the routes of planned transmission lines may feel more than a little ambivalence. Some may not mind the Grain Belt and Clean Line's first other projects because wind energy utility sub. doesn't contribute to global warming.

"We think it's a good thing to get low-cost, wind generated power to Kansas," said Jim Lanthe, a spokesman of the Kansas Cattle Ranchers chapter.

"Opponents say they are not against wind power.

See OPPONENTS/Page 5A

Vol. 128 • No. 245 • 14 Pages
Welcome to the new L&T. When you can't get the printed version, go to www.leadertimes.com
Liberal, Kansas