



Consumer Alert: Be Watchful For COVID Relief Scammers As Next Round Of Payments Continues

Topeka – Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt is urging Kansans to use caution with regard to the latest round of federal COVID-19 stimulus checks that are now being issued.

Congress authorized household payments of up to \$600 for each qualifying individual, similar to the initial round of Economic Impact Payments that were distributed as part of the CARES Act in the spring of 2020. The new round of federal payments will be issued through direct deposit to bank accounts or payments mailed directly to individuals. And as was the case during the initial round, Schmidt said Kansans should be wary of scammers offering to assist with receiving the payments.

“We know all too well that scammers will be back to their old tricks in attempting to cash in on the latest round of stimulus payments,” Schmidt said. “I caution all Kansans to use good judgment to prevent loss of the money they are entitled to receive at this critical time.”

Schmidt offered these tips to avoid falling prey to a scammer:

- The Internal Revenue Service will not ask you to pay anything up front to get this money. There are no fees or charges associated with receiving the payment. No one from the federal government will call, email or text message you and ask for your Social Security number, bank account information or credit card number. Anyone who does this is a scammer.

- Anyone calling and telling you they can get the check to you today is a scammer. Our best advice is to not answer calls, emails or text messages from phone numbers or email addresses you do not know. If you do answer a phone call, once you realize it’s not someone you know, just hang up.

- The Federal Trade Commission has warned of facilities requiring that residents on Medicaid sign over their funds, claiming that because the person is on Medicaid the facility is entitled to the payment. But Congress provided for the impact payments in the form of a tax credit, which under federal tax law do not count as “resources” for the purposes of being eligible for federal benefits programs like Medicaid. Because of this classification, nursing homes cannot assert a right to the payment merely because the resident is on Medicaid.

If you’ve been contacted by a scammer impersonating the federal government asking for information relating to the stimulus payment or any other COVID-19 scam, you can file a complaint with our Consumer Protection Division online at www.ag.ks.gov. You can also call (800) 432-2310 to request a paper complaint form be sent to you by mail.

More information on how to protect yourself from these and other scams is available on our consumer protection website at www.InYourCornerKansas.org.

Governor Laura Kelly Announces Kansas Moves to Phase 2 of COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution

Topeka – Governor Laura Kelly will announce tomorrow the statewide move to Phase 2 of Kansas’ COVID-19 vaccination plan. With this move, all those aged 65+, those in eligible congregate settings, and all high-contact critical workers will now be prioritized for vaccination, in addition to any one from Phase 1 who has not yet been vaccinated.

“After moving quickly to vaccinate close to 130,000 frontline health care workers and Kansas seniors, my administration has worked with local health departments and providers to prepare to move Kansas into Phase 2,” Governor Laura Kelly said. “While it’s important to remember that the rate of vaccinations will be dependent on the amount we receive from the federal government, we use every tool available to make vaccine delivery transparent, efficient, and fast in order to reach as many Kansans as possible.”

Approximately 1 million Kansans are in Phase 2 but the next weekly supply of vaccine from the federal government contains approximately 45,000 new first doses so not everyone in Phase 2 will be able to receive their vaccine immediately. Each county, through local health departments, will decide how their limited supply of the doses will be allocated by population groups.

Critically, to drive transparency, a vaccine dashboard is available that includes key metrics that will be updated three times a week. In addition to the dashboard, in the coming weeks, the State of Kansas will launch a “Find my Vaccine” mapping tool, so Kansans can locate sites that are offering vaccine administration in their communities.

Governor Kelly and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) ask for your patience while federal supply remains low and for those in prioritized populations to contact their local health departments to learn more about when they will begin to inoculate Phase 2 populations and how they will prioritize within that group or anyone remaining in Phase 1 who has not received the vaccine.

To assist vaccine distribution efforts, Governor Kelly also announced today the appointment of Marci Nielsen, PhD, MPH to Chief Advisor for COVID-19 Coordination and Seth Konkel to the role of Special Advisor for COVID-19 Vaccination.

“With significant experience in public health and operations between them, Marci and Seth will be valuable sources of support to my team and the team at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment as vaccine supply increases,” Governor Kelly said. “I am pleased to have them on board.”

Additional information

Phase 2 Guidelines:

- Persons aged 65 and older
- High-contact critical workers necessary to maintain systems, assets, and activities that are vital to the state security, the economy or public health, or who interact with large numbers of contacts and job-related COVID-19 exposure. COVID-19 risk is associated with the likelihood of infecting oneself or spreading the virus. Factors that increase risk include proximity, type of contact, duration of contacts and challenges to implement protective measures. This includes:
 - Firefighters, police officers, first responders, and correction officers
 - Grocery store workers and food services
 - K-12 and childcare workers, including teachers, custodians, drivers, & other staff
 - Food processing, including meat processing plants
 - Large-scale aviation manufacturing plants
 - Transportation workers
 - Workers in retail, agriculture, supply of critical services or materials for COVID-19 response, the U.S. Postal Service, and Department of motor vehicles
 - Those living or working in licensed congregate settings and other special care or congregate environments where social distancing is not possible, including:
 - Homeless shelters
 - Congregate childcare institutions
 - Emergency shelters or safe houses
 - Corrections facilities
 - Behavioral health institutions

Sue's Sudsy Soapbox By: Sue Reich



They did it! They made it through the day with no problems and with 20,000 or 30,000 National Guardsman all over the place to make sure there wasn't any riots or shooting or anything going on to harm the newcomers that were going to take their oaths. I heard at least 12 guardsmen were released from duty there because of questionable background checks. I told you I will not take sides that I will not specify, but we did need a change. I know people are so tired of this pandemic, the certain party that was running our country, the boredom of staying home all the time, not hugging or kissing their family and friends. Same ol', same ol'. Sure, does get tedious doesn't it? At least in March the daylight savings time will bring us closer to Spring. Can't hardly wait. I watched the inauguration because that was on just about every channel. That's okay. If you did watch it, we saw history being made.

You know at some of our ages, we have seen a lot of changes in our world. First man on the moon, the first test tube baby, people of same sex marriages, microwave ovens, Alexa that talks and does everything for us, cell phones (those cell phones can do everything, and I mean everything), electric cars, camera vests for police, camera doorbells, flatscreen TV's. All these electronics that kids can use that we never even thought of when we were kids. They know everything and I still struggle with my computer, my cell phone, my vehicle. Instruments that can see underwater. Storm predictors that can tell if and when we are going to get a blizzard, a tornado, tsunamis, earthquakes or hurricanes. I know there is much much more, but I don't have room to list

everything. lol. Just wanted to put in my two cents worth tonight. That's about all the cents/sense I have anymore.

Say, did you notice everyone had on masks at the inauguration? Even the bands, all the participants, except when they took an oath or gave a speech. That's the way it should be. Please wear your mask, wash your hands, use your sanitizer. I even clean the carts and baskets in the stores when I shop. I know most stores do, but just make that extra protection and you do it too. I really miss y'all. I'll be so glad when all this is over. Take care, mind your p's and q's, lvyva too. Your little ol' gal from Argentine. Sue

"A friend can make anything better by just being there".

"Once in a while you find a friend that will be there forever."

From: *At the Heart of Friendship*

Glass Ceiling Has Been Broken

By: Sue Reich

Now we have a female Vice President of the United States. She is credited for breaking the "Glass Ceiling" that has held women back for many years. I realize that women have come a long way, being entrepreneurs, getting in sports, working on cars, lawyers, doctors and all kinds of so called men's jobs, but becoming a Vice President of the United States is the one that broke that "Glass Ceiling" that women have been under.

I admire Susan B. Anthony, Amelia Earhart, pilot, Hillary Clinton, United States Secretary of State, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, American Lawyer and Supreme Court Justice, plus many more that I won't list, but Kamala Harris became the first woman and woman of color to finally get through that ceiling. In this day and age of the pandemic that our world is going through, she held her ground and got the job she was destined for. Her husband is the Second Gentleman which is also a first. Congratulations to all those who are now our new leaders.

Coyotes on the Prowl

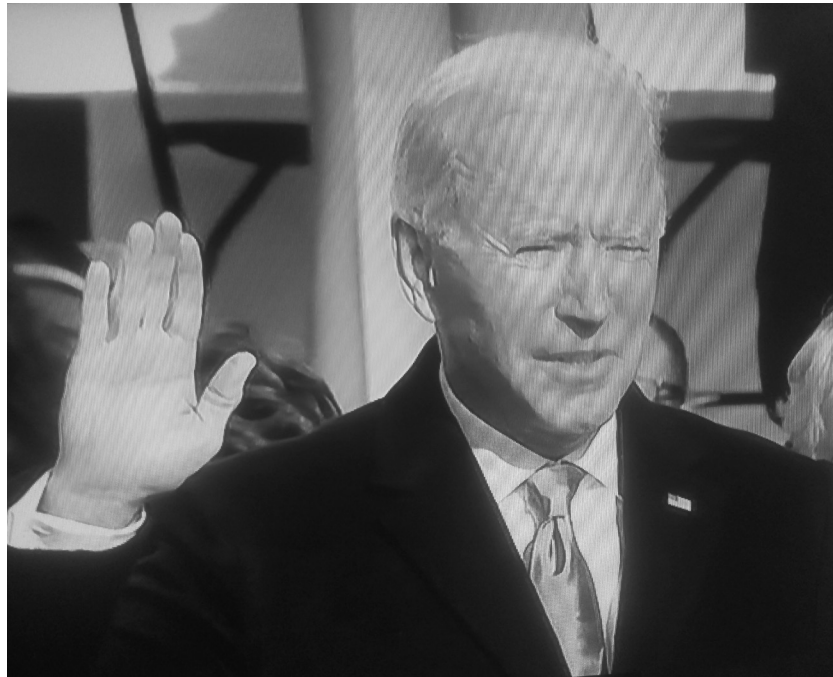
By: Sue Reich

It is that time of the year and the coyotes are in the mating season. An acquaintance of mine and her little dog had a terrifying experience. Her furbaby was out in the yard and a coyote came out of the woods on her property and snatched the little dog up.

The owner, a resident of Argentine, was able to rescue the small dog from the coyote. It was badly injured, and she took it to the vet and had it examined and had surgery.

People, please, this is the season of the coyote and they are hungry. The dogs are a threat to them because of mating time and it is their instinct to kill any competition. So please watch your furbabies and make sure

you are with them or have something to defend against the predators, like a can of wasp/hornet spray. Even chicken hawks fly above in circles watching down below for a morsel. A lady I knew lost her poodle to a chicken hawk. Mr. Ed and I were outside one day, and a bobcat ran right by us. Just keep your eyes open, you never know what hungry creature is watching your pets.



The president-elect taking the Inaugural Oath to be the New President.



Madam Vice President-elect taking her oath on two bibles.



Amanda Gorman, age 22, official Inaugural Laureate, reminded American what poetry can do.

Comin' & Goin' Turner Style



By Sharon Hoover

Four years ago, I came across several books about the women who decoded foreign messages during World War II. One of those was about Elizabeth Friedman by Jason Fagone, "The Woman Who Smashed Codes". Last month PBS presented a special on her which I watched and enjoyed very much. Not soon after I received a notice from PBS that a webinar entitled "Breaking the Code: A History of Women in STEM" was to be presented.

I signed up to join. The panel consisted of a historian, Jason Fagone and two sisters Valeria & Kyara Torres-Olivaris. (This program is now available on YouTube.) The discussion centered around the researching of the book but what was remarkably interesting was the story the two girls (a teenager and a twenty year old) had to tell. When Kyara started taking computer science courses, she noticed she was in the minority – not only one of the few females but also of a Latina. She felt ignored by her professors and intimidated by her male classmates. She wasn't the only one, other young women felt the same way. After many discussions, she and her sister started www.codeequal.com to introduce and expose young girls to the computer sciences. Their first course was called Girl Code and aimed at 4th – 8th grade

girls: the second, Code It which was gender inclusive. They continue to offer free computer science courses, hold summer camps, and workshops all year round on a beginner to intermediate level and currently have 1000 students. I feel they are addressing a need to reach an underserved group of our population. Go get 'em gals. On a very serious note, this information has been on television, but I think it bears repeating. Persons interested in getting the covid-19 vaccine should go to wycokck.org/covid-19 or call 311 and take the survey. I did this last week for Calvin and myself. We have been contacted and are now scheduled to receive the vaccine this weekend. We will continue to practice social distancing and wear a mask. Until next time, stay safe and please be kind to those around you..

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SENATE NEWS

By Sen. Pat Pettey

Thank you for electing me to represent you for a third term in the Kansas Senate. Every year brings its challenges, but this year we know what COVID-19 is and the challenges it has brought to all parts of our lives. We have the capability to control its impact and return to what the “new normal” is in 2021, however, how this “new normal” looks: how we get there and how State Government supports this effort will be the central focus of the 2021 session.

2021 Session Convenes

Legislators ceremoniously convened Monday afternoon. The Senate swore in 14 new members and elected by acclamation legislative leadership:

- Senate President Ty Masterson
- Senate Vice-President Rick Wilborn
- The Democratic Caucus leadership:
 - Senate Democratic Leader: Dinah Sykes
 - Democratic Assistant Leader: Oletha Faust-Goudeau
 - Democratic Whip: Pat Pettey
 - Democratic Agenda Chair: Marci Francisco
 - Democratic Caucus Chair: Jeff Pittman

General Orders

Committees also began meeting this week to begin reviewing proposed legislation and to hear presentations from associated agencies to inform legislators on topics related to issues the Legislature faces. This year, I am serving on the following committees:

- Confirmation Oversight
- Education
- Financial Institutions
- Public Health and Welfare - Ranking Minority
- Ways and Means

You can click on the hyperlinked committee names to access the upcoming agendas.

The Senate passed two bills on Thursday, SB 13 and SB 14.

SB 13 repeals the property tax lid law applicable to cities and counties, establishes notice and public hearing

requirements for any taxing subdivision seeking to collect property taxes in excess of the subdivision’s revenue-neutral rate, prohibit valuation increases resulting solely from normal maintenance of existing structures, and expand the allowed acceptance of partial payments or payment plans for property taxes. I voted YES/NO.

SB 14 is an extension of the state of disaster emergency, which was set to expire on January 26, 2021. The new extension expires on March 31, 2021. I voted YES/NO.

All branches of government are closed Monday in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr.’s birthday. They will reopen Tuesday.

Daily calendars, committee and district information, and full text and summaries of bills are all available online at www.kslegislature.org. You can hear legislative proceedings in the Senate by clicking “Senate” under Audio/Video Broadcast on the home page. To watch the Senate and select committees, click here.

I am honored to serve as your Senator. My office is located in 125-E. I am practicing COVID-19 transmission mitigation strategies in order to keep my fellow legislators, staff, and members of my community safe. Please feel free to contact me at 785-296-7375 or pat.pettey@senate.ks.gov. [I am also happy to set up a Zoom to discuss any questions or concerns.]

Governor Delivers State of the State Message

In her third State of the State message, Governor Laura Kelly outlined her vision for moving Kansas forward beyond this pandemic. Her address was broadcast on KTWU, KPTS, and Smoky Hills Public Broadcasting, as well as the governor’s social media channels. You watch her remarks here.

In her speech, Governor Kelly focused on keeping our economy moving and keeping kids in school as we recover from this pandemic.

On vaccines: While the state initially experienced a reporting lag of vaccines delivered, the CDC vaccine tracker is now showing that Kansas is in the top tier for vaccines administered per capita. The latest information about distribution instructions and timelines will always be available at this website - kansasvaccine.gov.

But until we get the vast majority of Kansans vaccinated, it’s imperative that everyone continue to do their part in slowing the spread of the virus – wear a mask, physically distance, and avoid mass gatherings.

Wyandotte County residents can go to wycokck.org to find information to sign up on the vaccine interest form. Johnson County residents can go to jocogov.org and also find information on signing up for the vaccine.

On the economy: The Kelly administration is set to launch the Framework for Growth - a comprehensive roadmap to ensure that the Kansas economy continues to thrive and that our most valuable resource – our young people – have exciting career opportunities right here at home. An obvious area for job growth is to rebuild our crumbling infrastructure. Democrats and Republicans came together last year to pass a 10-year infrastructure plan – it’s a strategic, practical approach that allows us to prioritize the most urgently needed projects.

On schools: We fixed our public schools once already - bringing Republicans and Democrats together to constitutionally fund education for the first time in many years. Now more than ever, it’s critical to maintain education funding. Now that the pandemic has created a new set of challenges – we’re going to get every Kansas student back in the classroom as soon as possible and provide their teachers with the tools and resources they need to get our kids back on track. That means improving access to broadband.

Governor Rolls Out Budget Proposal

Governor Kelly released her budget proposal Wednesday, outlining her priorities to keep our economy moving as we recover from the economic consequences of the pandemic. The Kelly budget accomplishes the following critical policy goals necessary to recover and rebuild from COVID-19 without any increases in individual or business income taxes:

- Maintaining fiscal responsibility by recommending a budget with a healthy State General Fund ending balance of \$600.9 million;
- Continuing record-breaking economic growth by pro-

tecting tools like the Kansas Main Street Program and the Economic Development Initiatives Fund, which resulted in \$2.5 billion in new investment in 2020;

- Protecting Kansas K-12 public schools by fully funding the state’s constitutional obligation in FY 2022 and increasing school funding by \$388.1 million through FY 2023;

- Expanding access to affordable healthcare and behavioral health services by allocating \$19 million to expand Medicaid and \$8 million in additional funding for behavioral health crisis response and triage services to Kansans across the state;

- Closing the “Bank of KDOT” by reducing transfers from the State Highway Fund to \$133.7 million in FY 2021 and \$66.9 million in FY 2022;

- Investing in the state’s digital infrastructure by making substantial investments to improve the state’s IT systems, including leveraging \$37.5 million in federal funds to begin to modernize and improve the state’s unemployment insurance systems;

- Protecting state retirees by stabilizing KPERs through reamortization, which will ensure long-term viability of the state employee pension system while protecting KPERs benefits.

I am ready to get to work and will do my best to keep you up-to-date in the coming weeks as legislators begin to work through specific budget issues. In the meantime, to access the Governor’s Budget Report in full, visit the Kansas Division of Budget’s website at <https://budget.kansas.gov/>.

Maternal Mortality Bill Introduced

Senators Oletha Faust-Goudeau (D-Wichita) and Mary Ware (D-Wichita) announced Wednesday during a press conference that they have introduced a bill in the Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs that addresses maternal mortality rates.

The legislation was crafted in collaboration with Dr. Sharla Smith, an assistant professor in population health at the University of Kansas Medical Center, and former Representative Melody McCray-Miller of Wichita. If passed, the bill would establish a community review committee including stakeholders of color to review Black maternal death cases.

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment annual report shows infant mortality rates of Blacks and Hispanics to be twice as high as for Whites. I support this legislation. Information is power. The more information we have about maternal health care and the issues facing our mothers in Kansas, the better off it is for our families.

Value Them Both Constitutional Amendment

Both versions of the constitutional amendment (House version here and Senate version here) seeking to eliminate abortion rights in Kansas were heard in their respective committees this week. I anticipate that they will head to their respective chambers for full consideration and a vote as early as next week. The measures require two-thirds majority vote (27 votes in the Senate; 84 votes in the House) to pass. They cannot be vetoed by the Governor.

I anticipate that this constitutional amendment will pass, and that the body will not accept any amendments, including any that may create protections for cases of rape, incest, or when the life of the mother is at risk. If it passes, the constitutional amendment will be decided by voters at the ballot box during the August 2, 2022 Primary Election.

Capitol Security

Last week, a group of Americans caused a violent insurrection at the U.S. Capitol, which endangered our United States Senators and Representatives, government staff, Capitol police, and damaged the U.S. Capitol itself, and led to five deaths. As you may know, protests organized by similar groups are planned next week between January 17 and January 20 (Inauguration Day).

Many of you have reached out to ask about the security of legislators, Capitol staff, and our Capitol building in anticipation of these protests. The Kansas Highway Patrol and Kansas Bureau of Investigation are monitoring these protests and any potential threats. The Senate will meet pro forma on Wednesday, meaning legislators will not be required to be at the Capitol.

At this time all Senate committees are meeting, however, there will not be a Senate floor session.

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Guest Editorials

Quotes to Ponder

By: Tom Valverde

“Democracy has prevailed!”

“Unity is the path forward.”

“We will get through this Together.”

“We will press forward with speed and urgency, for we have much to do in this Winter of peril and significant possibility.”

“We must show respect for one another.”

“We must reject the culture in which facts themselves are manipulated and even manufactured.”

“And I pledge this to you, I will be a president for all Americans.”

“Folks, it’s a time of testing. We face an attack on our Democracy and on truth, a raging virus, a stinging inequity, systemic racism, a climate crisis, America’s role in the

world. Any one of these would be enough to challenge us in profound ways. But the fact is, we face them all at once, presenting this Nation with some of the greatest responsibilities we’ve had. Now, we are going to be tested. Are we going to step up?”

“Democracy depends on all of us.”

Excerpts from the Inauguration speech of President Joe R. Biden, The 46th president of the United States

Truth has been doubted, the world of facts ever diminished these past four years. It is with this opportunity to provide our readers a challenge to the constant drone of lies upon lies that we have dedicated ourselves to. With

resolve we have confronted some of the more egregious of the former president’s lies and shared information to shed a light on his corrupt administration. To share facts and opinions to enable the people of this community to continue their long and strong history of working together to face our most pressing issues and concerns without undue influence from

them: Concerns of our Senior citizens, our homeless students and families, the need of the residents of Argentine to have a 21st Century-worthy police station and address many other concerns of mental health and safety. If you have been inspired to become part of the solution, go ahead, step up! There is always room for you and your talents and abilities.

And if able, please make a contribution to those local agencies and Churches who have been of so much help feeding anyone in need.

We have been through alot, but we still have much to be thankful for. I congratulate President Biden and Vice-president Harris; may they succeed in finding solutions to the needs of the American people.

Can Schools Finish The Year Normally? How To Keep Them Open And Safer

COVID-19 cases are surging across the U.S., a harsh reality that students, parents, teachers and staff feared would happen when many schools opened for fall sessions. As a result, schools throughout the nation have closed and shifted to remote learning in recent weeks.

What will it take to return kids to the classroom and keep schools open? Though vaccines have been approved, it may be months before children, their families, and school personnel are vaccinated. Until then, implementing a plan that includes processes for virus detection and response is paramount, says Dr. Jonathan Spero (www.inhousephysicians.com), an expert on pandemic preparedness whose company is delivering COVID-19 testing to K-12 schools in New York City.

“The problem that schools are facing is there is still a significant prevalence of COVID in many communities,” Spero says. “Schools need to do everything they can to prevent student outbreaks; otherwise it’s going to continue shutting down schools.

“But on top of that you have to deal with a tremendous amount of anxiety. The students, parents, faculty, and staff are all on pins and needles because they are feeling insecure about their health. The only way to address all of this is through a comprehensive health security strategy that can work when so many variables are in play.”

Spero offers these suggestions to safely open schools while navigating the continuing COVID-19 crisis:

- Daily temperature checks. “They’re not a fool-proof way to see if someone has COVID,” Spero says.

“A significant number are asymptomatic, but fever is a common symptom, and because it is, temperature checks should be a fundamental daily procedure.” Spero suggests two ways to organize the temperature-checking process at schools: designate some staff members, who can each scan 200-300 students an hour; 2) use thermal scanners, a device that can scan 400-600 per hour.

- Screening for symptoms and close contacts. This starts at home, where parents can help prevent the spread at schools by keeping children home who are showing COVID-like symptoms or have been in close contact with someone with COVID. “At schools, everyone returning should be screened on a range of symptoms,” Spero says. “Those with symptoms should be sent home and referred for testing.”

- COVID surveillance testing. Though this is rarely being done in K-12 schools, Spero says, “Frequent asymptomatic testing of the student population is a very effective way to limit the spread of the virus in the school.” Positive test results necessitate the immediate need to perform contact tracing with the goal of identifying everyone who was in close contact with the infected student.

- Daily prevention protocols. Spero says, “Prevention measures include mask-wearing by all students and staff throughout the school day, frequent disinfection of surfaces, the availability of hand sanitizers in classrooms, frequent reminders to wash hands, and as much social distancing as possible in classrooms.”

“Positivity rates in the community need to be held to a reasonable level for schools in an area to be open,” Spero says. “And when they are open, there are a lot of moving parts for school officials to deal with in order to avoid an outbreak. But if they’re not dealt with, ultimately your school could be closing again.”

About Dr. Jonathan Spero
Dr. Jonathan Spero (www.inhousephysicians.com) is a physician and an expert on pandemic preparedness and employee health. For over 30 years he has been the CEO of InHouse Physicians, which is dedicated to protecting the health and well-being of employees and meeting attendees around the world. InHouse Physicians regularly supports some of the highest-profile corporate sales, incentive, and executive programs in the world, including the Olympic Games and World Cup. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. Spero and InHouse Physicians have been delivering employee health services to critical infrastructure corporations, offering medical care and COVID testing. Dr. Spero completed his medical training at the University of California.



Passings...

By: Sue Reich

James “Jim” Lee Luther, age 80, passed away January 13, 2021. He was an Argentine resident and attended EPCC.

Tom’s Tasty Treats

This week’s tasty treat uses a few ingredients, and most are always on hand at home. They crisp and delicious, and so very easy to make.

Tom’s Orange Crisps

Ingredients:

1/2 c Butter

1/2 c Sugar

1 Lg. Egg

1 1/2 c Flour

1/8 t Salt

1/2 t Baking Powder

1 t grated Orange peel

2 T Orange juice

1 Dark Chocolate bar, melted for drizzling—optional

Direction:

Cream the butter and sugar until creamy. Add the egg and beat for 3 minutes, or until light and fluffy.

Combine the flour, salt, and baking powder and whisk until blended. Stir in the grated orange peel.

Add the orange juice to the butter mixture. Add and fold in by hand, the flour mixture. Cover the dough and chill for 2 hours.

Set oven to 350°. Line cookie sheets with parchment paper. Divide dough into thirds; take one and keep the remaining dough chilled.

Flour counter and rolling pin and roll dough to just under 1/4” in thickness. Cut into 3” shapes, Hearts, Circles, Squares, and set 1 1/2” apart. If desired, sprinkle the cookies with sugar.

Bake at 350° for 7 to 9 minutes, or until light brown along the edges. Remove from oven and leave to set for 2 minutes on the cookie sheet. Then transfer to a cooling rack and let cool completely.

These are great just as they are, but everything tastes better with a little bit of dark chocolate! And since Valentine’s day is not too far off, these are just the thing to share with your favorite Valentine, or with all your Valentines! Not a fan of chocolate? Melt white chocolate instead and after the cookies are drizzled, sprinkle some red or pink sugar crystals! Be quick, the chocolate sets up fast and the sugar won’t adhere once its set. Store in an airtight container. Your time and efforts will be appreciated. Enjoy!



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