

Thomas A. Fogarty



It's only sewer gas

It's budget time in the Legislature, and one of the most off-beat entries is a \$7,500 item intended to finance collection and cataloging of reports of paranormal occurrences.

The sum was added in committee to the University of Nebraska at Omaha budget by Sen. Ralph Kelly of Grand Island, who claims a deep interest in unexplained phenomena like UFOs. Kelly, a pilot, says he's always looking for UFOs, but has never seen one.

"I've always been of the opinion that UFOs are something," Kelly says. "They may be figments of our collective imagination, physical phenomena like electricity seeping from power lines or visitors from outer space. But if they are figments of our imagination, isn't it important to know that? And if it is electricity maybe we could figure a way to recapture it."

Kelly says physics researchers at UNO are currently involved in the study of the paranormal, and the new money would allow them to create a repository for reports on unusual happenings reported in the state.