

KanScan

Space center announces adjustments to weather economic pinch

HUTCHINSON (AP) — The Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center hopes to operate in the black for the rest of the year, after months of financial losses.

The Cosmosphere announced layoffs last week, citing a drop in tour-ism caused by, among other things, gas explosions and a hepatitis out-break earlier this year. So far, atten-dance has dropped 25 percent from last year.

“Since our last meeting, we’ve ob-viously made some adjustments to compensate for a new reality,” Jeff Ollenburger, the Cosmosphere’s vice president of marketing and programs, said at a board meeting Monday. “We expect to maintain a balanced budget for the rest of the year.”

Ollenburger said the Cosmosphere will soon announce a slate of hands-on educational activities — such as trying on spacesuits — for older el-

ementary and middle-school students and their families. Those activities, which will run on Saturdays, will likely start in late October and early November.

“They’ll be very inexpensive or free,” Ollenburger said of the activi-ties.

Cosmosphere President Max Ary also said the museum may look be-yond attendance for revenue.

Ollenburger said that so far, the

Cosmosphere has lost the \$300,000 budget surplus it was anticipating at the beginning of the year.

In addition to last week’s an-nouncement of the first layoffs in the space center’s 21-year history, the Cosmosphere has also shortened its fall hours from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday through Thursday.

The Cosmosphere is still open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Those shortened hours could allow

the building to be rented out more often, Ary said, by groups holding wedding receptions, Christmas par-ties and other events, without having to share the building with museum guests.

In the aftermath of last week’s lay-offs — affecting four full-time and several part-time employees — Ollenburger said Cosmosphere work-ers have done a good job focusing on what needs to be done.

He also said that October atten-dance, particularly from visiting school groups, was up and the IMAX Theaters “Bears” film has also done well.

The biggest goal, he said, is for the Cosmosphere to gain momentum go-ing into the year-end holiday break.

The week between Christmas and New Year’s Day is typically one of the Cosmosphere’s best in terms of attendance, officials said.

Three middle school boys could face charges for anthrax hoax

PRAIRIE VILLAGE (AP) — Three teen-age boys were arrested Tuesday and are accused of plot-ting an anthrax hoax in hopes that classes would be canceled for the day.

Police said the boys — two 13-year-olds and one 14-year-old — put crushed plaster in an envelope and slid it underneath the door of the office at Indian Hills Middle School during a lunch period.

A parent entered the office with her small child and picked up the envelope. As she placed it on a counter, powder leaked from the

envelope onto the child’s arm. The mother panicked, thinking the powder was anthrax, police said.

An investigation determined the powder was plaster from the school’s art room. Police said the three eighth-graders admitted they devised the plan during their first-period class, and that they in-tended the powder to simulate an-thrax, hoping school would be dis-missed for the day.

Classes went on as scheduled, and the boys were taken to the Johnson County Juvenile Intake Assessment Center.

Wichita-based restaurant chain faces lawsuit

WICHITA (AP) — California Pub-lic Employees Retirement System has sued top officials and board members of Lone Star Steakhouse, claiming they cost the company and its share-holders more than \$100 million through “self-dealing” transactions.

The complaint was filed Tuesday in Delaware against Jamie Coulter, chief executive officer of the Wichita-based restaurant chain, and several current and former board members.

“Coulter has enriched himself at the company’s expense through a series of self-dealing transactions whereby he earned millions of dollars in fees, on top of his compensation as CEO,” according to the complaint.

Coulter did not return phone mes-

sages left by The Associated Press seeking comment. His office said he and other top company officials who could comment on the case were out of town and could not be immediately reached.

Lone Star is a Delaware corpora-tion based in Wichita. It owns and operates restaurants under the names of Lone Star Steakhouse & Saloon, Del Frisco’s Double Eagle Steak House and Sullivan’s Steakhouse.

The suit claims that Coulter’s “hand-picked” board received lavish stock option grants and other benefits in return for allowing him free rein.

It alleges overpricing of 13.6 mil-lion stock options from 1997 to 2000, costing the company at least \$113.8

million.

As the company’s stock price crashed and criticism grew, the board more than quadrupled the salaries of Coulter and executive vice president John White. Coulter’s salary and bon-us went from \$210,000 in 1995 to \$1.05 million in 2000, while White’s salary and bonus grew from \$186,000 in 1995 to \$839,000 in 2000, the com-plaint said.

The board also approved golden parachutes for Coulter and his man-agement team that could potentially cost more than \$44 million, accord-ing to the suit.

It also cites Lone Star’s purchase for \$10.5 million of a separate res-taurant management company — one

without hard assets, intellectual prop-erty or technical know-how, accord-ing to the suit. That company, Coulter Enterprises, was purportedly owned by Coulter with one client, Lone Star Steakhouse.

CalPERS, the nation’s largest pub-lic pension fund, has asked the court to void the options repricing and re-scind the acquisition of Coulter’s firm. It is also seeking compensatory damages to the company. CalPERS owns more than 372,000 shares of Lone Star stock.

According to the complaint, Lone Star’s stock price fell 85 percent — from \$44 a share to less than \$7 a share — between April 1996 and October 2000.

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For Classified Word ads are as follows:

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3-4 days	18¢/word
5-9 days	17¢/word
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COUNTRY ADVOCATE DEADLINE IS 12:00 NOON ON FRIDAY.

COLBY

FREE PRESS

785-462-3963

Help Wanted

Thomas County Fairboard is currently taking applications for secretary/treasurer. Computer and bookkeeping a must. Part time position with flexible hours. Please pickup job description from Tracey Perkins, Courthouse, 300 N. Court. Return applications to Tracey or mail to P.O. Box 260, Colby, Ks. 67701. Applications must be in by November 1st. —10/16—10/31—

Construction worker with knowledge of concrete and carpentry. Must have driver's license. Call Ron at Huttles Construction Inc. 785-462-7123. —10/12—10/26—

Help Wanted

Immediate opening for full time sales clerk/receptionist. Apply in person at Of-fice Works and Home Furnishings, 960 S. Range Ave., Colby. 785-462-2222. —8/29—tfn—

Notice

Cash for dead TV's and VCR's. Also will repair. Free estimates. Call anytime. 785-462-7657. —10/1—10/31—

Apartments for Rent

2 bedroom brick apartment. Off street parking, patio, W/D hookups. Call 462-3285 or 462-5185. —10/17—10/26—

Rooms available at the Blakesley. One at \$215 and one at \$325 per month. Utili-ties and cable included. Call 462-3251. —8/17—tfn—

Sunflower Apartments in Colby can offer affordable apartments. To see if you qualify, stop by 1170 S. Franklin to pick up application or call Lynn Cameron at 462-6349. Equal Housing Opportunity. —10/27—tfn—

Misc. for Sale

Murray riding lawn mower, \$400. GE upright freezer, \$200. Maytag gas dryer \$200. 785-465-7555. —10/18—10/24—

5.0 liter V-8, 302 engine with automatic transmission out of 1983 F150. \$300 O.B.O. 462-3435. —10/18—10/24—

Weider Pro International Weight Set with Monster bench; John Deere Minia-ture pull tractor, also assortment of col-lectors tractors; dining room table with 4 chairs. Call 462-8896 —10/18—10/19—

Business Opportunities

Millions lose jobs, family of 5 replaces income in 135 days with home based business. Go to www.shopandgetpaid.com or call 24 hours 877-999-0217. —10/18—10/31—

Legal Notice

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SHERIDAN COUNTY, KANSAS

THE BANK, OAKLEY, KANSAS, PLAINTIFF, vs. GRANT OSTMEYER AND MAUREEN OSTMEYER, HUSBAND AND WIFE; ET AL., DEFENDANTS. CASE NO. 00-C-12

Apartment for Rent

Nice 1 bedroom apartment in Colby. All utilities paid, free laundry. Call 462-5085 or 785-586-2346. —10/17—10/26—

Legal Notice

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THOMAS COUNTY, KANSAS

COMMERCIAL FEDERAL MORTGAGE CORPORATION, PLAINTIFF VS. David M. Miller, et al., DEFENDANTS Case No. 01-C-52 K.S.A. 60

Houses for Rent

Nice 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. Fenced in yard, garage, storage shed. Available now. Call 462-3285 or 462-5185. —10/17—10/26—

For Rent - Mobile Homes

Clean 2 bedroom, W/D, available now. 462-7468. —10/16—10/19—

Three bedroom mobile home and trailer lots. Call 462-3011 or 462-0087. —10/12—10/25—

Motor Homes

1985 Coachman. 24', Chevy class "C", excellent shape, asking \$14,000. 785-626-2029. —10/18—10/25—

Farm Equipment

One 1982 7T Reinke, model 670, 1,289', hosedrops. \$13,500. Call 785-462-6755. —10/18—10/31—

Wanted

Single roll away bed or twin bed with firm mattress. Please call 462-7204. —10/18—10/22—

Electrical work. 2 years vo-tec and 3 years experience. Larry Huttles at Huttles Electric. 785-626-2033. Colby, Atwood. —10/17—10/23—

Alfalfa hay, cane hay, and dry corn. Com-petitive bids. Please call Scott Foote at 785-386-4519. —2/1—tfn—

NOTICE OF SALE

Under and by virtue of an Order of Sale issued to the Clerk of the District Court of Sheridan County, Kansas, in the above action, wherein the parties above named were, respectively, Plaintiff and Defendant, to me the undersigned Sheriff of Sheridan County, Kansas, I will offer for sale at public auction and sell to the highest bidder for cash in hand, at the front door of the Courthouse in the City of Hoxie, in said County of Sheridan, State of Kansas, on the 12th day of November, 2001, at 10:00 o'clock a.m. of said day, the following described real estate situated in the County of Thomas, State of Kansas, to-wit:

North Half (N 1/2) of Section Eleven (11), Township Nine (9) South, Range Thirty-one (31), West of the Sixth Principal Mer-idian, Thomas County, Kansas.

and the following-described real estate situated in the County of Sheridan, State of Kansas, to-wit:

South Half of the Southwest Quarter (S 1/2 SW 1/4) of Section Thirty (30), Township Nine (9) South, Range Thirty (30), West of the Sixth Principal Meridian, Sheridan County, Kansas;

Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4) of Section Five (5), Township Ten (10) South, Range Thirty (30), West of the Sixth Principal Meridian, Sheridan County, Kansas

A tract in the Southwest Quarter (SW 1/4) of Section Twenty-nine (29), Township Nine (9) South, Range Thirty (30), West of the Sixth Principal Meridian, Sheridan County, Kansas, more particularly de-scribed as follows:Beginning at a point which is 1,530 feet East and 428 feet North of the Southwest corner of the Southwest Quarter (SW 1/4) of Section Twenty-nine (29), Township Nine (9) South, Range Thirty (30), West of the Sixth Principal Me-ridian, thence East 375 feet; thence North 418 feet, thence West 375 feet, thence South 418 feet to the point of beginning.

The real estate will be sold in separate parcels, as described above.

The sale is to satisfy the judgments in the above-entitled case, said sale to be made without ap-praisalment and subject to the three-month re-demption period of the Defendants, Grant and Maureen Ostmeyer, and further subject to the approval of the Court.

JAMES JOHNSON, SHERIFF

STARKEY & GATZ, L.L.P. P.O. Box 346 Colby, KS 67701 785-462-3383 Attorneys for Plaintiff

(Published in The Colby Free Press on October 18, 25, and November 1, 2001)

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue of an order of Sale issued to me out of the, said District Court in the above-entitled ac-tion, I will on Tuesday, November 6, 2001, at 10:00 a.m., of said day at the front door of the Courthouse in Thomas County, Kansas in the City of Colby, offer at public sale and sell to the best bidder for cash in hand, the following de-scribed real property:

ATRACT OF LAND IN THE NORTHEAST QUARTER (NE/4) OF SECTION THIRTSIX (36), TOWNSHIP SIX (6) SOUTH, RANGE THIRTY-FOUR (34) WEST OF THE 6TH P.M., THOMAS COUNTY, KANSAS, MORE PARTICU-LARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BE-GINNING AT A POINT WHICH IS FIFTY-FIVE AND SIXTY-SEVEN HUNDREDTHS FEET (55.67") WEST AND ONE THOU-SAND THIRTY FEET (1030") SOUTH OF THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID NORTHEAST QUARTER, SAID POINT BEING ON THE WEST RIGHT OF WAY OF KANSAS HIGHWAY NO. 25, (K-25) ; THENCE WEST AT A RIGHT ANGLE A DISTANCE OF THREE HUNDRED FEET (300"); THENCE SOUTH AND PARALLEL TO THE EAST SECTION LINE A DIS-TANCE OF TWO HUNDRED NINETY AND FOUR TENTHS FEET (290.4"); THENCE EAST AT A RIGHT ANGLE A DISTANCE OF THREE HUNDRED FEET (300") TO THE WEST LINE OF K-25 HIGHWAY; THENCE NORTH ON SAID RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE A DISTANCE OF TWO HUNDRED NINETY AND FOUR TENTHS FEET (290.4") TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

subject to any redemption rights as provided by law.

This is an attempt to collect a debt and any in-formation obtained will be used for that purpose.

Sheriff of Thomas County, Kansas

ROBERT E. LASTELIC, #7178 4701 College Blvd., Suite 214 Leawood, Kansas 66211-1689 P.O. Box 7770 Leawood, Kansas 66207-0770 913-345-9595 Fax No. 913-345-8811 E-mail: rlasteli@ink.org Our File No. 01-0453/ac ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF

(Published in The Colby Free Press on Thurs-day, October 11, 18, and 25, 2001)

House for Sale

3 bedroom house. Full, partially finished basement; 2 baths, fenced back yard. Call 785-462-6830. —10/17—10/23—

Legal Notice

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THOMAS COUNTY, KANSAS PROBATE DIVISION

In the Matter of the Estate of Leora Johnson, Deceased. Case No. 01-2-12

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR FINAL SETTLEMENT

The State of Kansas to All Persons Concerned:

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed on October 9, 2001, in this Court by Dean D. Johnson and John J. Johnson, Co-executors of the estate of Leora Johnson, deceased, pray-ing for a final settlement of the estate, approval of their acts, proceeding's and accounts as Co-executors, determination of the heirs, devisees and legatees entitled to the estate and assignment to them in accordance with the Will of Leora Johnson, deceased.

You are hereby required to file your written de-fenses thereto on or before November 2, 2001, at 10:00 o'clock a.m., on such day, in such Court, in the City of Colby, in Thomas County, at which time and place such cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon said petition.

DEAN D. JOHNSON, JOHN J. JOHNSON, PETITIONERS

Submitted by: H. David Starkey, #8686 Starkey & Gatz, L.L.P. P.O. Box 346 Colby, Kansas 67701 785-462-3383 Attorney for Petitioner

(Published in The Colby Free Press on Octo-ber 11, 18, and 25, 2001)

Vehicles for Sale

1982 Oldsmobile Delta 88. 4 door, runs great, well maintained drive train. 785-465-7555. —10/18—10/24—

1983 Toyota pickup. Runs good. Call after 7:00 p.m. at 785-687-3290. —10/17—10/19—

Business Services

Affordable health insurance. 1-800-959-4539. www.bradleypotter-ins.com/natl168 —9/27—10/29—

Garage Sale

515 Austin Ave. Saturday 9:00 a.m. - noon. Moving to an apartment. —10/18 & 10/19—


Colby 4-H building. Huge garage sale. Saturday, October 20. Lots of household items, antiques, dolls. —10/18 & 10/19—

1745 W. 4th St. Thursday through Sun-day. Open all day. 25% off Mary Kay in-ventory, plus misc. motel and personal items. —10/18 & 10/19—

The Colby Free Press

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In anticipation of National Great American Smokeout Day, November 15, start quitting today.

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