

On the road!

March calendar full of events

By Leilani Thomas
Colby Convention & Visitors Bureau

The column title was very appropriate this month. We had the pleasure of being in Topeka Feb. 8-9 for 1-70 Association meeting and the Travel Industry Association of Kansas Legislative Day. A breakfast was held for the legislators and travel professionals.

We were pleased to meet with Rep. Jim Ostmeier and Sen. Ralph Ostmeier.

Two seminar sessions were then held on transient guest tax and highway signs.

We also worked the Wichita Sports Boat and Travel Show the weekend of Feb. 18-19. We had the opportunity to visit with many about Northwest Kansas and Colby.

We then escorted the Leadership Thomas County class to Topeka for their annual pilgrimage for the Legislative session, Feb. 22-24. We traveled with Leadership Sherman County by motor coach. The trip gave the participants from both counties the chance to interact, network and build relationships for the future. We made stop at the Rolling Hills Refuge Museum near Salina on the way.

The Topeka schedule included appointments and sessions at the State Board of Education, Kansas Department of Commerce, and Department of Agriculture. Tours of the Capitol and visiting a session of the Senate and House of Representatives are always class favorites. A working lunch was scheduled where the class meets with Rep. Morrison, Faber and Beamer and Sen. Ralph Ostmeier.

The final day's activities included a visit to the Justice Center to meet with Supreme Court Judge Marla Luckert, formerly of Goodland. Sitting in the Supreme Court is an awesome experience. The final activity was a visit to the Brown vs. Board of Education National Historic Site to learn more about the role of Kansas in the struggle for desegregation. It was a full three days for the class members.

The March class will be held the 8th at City Limits Convention Center with interviews scheduled for those involved in economic development.

March promises to be a very active month. The Gun, Coin, Antique and Collectible Show will be held at the Colby Community Building March 11 - 12.

The Chamber Banquet will be March 17 at the City Limits Convention Center.

You won't want to miss hearing Marci Penner. She will make you want to travel the highways and byways discovering, the many attractions, characters, commerce and cuisine of rural Kansas.

The 16th Annual Better Home and Living Show takes place March 24-26 at the Colby Community Building.

This is truly a great time to get in the spirit of Spring with new ideas from the exhibitors for our homes, lawns and gardens.

A new fund-raising event takes place March 30 — The Chamber Mini March Madness basketball camp and games for 2nd through 5th graders will be held. A fun opportunity for young people and their families. Watch for more information.

Quarterly Calendar of Events for April, May, and June is being developed.

If you have an event that will occur during this time period, please give us a call at 460-7643.

We need the event name, time and location and will include it for you. Deadline is March 13.

Consumer questions whether vacation packages via e-mail, phone legitimate

Dear Attorney General Kline:
For the past few weeks, I have received several vacation and travel offers, both by e-mail and over the phone. I've been thinking about taking a vacation soon and these seem to be very nice packages, but I'm still a little skeptical. How can I prevent getting ripped-off?

Dear Kansas Consumer:
Many people receive offers like the ones you mentioned and some of the best advice is to use caution when responding to a vacation package promotion.

Some travel opportunities offered through the mail, over the phone or by fax are legitimate, but many are scams that defraud consumers out of their hard-earned money each month.

It can be difficult to tell a legitimate sales pitch from a fraudulent one but here are some tips on how to protect yourself and your wallet:

- Be wary of low-priced offers and "great deals." Very few legitimate businesses can afford to give away products and services of real value or substantially undercut other company's prices.
- Do not allow yourself to be pressured into buying. If it is a good offer today it will usually be a good offer tomorrow.
- Ask specific questions. Make sure you determine exactly what the advertised price covers and what it does not. Ask about any additional charges, too. If the offer is a package deal, get the names of the hotel, airlines, and restaurants included,



Phill Kline

• Consumer Corner

and consider contacting these businesses directly to verify arrangements. Also, ask about cancellation policies and refunds.

- Get all information in writing before you agree to buy. Once you do receive the written information, make sure it reflects what you were told over the phone and the terms you agreed to.
- Don't buy part of the package (the air fare or hotel stay, for example) separately from the rest. If the deal is not what you expected, it may be difficult to get your money back for the part of the package you purchased.
- Do not give your bank information or credit card number over the phone unless you know the company you're dealing with.

One very easy way for a scam artist to close a deal is to get your credit card number and charge your account. Fraudulent telemarketers sometimes say they need the number for verification purposes only, but don't believe them.

- Check out the company completely before you buy.

Ask the company to send you information about the business and

names of local satisfied customers. Contact the Better Business Bureau to check on complaints filed against the company, and contact the American Society of Travel Agents (ASTA) Consumer Affairs Department at 703-739-8739 to inquire on the legitimacy of the operator.

Finally, if you have doubts, trust your instincts and say "no." Keep in mind that unpleasant surprises can ruin a vacation trip, and be very costly in the long run.

By following these tips, you can help ensure that you are the one taking the vacation instead of the vacation planners taking advantage of you.

Editor's note: Attorney General Phill Kline offers this public service to help people avoid becoming victims of consumer fraud. Although some of the details have been changed, the cases appearing in this column are based on actual complaints or questions. For information or to file a complaint, write Attorney General Phill Kline, Consumer Protection Division, 120 SW 10th Ave., Topeka, Kansas 66612, or call the toll-free Consumer Hotline, 1-800-432-2310.

TV LISTINGS

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SATURDAY													MARCH 4
	6 AM	6:30	7 AM	7:30	8 AM	8:30	9 AM	9:30	10 AM	10:30	11 AM	11:30	
KLBV/ABC 4 (6)	La Gente	BusinessWeek	Good Morning America (CC)		Lilo & Stitch PJ	Emperor New	Proud Family	That's-Raven	Zack & Cody	Phil of Future	Kim Possible	Power Rangers	
KSNK/NBC 8 (8)	Today (CC)				Paid Program	Paid Program	Tutenstein (E)	Time Warp	Trading Spaces	Darcy's Wild Life	Flight 29 Down	Endurance (E)	
KBSL/CBS 12 (11)	Saturday Early Show (CC)				LazyTown	Go Diego	Backyardigans	Dora the Explorer	Little Bill (E) (CC)	Blue's Clues	College Basketball: Big Ten		
K15CG 2 (2)	Business	Market-Market	Thomas-Friends	Jay Jay the Jet	Bob the Builder	Real Wheels	DragonflyTV	Hand-Crafts	America's Home Favorites (CC)				
ESPN 28 (28)	SportsCenter (CC)		SportsCenter (CC)		SportsCenter (CC)		SportsCenter (Live) (CC)		College GameDay (Live) (CC)		College Basketball: W.Va. at Cincinnati		
USA 37 (37)	Paid Program	Thinner Thighs	Paid Program	Paid Program	WWE A.M. Raw		Monk Mr. Monk Takes Manhattan		Movie: The Adventures of Rocky and Bullwinkle ★½ (2000) Rene Russo. (CC)				
TBS 38 (38)	Saved by Bell	Saved by Bell	Movie: See Spot Run ★ (2001, Comedy) (PA) David Arquette. (CC)				Movie: Boat Trip ★½ (2003) Straight pals unwittingly set sail on an all-gay cruise.				Movie: Blast From the Past ★★ (1999)		
WGN 39 (39)	Enterprise	People-People	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Happy Days	Home Improve.	
TNT 40 (40)	Movie: Blade ★★ (1998) A vampire hunter does battle with a vicious bloodsucker.				Movie: Salem's Lot (2004, Horror) A writer encounters vampires in his Maine hometown. Rob Lowe, Andre Braugher. (CC)								
DSC 42 (42)	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Engineering the Impossible Technological advances. (CC)				Extreme Engineering (CC)		Extreme Engineering (CC)		
A&E 47 (47)	Murder, She Wrote Goodbye, Charlie		Red Carpet: Awards Nominees		Ask This Old	Ask This Old	Old House	Old House	Airline (CC)	Airline (CC)	Movie: Lean on Me ★★½ (1989) (CC)		
HIST 48 (48)	Automobiles Porsche 911 (CC)		Unknown Civil War (CC)		Wild West Tech Prospecting for gold.		Risk Takers/History Makers (CC)		Mail Call B-2 B-2 Stealth Bomber.		Modern Marvels World War I Tech		
NICK 55 (55)	Grown Up	Oddparents	Jimmy Neutron	Jimmy Neutron	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	Oddparents	Oddparents	The X's (CC)	Danny Phantom	Danny Phantom	Cats-cratch	
DISN 56 (56)	Koala Brothers	Higgly-town	Einsteins	JoJo's Circus	Doodle-bops	Charlie & Lola	The Wiggles	Lilo & Stitch	Lilo & Stitch	Buzz-Maggie	American Drgn	Emperor New	
FAM 58 (58)	Digimon-Digital	Dragon Booster	Spider-Man	A.T.O.M. (CC)	Get Ed Slammer	Kong-Series	Power Rangers	Super Robot	Power Rangers	W.I.T.C.-H. (CC)	Full House	Full House	
HALL 60 (60)	Little House on the Prairie (CC)		Little House on the Prairie Chicago		Little House on the Prairie (CC)		Movie: Dodson's Journey (2001, Drama) David James Elliott, Alicia Morton. (CC)				Movie: Murder Without Conviction		

SATURDAY													MARCH 4
	12 PM	12:30	1 PM	1:30	2 PM	2:30	3 PM	3:30	4 PM	4:30	5 PM	5:30	
KLBV/ABC 4 (6)	NBA Access	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Russ Dalbey	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	ABC Wild News	
KSNK/NBC 8 (8)	Gymnastics: American Cup. Philadelphia. (Live) (CC)				PGA Golf: Ford Championship at Doral -- Third Round. From Miami. (Live) (CC)							NBC News	
KBSL/CBS 12 (11)	College Basketball: Big Ten	College Basketball: Connecticut. (Live) (CC)					College Basketball: UCLA at Stanford. (Live) (CC)				Paid Program	CBS News	
K15CG 2 (2)	America's Home Cooking: Fame	Jerry Baker Gardening			Jerry Baker Gardening		Jerry Baker Gardening		Quilting With Fons & Porter: At Home In Madison County (CC)				
ESPN 28 (28)	College Basketball: W.Va. at Cincinnati	College Basketball: Washington. (Live) (CC)			Charlotte at George		College Basketball: DePaul at Notre Dame. (Live) (CC)				SportsCenter (Live) (CC)		
USA 37 (37)	Movie: The Emperor's Club ★★½ (2002) A teacher compromises his morals to help a wayward student.				Movie: K-PAX ★★½ (2001, Drama) A therapist's new patient claims to be an extraterrestrial. Kevin Spacey.						Monk Mr. Monk and the Astronaut (CC)		
TBS 38 (38)	(11:00) Movie: Blast Frm Past	Movie: A Night at the Roxbury ★½ (1998, Comedy) Will Ferrell, Chris Kattan. (CC)			Movie: Ace Ventura: Pet Detective ★★ (1994, Comedy) Jim Carrey. (CC)						Movie: Road Trip ★★ (2000) (CC)		
WGN 39 (39)	Cosby Show	Moesha (CC)	MLB Preseason Baseball: Arizona Diamondbacks at Chicago White Sox. From Tucson, Ariz. (Live) (CC)				Farscape Family Ties (CC)				Ultimate Arena Paintball (CC)		
TNT 40 (40)	Movie: Dreamcatcher ★½ (2003) Four telepathic friends encounter malevolent aliens. Morgan Freeman.				Movie: Underworld ★★½ (2003, Horror) Kate Beckinsale, Scott Speedman. (CC)				Movie: Gone in Sixty Seconds ★ (2000, Action) Nicolas Cage.				
DSC 42 (42)	Extreme Engineering (CC)	Extreme Engineering (CC)	Extreme Engineering (CC)	Extreme Engineering (CC)	Extreme Engineering (CC)	Extreme Engineering (CC)	Extreme Engineering (CC)	Extreme Engineering (CC)	Extreme Engineering (CC)	Extreme Engineering (CC)	Extreme Engineering (CC)	Extreme Engineering (CC)	
A&E 47 (47)	(11:00) Movie: Lean on Me ★★½ (1989)	Movie: A River Runs Through It ★★½ (1992) A portrait of the relationship between a preacher's sons.			Spying on Self		Spying on Self		Cold Case		American Justice		
HIST 48 (48)	Battlefield Detectives (CC)	Battlefield Detectives (CC)	Battlefield Detectives (CC)	Battlefield Detectives (CC)	Battlefield Detectives (CC)				Titanic's Final Moments: Missing Pieces Further analysis. (CC)				
NICK 55 (55)	Stein (CC)	Teenage Robot	Drake & Josh	Ned's School	Unfabulous	Zoey 101 (CC)	Nick-toons TV	Nick-toons TV	SpongeBob	Drake & Josh	Grown Up	Danny Phantom	
DISN 56 (56)	Movie: Aladdin and the King of Thieves ★★ (1996, Musical)	Ameri-can Drgn	Ameri-can Drgn	Ameri-can Drgn	W.I.T.C.-H. (CC)	Kim Possible	Kim Possible	The Emperor	Buzz-Maggie	Life With Derek	Zack & Cody		
FAM 58 (58)	Full House	Movie: Karate Kid II ★★½ (1986, Action) While visiting Okinawa, Daniel battles his mentor's foes. (CC)			Movie: Summer Catch ★★ (2001, Romance-Comedy) Freddie Prinze Jr..				Movie: Talking to Heaven (2002, Drama) A spiritualist medium solves murders. (CC)				
HALL 60 (60)	(11:00) Movie: Murder-Convict	Movie: The Firm ★★ (1993, Drama) A law-school grad signs on with a sinister Tennessee firm. Tom Cruise, Jeanne Tripplehorn.											

SATURDAY													MARCH 4
	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	
KLBV/ABC 4 (6)	News (CC)	The Insider	Movie: A Beautiful Mind ★★½ (2001, Biography) Math prodigy John Forbes Nash Jr. endures schizophrenia. Russell Crowe.						News (CC)	Seinfeld (CC)	Seinfeld (CC)	Enterprise	
KSNK/NBC 8 (8)	News	Wheel of Fortune	Dateline NBC (CC)		Law & Order: SVU		Conviction Pilot (CC)		News	Saturday Night Live Natalie Portman: Fall Out Boy. (N) (CC)			
KBSL/CBS 12 (11)	News (CC)	Paid Program	Movie: Panic Room ★★ (2002, Suspense) Jodie Foster. (Premiere) (CC)		48 Hours Mystery (N) (CC)		News (CC)		Drew Carey	Alias Trust Me (CC)			
K15CG 2 (2)	Lawrence Welk: Milestones and Memories Stars from "The Lawrence Welk Show" perform crowd-pleasing favorites. (CC)				An All-Star Tribute to Johnny Cash				Monty Python's Personal Best (Part 5 of 6) (CC)				
ESPN 28 (28)	(5:00) SportsCenter (Live) (CC)	College GameDay (Live) (CC)			College Basketball: Duke. (Live) (CC)				SportsCenter (Live) (CC)	Game-Day	Fast-break		
USA 37 (37)	Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: SVU		
TBS 38 (38)	(5:00) Movie: Road Trip ★★ (2000) (CC)	Movie: Scary Movie 3 ★★ (2003, Comedy) Anna Faris.			Movie: Scream 3 ★★ (2000) A copycat killer stalks actors on the set of "Stab 3."				Movie: Ace Ventura: Pet Detective ★★ (1994, Comedy)				
WGN 39 (39)	Circle of Care: Living	24 Day 2: 4:00 - 5:00AM (CC)	24 Day 2: 5:00 - 6:00AM (CC)		WGN News at Nine (CC)		Sex and the City		Becker (CC)	Home Improve.	Movie: CopLand		
TNT 40 (40)	(4:30) Movie: Gone in Sixty Seconds ★	Movie: Lethal Weapon 4 ★★ (1998) Detectives Riggs and Murtaugh battle Chinese mercenaries. (CC) (DVS)			Movie: Lethal Weapon 4 ★★ (1998) Detectives Riggs and Murtaugh battle Chinese mercenaries. (CC) (DVS)								
DSC 42 (42)	How It's Made	How It's Made	The Mystery of the Human Hobbit (N)		Human Computer		Cosmos The history of the universe.		Survivorman	Survivorman	The Mystery of the Human Hobbit		
A&E 47 (47)	City Confidential (CC)		Movie: Windtalkers ★★ (2002, War) A Marine protects a Navaho code transmitter in World War II. Nicolas Cage. (CC)		Sodom & Gomorrah (CC)				Amer. Justice		Movie: Windtalkers ★★ (2002) (CC)		
HIST 48 (48)	Modern Marvels		Banned From the Bible Some believe that stories were edited out of the Bible. (CC)						Caligula: Reign of Madness (CC)		Banned From the Bible (CC)		
NICK 55 (55)	Oddparents	SpongeBob	Ned's School	Drake & Josh	All That (CC)	Amanda	Full House	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	Cosby Show	Roseanne	Roseanne	
DISN 56 (56)	That's-Raven	That's-Raven	Movie: Beethoven ★★ (1992, Comedy) Charles Grodin. (CC)		Movie: Beethoven's 3rd ★★½ (2000, Comedy) Judge Reinhold. (CC)				That's-Raven		That's-Raven	Emperor New	
FAM 58 (58)	(5:00) Movie: Two Can Play		Movie: View From the Top ★★ (2003) A small-town gal becomes a flight attendant.		Movie: A Guy Thing (2003) A groom-to-be wakes up next to his fiancée's cute cousin.				Movie: Crimes of Fashion (2004)				
HALL 60 (60)	(4:00) Movie: Talking to Heaven (2002) A spiritualist medium solves murders. (CC)		Movie: Jane Doe: The Harder They Fall (2005, Mystery) Lea Thompson. (CC)						Movie: Jane Doe: The Harder They Fall (2005, Mystery) Lea Thompson. (CC)				

25TH ANNIVERSARY

The Tumbleweed Chorus

Presents

"SHOW BOAT"

Directors: Vaughn Lippoldt, Mike Linden, and Don Kready

Saturday, March 4th, 2006

Two Performances 2:30 PM and 7:30 PM Colby Community College

Cultural Arts Center/Frahm Theatre - Colby, KS

Featuring: 12th Street Rag, U.S. Male and The Tumbleweed Chorus

Get Your Tickets Now, call 462-3004 or 462-2474

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