



## Planetarium Closed July 4th

The Planetarium will be closed on Wednesday, July 4<sup>th</sup> to allow our staff time to celebrate with their families. There will be no public shows on this day. We will return to normal scheduling on Thursday, July 5<sup>th</sup>.



*Remember when the bright planets Venus and Jupiter made such a stirring sight after sunset in March 2012? You have another chance now to be touched by these beautiful planets, which – in July 2012 – can be found in the east before dawn.*



## Moon Day 2012

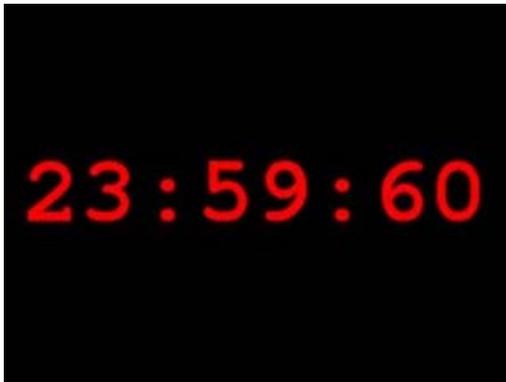
This year's Moon Day 2012 event promises to be an "out-of-this-world" experience on Saturday, July 21 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Frontiers of Flight Museum, 6911 Lemmon Ave., Dallas.

This "galactic" family-fun extravaganza will include exhibits, lectures, movies, classes, art shows, speakers, handouts, souvenirs and Lunar Sample Bags. It's a great way to "blast off" summer fun at the Frontiers of Flight Museum!

Be sure to visit the Planetarium at UT Arlington's booth at the event! For more information visit the Flight Museum [website](#); or call 214-350-3600.



*Did you take any great space photos on your last vacation? The Planetarium would love to show your best space photos on our [Facebook page](#). Share yours with us today! This photo was taken at Kitt Peak National Observatory by*



## Leap Second

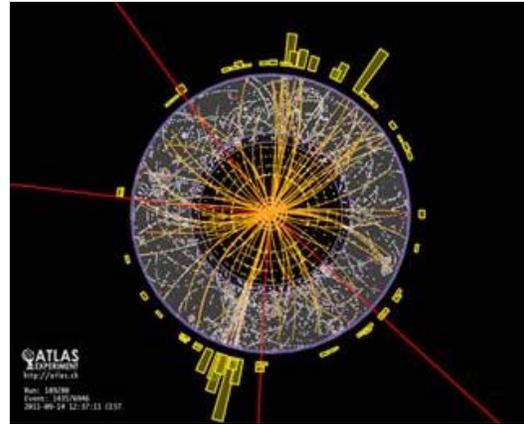
Saturday, June 30<sup>th</sup> was one second longer than usual as a “Leap Second” was added to the Civil Time scale, to compensate for the slowing rotation rate of the Earth. According to [SpaceWatchtower](#), the second was added at the end of the day, Coordinated Universal Time (23:59:60), which translates to 7:59:60 p.m. Eastern Daylight Saving Time.

Civil Time is now controlled by atomic clocks, which do not compensate for the slowing of the Earth's rotation rate. Hence, since 1972, scientists have added 25 (including 2012) positive leap seconds, to keep clocks synchronized with UT1, Astronomical Time also known as Mean Solar Time.

Learn more about why this second was added at [EarthSky](#).



*The Soyuz TMA-03M spacecraft is seen as it lands with Expedition 31 Commander Oleg Kononenko of Russia and Flight Engineers Don Pettit of NASA and Andre Kuipers of the European Space Agency in a remote area near the town of Zhezkazgan, Kazakhstan, on Sunday, July 1, 2012.*



## Has the Higgs Been Discovered?

Scientists in Geneva, Switzerland are planning to gather on the Fourth of July to hear the latest about the decades-long search for a subatomic particle that could help explain why objects have mass, the Higgs particle.

After more than 10 years of gathering and analyzing data produced by the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Tevatron collider, scientists have found their strongest indication to date for the long-sought Higgs particle. Squeezing the last bit of information out of 500 trillion collisions produced by the Tevatron for each experiment since March 2001, the final analysis of the data does not settle the question of whether the Higgs particle exists, but gets closer to an answer. The Tevatron scientists unveiled their latest results on July 2, two days before the highly anticipated announcement of the latest Higgs-search results from the Large Hadron Collider in Europe.

“The Tevatron experiments accomplished the goals that we had set with this data sample,” said Fermilab’s Rob Roser, spokesperson for the CDF experiment at DOE’s Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory. “Our data strongly point toward the existence of the Higgs boson, but it will take results from the experiments at the Large Hadron Collider in Europe to establish a discovery.”

Find out more about the Higgs Particle at [EarthSky](#) and listen to the story run about this potential new discovery from [NPR](#).

July 1st - 12:00  
July 15th - 11:00  
July 30 - 10:00

