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Cold Stone plans 10 KC-area franchises

Cold Stone Creamery of Scottsdale, Ariz., plans to open 10 new franchises in the Kansas City area, a company official said Tuesday.

The company opened its first area franchise about two months ago in the Town Center Plaza in Leawood, Kevin Garrett said. He and his wife, Elizabeth, are the company's area developers for Missouri and Kansas.

A franchise costs between \$250,000 and \$350,000, he said. Franchises generate an average of more than \$350,000 a year in revenue.

Cold Stone Creamery has more than 350 stores and plans to have 1,000 stores by the end of 2004, Garrett said. Each store employs about 30 full- and part-time workers, he said. Garrett said the new franchises will be in:

- Independence, near Independence Center
- Ameristar Casino Hotel Kansas City
- Zona Rosa Shopping Center in Kansas City, North
- Village at Legends West near the Kansas Speedway in Kansas City, Kan.
- The Cornerstone Shopping Center in Leawood
- Lee's Summit
- Olathe
- Belton
- Two stores in Lawrence

The company bills itself as a super-premium ice cream franchise company. It was founded in 1988 in Tempe, Ariz., and moved its headquarters to Scottsdale and started franchising in 1995.