

Thomas County veterans invited to parade as marshals

By Sam Dieter
 Colby Free Press
 sdieter@nwkansas.com

Anyone who wants to enter the Thomas County Parade needs to register by 5 p.m. Friday, July 27, at the Colby/Thomas County Chamber of Commerce office.

The parade will be at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 31. Participants will start at Franklin Avenue and Eighth Street and march or drive south on Franklin, then turn right on Cedar and go past Range Avenue to the Thomas County Fairgrounds.

At least 20 Thomas County veterans will act as grand marshals for the parade, riding on a float at the front, said Holly Whitaker, executive director for the Chamber.

"We sent out over 200 invitations to the veterans," she added. "We ask them to wear their uniform or hat; that way, we know what section of the service they were in."

Whitaker added that any veteran who shows up at the last minute will be welcome to ride on the float. It'll be a change, she said, from the usual custom of have one or maybe two grand marshals.

Check-in for entries will be between 4 p.m. and 5 p.m. Veterans should meet at the Senior Progress Center south of Fike Park between 4:45 and 5:15 p.m.

Whitaker said that she expects 60 or more entries for floats. Registration categories in-

clude community organizations, kids 12 and under, businesses, antique vehicles, dirt bikes and all-terrain vehicles, horses and riders, musical organizations, implement dealers and non-judged vehicles.

The float that wins first place from the pa-

rade will get a \$50 gift certificate from the Chamber, Whitaker said. First place from each category will get a \$40 gift certificate, and second-place winners will get a \$20 gift certificate.

Participants need to have a legible descrip-

tion on their float for the announcer to read and remember not to throw candy out of their floats.

Registrations should be sent to the Chamber, 350 S. Range Ave., Suite 10, Colby, Kan., 67701.



KEVIN BOTTRELL/Colby Free Press

Dale Deaver of Levant served as the grand marshal of the yellow Mustang during the fair parade. He waved to the crowd from a

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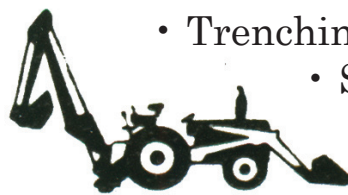
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