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EVAN BARNUM/Colby Free Press

Patriotic bikers to stop in town Monday night

By Andy Heintz

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throughout the festival.

"It should be a fun afternoon," Oliver said.

A group of patriotic bikers led by motorcycle legend, double-amputee and Vietnam Veteran Dave Barr will be riding into Colby on Monday to hold a mini-festival at Fike Park on their way to finishing a coast-to-coast motorcycle "Honor Run" on behalf of wounded members of the military.

Barr and Michael Kerr, executive director of the Honor Run will be giving speeches at the park. The event will officially start when the riders roll in at about 6 p.m. Jim Oliver, owner of Oliver and Associates and state captain of the Honor Run, said Barr will speak at 7:10 p.m. He will be immediately followed by Kerr.

Oliver said he expects between 150 to 200 riders to be at the park. He said several riders from Hays, Denver and Garden City were planning to join the riders in Colby and cruise with them all the way to their final destination at Oakley (Sunglasses) World Headquarters in Foothill Ranch, Calif. where a huge party will take place. The party will include two bands including "CSI" star Gary Sinise's Lieutenant Dan Band, and a car show

Hamburgers, cheeseburgers, bratwurst and root beer floats will be available at the park, said Oliver. Music will also be playing

The motorcycle ride is not only meant to honor the sacrifices of the military, but also to raise money to build a Fisher House next to a military or veteran affairs medical center. A Fisher House is a comfort home that enables wounded members of the military to be close to their family during their hospitalization. A portion of the money raised during the ride will go to the 1st Marine Division Association Scholarship fund. The fund gives a free universal education to children of soldiers who have been disabled or killed in battle.

"It saves the government and the taxpayer millions of dollars," said Barr.

The way the public can help the riders raise money is to sponsor the flags the 1st Marine Division Association will be flying across the country from Aug. 8 to Tuesday, Sept. 8. Sponsoring a flag costs \$20. If people pay an additional fee of \$6.95 they will get a flag shipped to their door along with a certificate after the flag flying has ended. Colby citizens can also donate money to the cause by giving money to a bucket that will be passed around by the Colby Fire Department during the festival, Oliver said.

The Western Bound Route of

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Fun and food at Gem hog roast

Over 850 people gathered Wednesday evening for fun, food, charity and especially the merry-go-round (above) at the annual Gem Lions Club hog roast. Helen Poland said the event is very popular among Thomas County residents, "because the food's good and it's for a charitable cause." The gathering at the Gem Community Building featured a variety of music, including Larry Booth (left). Along with the music came a general good time, as the perfect picnic weather gave area townfolk such as Estelle Bugbee and Joyce Gatlin (right) an opportunity for visiting. Games of horseshoes and fun on the playground equipment rounded out the evening for those wanting a little more physical activity. Lions Club volunteers such as Phyllis Ziegelmeier (below) served delicacies such as bar-



becued pork to kids and adults alike. No specific plans have been made for the money raised, though club member Ken Poland said the group has recently made a \$500 donation to Fisher House, also supported by the Honor Run coming through Colby Monday. They also make frequent gifts for eyeglasses and exams and leader dogs for the blind.



Colby woman bakes up cookies and oil changes

By Vera Sloan

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she said, "so I stay away from changing oil."

For a woman who has a talent for baking, plus a degree in baking and pastry arts, it seems unlikely Michelle Bremenkamp would end up in the oil change and car wash business.

"I was home from college and helping on the farm... it was a drought year, and things were pretty slow," Bremenkamp said, and my Dad said I had to go to town and find a job."

Growing up on the farm didn't hamper her chances of getting a job when she applied for work at Kansas Quick Lube on South Range in Colby. Following on the heels of her dad and her brothers, Bremenkamp said she could do pretty much everything on the farm, so she is right at home with an oil can and a hand full of tools. That was in 2007. She is still at it and still liking it.

Bremenkamp said Kansas Quick Lube offers car wash, oil change, lube, air conditioning service, tire rotation and transmission service. She can pretty much do all of them.

"I'm supposed to stay clean,"

Bremenkamp said she always liked to be in the kitchen, and especially had a love for baking. Baking was a favorite 4-H project, and her junior year of high school,

she said she had the most cooking projects the judge had ever judged.

She said she didn't take home economics in high school, but was in the Pro Start program, in culinary competition. It was a two year program, and she completed it in one year.

She helped out at the kitchen in the college during her senior year in high school, because she didn't have enough classes left to keep her in school all day.

"I spent most of my time at the college kitchen, helping Butch Herbel with the cooking and catering," she said, "and I guess it was then that I made the decision to pursue a career in baking and pastry arts."

She graduated Colby High School in 2004 and Johnson and Wales University in Denver in 2006. She said they did lots of chocolate and sugar work, plus sugar show pieces.

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MARION BALLARD/Colby Free Press

Briefly

Dance team to sell food at game

The Colby High School Dance Team will have a hot dog and nacho bar during the football scrimmage this Friday night at Dennen Field. All money earned will be used to help send the girls to perform during half time at the Liberty Bowl in Memphis, Tenn. on Jan. 2. For information, call coach Denita Rodgers at 460-5300.

Firefighters to hold charity drive

The Colby Fire Department will participate in the national Boot Drop charity fund raiser from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday. Firefighters will be accepting donations for muscular dystrophy at Dillons, Walmart and at the intersection at Fourth Street and Franklin Avenue. For information, call the department at 460-4454.

Library to hold book review lunch

The Pioneer Memorial Library program "Booked

for Lunch," will be at noon Wednesday at the library. A free lunch will be served and donations will be accepted. At 12:15, Linda Goossen will review the book "Extreme Measures: A Thriller," by Vince Flynn. For information, call 460-4470.

Back to school party Saturday

The fourth annual Back to School Bash for high school students will be from 5-8 p.m. on Saturday and for middle school students from 5-8 p.m. on Sunday at "The Rock," in South Wind Plaza. There will be food, prizes, inflatables and lots of fun. The event is sponsored by the College Drive Assembly of God Church. For information, call Hans Krohn at 443-3587.

Party for court officer next week

A special reception will be held for retiring Chief Court Services Officer Jim Robison from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 4 at the Law Enforcement

Training Center, 360 N. Franklin Ave. For information, call Anne Ogle at 460-4550.

Crew needs Eagles' T-shirts

Thomas County Emergency Medical Services is looking for new and old Colby Eagles T-shirts for a fund raiser. Shirts can be dropped off at the ambulance building on South Franklin, near the hospital, or someone will come get them. For information or a pickup, call Dawnelle Umberger at 443-0176.

Offices closed for Labor Day

The Thomas County courthouse and office complex will be closed Monday, Sept. 7, for Labor Day. The county transportation van will not run that day. The Thomas County landfill will close at noon on Sept. 5 and reopen Sept. 8. For information, call County Clerk Shelly Harms at 460-4500.

School calendars offered for \$5

Colby Public Schools pocket calendars will be

available at the Colby High School volleyball and football scrimmage on Friday. The calendars, which cost \$5, are a fund raiser for the Colby Music Boosters. For information, call Kris Lemman at 460-6586, Elaine Bremenkamp at 462-7860 or any Colby music teacher.

Western artist's work at museum

The work of nationally known artist Keith Avery is on display at the Prairie Museum though next Monday. Avery's realistic items include detailed paintings and drawings of horses and cowboy life. The exhibition is open during regular hours. Call (785) 460-4590 for information.



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