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Shoppers take advantage of cooler temperatures at the 2011 Bazaar Days as they hit the streets throughout Liberal. This year's event begins Friday morning at 6 a.m. Businesses throughout the city are offering once a year prices. L&T file photo/Robert Pierce

By ROBERT PIERCE

- Leader & Times

Shoppers throughout Liberal and the surrounding area can take advantage of savings by the car load on Friday, July 19, and Saturday, July 20.

A total of 26 local businesses are participating in what has become known as Southwest Kansas' largest sidewalk sale, and Chamber of Commerce director Rozelle Webb said this year's Bazaar Days is offering a little extra incentive for shoppers.

“The Liberal is Ozsome campaign is sponsoring a giveaway,” she said.

Each business will have a box for registrations.

“You can shop and register,” Webb said. “You don’t have to buy anything, but you can register at these 26 businesses.”

On Saturday afternoon, each merchant will draw one name, and that person will win an item, coupon or something else from that business.

Other prizes will be available for eight other lucky shoppers, according to Webb.

“The members of the Ozsome committee will go around and pick up all of the registrations from the 26 businesses and put all of those together,” she said. “We will draw out eight names. Those eight people will each receive two \$50 gift certificates that will be good at those 26 participating businesses.”



Bazaar Days shopping starts at 6 a.m. Friday. Webb said some, not all, stores will close at 4 p.m. due to the early starting time.

“Saturday is regular business hours,” she said.

On Friday, downtown businesses will close Kansas Avenue from Second to Third Street with other activities.

“I think they are having some drawings, and also they’re having entertainment down there,” Webb said.

Seward County Fair Queen candidates Cheyenne Holder and Alyssa Tatro will also be taking part in the fun of Bazaar Days by selling items to raise money for their campaigns.

Holder will have booths offering face painting and selling ham or bacon breakfast burritos at Maurices, the Crazy House and Main Street for the event.

Tatro will be located in front of JC Penney’s on Friday and in front of Mema’s Furniture on Saturday selling breakfast burritos, baked goods and bierocks.

Webb said this year’s Bazaar Days event is being well publicized.

“The Liberal is Ozsome campaign is advertising this event around Liberal and the surrounding the 60-mile radius area of Liberal,” she said.

The state of Kansas recently lowered its sales tax level from 6.3 percent to 6.15 percent, which brought the City of Liberal’s sales tax level down as well. Webb said the decline in sales tax rates may have some effect on how many people shop Bazaar Days, but paying less for merchandise will likely do more.

“I think the lower prices will bring people in,” she said. “It could possibly have an effect, but I think just the lower prices on the items that business are selling is the drawing point.”

Webb added the number of business participating in this year's Bazaar Days is larger than normal.

"With 26, that's quite a few," she said. "The list of participating businesses is on the Chamber Web site. If you Google Liberal Chamber, you can find it."

Businesses participating in the Bazaar Day drawing

Bazaar Day Give-Away includes a gift from each of the participating businesses and eight \$100 gift certificates good at the participating businesses and given by the Liberal is Oz-Some Campaign.

Sign up at these businesses:

Brown's Shoe Fit

Brown's Furniture Downtown

Buckle

Burlap & Blossoms

Cato's

Collins Diamonds

Crazy House

Circle D Appliance

El Kan Drug

Fashion Tree Boutique

Flower Basket

Flooring America & Furniture Outlet

Maurices

Flowers by Girlfriends

JC Penney

Mema's Furniture

Sears

Scout & Outdoor Shop

Sisters

Southwest Glass & Door

Spalon

United Wireless

Stage

Westlake Hardware

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