

Del City continues Veterans Day tradition

John Keilty will serve as guest speaker during Veterans Day Ceremony

Anthony Thomas
Contributing Writer

Del City will continue its tradition of holding a Veterans Day Ceremony at Patriot Park this year. As always the ceremony will pay homage and respect to those who have fallen in service and those who made it back home.

This year's ceremony will be on Nov. 11 at 11 a.m. at Patriot Park in Del City. The time of the ceremony is symbolic because on Nov. 11, 1918, at 11 a.m. the First World War came to an end.

The keynote speaker for this year's service is retired U.S. Navy Cpt. John Keilty, a former Commodore of the Navy Center at Tinker. He now serves as the Chief of the ROTC program at Del City High School. Keilty has spoken at this ceremony in the past as well as many other city events.

"Super guy in the community. Very motivational speaker. Great guy. If you ever hear him speak once you'll remember it forever," said Del City Mayor Floyd Eason.

Eason will reprise his role as the Master of Ceremonies. The city will recognize all blue and gold star families in attendance. A blue star family is the family of a service member that has been deployed and a gold star family is the family of a service member that lost their lives in combat.

Del City High School's Day Break Choir will return to perform the National Anthem. As well as the Del City Fire Department presenting the colors and escorting gold star families to their seats.

Larry Vansure from the Purple Heart Foundation will be in attendance as last year Del City has proclaimed a Purple Heart city. American Legion Commander James Martin will read



Above: Retired U.S. Navy Cpt. John Keilty speaks during the 2019 Del City Veterans Day Ceremony. Keilty will serve as the guest speaker during this year's event on Nov. 11 at the Del City Community Center. Right: A family grieves the loss of a loved one during the Del City Veterans Day Ceremony in 2018. FILE PHOTOS

off the names of the fallen heroes from Del City.

"It's going to be a neat little ceremony. It'll take about 45 minutes to an hour. It'll be a good deal," said Eason.

All active-duty members, veterans, and their families are encouraged to attend. Members of the community are encouraged to come out as well to show their respect and gratitude for those who have served our country in the military.

