

MEMORIAL DAY

Wall of Honor comes to Hermiston

American Legion hosts Memorial Day weekend events

By TAMMY MALGESINI
East Oregonian

HERMISTON — A trio of events in Hermiston during Memorial Day weekend offers the public an opportunity to salute those who died in service for our country.

American Legion Post and Auxiliary Unit No. 37 is hosting “The Wall of Honor: A Tribute to Those We Lost in Iraq and Afghanistan.” The comprehensive exhibit opens Saturday, May 28, with a 9 a.m. ceremony at the Hermiston Community Center, 415 S. Highway 395.

Featuring the names and photos of those who were killed in action, the display will be available for view from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. through Monday, May 30. It includes more than 6,100 service members who fought in Desert Storm, Desert Shield, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation New Dawn, Operation Enduring Freedom and more.

The exhibit will be delivered and erected Friday afternoon, May 27, by Vets Helping Vets, a nonprofit group based in Albany. A motorcycle honor guard escorts The Wall’s trailer to Eastern Oregon. Cathy Stolz, auxiliary president, said area bikers are invited to help usher

ADDITIONAL LOCAL MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCES

PENDLETON

Veterans of Foreign Wars Let'er Buck Post No. 922 erects the Avenue of Flags on the evening of Thursday, May 26, at Olney Cemetery, 865 Tutuilla Creek Road, Pendleton. The display honors those that served in the United States Armed Forces and will continue to fly through Memorial Day — Monday, May 30. A ceremony is planned at the cemetery May 30 at 11 a.m. It includes the posting of colors and an invocation by Pastor Chris Clemens. The guest speaker is Richard Halverson, past VFW commander. Also, the presentation of the memorial wreath will be placed by the VFW Auxiliary at the cemetery's Veterans Memorial Stone. Dave Chorazy will perform “Taps.” For more information, call 541-276-8100. To view a short video about the purpose of the

Avenue of Flags, visit www.facebook.com/OlneyCemetery/videos/2654679321497111.

WALLA WALLA

The Jonathan M. Wainwright Memorial VA Medical Center is holding a virtual service ahead of Memorial Day. The event is Thursday, May 26, at noon via livestream at www.facebook.com/vawallawalla. The special guest speaker is Trina Parrish, a U.S. Army Gulf War veteran. She is the commander of VFW Post No. 992 in Walla Walla. Also, former Chaplain Benjamin “Ben” Vegors, who served as the Walla Walla VA's chaplain for more than 40 years before retiring in 2014, is a guest at the event. For more information, contact Linda Wondra, VA public affairs officer, at 509-386-1117 or linda.wondra@va.gov.

the display into town. Those interested can meet the group May 27 at noon in Biggs and ride the final 80 miles into Hermiston, she said.

The Wall was initially created as part of a 2005 senior project by a Milwaukie High School student at the suggestion of Ken Buckles, who was on staff at the school. Stolz said after the project was complete, the student turned it over to Vets Helping Vets, who have upgraded and updated it over the years. The group transports and displays it throughout the year. This Memorial Day weekend, Stolz said, will be its first appearance in Eastern Oregon.

A retired teacher, author and speaker, Buckles is

the executive director of Remembering America's Heroes. Based in Milwaukie, the nonprofit organization provides education to youths and the community.

“Their goal is to teach high school students and others how important it is to honor the U.S. flag and appreciate our veterans and freedoms,” Stolz said.

Buckles arranged for a group of veterans to present an assembly Friday morning at Hermiston High School. Because of limited seating, the event isn't open to the general public. However, the patriotic and inspirational presentation will be repeated that day at 7 p.m. at New Hope Community Church, 1350 S. Highway 395, Hermiston.

And finally, a Memorial Day ceremony will be Monday, May 30, 10 a.m. at the Hermiston Cemetery. It features the reading of local veterans' names. Umatilla High School is providing music. In addition, a special performance will feature “Echo Taps,” Stolz said.

“That always gives me goosebumps,” she said. “It's such a moving tribute.”

Those planning to attend the ceremony at the cemetery are encouraged to bring chairs. Gold Star family members, Stolz said, can arrange seating for the ceremony by calling 541-720-1815. For additional information about any of the Memorial Day weekend events, call Stolz at 541-571-5816.

UPCOMING SERVICES

THURSDAY, MAY 26

Correa, Cecilia — Graveside burial service, 11 a.m. at Echo Memorial Cemetery.

FRIDAY, MAY 27

Franke, Jerry — Funeral service, 1 p.m. at Burns Mortuary Chapel, 685 W. Hermiston Ave., Hermiston. Burial with military honors will follow at Desert Lawn Memorial Cemetery, Irrigon.

SATURDAY, MAY 28

King, Raymond — Graveside memorial, 1 p.m. at Pleasant View Cemetery, Stanfield. A gathering follows at the Stanfield Moose Lodge, 615 W. Coe. Ave.

Kinsch, Bruce — Memorial Mass, 10 a.m. at St. Andrews Catholic Church, 48022 St. Andrews Road, Mission. A reception follows at 12 p.m. in the Let'er Buck Room, 1205 S.W. Court Ave., Pendleton.

Newton, Fay — Celebration of life and potluck, 1 p.m. at the Pilot Rock Community Center, 285 N.W. Cedar Place.

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Susan B. ‘Susy’ Dewald December 22, 1958 - May 18, 2022

Susan B. “Susy” Dewald passed away peacefully surrounded by her family in Richland, Washington, on May 18, 2022. Susy was born on Dec. 22, 1958, in Bozeman, Montana. At the time of her passing she resided in Hermiston, Oregon.



Susy is survived by her husband, Tim Dewald, her sons, Steve Dewald and Brian Dewald, her daughter-in-law, Mallory Dewald, her granddaughter, Landyn Dewald, her sister, Anna Hoffman, her brother, Ted Olin, her niece, Hilary Hoffman, and her nephews, Nathan, Paul and Russ Olin.

Susy is preceded in death by her mother, Sally Olin, and her father, Stuart Olin.

Susy was a loving wife and mother. Outside of her family, Susy, dedicated herself to enriching the life of others. She achieved that goal by serving as a preschool teacher and art instructor. Susy was known throughout the community for her baking, craftiness, and generous attitude.

The family is hosting a private celebration of life. In lieu of flowers, the family is asking for donations to the Susan Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

Please share memories of Susy with her family at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com.

Burns Mortuary, of Hermiston, Oregon, is in care of arrangements.

Hermiston event features Christian rapper

HHS grad John Kopta provides powerful message

By TAMMY MALGESINI
East Oregonian

HERMISTON — A faith-based event in Hermiston will include a pair of familiar faces performing music, demonstrating feats of strength and presenting an inspirational message.

Rap artist George Moss and motivational speaker John Kopta are featured Friday, May 27, 8 p.m. at Campus Life, 595 S. First St., Hermiston. Rod Bragato, local director of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, said the event is open to all ages and is free.

A 1983 Hermiston High School graduate, Bragato said Kopta is a staff member with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes at the University of Arkansas. He has been affiliated with The Power Team for more than two dozen years.

Kopta, who played football and wrestled for Hermiston, said the strength-based ministry opens the door to grab people's attention. He got involved with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes nearly a decade ago through his affiliation with USA Youth Outreach.

“John is an amazing speaker,” Bragato said. “He will perform a few feats of strength ... but his focus is spreading an inspirational message.”

A Michigan native, Moss has opened for Grammy Award-winning groups such as Toby Mac, The Newsboys, Skillet and others. In addition to making music, Moss is the founder of Oxen Apparel. However, he said what he most enjoys most about the platform his success has provided is being able to spread the

good news of Jesus.

“George has gone big-time in Christian music but he still likes performing at school assemblies and youth groups,” Bragato said. “He's really energetic and gets everyone engaged.”

Moss and Kopta are in the region for a Fellowship of Christian Athletes weekend gathering at Camp Elkanah, Bragato said. The Hermiston event, he said, will both entertain and enlighten those in attendance.

For more information, search www.facebook.com/hermistoncampuslife. For questions, contact Bragato at 541-720-8104 or bragatorod@hotmail.com.



East Oregonian, File

Rapper George Moss performs Aug. 28, 2021, at the Greater Hermiston CityFest with Andrew Palau at Butte Park. The Christian musician will present an all-ages concert Friday, May 27, 8 p.m. at Campus Life in Hermiston.

Cecilia Jennie (Bergin) Correa January 09, 1920 – May 19, 2022

Cecilia Jane (Jennie) Correa of Echo, Oregon, was born on Jan. 9, 1920, in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, Canada, to parents Lewis and Alma (Nevendorf) Bergin. She died on May 19, 2022, in St. Anthony Hospital, Pendleton, Oregon.

Jennie was the ninth of 11 children in her family. At the age of 4, her family moved to Spokane, Washington. Jennie attended Lewis & Clark grade school and middle school. As a young girl, Jennie's father thought she was musically talented so he bought her a violin in which she learned to play.

In 1935, Jennie's family moved to the Stanfield area. This is where Jenny met her future husband, Jess A. Correa Jr., in Stanfield, Oregon. They were united in marriage on Jan. 30, 1936. They made their home on the family farm in Echo, Oregon, where they raised their four boys, David, Richard (Skeeter), Randy and Rocky.

Jennie's life was her family and the family farm on the Echo Meadows. Jennie and Jess raised many different crops and livestock. After Jess's passing, Jennie turned the farming/cattle operations over to her second son Richard (Skeeter). She continued to be an active part of the farm until her death. Jennie lived on the family farm for 86 years.

Jennie went to work for Inland Empire Bank in Umatilla and Hermiston, Oregon, where she was the bank bookkeeper for 18 years. In 1977, Jennie and her son Rocky purchased and operated a grocery store (Main Street Market) in Stanfield, Oregon, where she worked until her retirement in 1980.

Jennie enjoyed gardening, baking, sewing and was a very talented artist. She painted countless oil paintings as gifts for her family and friends. Her favorite pastime was watching the daily activities on the farm through the big picture window in

her living room. You would find her in her favorite chair with her faithful companion Tilly (kitty) watching her world outside and always ready for a visitor.

Jennie was a very loving wife, mother, grandmother (both great and great-great) to her family. In 102 years, Jennie had experienced more in life than any of us will ever know. She touched so many lives and has truly left a legacy amongst her family. The words that would describe Jennie would be intelligent, independent, loving, funny, talented and a great storyteller. The one word that best describes Jennie, and so many people will agree, is AMAZING.

Jennie is survived by her children, David L. Correa, Richard J. (Skeeter) Correa; grandchildren, Kari Kennedy, Jeff (Kathi) Correa, Shelli Correa, Shane (Jodi) Correa, Devin (Melanie) Correa, Neal Correa, Kevin Correa, Lindsay (Jake) Markgraf; great-grandchildren, Nicole (Shaun) Dominguez, Garrett and Gage Correa, Qwinn Correa, Gabe, Grayson and Briar Markgraf, Aeliana Correa; great-great-granddaughter, Payton Avery Dominguez; niece, Darlene Justice; nephew, Allen Bergin; and several nephews and nieces.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 40 years, Jess A. Correa, Jr.; sons, Randy and Rocky Correa; her parents, siblings, daughters-in-law, Carol Correa, Cathey Correa; and her great-grandson, Cody Correa; along with several other family members and special friends.

Burns Mortuary, Hermiston, Oregon, is in charge of the services. A graveside burial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, May 26 at the Echo Memorial Cemetery, Echo.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in Jennie's honor may be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital or to a charity of your choice.



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