

Memorial Day services honor those who served

By **TAMMY MALGESINI**
COMMUNITY EDITOR

Family members of James “Odie” Otis Wilcox wiped away tears as the U.S. Army Honor Guard presented a flag-folding ceremony in the airman’s honor during a Memorial Day service at the Hermiston Cemetery.

Wilcox, who served in the United States Air Force, died in August 2018 at the age of 83. Born in Heppner and growing up in Hermiston, after his military service Wilcox worked for the city of Hermiston for more than 30 years and was a volunteer firefighter.

Also on hand during the Monday service that drew more than 100 people were a handful of Gold Star

mothers. Ron Jardine, VFW Post 4750 commander, led the short ceremony, which was presented by members of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 4750 and American Legion Post 37. A roll call featuring the names of 85 local veterans who have died in the past year was read during the service. The group also led services at Desert Lawn Memorial Cemetery in Irrigon.

Jardine, who served in the U. S. Army from 1966-68, was thrilled with those who turned out to pay tribute to those who have served.

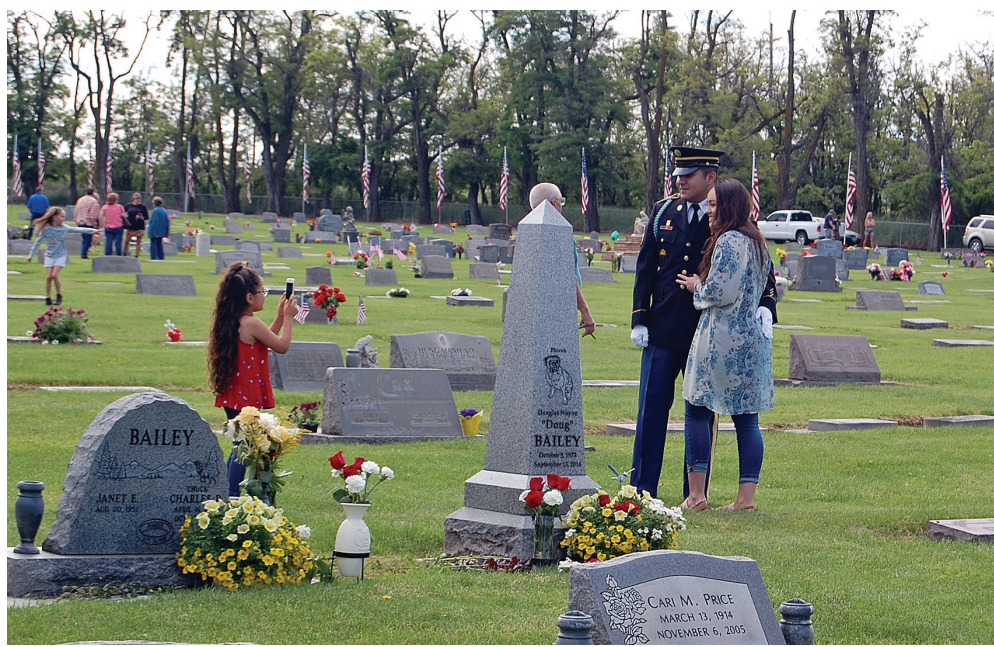
“It’s nice to see people come out and honor our fallen comrades,” Jardine said.

Jardine encouraged people to linger at the cemetery, to take some time to honor

those who have served the country. Many did just that, including decorating grave sites. Others set up chairs and held informal gatherings for their loved ones.

A number of people commented to Jardine about the majesty of the Avenue of Flags, which were flapping in a slight breeze at the cemetery. Upwards of 800 casket flags — each connected to a veteran — were erected Friday. Volunteers assisted with the local veterans groups in putting up the display.

“We couldn’t do it without the Hermiston High School football team and the Boy Scout troops,” Jardine said. “They come and dig out the holes and help put the flags in place. It’s a big job.”



Staff photo by Tammy Malgesini
Gracelyn De La Paz, 6, takes a photo of her father, Luis De La Paz, and mother, Lindsey Pope, after a Memorial Day service at the Hermiston Cemetery. De La Paz, a staff sergeant with the U.S. Army National Guard, participated in the flag-folding ceremony.

Maxwell Farmers Market returns to Hermiston

By **JADE MCDOWELL**
NEWS EDITOR

The Maxwell Farmers Market was bustling during opening day in Hermiston on Thursday.

Vendors of all kinds filled the new Maxwell Siding Pavilion, hawking everything from asparagus to jewelry to a steady stream of people weaving in and out of the booths. Outside the pavilion’s shade, customers listened to local musician Dallin Puzey as they sipped beverages from Hermiston Brewing Company or ate from a food truck.

The market inspired some new entrepreneurs in Hermiston this year. Lucia Alvarez said she attended last year’s market and decided to try her hand this summer at selling homemade organic salsa under the name Mama Lucy’s Salsa.

“I didn’t know about it before,” she said of the farmer’s market. “I thought, ‘I can make good salsa!’”

She said she was surprised by the large turnout.

Kira Doyle was another newcomer, both to the market and to selling her product. She had a booth Thursday under the name The Moth and the Moon.

“I thought it was time to take my hobby to the next level,” she said.

She just started selling her “handcrafted, sustainable, plant-based” scented soap at Sassafras Flowers and sells on Instagram at @mothandmoon.apothecary. She wanted to join the farmers market as well, however, to be involved in a community event.

“It’s quite a crowd here,” she said. “I love the setup.”

Julie Holbrook of Jdholbrook Farms outside of Boardman was new to the market but not new to selling her product. She had a table of farm fresh eggs and said she was “very, very impressed” with the market and how supportive people were being. She said farm-



Staff photo by Kathy Aney
Teresa Engbretson, of My Garden Over Floweth, arranges flowers at the first Maxwell Farmers Market on Thursday at the Maxwell Siding Pavillion in Hermiston.



Staff photo by Kathy Aney
Juan Panata makes liquid ice cream during the Maxwell Farmers Market on Thursday at the Maxwell Siding Pavillion.

ers markets are important to small farms like hers.

“It gets the public aware of what farmers have and where they’re located,” she said.

Other new vendors this year were selling honey, jam, bread, crafts and leather items. There were also plenty of returning vendors, such as Rolling Stone Bakery and Walchli Farms.

3rd Generation Farms returned with broccoli, spinach, radishes, kohlrabi,

kale, strawberries and a spring mix of lettuces — all pesticide-free.

Chris Finley said they were excited to return and looking forward to the season. Jade Mueller, working alongside her at the booth, said she loved the new pavilion.

“It’s beautiful,” she said. “It’s really nice. You couldn’t ask for a better setting. And there is great access for the vendors when they’re setting up.”

Imelda Alanco didn’t but was browsing the items have a booth at the market, for sale. She said she hadn’t

heard of the farmers market before, but her sister called and told her that there was a caramel corn booth and it smelled delicious.

“That’s the first thing that brought us here, but we’re looking at what else they have,” she said.

Looming over the market is a steel bell tower added just last week.

Mitch Myers, whose company owns the pavilion and runs the market, said it is a replica of the one that stood there in 1900, when the property housed Hermiston’s first fire department. A picture from the time period shows the bell in the foreground and Hermiston’s first bank in the background — a picture Myers was able to replicate with the still-standing stone bank building on the corner of Highway 395 and Main Street.

The Maxwell Farmers Market will run all summer each Thursday from 4-8 p.m. at 255 S. First Place.

Art Merriman

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Salvation Army
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For more information
or questions call Rose
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**July 8, 1948 -
June 26, 2018**

PET OF THE WEEK

Lucious is a sweet 2-3 year old mastiff cross with an easy temperament. He gets along great with children, cats and other dogs. He had to have a hind leg amputated after being hit by a car on April 13th. He has adjusted well to three legs and is still very fast and strong. He is house broke, and knows his basic commands. Fence required.



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