

Event

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services to include all families that wish to remember their loved ones. The next service will be scheduled after social distancing restrictions are lifted."

While American Legion Post 62, located on West Main Street, is not holding any formal ceremonies, but are putting flags on the graves of veterans in local cemeteries, said Adjutant Mike Holz. This will be spread out over a number of days, depending on the number of volunteers they receive. Holz said he is not sure of the exact schedule yet.

The Boy Scouts of America Simon Kenton Council will not be participating in any Memorial Day activities this year, said Jeff Moe, President and CEO of the Simon Kenton Council.

"Like most BSA councils, we continue to follow Governor DeWine's stay at home order as it relates to all local pack and troop meetings and activities," said Moe. "I'm not aware of any Memorial Day activities by Scouts - these

"Because so many families were unable to honor their loved ones at the time of death during the COVID situation, we will include these Veterans in the next service rather than wait until May 2021 to remember these Veterans."

Beverly Hume VA chaplain

would be a violation of the current guidance by the governor."

The Hallsville Memorial Day service, held yearly at the Hallsville United Methodist Church, was also canceled, said Jean Fletcher, a member of the Hallsville Memorial Day Committee. Fletcher said she was not aware of any plans to hold it in the future.

Last year, the ceremony featured the Adelpi band playing a concert the morning of memorial day, followed by the Chillicothe Renaissance Ensemble. The ceremony concluded in the Hallsville Cemetery.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Army Field Band will hold a concert series throughout the weekend to honor veterans, which can be viewed on their Facebook page.

The concert series includes:

■ May 22: The concert band and soldiers chorus, 7 p.m. EST.

■ May 23: Six String Soldiers honor Vietnam Veterans, 7 p.m. EST.

■ May 24: The Jazz ambassadors honor the greatest generation, 1 p.m. EST.

■ May 25: A moment of silence and a performance of Taps, 3 p.m. EST.

Years ago, The late Chaplain Robert Wills introduced a candle lighting ceremony to the V.A. memorial service. Families may wish to adapt the ceremony for their own time of remembrance at home, said Hume.

The ceremony is described below, requiring only four candles.

Leader: "As we light these four candles in honor of you, we light one for our grief, one for our courage, one for our

memories, and one for our love. The first candle represents our grief."

All: "The pain of losing you is intense. It reminds us of the depth of our love for you. It reminds us of our own mortality."

Leader: "The second candle represents our courage."

All: "It has taken a lot of courage to confront our pain and sorrow. We've been courageous in making changes in our lives since you have been gone."

Leader: "The third candle represents our memories."

All: "We remember all the times we laughed together and all the silly things you did. We remember the times we cried with one another and the times we were angry with each other. Most of all, we remember the love, the care, and the joy you gave us."

Leader: "The fourth candle represents our love."

All: "This flame is the light of our love that we have for you. Day by day we cherish the special place in our hearts that will always be yours. We thank you for all your life has given to us. We will always remember you, for you are part of us."

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