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Marysville  
THE ADVOCATE

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‘We can’t forget’



Photos by Sarah Kessinger

Ron Grauer, Marysville, a Marine veteran, lays a wreath at the grave of a Civil War veteran in the southwest quadrant of Marysville Cemetery on Saturday. The wreath-laying at 15 gravestones was part of the Wreaths Across America project.



Legionnaire Jim Swim, Marysville, prepares to place a wreath Saturday morning.

Civil War veterans’ graves  
decorated with balsam wreaths

By Sarah Kessinger  
skessinger@marysvilleonline.net

Rain and chilly weather led the Marysville American Legion and other area Legions to move Memorial Day ceremonies indoors on Monday. Inside Marysville’s Post 163 Legion hall, residents, veterans and families gathered with the Marshall County Community Band, Marshall County Arts Cooperative choir and the post’s Color Guard as light rain fell outdoors. The crowd gave a standing ovation at the morning ceremony at the introduction of two of the county’s surviving World War II veterans, Jerry Barnard, Marysville, and Loyal Shirley, Vermillion, who came with their

families. Later, recalling all military servicemen and women, Marine veteran Ron Grauer of Marysville noted that children in scouting organizations had decorated hundreds of local graves and markers with American flags over the weekend. Grauer also said Legion members spent part of sunny Saturday morning placing live wreaths from the Wreaths Across America program at the gravestones of 15 Civil War veterans buried in the southwest quadrant of Marysville Cemetery. He encouraged the public to drive by and see the stones decorated with the bright green and red wreaths sent from the program in Maine. Wreaths Across America sends thousands of wreaths each year, nor-

See **Civil War, 8A** ►

Election  
filing  
deadline  
set June 2

By Chris Pannbacker  
news@marysvilleonline.net

The clock is ticking for anyone considering running for local city or school board positions. Filing will close at noon Tuesday, June 2. As of Tuesday morning this week, several local seats have no candidates. Filing in the last week were candidates for city council in Summerfield, Vermillion and Waterville and one school board position in USD 380 and in USD 498. For election information, people can call the county clerk’s office, 785-562-5361.

Update on filings  
Marysville city

Four council members will be elected — one each from Wards 1, 2, 3 and 4 — to four-year terms. Incumbent Kyle Goracke and Vernita Peeks have filed for the Ward I position. Jeff Keating has filed to represent Ward 4 for another term. Lori Snellings, who currently represents Ward 2, has filed for the Ward 3 seat. Due to redistricting that was approved after Snellings ran for office, she now lives in Ward 3. There had been no filings for the Ward 2 position as of early this week. Incumbent Todd Frye has filed for a second two-year term as mayor. Ken Kickhaefer has filed for another two-year term as city treasurer.

Marysville USD 364

In Marysville USD 364, no candidate has filed for Position 5. Liberty Price-Obley has filed for a second term for Position 4. Incumbent Travis Pralle and Emma Holle have filed for Position 6.

Other towns

Axtell — Mayor and two council members will be elected. Incumbent council members Andy Torrey and Edward Farrell have filed for another term. Beattie — Mayor and five council

See **Election, 5A** ►

Big Blue River Days — barbecue, AutoFest, music

Pickleball, Cruise Night,  
cornhole to kick off festival

By JoAnn Shum  
jshum@marysvilleonline.net

Big Blue River Days in Marysville will be June 6 and 7 featuring the annual Big Blue BBQ, Marysville AutoFest, five bands and games. Activities kick off at 4 p.m. Friday with a pickleball

tournament for juniors, ages 14-19, and seniors, 50 and older at the Kramer Family Tennis Complex in Marysville City Park. People are welcome to bring their classic cars downtown for Cruise Night from 5 to 8 p.m. Turtle races start at 7 p.m. and blind draw cornhole

See **Fest, 5A** ►

Hot Wheels car races  
planned for downtown

By Ariona Cook  
news@marysvilleonline.net

Robert Harris turns on his six-lane Hot Wheels track and an automated voice announces, “Hot Wheels racers! Pick your lane.” Harris sets a miniature toy car in each lane behind a launcher, which holds

the car in place. He pulls a black cord to release them from the launcher, and they roll down the track, offering a snapshot of Harris’ favorite hobby: collecting Hot Wheels cars. Harris plans to host Hot Wheels races for kids June 7 at Big Blue River Days in downtown Marysville. He

See **Hot Wheels, 5A** ►



Ariona Cook

One of the cars in Robert Harris’ extensive Hot Wheels collection.

GOING GREEN  
The greenhouse business is bustling in Blue Rapids. 1B



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