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Lydia Gomez braves the wind to honor son Mark Vargas’ memory at the Petroglyph Festival Nov. 4, 2017. Gomez is posing with Vargas’ military banner and her daughter, Marina Gomez’s, 2006 Mustang, which was part of the Muscle Mustangs of Ridgecrest Car Club show. “I feel like he doesn’t want me to feel alone, but to do it,” she said. It’s not exactly the way it worked out. “We honor veterans and they go and get a chance to see those memorials, but one service is trying to relieve that, especially for those World War II and Korea War veterans,” Vergas said that keeping Mark’s memory alive is for her sake, her tight. “I want to continue being Mark’s mom. I want to continue doing things for Mark. It might not make sense, but to me it makes sense.”

Honor Flight gets vets to memorials

By Jack Barnwell

Washington, D.C., is home to a wealth of history and politics. For veterans from those who served in World War II to those still in active service, the nation’s capital is home to the memorials built in their honor and to thank them for the services provided to the nation. “There is a possibility that maybe somebody took it,” Lydia said. It has since been replaced. “The perfect opportunity to display it again in his honor,” Lydia said. She club didn’t like the idea. “I attended the car show. Now a到现在 questions and trying successfully to keep the banner in the ground despite the wind. Lydia also touched base with one of Mark’s friends at the event. She said in the last year she has become close to his circle of friends. “Mark, she said, was the kind of person who brought people together and made sure everyone was included — a feature he is still perform. “I have gotten to know this whole new group of young people who have kept in contact with her and actually made friends with me and made me feel so good. I don’t like to have people feel bad about him. It’s like this energy that I get when I speak to them and they speak of Mark.” Vergas said that Mark’s death has been recognized as military-related and that he received a letter from the President.”

Honor Flight of Kern County is accepting applications for Operation Honor Flight, which is a program to fly veterans free of charge to see our nation’s memorials. "It has helped her deal with her grief. "Taking actions without fear of judgment. "Don’t be scared of people judging you when you are taking actions for the good of someone, just do it," she said. "I never thought that it would actually take Mark’s mom’s alive. "I love being Mark’s mom," he said. "I want to continue being Mark’s mom. I want to continue doing things for Mark. It might not make sense, but to me it makes sense."
and returns to Bakersfield.

Kern Honor Flight is part of a national organization that goes back to May 2005, when 12 World War II veterans were flown back to Washington, D.C. Five of these veterans were World War II veterans, and 17 veterans were transported to see their memorial.

Zuber said that the Kern chapter of the Honor Flight sent its first cadre in May 2012. “Lil Marsh started it,” he said. “She said, ‘Well, I said, she had the heart, and decided to do that in Kern County.’

For its inaugural flight, Kern County sent 21 veterans back to Washington, D.C. Nine, five and a half years later, more than 1,000 veterans from Kern County have flown. Kern County itself is home to approximately 46,000 veterans.

Our mission is to honor and send America’s veterans to Washington, D.C., to see the memorials built in their honor for their service to our country – at no cost to the veteran. Top priority is given to our most senior veterans – World War II veterans – and those from any conflict who are terminally ill – followed by Korean and Vietnam veterans,” according to Kern Honor Flight’s website. “Veterans accepted by HFHK for their travel must go at no cost to them, due to the generosity of tax-deductible donations from our community. The trips include all air and ground transportation, meals, overnight accommodations, and guided tours.

The program has earned a lot of support and praise from major companies and the community. “I’m proud to be a part of Kern Honor Flight,” said Con- gressman Kevin McCarthy.

Sinton said he had heard about the Honor Flight numerous times, and finally considered it when a friend of a friend asked about it. “It appealed to me because all the vets that I have known are always talking about what they’ve done,” Sinton said. “It’s a long overdue ‘thank you’ for those who stuck it out and came back. You have to really see it to understand.”

The Vietnam War Memorial also strikes a chord, he said, as the memorial wall holds the 58,318 names of those who died, or are listed as missing in action, prisoners of war, or prisoners.

“It was just beautiful with the pillars it was just moving to see the names of the brave men and women who carried their burdens and stayed strong to protect us,” Sinton said. “It was just beautiful with the pillars and [a reminder of those who] were not there.”

A few other things that struck a chord include the World War II memorial, which holds the 58,318 names of those who died, or are listed as missing in action, prisoners of war, or prisoners.

“I can well imagine how those men looked when they were on patrol, just protected the emotion and feelings of them men. You have to really see it to understand.”

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Baker said that he remembered World War II when he was young, but he was not old enough to serve in the military. He went to South Korea toward the tail end of the conflict. Seeing the memorials reminded him of the service others have given before and since.

“See the memorials honoring the veteran that served in these wars, even as a vet own each of them for the freedom I have,” Baker said.

Going on the Honor Flight was the only time Baker and he has been to D.C. because no one was able to transport journalists to the memorials. He had the ability to visit his own war and see it first hand. The memorials are huge,” Baker said.

He noted that all the memorials capture the time that Baker said he has been to D.C. “The Korean War memorial, after the war, seeing what they did to honor the war, the entire length of the wall, just seeing those years put into one perspective is mind boggling.”

As a nonprofit, the organization also looks for volunteers to help in a variety of ways, from media and public relations to data entry and outreach.

For more information on Honor Flight, visit www.honorflightkerncounty.org. Gary Zuber, the Kern River Valley and Ridgecrest outreach person for Kern County Honor Flight, can be reached at 760-372-3169 or at Gary@HonorFlightKernCounty.org.
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Veterans Day is largely intended to thank living veterans for their service to their country but also honors all American veterans, both living and deceased.

Today many Americans observe the Veterans Day holiday by attending ceremonies, events, or parades dedicated to honoring veterans for their service. The ceremonies, events, and parades also provide a formal opportunity for veterans to share their experiences and speak about their time in service. Moreover, the activities surrounding such events enable Americans of all ages a chance to personally interact with and thank those that have served this great nation and protected our freedoms.

Many years ago President John Fitzgerald Kennedy said, “Those who have served our nation’s cause carry with them the burden of sacrifice and dedication. To those men and women who have served and remain amongst us, as well as to the families of those that have paid the ultimate sacrifice. I celebrate and honor America’s veteran for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and protect our country; it is a reminder to express our appreciation to those who have honorably served and remain amongst us, as well as to the families of those that have paid the ultimate sacrifice.”

Veterans defended our nation and our partners in far-away lands, on ships and in aircraft, under the sea and on the land. They also brought humanitarian aid to those in need, both in far-flung locations around the globe, but we also have service members aiding hurricane recovery efforts in Puerto Rico and building schools and clinics in Southeast Asia.

To those that answered this great nation’s call-to-arms thank you for your sacrifices. You are appreciated today and every year-round and be respectful, to those who have honorably served and remain amongst us, as well as to the families of those that have paid the ultimate sacrifice.

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We are grateful to those who have served our country so courageously and continue to serve. Thank You!
Ceremonies data tells me that more than one in ten of you reading this today are veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces, however long your tour, you raised your right hand and swore to defend your nation. As an active-duty service member, I can tell you that following in your footsteps feels like standing on the shoulders of giants.

The Veterans Day, people across the country will pause to remember our service members. The men and women of our military have defended our freedom from rogue nations and protect our borders, and advocated for freedom and, throughout history, our Constitution for freedom and liberty unapologetically.

“Thank you for your service.” Whether it’s someone holding a door, going out of their way to thank you when they see you wearing your service ball cap, or a high school football team lining the field waving American flags, the people of this community live and breathe the patriotic spirit our veterans embody. We are blessed to live in such a supportive community, one that values service and commitment to our community and the tremendous sacrifice they have made.

Happy Veterans Day to all those who served, and thank you to everyone who continues to support our veterans and the families of the DVR. To our veterans and all those who support our military, the nation, the men and women of our military, have secured freedom for our Veterans: "Our Veterans have earned our respect and deserve our praise. Since the founding of our nation, the men and women of our military have defended our borders. They have secured our freedom and, throughout history, have secured freedom for millions of people around the world. For generations, the commitment we all have to maintain that freedom. It is an extraordinary service to our nation and our allies around the world. They stood up for us by pledging allegiance to our country and a flag that represents more than any one individual. That flag, and their service, represents the immense costs our service members have borne in service to our country and the tremendous sacrifice to maintain that freedom. Because of their service, sacrifice, and commitment, I am proudly stand for a flag that represents so much, to so many, and show gratitude for our Veterans who have earned our respect and deserve our praise. “Thank you to all of our Veterans and have a great Veterans Day!”

Rear Adm. Brian Corey, NAWCWD

State Sen. Jean Fuller

Our Veterans have put their lives between us and evil. This tradition for selfless service continues today with the heroic actions by our active-duty military personnel. They stand up for freedom and religious freedom and are prepared and ready to defend or support our nation against rogue nations determined to destroy our way of life.

Veterans Day is our opportunity to celebrate this selfless service by our active-duty military personnel. They stand up for freedom and religious freedom and are prepared and ready to defend or support our nation against rogue nations determined to destroy our way of life.

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If left untreated, it can contribute to hearing loss, as well as lead to depression and isolation. If you or someone you know is experiencing group stress talk.

The organization is a private nonprofit organization that funds aids veterans and their families. It was founded to help veterans and civilians who were injured during the wars and conflicts following the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on New York City and the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.

Its mission is "To assist the injured and families of the those who have been injured in a part of the United States military, whether domestic or abroad, military or civilian, with financial grants for transitioning to their new circumstances and achieving their full potential." The organization is a private nonprofit organization that has evolved and grown over time. It is an active participant in Operation Family Fund, which helps veterans and their families make the transition to their new circumstances and achieve their full potential. It is an active member of the Association of Non-Profit Organizations (ANPO) and has been a member of the Association of Non-Profit Organizations (ANPO) since 1985. It is an active participant in Operation Family Fund, which helps veterans and their families make the transition to their new circumstances and achieve their full potential.

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Marty Libby, a teacher at James Monroe Middle School in Ridgecrest, spent the first half of 2017 researching the life of Ensign Robert A. Hopper, who died in the Battle of Midway, a major battle of World War II. Libby was inspired to study Hopper after reading about him in a book. On Veterans Day, Libby’s story of Ensign Hopper and lessons plans to complement it, titled Making A Difference: Service & Sacrifice, will be published on ABMCeducation.org.

The 2017 Understanding Paciﬁc War program is a partnership between National History Day, the American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC), National Cemetery Administration (NCA), and the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media. The year-long professional development program centers on Fallen Heroes of World War II who were buried or memorialized at an American cemetery in the Paciﬁc Theater of World War II. In July 2017, Libby joined 15 other educators and researchers as they traveled to San Francisco, Honolulu, and Manila, walking in the footsteps of history. Using their research, teachers created lesson plans, followed Hopper’s story, and videos were published on the award-winning ABMCeducation.org.

Designed to reintegrate the study of World War II in American classrooms, the lesson plans are multi-disciplinary. Using primary and secondary sources, videos, and other resources, Libby integrates the stories of fallen heroes like Ensign Hopper into their curriculum.

“It is important to remember that victory, like the one at Midway, came at great cost,” Libby said. “This lesson brings together some of the most important aspects of the battle through the story of one participant.”

Accompanying the lesson plan is a Fallen Hero profile for Ensign Hopper. “Ensign Hopper was a regular guy trying to do right by his country and his family. He did not go to war for glory or for a better place for others,” said Libby. “This partnership with the ABMC, NCA, and the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media has allowed us to uncover the history of 20 fallen heroes of World War II, and National History Day Executive Director Dr. Gail Fott. Their unique experience can now help teachers around the world bring history to life with the materials added to ABMCeducation.org. It is my hope that this resource helps student discover a vivid picture of America’s past. This is a legacy that is passed by all Americans during this war."

Each lesson plan is integrated with Common Core Standards, aligned to the C3 Framework, and makes use of interpretive materials provided by ABMC and NCA. They are accompanied by research about fallen heroes of World War II who are honored at American cemeteries in both the Paciﬁc and European theaters of World War II.

About National History Day:

National History Day is a non-profit education organization based out of College Park, Maryland. Each year, more than 1 million students around the world each year participate in National History Day. Students and their advisors create projects that engage over half a million secondary curricular and extracurricular programs and thousands of teachers in 202 school districts around the world. More information is at nhd.org.

About ABMC:

Established by Congress in 1923, the American Battle Monuments Commission commemorates the service, achievements, and sacrifice of U.S. armed forces. ABMC administers 26 overseas military cemeteries, national cemeteries and memorial parks, ofﬁces At The Battle Of Midway, will be published Making A Difference: Service & Sacrifice, Jr. as part of the Understanding Sacrifice. Libby’s lesson plan is based upon solid primary and secondary source research.

“The lesson plan is a Fallen Hero profile for Ensign Hopper. “Ensign Hopper was a regular guy trying to do right by his country and his family. He did not go to war for glory or for a better place for others,” said Libby. “This partnership with the ABMC, NCA, and the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media has allowed us to uncover the history of 20 fallen heroes of World War II, and National History Day Executive Director Dr. Gail Fott. Their unique experience can now help teachers around the world bring history to life with the materials added to ABMCeducation.org. It is my hope that this resource helps student discover a vivid picture of America’s past. This is a legacy that is passed by all Americans during this war."

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I Salute You...

Mick Gleason
1st District Kern County Supervisor

November 11-12, 2017 www.ridgecrestca.com

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Michael Stafford
US Army
Iraq War

Robert Gomes
US Army
Korean War

Joseph M. Humphrey
U.S. Airforce - Active
CW3 “C” Jimmie Loback
Coast Guard - Air Force - Army
Retired - Deceased
23 Years Service
Served In Vietnam And Korean War
Bronze Star Medal

Donald A. Dixon
U.S. Army - Deceased
21 Months Service

Jesse E. Shaffer
U.S. Navy - Discharged
10 Years Service
2 Captain And Admiral’s Commendations

Andrew R. Ledesma
U.S. Air Force - Retired
4 Years Service
Honorable Discharge

William H. Broyles
U.S. Navy - Discharged
1948 - 1952
Korean Service Medal
Good Conduct Medal

Maynard J. Humphrey
U.S. Marine Corps - Discharged
4 Years Service

Nathaniel J. Humphrey
U.S. Navy - Discharged
6 Years Service

Andrew R. Ledesma
U.S. Air Force - Retired
4 Years Service

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On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918, an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, was declared between the Allied nations and Germany in the First World War, then known as “the Great War.” Commemorated as Armistice Day beginning the following year, November 11th became a legal federal holiday in the United States in 1938. In the aftermath of World War II and the Korean War, Armistice Day became Veterans Day, a holiday dedicated to American veterans of all wars.

PROUD TO HONOR ALL OUR VETERANS

Mick Gleason
1st District Kern County Supervisor
“We must never forget the courage and sacrifice of our veterans. It is our obligation and a symbol of our gratitude that we honor their service to our country.”

Kevin McCarthy

www.McCarthyforCongress.com

Paid for by Kevin McCarthy for Congress