LOCAL SCENE

Thursday, Dec. 19
• DIY Christmas centerpiece, Scenic Regional Library, Warrenton, 4:30 p.m.
• W8 Watchers meeting, 107 W. Walton, Warrenton, 5 p.m.
• Warrenton Lions Club, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 21
• Ornament making, Scenic Regional Library, Wright City, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 22
• Candlelight Christmas concert, College United Methodist Church, Warrenton, 7 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 23
• American Red Cross Build Drive, W.I. Helliger Activity Building, Wright City, 3-7 p.m.
• Bingo, Warrenton Elks Lodge, 6:30 p.m.
• Al-Anon, College United Methodist Church, Warrenton, 7 p.m.
• Alcoholics Anonymous Group 130 meeting, Fellowship Baptist Church, 8-9 p.m.
• Wright City Lions Club, 7-10 p.m.
• Christmas Program, Smith Creek Methodist Church, 7 p.m.; church is located 11 miles south of Warrenton on Highway U.

Tuesday, Dec. 24
• Christmas Eve contemporary services, College United Methodist Church, Warrenton, 5 p.m.
• Christmas Eve candlelight service, St. John’s UCC Pinckney, 5 p.m.
• Christmas Eve service, Immanuel United Church of Christ, Wright City, 9 p.m.
• Christmas Eve traditional services, College United

WREATHS TO REMEMBER — A group of veterans and Gold Star family members prepare to lay a wreath at the Warren County Tribute to Veterans Memorial in honor of military members last listed as prisoners of war or missing in action, Saturday, Dec. 14. Volunteers laid wreaths at the memorial site and local cemeteries as part of Wreaths Across America, despite snow and cold wind. Adam Rollins photo.

WREATHS
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live in freedom and without fear,” said master of ceremony Gary Ruebling. “We thank those who gave their lives to keep us free, and we shall not forget you. We shall remember.”

During the ceremony, representatives of local veterans organizations, community groups and military families laid wreaths at the base of memorial site flags representing each branch of the U.S. military, as well as one for service members listed as missing in action or prisoners of war.

From there, volunteers dispersed to lay more than 500 wreaths, speaking the name on each veteran’s grave in remembrance of their service.

“It’s amazing, I appreciate it, for people to remember them,” said Tanya Sehatzler, coming close to tears. She came to Warrenton City Cemetery to lay a wreath at the grave of her uncle who served in the Korean War. Every year, she leaves flowers for her family buried at the cemetery.

“If it wouldn’t be for these guys in the military, we wouldn’t have the freedom we have today,” Sehatzler said. “My dad served in the Army, my other uncle served in the Army, and my brother-in-law is retiring March 7 from the Air Force. It’s a family tradition.”

Susan Ehlenbeck, a Navy mom, came with a troop of Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts. She said she was happy to see the large group of volunteers laying wreaths.

“I am amazed, especially after working with the Veterans Memorial Committee, and working with so many other veterans who were not honored the way they should have been after serving, especially during the Vietnam War,” Ehlenbeck said. “To get this kind of support for those who have served, and those who are now serving — words just can’t describe how honored I am to be a part of that.”

SALVARIES
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is we’ve been able to negotiate and tell everybody exactly where the money would go,” said Klingensmith.

During the Dec. 12 meeting, he outlined in detail the distribution of how Prop W would play out on a career salary schedule. Base pay would not be impacted, but a significant increase would be experienced in the later steps on the salary schedule, also rewarding those