



Slippery Gulch Bugle

Tekoa, WA 2026

Meet the Grand Marshals

Nick & Hillary Lawson

There are some people in this world whose love doesn't stay quietly inside four walls — it spills out into bleachers and arenas, into show rings and sidelines, into every corner of life where the people they cherish are found. Nick and Hillary Lawson are exactly those kinds of people.

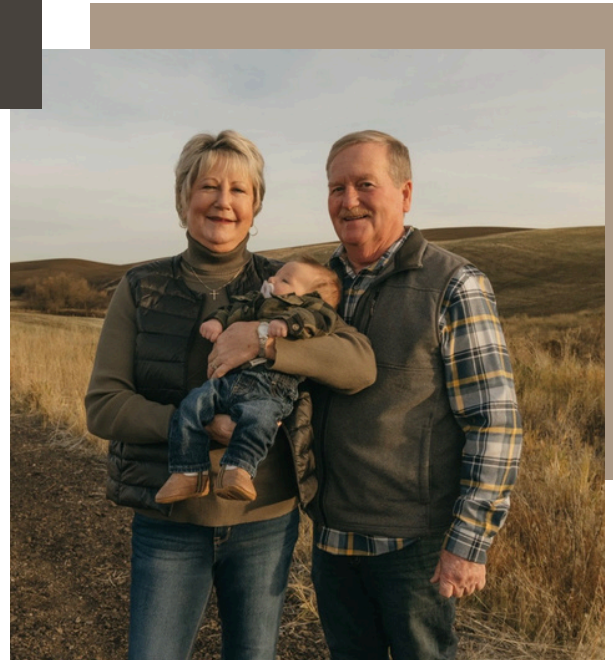
Together, they built a family rooted in devotion, hard work, and an unshakeable presence. They raised two children — Casey and Kenzie — and in doing so, gave the world a little more love than it had before. The loss of Casey left a mark that words cannot fully hold, but his memory lives on in the family he helped shape, and in the hearts of those who carry him forward every day.

Anyone who has watched Nick and Hillary with their grandchildren — Riley, Rextyn, Rubi, and Reyson Ramirez — knows what it looks like when grandparents show up with their whole hearts. They are there in the gym, cheering from the stands. They are there at the show ring, proud beyond measure. They don't just support from a distance; they lean in, they show up, and they make each grandchild feel like the most important person in the room.

And now, a new chapter has begun. With the arrival of Waylon — son of Riley and Savannah Potter — Nick and Hillary have stepped joyfully into the role of great-grandparents. That little boy has come

into a family where love is not rationed, and where showing up for one another is simply what you do.

Nick and Hillary, thank you for being the kind of people who make a family feel like home — no matter where you are. Your love is seen in every grandchild who competes a little harder knowing you're watching, and in every moment you've chosen family, again and again. You are deeply treasured.



Tekoa Roots



Randy & Darlene Wise

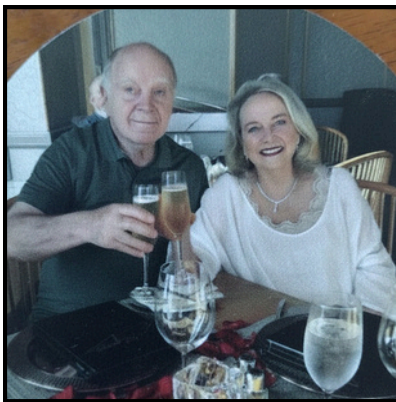
Darlene and Randy got married in 1975 and settled in Tekoa. Darlene, from Plummer, ID, and Randy, from Tekoa, had no idea what the future held. Raising two children, Brian and Erin, they both became staples in the Tekoa community.

Darlene waited tables at restaurants locally, such as G's Cafe in Tekoa, The Gateway Cafe in Plummer, and Kross Keys restaurant in Tensed, ID. Although working steadily, Darlene developed hobbies such as quilting, sewing, painting, and baking. She has decorated cakes for all occasions – weddings, graduations, and birthdays. You name it.

Darlene probably made a cake for your party if you were a Tekoa resident over the years. Now retired, she enjoys quilting and hunting for antiques.

Randy built his career at Cash Hardware Co. in Tekoa, our local John Deere dealer. Randy became one of the top mechanics around the area with his knowledge and experience, especially with combines. Randy served our Tekoa community for 48 years as a John Deere Mechanic. After retiring in 2019, Randy uses his time by collecting and restoring old John Deere equipment, trucks and hot rods. You can occasionally still find him making service calls to keep green iron running. Not to mention mowing areas around town to keep Tekoa beautiful.

Randy and Darlene have been lifelong members of the Tekoa Community for over 50 years! If you have ever needed a cake or a service call, these two staples of the Tekoa Community have always been there! The best part of retirement is spending time with their four grandchildren!



Don & Rebecca McHargue

Don and his twin brother, Ron, McHargue were raised in Tekoa on their family's farm. They graduated from Tekoa High School and Don went to college at WSU earning his MBA. After graduation, Don joined the Air National Guard at Fairchild AFB for 8 years while he was employed as a CPA in Seattle. In 1972 he moved back home to work the family farm with his brother and father until he retired. Don finished his duty in the Guard as a Captain shortly after he was married.

Rebecca Payne grew up in the Willard Home in Tekoa until her Junior year. She graduated from University of Tulsa and began teaching in Tulsa, OK. While visiting Tekoa over Christmas break Rebecca was re-introduced to Don by her friend, Judy. By the summer of 1974 she and

Don were married and Judy was now her sister-in-law. That year Rebecca started teaching for Tekoa in the very same 1st grade classroom she was a student and stayed as a Teacher and Principal until retirement 36 years later. During her career she received the Christa McAuliffe Teacher Award and earned her master's in Curriculum & Supervision at EWU. As Principal she oversaw the installation of the Ms. Eagle Memorial patio with trees and tables in front of the grade school.

The McHargues have always been involved in the community. Don is a long-time supporter of the grade school and donated whenever it needed restoration or funding for a program. He also served on the Board of Directors for the Tekoa Care Center. Rebecca was an active member of PEO for many years. And, she was the driving force behind the creation of the Tekoa Towne Square, now known as Memorial Park, commemorating youth academic achievements. She was also a founding member of HEALTHY Tekoa Coalition, volunteering as a mentor for the youth.

Don and Rebecca have supported our community and it's youngest residents with their time and hearts for years and are caring, giving residents that keep Tekoa's roots going strong.

Tekoa Roots & 50 Year Grads



Kenny & Michelle Hay

Kenneth Hay was born and raised in Tekoa on the family farm. As a young boy, he worked under the tutelage of Martin Olson, who helped spark Kenny's lifelong love for mechanics and fixing things. He worked on the family farm, E.C. Hay and Sons, before eventually taking a position with Kaiser in Spokane. Later, he went to work for Spokane International Airport, where he primarily managed and cared for Felts Field Airport until his retirement.

Those who know Kenny know his deep commitment to service and community. His willingness to serve others has made a lasting impact on countless friends, neighbors, and community members through the years.

Michelle Pace moved to Tekoa during her junior year of high school, where she quickly became part of the community she would grow to love. After high school, she began working at

Seafirst Bank. Michelle was a key member of the Tekoa Women's Softball Team and has many fond memories of playing alongside lifelong friends under the leadership of coach John Jaeger and Gary Paden. She found her true calling at Tekoa Elementary School where she served as a paraeducator for 25 years. She treasures the many years she spent helping children learn and grow.

Kenny and Michelle were high school sweethearts and married shortly after graduation. This coming year, they will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. Together they raised two daughters, Jennifer and Andrea, and built a life centered around family, faith, hard work, and community involvement. Over the years, Kenny and Michelle have dedicated countless hours volunteering and supporting Slippery Gulch celebrations and other community events that help preserve the spirit and traditions of small-town life in Tekoa. Their story is one of dedication, service, and deep roots in the Tekoa community — a true example of "Small Town, Big Heart."



Look for our Grand Marshals, Tekoa Roots, 50 Year Grads and Honored Veterans in the Grand Parade at 11 AM.



Class of 1976

Welcome home 50 year grads!

Rebecca Beach
Tim Bruce
Tommy Dorsey
Roberta Girdner
Brian Gumm
Jeffrey Harp

Gordon Harrigan
Cheryl Hay
Jamey Heaton
Vic Johnson
Barbara Krell
Robin Krell

Bernt Lehn
Scott Lawhead
Loretta Matt
Robert Michelbook
Cynthia Mills
Michelle Sturman

Carol Thompson
Robin Thaves
Michael Watson
Sharon Wright
Coleen Yeske

Royalty, Float & More



Queen Alex

The Tekoa Royalty court welcomes everyone to Slippery Gulch Days.

Queen Alex Taufen will be riding aboard the newly designed float entitled, "Small Town Big Heart" smiling and waving to a variety of country songs.

The Tekoa Float committee and Royalty Court build a new float each spring and

appear in at least 7 parades each year.

Tekoa has the last community float in Whitman County thanks to its sponsors and loyal volunteers.

Look for Queen Alex at many of the weekend events including the Chamber Breakfast at the high school and the Kids Games at the Gymkhana Grounds!



Shirts

This year's shirt theme celebrates Tekoa's farming history featuring a classic style grain elevator.

Purchase yours before Slippery Gulch at the Tekoa Pharmacy. *\$15 for adult sizes and \$10 for youth sizes.*

If there are any left on Saturday, June 20th they will be available during the Chamber Breakfast at the high school and at the Grand Parade on Crosby.



Vendors

Food & Drink Options:

- Car & Truck Show
- C&D's Bar & Grill
- Chamber Breakfast
- Event Center
- Food Trucks
- Palouse Pizzeria
- Tekoa Market
- Tobra Coffee
- Trestle Coffee

Non-Food Options:

- Beary Green Acres
- Community Center
- Homestead General

Honored Veterans



Derrick Haxton

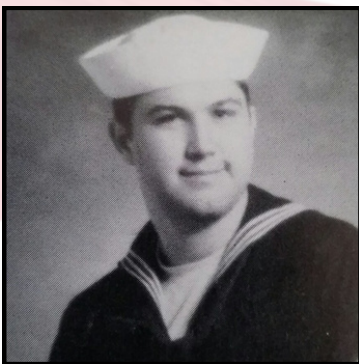
Master Sergeant Derrick Haxton enlisted in the Montana Air National Guard in March 2006 as a Tactical Aircraft Mechanic, specializing in the maintenance of F-15 and F-16 fighter aircraft. In 2008, Derrick deployed to Balad Air Base, Iraq, in direct support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. In 2010, he relocated to Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, where he supported the islands' homeland defense mission. In 2012, Derrick transferred to the Washington Air National Guard at Fairchild Air Force Base, Washington, where he continued his



service as an aircraft mechanic on KC-135 aerial refueling aircraft.

Over the course of his career, he deployed five times to Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar, supporting Operations Enduring Freedom, Freedom's Sentinel, and Inherent Resolve.

Throughout his military service, Derrick has traveled extensively, including assignments and missions in Germany, Ireland, Australia, Latvia, the Czech Republic, Japan, Okinawa, England, Iraq, Qatar, and numerous locations across the United States and its territories.



Bruce McGuigan

Bruce McGuigan entered the United States Navy on July 27, 1981, beginning a career that would span more than 26 years of service. In 1982 he reported aboard the USS Pharris (FF-1094) stationed at Norfolk Virginia as an Operations Specialist.

In 1985, he transferred to Naval Air Station Norfolk, as a Mine Warfare Air Traffic Controller with HM-14. In 1987 he qualified and served as an instructor at the Reserve Center in Syracuse New York, training and preparing reserve personnel.

Bruce returned to sea duty in 1990 aboard



the USS San Bernardino (LST-1189) in Sasebo Japan, followed by assignment to the USS Dubuque (LPD-8) where he received his Enlisted Surface Warfare Pin.

In 1996, Bruce served at Naval Station Rota Spain with Port Operations. In 1999 he served as the OIC for MICFAC Center at Naval Support Activity Bahrain in the Persian Gulf.

Bruce completed his career with Military Sealift Command in Naha, Japan, serving from 2003 until his retirement as Senior Chief (E-8) in October 2007.

Event Schedule

All Week

Fishing Derby

Hangman Creek

Thursday, June 18th

12 - 5 PM

Fish Measuring

Memorial Park (next to Pharmacy)

Friday, June 19th

9 - 5 PM

Fish Measuring

Memorial Park (next to Pharmacy)

8 - 11 PM

Teen Lock-In

Tekoa Pool

Saturday, June 20th

All Day

Golf

Tekoa Golf Course

All Day

Tractor Show

Below Grade School Hill

7:30 - 10 AM

Chamber Breakfast

High School

8 AM

Fun Run

High School

8 AM - 3 PM

Milestone Car Show

Below Grade School Hill

8 AM - 3 PM

ATHS Truck Show

Below Grade School Hill

9 AM - 3 PM

Crafts & Vendors

Community Center

10:45 AM

Kiddie Parade

Downtown

11 AM

Grand Parade

Downtown

After Parade

Awards

Downtown

After Parade

Egg Toss

Downtown

After Parade

Bike Challenge Course

Warren St.(by Banner Bank)

1 PM

Kids Games & Races

Gymkhana Park

1 - 5 PM

Scavenger Hunt -

Tekoa Library

Unearth the Heart of Tekoa

1 - 5 PM

Tekoa Museum Tour

Tekoa Museum

1 PM

Tekoa History Movie

Empire Theatre

2:30 PM

Movie "Captain America:

Empire Theatre

Brave New World"

7:30 PM

Live Music (Adults Only)

Event Center

10 PM

Fireworks

Football Field

