Memorial Day events planned in Walhalla

FOR THE JOURNAL

WALHALLA — Plans are being finalized for Oconee County Memorial Day observances, said Jerry Dyar, public information officer for the Oconee County Veterans Council. A "new monument" dedication will take place at Veterans Park at the courthouse beginning at 10 a.m. Monday. The Walhalla Chapter of the Combat Infantrymen's Association will unveil a tribute to all Army Infantry soldiers at this time.

"All Army Infantry veterans will surely want to be on hand for this grand new addition to our Veterans Park," Dyar said. "This new addition will only enhance an already meaningful display and tribute to all the men and women from Oconee County who have sacrificed so much of themselves for our nation."

Oconee County will honor the memory of the 210 men whose names appear on the War Memorial, also at Veterans Park, at noon in the Walhalla Civic Auditorium. "What Memorial Day means to me" essays from student winners at the elementary, middle and high school levels will be read.

The afternoon will be devoted to an open house at the Patriot's Hall Museum in the old "rock building" behind the courthouse.

"The Patriot's Hall Association has devoted countless hours to the development of the museum and obtaining some truly outstanding items of military memorabilia for the public to enjoy," said A.J. Smith, president of the Association. The museum will be open all day on Memorial Day. All Memorial Day events are free and open to the public. It is encouraged that you get to the WCA early for good seats. The auditorium will open at 11 a.m.