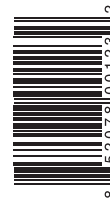


The Guernsey Gazette



Tuesday, May 28, 2024

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Volume 125, Number 22

Local Hartville heroes remembered

A tribute to the unforgotten

By Lisa Phelps

lphelps@pcrecordtimes.com

HARTVILLE – Buddy poppies, flags and bunting, ceremonies, TAPPS...it's all about remembering. Remembering the sacrifice of countless men and women who have left hearth, home – and around Platte County, horse or tractor – to travel to foreign lands to fight for the concept of freedom. Memorial Day is about reaching out to the next generation to let them know the cost of freedom; and reminding fellow soldiers, while their name may not be widely known, we will continue to remember their willingness to set aside the comforts and control of their personal lives for a season, to face danger and even death, for the least of us fellow Americans.

During this time of contemplation and thanks, let's take a glimpse into the sacrifice made by one family that impacted the local community. Let's remember the unforgotten.

Jack and James "Jim" Webb were raised on a ranch north of Hartville in Webb canyon. "They rode their horses over



Lisa Phelps/Guernsey Gazette

Brothers Jack (left) and Jim Webb both died in the line of duty during WWII. Jack was the soldier holding the flag in the photograph of his navy unit (center).

the hills to school in Sunrise. Jack was known for his skills as a cowboy, following in his older brother's footsteps.

Jim was more academically oriented and loved school and learning," Cindy Woods, niece
See REMEMBERED page 4

INSIDE: **Golf cart ordinance discussed**, page 3
Hebbert, community bid farewell, page 8

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FOR THE RECORD

DEATH NOTICE

Robert "Bob" William Frye II
June 26, 1940 – May 3, 2024

Former College Place resident Robert William Frye II, 83, died on May 3, 2024. A Celebration of Life will be held at College Place Presbyterian Church on Sat., June 1, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. A full obituary and guestbook are available at mountainview-colonialdewitt.com.



OBITUARY

Thelma May Valentine

A celebration of life for Thelma May Valentine, 92, will be held 1 p.m., Friday, May 31, 2024, at the VFW in Guernsey with Pastor Jason Miller officiating.

Thelma passed away peacefully November 26, 2023, at Goshen Healthcare Community and cremation has taken place. Memorials may be given to the Guernsey VFW Women's Auxiliary Club at 42 South Idaho Ave., Guernsey, WY 82214. Colyer Funeral Home assisted the family with the cremation arrangements.

Thelma was born in Climbing Hill, Iowa, on May 5, 1931, to James and Bertha (Blackburn) Ross. The youngest of 10 children, whom have all preceded her in death. She married Orville Valentine on July 4, 1948,

and they moved to LaGrange where they resided for 4 years before moving to Guernsey where they lived out the rest of their lives, after raising their two children. Thelma was a homemaker and caretaker until later years when she became interested in computers, genealogy and the history of the community which she shared with everyone.

She is survived by son J R (Lucy) Valentine of St. Augustine, Florida, daughter Trixie Johnson of Guernsey; two grandsons, Justine Valentine of Sacramento, California, Jimmy (Amy) Johnson of Fort-Laramie, and two great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Orville, very special friend, Bill Wilson, granddaughter Tori Johnson, and son-in-law, Lyle Johnson.



Get hooked: WGFD sets June 1 for 'free fishing day'

By Lisa Phelps

lphelps@pcrecordtimes.com

WYOMING – Every year, the first Saturday in June is a “free” fishing day in waters across Wyoming. Anyone can fish without purchasing a license this year on June 1 at any Wyoming waterway managed by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (not to include the Wind River Reservation or Yellowstone National Park). WGFD fisheries across the state are hosting special events to encourage novice anglers to get their feet wet and find a new favorite pastime.

Though a license is not required, all fishing regulations must be observed, so do your research before you head out. And remember, if you are heading onto the water, don't forget the Clean, Drain Dry protocol to prevent spreading invasive aquatic species from spreading through Wyoming waterways. For more information on, see www.wgfd.wyo.gov/fishing-boating.

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School board shares meeting notes with the public

For the Gazette

GUERNSEY – At the May 13 meeting of the board of trustees for Platte County School District No. 2, Track athletes and their coaches (Kyle Gunderson, Reva Falen, Laura Burfeind and Trenton Weiss were recognized for their season.

For the month of May, Willow Ashmore was awarded elementary student of the month, Marshall Roby was recognized as secondary student of the month, Miss Becky Walsh was recognized as elementary staff member of the month, and Mr. Dallas

Dean was recognized as secondary staff member of the month. (In its April meeting, the school board recognized Nicolina Salazar as the elementary student of the month; Aiden Nogle, secondary student of the month, Reilley London was awarded elementary

staff member of the month, Curtis Cook was awarded secondary staff member of the month.)

The board welcomed Leann Holkan, who was recently hired as a new A/P clerk. Daeh Kujak was recognized as 2023-2024

See BOARD page 14

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Issues resolved at golf cart workshop



Vicki Hood/Guernsey Gazette

Thanks to some revisions in the town's proposed ordinance following a public workshop, the council is considering allowing local golf cart drivers to use their carts on the city streets of Guernsey. The only exception to that will be U.S. 26 which can be crossed but not used as usable route through town. Golf carts may be operated only by persons 16 and over who possess a valid Wyoming driver's license.

By Vicki Hood
vhood@guernseygazette.com

GUERNSEY—The Guernsey town council and interested members of the public met at town hall last Wednesday evening for a workshop regarding the proposed ordinance on the use of golf carts on the streets of Guernsey.

After a vote that passed a proposed ordinance on first reading at the April 16 council meeting met with a number of citizens voicing concerns about some of the requirements within the ordinance, the council opted to hold the workshop to give the public a chance to discuss those concerns before any further action was taken. The proposed ordinance sought to regulate the use of golf carts within the city limits, apart from going to and from the golf course.

Councilman Kellie Augustyn said he felt the workshop went very well and the public raised some valid concerns. The biggest issue the council wanted to address was

safety, particularly in regard to underage drivers using golf carts on the city streets.

After substantial discussion, the ordinance was revised and will be presented at the next regular council meeting with revisions for their vote on second reading.

According to Augustyn, the revised Ordinance 2024-002 that will be presented on June 4 will reflect the following: "Motor vehicle" means every vehicle which is self-propelled except vehicles moved solely by human power and golf carts as defined: "golf cart" means a motor vehicle which has not less than three wheels in contact with the ground, has an unladen weight of less than 1,300 pounds, is designed to be or is operated at not more than 15 miles per hour, and is designed to carry golf equipment and not more

than four persons including the driver. Operation restrictions are to be: the operation of golf carts on public streets and roadways within the corporate boundaries of the Town of Guernsey is hereby authorized. The driver of the golf cart must have a valid driver's license as defined by Wyoming statute, and the golf cart can only be operated on public streets and roadways within the Town of Guernsey during daylight hours.

If the ordinance passes the second reading – with or without changes – it will go to a third and final reading during the June 18 council meeting. The language presented at the third meeting will be the final version, if it passes.

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REMEMBERED

from page 1



Lisa Phelps/Guernsey Gazette

A memorial in Hartville still stands near Town Hall after being erected by the Sunrise High School class of 1949 in honor of the sacrifices made by fellow schoolmates Jack Webb, Jim Webb, and Arthur Birleffi, who all died in active service to our country during WWII.

to Jack and Jim, said as she shared stories and facts collected by her mother and close family members.

Jack graduated in 1937 from Sunrise High School, followed by Jim in 1939. Both chose to enter the war and served in the Pacific Theatre. Jack was in the Navy and Jim was a Marine. Jack met Mary Ritter while in the service, and they were married in March 1944.

On August 2, 1944, after surviving several strategic battles as a machine gunner across the Pacific (Guadalcanal, Saipan and Tarawa), Corporal Jim Webb, was injured in action at the end of the battle to take Tinian Island (one of the principal Mariana Islands) from Japanese

control. The battle was fought by the U.S. to close an important line of communication for the Japanese. Thirteen days later, on August 15, 1944, he died on a hospital ship from his wounds. After the Battle of Tinian, the island was turned into the largest airbase of WWII, with 40,000 personnel and encompassing the entire island.

One year to the day after his brother died, Jack, a Machinist's Mate 1st class, drowned in the waters of Agana Bay near Guam while testing a malfunction in an amphibious landing craft in his service as a member of the Base LVU Repair Component One. One month later, on Sept. 2, 1945, U.S. and Japanese military leaders met on the USS Missouri to sign documents of surrender to end the war with Japan.

The two had tried to connect while serving in the same theater of war, but while they each were at the same ports and encountered soldiers who had known or served with the other, they never were able to meet overseas. Jack and Jim's younger sister, Martha Webb Hyer, served in the Navy as a WAVE stationed in Washington, D.C. "She took their death hard," Woods said.

Originally both Webb brothers were buried in Guam, however when the national cemetery was moved to Punchbowl crater on Oahu, Hawaii in 1948, the Webbs' remains were also moved to rest in the 50th state.

To honor the brothers and their sacrifice, Guernsey's J. J. Webb American Legion Post 95 was so named to make sure the memory of their sacrifice didn't fade away. A memo-

rial was set up at the Hartville Town Hall flagpole by the Sunrise class of 1949, which was added to by former Hartville mayor Darrell Offe in recent years, to honor the memory of Jack and Jim Webb and another Sunrise graduate, Arthur Birleffi, whose death in a military training accident while testing equipment and aircraft loads for the Air Force stateside during WWII was also mourned by the community.

As WWI Canadian soldier and battlefield physician John McCrae wrote in a poem to honor his dear friend who died on a battlefield amid an abundance of poppies, "In Flanders Fields" describes the high cost of war and the reason not to give up before the fighting is done. The poem is read at Memorial Day ceremonies across the country, recogniz-

ing the sacrifices of soldiers long gone, and the need to keep passing the torch of remembrance and the continued fight for the freedom they died for.

In Flanders Fields

by John McCrae

*In Flanders fields the
poppies blow
Between the crosses row
on row,
That mark our place;
and in the sky
The larks, still bravely
singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the
guns below.
We are the Dead.
Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw
sunset glow,
Loved and were loved
and now we lie
In Flanders fields.
Take up our quarrel with
the foe:
To you, from failing
hands we throw
The torch; be yours to
hold it high.
If ye break faith with us
who die
We shall not sleep,
though poppies grow,
In Flanders fields.*

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Leadership Wyoming concludes year of education at Camp Guernsey

By Lisa Phelps

lphelps@pcrecordtimes.com

GUERNSEY – May 3 was the official graduation for the 42 members of Leadership Wyoming Class of 2024. Their final tour as a class was a two-day event at Camp Guernsey on May 15 – 16 to become more familiar with the military in Wyoming.

Among them was Platte County Chamber of Commerce director Shawna Reichert of Guernsey. “It’s nice to be able to see the partnership with other organizations, the camp and local community,” she said.

“The value of our military presence in little Guernsey is pretty impressive,” said Ashley Harpstreith of Wyoming

Taxpayers Association in Cheyenne. “I’m in government relations and I am really impressed with what they do – I didn’t realize there was so much.”

“It’s good to show civilian groups what we do. People hear the noise and see the traffic, it’s nice to show them what we provide to the state and to educate them on the partnership we have with the local community.” said CW4 Nathan Galloway, community relations officer for the Wyoming Military Department.

During the tour, participants were given rides in a C-130, flying over Glendo State Park, then concluded with UH60 (Blackhawk) helicopter rides over Guernsey Reservoir, Camp Guernsey’s

See LEADERSHIP page 7



Lisa Phelps/Guernsey Gazette

This Blackhawk took off tail up, nose down to demonstrate one capability of the helicopter to Leadership Wyoming participants.

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To receive this voucher, please visit Town Hall any time after May 27th and visit with our staff. We will issue the voucher according to your residential location. We look forward to participating with you in this community effort to improve the quality of living in our town!

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OPINION

Johnston announces candidacy for newly districted senate seat

By Eric Johnston

For the Guernsey Gazette

In 2022, the State of Wyoming redrew the senate district boundaries. State Senate District 6 now includes all of Platte County and the eastern portion of Laramie County. I am a candidate to represent this area, which is basically from Glendo to Pine Bluffs. The communities and surrounding areas are rural but also include some of the acreage homes on the northeast and east side of Cheyenne. The district map can be found on the wyoleg.gov page at <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/fo86f052f28b4185a-785f19344a057be/page/Current-Senate-Districts/>

I am seeking this seat in the Senate to provide respectful, rural representation to the district. There is a lot of “country” in this district. Wheatland is the largest municipality in the district and bears little resemblance to Cheyenne in its issues. It is important

that the district’s constituents, including the smaller communities of Albin, Burns, Carpenter, Chugwater, Hartville, Glendo, and Guernsey are equally represented. I believe my term as a Platte County Commissioner demonstrated by ability to make decisions based on fact and rooted in my Christian values. I addressed local issues such as infrastructure improvements and delivered positive results.

Background

Being a Wyoming native and third generation Platte County resident, I understand the “Code of the West.” I was honorably discharged from the US Army (Engineers), worked internationally in upstream oil and gas production and hold engineering degrees from Texas A&M University. I currently grow alfalfa with the intention of marketing it to dairies, although as any ag person knows, Mother Nature often can have a large impact on “my plans.”

Governmental Philosophy

I think the most effective and responsive government is closest to the people. The three main responsibilities of government are:

Protect citizens from violence. Examples include law enforcement, fire protection, military, the court system and incarceration

Provide services individuals cannot effectively provide themselves, such as roads/bridges

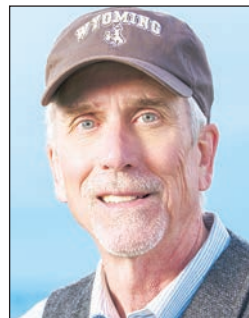
Invest in citizens to enable them to provide for themselves – Education.

Otherwise, stay out of the way of private business

Policy Positions

Constitution: I have taken an oath of office two times in the past (US Army and County Commissioner) stating that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same. That commitment still holds true today.

Energy: Supporting Wyoming’s legacy energy industries of coal, oil and gas, trona, and



Eric Johnston

uranium is critical to our state and a very high priority for me. We must also pursue opportunities in emerging technologies such as hydrogen, nuclear, and rare earth elements.

I support coal and natural gas fired electrical generation. These energy sources compose the backbone of the electrical grid, are 24/7 dispatchable and are rampable, unlike wind or solar. Renewable sources of electrical generation are acceptable in their intermittent capacity but lack the full time reliability of coal or natural

gas. The thought of elimination of coal/natural gas electrical generation facilities is folly.

Agriculture: I will do everything I can to protect the values of agricultural families and their ability to stay on the farm/ranch without interference from government. Water is a critical component of agriculture and I will work with the State Engineer’s office to insure it is applied to beneficial use.

Jobs and Economy: Focusing on the support of the energy, tourism, and agricultural sectors is a high priority to me as they are critical to the state’s economic prosperity. Improvements to installed technology, such as new optical fiber infrastructure, would create more opportunity for ‘work from home’ jobs.

Property Tax: As the last legislative session demonstrated, there is no quick fix for this complex issue. However, I think positive progress was made by adoption of certain exemptions and caps. The challenge is balancing property tax reductions with the need to fund services provided to our citizens. Schools and counties rely heavily on property tax revenue and their protection needs to be considered in the overall reform process. I do not favor eliminating property tax completely and replacing it with an increased sales tax as this shifts the burden to non-property owners – often the younger people just starting out.

I look forward to meeting more of you and to representing the people of SDO6. I will be a Senator you can be proud of and will strive to enact legislation that will empower people to earn success. I can be reached at: edjSD06@gmail.com.

The Guernsey Gazette



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LEADERSHIP

from page 5

north range, “then fly in tactical maneuvers along the terrain at 100 MPH and 50 feet over the Platte River, flying in a box canyon among the raptors, ducks, etc. before exiting at Guernsey airfield,” Camp Guernsey Airfield manager Jason Miller said.

Back in the briefing room of the air tower after the helicopter ride, there was a buzz of words like “Amazing! Gosh! Impressive! I could tell when we dropped into the maneuver!” and several comments about seeing antelope, deer, wild birds and the water looked so close it seemed you could almost touch it.”

Reichert said it was a great experience as a local resident, being

able to see Platte County from a different perspective in the air during the C130 flight over Glendo State Park, and after the “amazing” Blackhawk demonstration of tactical maneuvers, which she compared to a rollercoaster ride, she said she

has a greater appreciation for what soldiers who are training for the battlefield experience. “While the ride was fun, I kept thinking, the soldiers who are doing these maneuvers are going to possibly experience those maneuvers going into battle and was thinking of the apprehension they may experience in those times.”



Lisa Phelps/Guernsey Gazette

Leadership Wyoming participants are all smiles following their Blackhawk helicopter ride along the North Platte River during a two-day tour of Camp Guernsey operations. Pictured are Shawna Reichert of Guernsey (front l-r), Tami Afdahl, Ashley Harpstreith, Colonel Bret Trippel; Jared Sallee (back, l-r), Joseph Martinez, Danny Hayes, and Brayden Connour.

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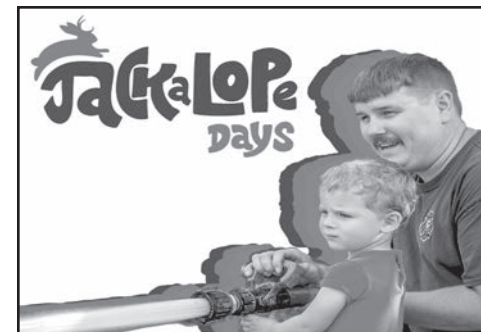
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Leadership Wyoming assistant director Linda Walsh said there is traditionally a “military day” for the Leadership Wyoming class, but it is usually in Cheyenne, where the members are given C130 and Blackhawk helicopter flights around the Cheyenne area. The last time the group was in Guernsey was in 2018.

“They can fly more loose here than in Cheyenne. Flying that canyon on the river is a once in a lifetime experience,” Walsh said.

Fulfilling the stated mission of “inspiring Wyoming’s leaders through exploration and connection,” Leadership Wyoming requires participants to study and delve deeper into the subject of each topic with related tours at locations across Wyoming. The nine tours from August through May are three-day events saturated with information from speakers, tours, specific topic discussions designed to challenge participants to learn about the industries, challenges and opportunities facing Wyoming. Any Wyoming resident can apply to participate but must have five years of leadership under their belt. More information can be found at www.leadershipwyoming.org.

Hebbert bids farewell at concert

By Vicki Hood

vhood@guernseygazette.com

GUERNSEY—It was an emotional scene last Monday evening at Guernsey-Sunrise Schools as vocal music instructor Matt Hebbert bid farewell to the community at the final concert of the school year.

Hebbert, who has been dealing with serious health issues over the past year, told the audience that regarding his retirement, he was taking a page from “The Gambler,” a hit song by Kenny Rogers whose lyrics say, “You gotta know when to hold ‘em and know when to fold ‘em.”

Instrumental instructor/director Nathan Beutler opened the concert with several songs by fourth-grade band members featuring percussion skills on bucket drums, followed by the fifth-graders playing instru-

ments called melodica that featured the song “Hot Cross Buns,” played at three different tempos that increased in speed each time.

The first graders kicked off the vocal portion of the night performing three folk songs—“Hello There,” “Seasons,” and “Grizzly Bear.”

They concluded with a performance using rhythm sticks with 14 different actions to the steady beat of “The Wellerman: A Sea Shanty.”

They were followed by the second through sixth-graders who kept it light with selections from “At the Bandstand: A Rock and Roll Review.” They began with “At the Bandstand,” followed by “Rockin’ Robin,” “Sh’Boom,” “Splish Splash,” “Shake, Rattle, and Roll” and “Great Balls of Fire.”

Adam Bandalos played a guitar and vocal solo, followed

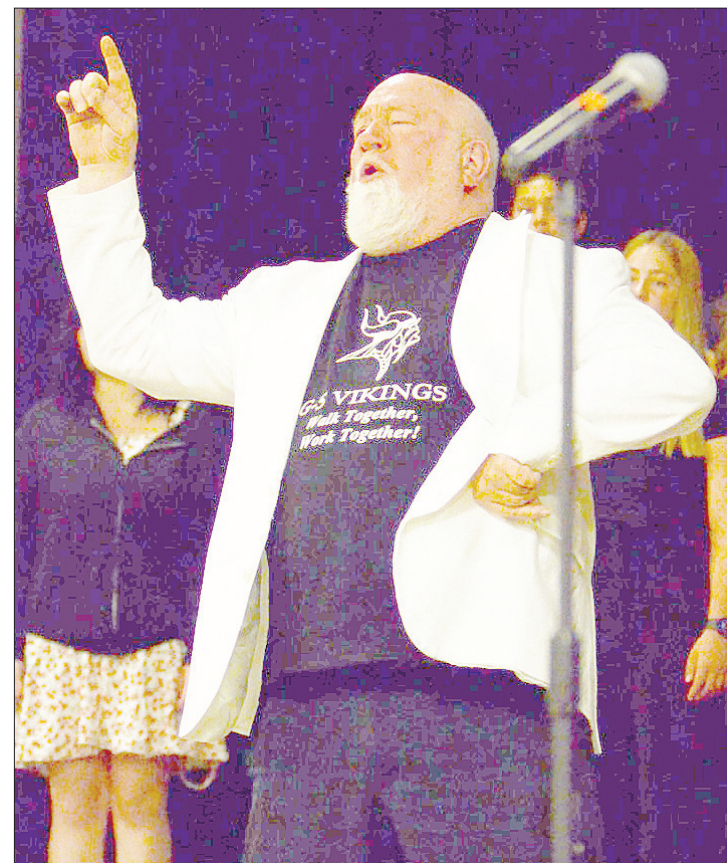
by the junior-senior high choir who performed “Kyrie,” “Hush, Somebody’s Callin’ My Name,” “Aurora Borealis,” “White Winter Hymnal” and “Lean on Me.”

The concert closed with a surprise piece sung by all the students, staff and parents called “Turn” by October Project.

The song was arranged by October Project for this performance and dedicated to “Mr. Hebbert’s Forever Friends.” A string quartet that included former Guernsey resident Dakota Morgan joined accompanist Lorrie Morgan and the piece was conducted by Erin Jespersen, a long-time friend of Matt Hebbert. Erin teaches at Lingle-Fort Laramie and resides in Torrington.

Following the conclusion of the concert, Mr. Hebbert was honored by the school, and

See FAREWELL page 13



Vicki Hood/Guernsey Gazette

Vocal Music Director Matt Hebbert puts emotion into the words of the spiritual song “Hush.”



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DISCOVER

Platte County

A publication of The Platte County Record - Times and Guernsey Gazette
May 28th, 2024

Discover Platte County

Hartville Museum and Community Center

BY VICKI HOOD

It may very well be one of the best-kept secrets in eastern Wyoming, but the Hartville Museum and Community Center is worth the trip to Wyoming's oldest incorporated town still in existence.

Five miles north of Guernsey on Wyoming Highway 270, you will come to a stop sign at a T intersection. If you're using a navigation system, it should now tell you "You have reached your destination."

To your left is Hartville's historic schoolhouse which was renovated in 2006 to provide the community with a modernized gathering place for meetings and programs as well as a museum to house the many artifacts and photos from Hartville and Sunrise, the two communities that were home to hundreds of people from all over the globe that came to work the local ore-rich mines.

The Sunrise Mine was operated by Colorado Fuel and Iron out of

Pueblo. CF&I built the town of Sunrise to provide homes for the miners and their families. There was also a school, YMCA, a company store, a large two-story house for the mine superintendent and a huge series of garages. The mine operated for 82 years before it finally shut down operations in 1980. Although few of the buildings are still standing, many artifacts and photos were saved from the school, the mine and families who lived there, stored in a variety of places. With the renovation of the school building at Hartville, many of those items that were saved now have a permanent home where they can be displayed. "Now everyone can come and see some of the history that built Hartville and Sunrise," said Kathy Troupe, who was raised in Sunrise and attended school there.

Half of the Hartville school was refurbished to show what the classroom looked like, the other half had a full kitchen and dining room where many of the photos and ar-



PHOTO BY VICKI HOOD

A portion of the old Hartville grade school restored a classroom that reflects how the room would have looked when children filled the rows of desks during the school year.

tifacts cover the walls and fill the shelves.

The senior class photos from the Sunrise School are now displayed in the museum.

During the Christmas season, the museum has a wonderful, illuminated miniature town decorated for the holiday. It fills most of the dining room and is a must-see.

Troupe, who has been a driving force to preserve and share the communities' history, said the museum is currently gathering information on the people buried in the Hartville and Boot Hill cemeteries south of town. "Our board members were born and raised here, so we all have information to share."

The museum does not have regular hours but arrangements can be made to open the doors anytime someone is interested in visiting. There are also special events held throughout the summer. Contact Hartville Town Hall at 307-836-2288 for more information about visiting the museum.

There are also items of the mine

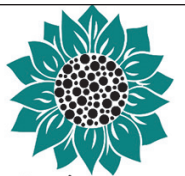
displayed at the YMCA building in Sunrise. John Voight, owner of the entire Sunrise property, has spent the last 10 years working to make Sunrise a tourist destination. In the last two years, a group was organized under a 501(c)(3) corporation that goes by the name of SHAPPS (Sunrise Historic and Prehistoric Preservation Society.)



PHOTO BY VICKI HOOD

In 2006, Hartville received funding from the State of Wyoming and the Wyoming Business Council to renovate the old Hartville grade school. The building, now titled the Hartville Museum and Community Center is now home to many photos and artifacts from the communities of Hartville and Sunrise. It also serves as a meeting place and can be rented by the public for private events.

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Discover Platte County

Guernsey State Park Museum

BY VICKI HOOD

As Wyoming state parks go, all have their own special attributes, from beautiful views to great fishing, boating, hiking and camping as well as many additional amenities but only two have museums within their borders.

The Guernsey State Park Museum is a treasure trove of historical information regarding man's adaptation to the environment in the Guernsey area from prehistoric to present times. And because the park's construction was done by workers in President Franklin Roosevelt's Civilian Conservation Corps, the museum houses all the records, maps, architectural drawings and photos from the project. The CCC was part of Roosevelt's New Deal program in the early 1930s following the Great Depression. Its mission focused on two goals—putting men to work and conserving the land. The architectural style used throughout the park was considered “rustic.” The basis of the

style is simplicity in design, use of native building materials, avoidance of overly perfect construction lines, and to reflect pioneer craftsmanship.

The historic portions of the park have been left unmodified since their construction and the museum is one of the best examples of the buildings' original appearance.

The building is made of buff-colored sandstone and has native flagstone floors, hand-wrought iron hardware and rustic décor. The roof is framed with hand-hewn timbers and covered with split cedar shakes. Construction took approximately 6,100 man-hours.

The museum is located on the east side of the park on a hill high above the lake, with an outstanding view of Laramie Peak to the west. It is open to the public seven days a week at no charge. The site is open from May 1 to September 30 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

Enter the park from the south entrance off U.S. Highway 26, just west of Guernsey. There is a charge



PHOTO BY VICKI HOOD

Visitors to Guernsey State Park will find all kinds of historical information and displays about the park and the construction by the Civilian Conservation Corps. The majority of the building is made of native materials and reflects the rustic style that all of the original constructs feature.

to enter the park and that fee is collected at the toll booth as you enter the park. Continue to the paved road across the dam until you reach the main boat dock. Turn right and follow the road that goes around the hill and ends up in the parking area just below the museum.

Along with its standard operations, special activities and guest speakers are featured throughout the season. Group tours can be ar-

ranged by contacting the museum or park superintendent. For further information, call 307-836-2900 or park headquarters at 307-836-2334. You may also find information and maps for the entire park on their website at:

wyoparks.wyo.gov/index.php/places-to-go/guernsey

Visit their Facebook page to find about the latest activities at Guernsey State Park.

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PHOTO BY VICKI HOOD

Views from Guernsey State Park are hard to beat, especially when Mother Nature helps decorate.

Discover Platte County

Guernsey Visitor's Center and Museum

BY VICKI HOOD

Don't let the size of the community of Guernsey fool you. For a small town, there is much to see and do in

and around the area.

If you are new to the area or just visiting, your first stop should be the Guernsey Visitor's Center and



PHOTO: CF&I BOOTS PHOTO BY VICKI HOOD
These boots were left behind by a miner that worked at the Colorado Fuel and Iron mine. The mine opened in 1898 and closed in 1980.

Museum. Located one block south of the main intersection in Guernsey (U.S. 26 and Wyoming Ave.) on the east side of the street, you will find someone local tending the desk and can help you find everything a visi-

tor might be looking for.

In addition to local information, the visitor's center also houses a variety of artifacts and displays from days gone by in this community that was founded in 1902.



PHOTO BY VICKI HOOD

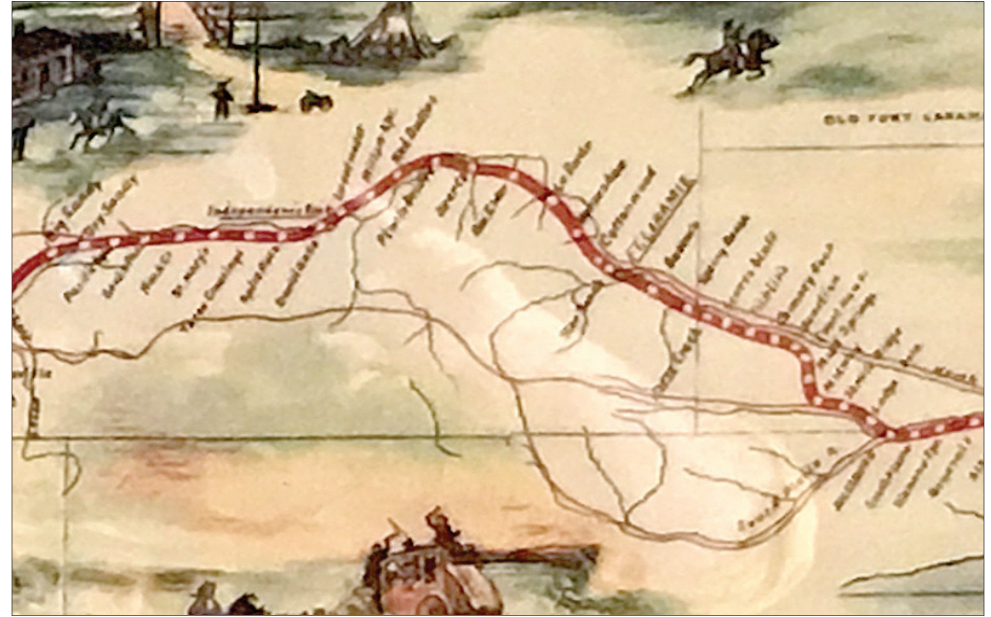


PHOTO BY VICKI HOOD

The area is rich with western history. Just south of Guernsey are some of the best wagon ruts made by the thousands of covered wagons that crossed the Oregon Trail and Register Cliff, a huge limestone cliff where many of the pioneers carved their names, hometowns and dates that can still be seen today. Both sites are National Historic Landmarks.

The Pony Express trail also tracked along the same route through Wyoming and there is a large display that shows the entire route and names of the stations. The center has free information about all three trails as well as books, t-shirts and collectible items that are for sale.

There are also displays regarding the history of Guernsey and Hartville as well as Hell Gap, an archeological site dedicated as a National Historic Landmark in 2017 located northeast of Guernsey.

Wi-Fi is available at no charge and there are also maps and brochures from various places of interest in other Wyoming counties, state parks, historic sites, major attractions and national parks (Yel-

lowstone, Devil's Tower) and South Dakota.

The center is open from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day, seven days a week. Hours are Monday through Saturday, noon to 7 p.m.; and Sundays, noon to 4 p.m.

For more information, you may call 307-836-2715.

Additional information for the center and events in the area may be found on the town's website at: https://www.townofguernseywy.us/services/visitor_center

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FAREWELL

from page 8

Principal Liesl Sisson presented him with a beautiful wooden plaque and balloons. On behalf of all his students at Guernsey-Sunrise, Ad-die Perkins presented Mr. Hebbert with a t-shirt signed by all of them.

Choking back tears throughout

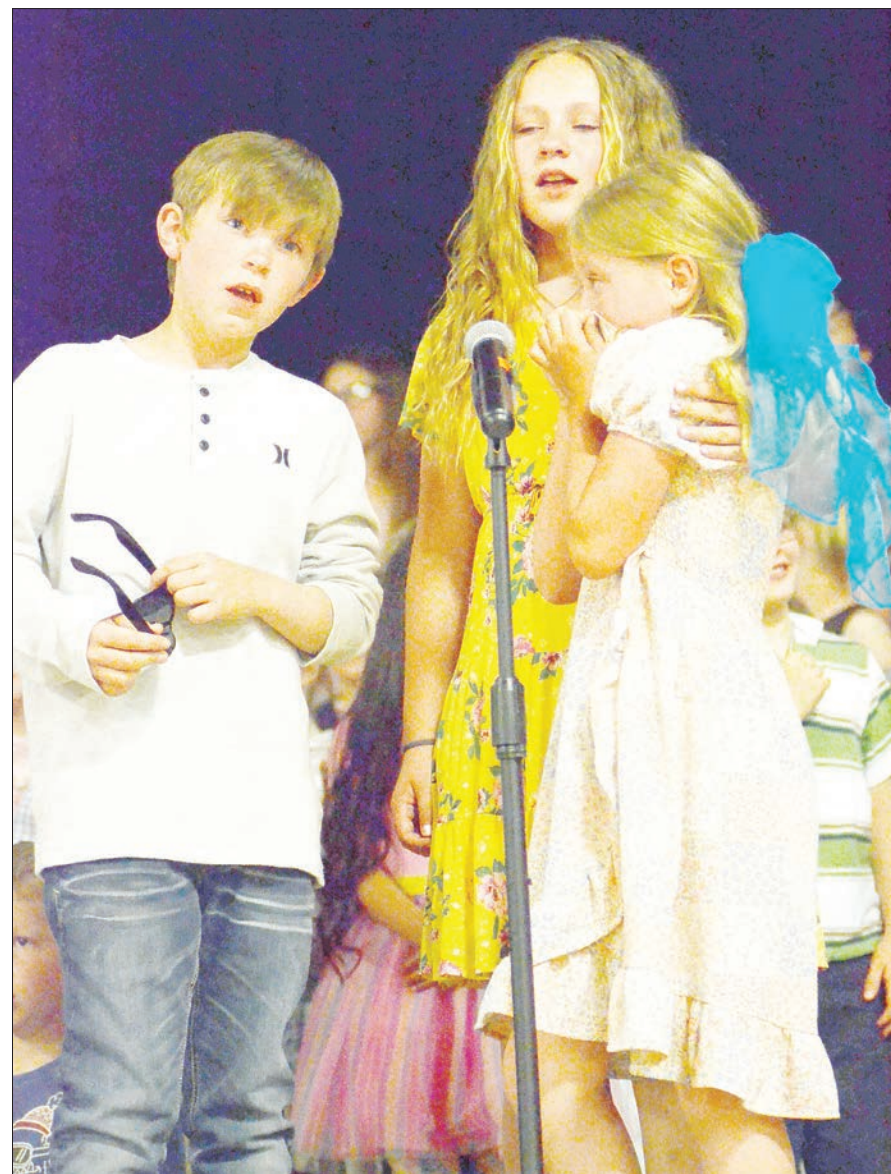
his comments, Hebbert thanked the students, staff administration and parents. As students gathered around him following the concert, it was abundantly clear that he is loved by this community and his presence will certainly be missed.



Vicki Hood/Guernsey Gazette

Guernsey Sunrise principal Liesl Sisson (above) presents vocal music instructor Matt Hebbert with a tribute from the school for his years of service at the close of the year's final concert. Hebbert is retiring at the end of this school year.

Brinley Howe, (right photo, center) comforts Kinsley Fertig who was overcome with emotion during the final tribute song "Turn" for Mr. Hebbert. Along with Landon Green, the three were the soloists in the piece to close the final concert of the school year.



Vicki Hood/Guernsey Gazette

Fifth grade students (above) play an instrument called a melodica during the spring music concert last week. The kindergarten and first grade classes (left photo) finished their song "Grizzly Bear" with a huge "roar" at the audience: Cooper Orr (front l-r), Mackynzie Smith, Sonny Ray Ramirez, Jameson Miller and Sage Ibarra; Kamryn Wagner-Gross (back, l-r), McKenna Lewis and Amaryah Trejo.

BOARD

from page 2

teacher of the year. She will advance to the state level of nominations. Kathy Sierra was recognized as district classified staff member of the year.

In public comments, Max Garner said the Congressional Record of 1963 relates the fears of critical race theory indoctrination and freedom of speech. He provided trustees with information for them to consider from the congressional record appendix.

For the business report, Nikki Quynn has been winding down the current school year and will be working on the 2024-2025 school year and plans to get ordering done for staff requisitions before summer break.

In the maintenance report, Mr. Keiser said Shephard Construction, Inc. will be remodeling the restroom after school is out. There will be a partial replacement of the HVAC system this summer, JJ Flooring will be recoating the gym floor the first two

weeks in June, and at the end of June contractors will be in the building to replace some flooring.

Principal Liesl Sisson said the ELA Curriculum committee has a recommendation of which curriculum they would like to adopt. She then invited Scottina Haase to present a powerpoint to the board on the "K-8 ELA Curriculum." Within the presentation they said they wanted the Orton Gillingham and CKLA curriculum, which incorporates all five pillars of literacy plus language comprehension, spelling, and writing (Amplify CKLA K-5 and Amplify ELA 6-8). It will be funded through the State of Wyoming's WYBILT grant for eight years.

Sisson updated the board on school programs, stating the May 7 signing day went well, Skills USA team are repeat grand champions at state competition and will be attending nationals, she asked Misty Thomas to update the board on the Little Vikes program and the new offerings planned for the coming school year. A guard camp MOU review was scheduled for the

week of May 20, the house survey results were given results from the house survey and the master schedule for next year is "coming together." Sisson also said the RIDE team went to Riverton and reported they felt it benefitted them and their knowledge; State testing and Fast Bridge testing are completed for the year.

Sisson also said the district has applied to be a Purple Star School Program, a state-sponsored recognition designed to emphasize the importance of assisting military children with school transition and developing programs that recognize the value of military service and civic responsibility.

Guernsey-Sunrise school now has a very active crochet club; there was to be a Chopped Competition the week of May 13 involving three separate teams; Kindergarten class went with the 2024 seniors to Guernsey State Park and took pictures with them at the Castle. She concluded her report, the first day with no tardies was celebrated with ice cream.

Assistant principal Jeremy Dietchman said kindergarten, first and sixth grade classes were to travel to the Terry Bison Ranch on the 15th. The Kindergarten class earned an ice cream day for their last to modules of math studying 2D and 3D shapes – both options of shapes in different ways to top the ice cream. They were finishing up testing, and Dietchman said the growth in the students' academics has been "incredible." Fifth grade life science ended with the successful hatch of 23 chicks. Dietchman said the students take care of them for one week before they go to a "chicken farmer."

Activities director Jolyn Hillen congratulated Kamlee Collar, who qualified for Best of the West in shot put and Best of the Best in shot put and discus. Henry Zapf qualified for Best of the Best in the 100-meter dash and shotput. Hillen congratulated the state track qualifiers and coaches.

May 21 was the athletic/activities awards night, where anyone in ninth-

See BOARD page 16

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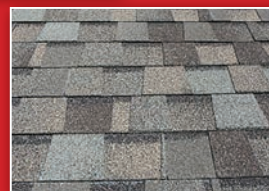
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Combat vets to retire flags at Hub City campground



Lisa Phelps/Guernsey Gazette

The stars and stripes proudly wave in the morning sunshine. Eventually, the toll of the wind and sun will put this flag on the list to be retired.

By Lisa Phelps

lphelps@pcrecordtimes.com

GUERNSEY – A flag retirement ceremony will be held by the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association in Guernsey on June 14. The public is welcome to attend the event from 5 – 6 p.m. at the Hub City Campground, across the road from the golf course.

“It has been brought to our attention there is a need to properly and respectfully retire flags around the area,” Kelly Mixson said, adding the Wheatland Police Department has agreed to collect faded, torn or worn flags needing to be retired.

According to U.S. flag code, “The flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning.”

Mixson told Platte County Commissioners during their meeting last week, he is working with the Guernsey VFW color guard for assistance with the ceremony, and in consideration of fire hazards, will have a fire crew on standby.

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BOARD

from page 14

through twelfth-grade athletics or activities recognized by Wyoming High School Athletics Association were to be included in the awards. FCCLA/Culinary, FBLA and Skils USA have been included thanks to their sponsors, Hillen said. “I am excited the district is getting all the activities involved so the students can be recognized for their hard work along with the district’s athletes,” she said.

Hillen reported the district’s pole vault and high jump pits and standards are getting old, and approval has been given to purchase a new high jump and pole vault pits along with standards through the major maintenance category of school finances. The new pits were to be delivered before the end of the school year. An email was sent to athletic directors across the state to see if anyone wanted the old pits, and both have been spoken for and will be removed by the interested parties.

Hillen asked the board to approve the weight room summer supervisor job description, and upon approval, the position will be posted.

Superintendent Lisa Weigel told the board the Food Service Corrective has been completed, thanking Dawndrea Daly for the time she spent accomplishing it. Weigel thanked Quynn for the time spent on preliminary budget reports and the negotiated agreement; and thanked the staff, board team, administrative team and community for their support of the school and its success. She also thanked Tesha Frederick for doing Hug-In-A Mug this year.

Weigel also informed the board a “conceal and carry” survey went out and the results will be reported at the board meeting in June.

Action taken during the meeting by the board of trustees included approving the April 15 minutes; financials and paying of the bills as presented; the bid from Shepard Construction, Inc. for restroom remodel in the amount of \$247,200.00; the 2024-2025 preliminary budget; summer weight room supervisor job descrip-

tion; English language arts core curriculum, negotiated 2024-2025 agreement; extra duties as presented (hiring Haiden Martinez as head golf coach beginning in the spring season of 2025, Daeh Kujak as head high school girls basketball coach for 2024-25 season, Kiley Bennett as second grade teacher for the 2024-25 school year, Para Educator Jessica DeLaurentis for the 2024-25 school year); Approved extension of Superintendent Weigel’s contract through June 2027;

Trustee Shawna Reichert shared information with the superintendent regarding a program called “Uprising” and thanked everyone for their hard work. Trustee Blaine Ayers thanked everyone for their hard work and thanked Max for his comments; Trustee Sarah Seyfang thanked everyone for all they do for the district. She mentioned teacher appreciation was the week prior to the board meeting and said the board cannot ever express enough their appreciation for the hard work of the teachers going above and beyond for Guernsey-Sunrise students. She congratulated the track kids and coaches for making it to state and wished them good luck. Trustee Gary Anderson brought up how everyone in the district works “really hard” and how much the board appreciates the amazing things they do for the kids. He also noted he was impressed with the number of kids going out for track and the amount of people supporting the kids and our schools.

The board voted to declare a second meeting (in addition to the regular meeting the second Monday of each month) to pay end of the year bills at 7 p.m. June 24, 2024. A July budget meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on July 17, followed by a regular meeting at 7 p.m.

The next meeting of the PCSD No. 2 board of trustees will be June 10. The board will consider adopting a resolution to renew the worker’s compensation fund; approve Copenhagen, Kath, Kitchen and Kolpitcke for use as the school district attorneys as needed for the 2024-2025 fiscal year, approve renewing Northeast BOCES agreement for 2024-2025.

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Weight Room Summer Supervisor Position

Guernsey-Sunrise High School is seeking a suitably qualified, experienced and enthusiastic summer weight room supervisor.

We are looking for a candidate who can develop, implement and supervise programs for athletes and students. The candidate needs to be motivated, enthusiastic, reliable and enjoy working with the coaches and the athletic director.

We are seeking a candidate that can facilitate and promote positive growth, and is a champion for athletes and students.

Minimum qualifications for the position are:

- Understanding of weight training and cardiovascular equipment.
- Good communication skills.
- Proven or demonstrated ability to program and lead a team training session.
- Concussion Training, First Aid/CPR/AED certification, preferred certification in similar fields.

External candidates please submit a certified application which is posted on the website and a letter of interest which includes 2-3 references to Rhonda Martin rmartin@gsviking.org.

Internal candidates please submit a letter of interest and resume to Rhonda Martin rmartin@gsviking.org.

Closing date is Tuesday, May 28, 2024.

555 S. Wyoming Ave Guernsey
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<http://www.guernseysunrise.org/>

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The Guernsey Gazette 



Lisa Phelps/Guernsey Gazette

Bradley Roby (left) and Marcus Swingholm (right) step back as teammate Nate Cisneros gets ready to launch the tennis ball on the trebuchet.

Trebuchet challenge tests success of construction project

By Lisa Phelps
lphelps@pcrecordtimes.com

GUERNSEY – As an end-of-year project, students of Troy Reichert’s and Jolyn Hillen’s tech math class built trebuchets and had a friendly competition last week as they tested them in a head-to-head battle on a breezy day at Guernsey-Sunrise’s Sticker Stadium.

There were two goals: to hit as close as possible to a target, and to launch the tennis ball the farthest, best out of three tries wins.

After several successful practice runs where the teams adjusted the counterweights and launch techniques, the trebuchet team of Julian Rodriguez and Mario Garcia had two of their three launches go backwards instead of forwards. But, after some adjustments, had a fair launch in the right

direction, but not enough to beat the competition. Trebuchet team Marcus Swingholm, Nate Cisneros and Bradley Roby got within inches of the target for their target challenge and had a launch that was a clear distance winner.

Though the official winner was declared, the teams continued to try to perfect their launches in post-test trials, with some launches proving better than their official results.

Reichert and Hillen said the class have had to problem-solve in making the trebuchets, particularly with finding a material in the launch pocket that would hold, but then release the tennis ball. The teachers said they are collaborating in making next year’s class structured to have level challenges the students must pass before going onto the next level, with some kind of time and skill challenge involved.



Lisa Phelps /Guernsey Gazette

Mario Garcia adjusts weight in the counterbalance in an experiment to see what is the right combination to launch the ball.

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