

Gathering to remember on Memorial Day

Pictures & Story By
Terri Licking

Forty-five area residents gathered at the Hillcrest Cemetery Chapel in Thedford, Monday, May 30, to pay their respects and remember veterans and other loved ones.

Veteran Miles Maseberg led the service. Pastor Ben Eickhoff, also a veteran, gave the message on remembering the 1.5 million servicemen and women who gave their lives during the wars spanning over 200 years.

Fifty six hundred of that total was lost in Iraq and

Afghanistan in the War on Terror. He urged us not to forget their sacrifice that gives us the privileges other citizens around the world envy. Pastor Eickhoff reminded us in a poem written by a veteran, "It is not the minister, but a soldier that gave us the freedom of religion; It is not the reporter, but a soldier that gave us freedom of the press; It is not a poet, but a soldier that gave us the freedom of speech; It is not the campus organizer, but a soldier that gives us the freedom to assemble. A soldier salutes the flag, fights beneath the flag

and his casket is draped by our flag all for the privilege of the protester to burn our flag."

Velma (Mintle) Ewoldt read the names of the deceased Thomas County veterans while Kaycee Hoffman placed a poppy in a wreath for each one.

The Mintle family, who led attendees in "God Bless America" provided special music and 11-year-old Haxton Hoffman played "Amazing Grace" on his bagpipes. He was dressed in Scottish attire. The service concluded with "Taps" played by Trae Hickman.



Miles Maseberg led the service on Monday, May 30 at the Hillcrest Cemetery Chapel in Thedford. He was assisted by Pastor Ben Eickhoff, who gave the message on remembering the 1.5 million service men and women who have given their lives.



Velma Ewoldt, left, reads the names of the deceased Thomas County veterans while Kaycee Hoffman places a poppy in a wreath for each one.

Filing deadline for village board is approaching

Thomas County Clerk, Lorissa Hartman, reminds constituents the filing deadline for village board is July 15 for incumbents and August 1 for non-incumbents.

Village of Halsey terms up for election are Loren Eaton and Wilma Heinowski. Both have filed for re-election.

Village of Thedford terms up for election are Albert Fisher, Phil Kuenle, and Darren Rinestine.

Albert Fisher has submitted his name for re-election.

Those interested in running for village board should contact the Thomas County Clerk.

Cookie College Coming To Area In July

If your child would like to participate in the cookie college you can sign up with the Central Sandhills Extension office. Please sign up by July 13. They will be learning fundamentals of baking, explore the science of baking, learn correct procedures of storing cookies, evaluate different recipes, and have sample cookies to take home and share.

The Cookie Colleges will be held:

July 19 - Halsey Community Center, 9:30 a.m. - Noon

July 19 - Thedford Assembly of God Church 1:00 - 3:30 p.m.

July 21 - Mullen Community Center 8:30 - 11:00 a.m. MT

July 21 - Hyannis Winters Building 1:00 - 3:30 p.m. MT

A minimum of five attendees will be required to have the college, so get your child signed-up today. Please call 308-645-2267 to sign up.

Senator Brewer addresses recent school shooting

By now everyone is familiar with the Uvalde, Texas mass murder. As one of the strongest supporters of the second amendment in the Nebraska Legislature, I felt expressing my opinion on this matter was something many people expected me to do. Out of respect for the families of the victims, I wanted to wait for the funerals to at least be finished before making any public comments.

A number of politicians here in Nebraska and in Washington, D.C. felt the need to comment on the story within hours of the tragedy. Politicizing this event to promote utterly failed policies is ghoulish and inappropriate to say the least. Yet again, this tragedy provides another horrifying example of the

fact "gun free zones" do not work. Evil maniacs determined to murder people cannot be stopped with a sign.

We've had more guns in the United States than we've had population since the early days of our nation. We've only had mass shootings in the United States for about the last twenty years. This is not a "gun problem." This is very obviously a mental health and physical security problem, to say nothing about our culture. The idea that somehow law-abiding citizens are causing mass shootings because they are unwilling to give up their God-given right to keep and bear arms is not only ridiculous, it is anti-American.

The 2nd Amendment was not made part of the

constitution so a person could go to the gun range and target shoot or go hunting. Our young nation had just finished a war with the world's super power at the time. The Founding Fathers implemented the Second Amendment so that the new United States government would always be beholden to its citizens. They believed it was crucial that future generations had the same power to overthrow a potentially tyrannical government.

When President Kennedy was assassinated, how we secure and protect our elected officials saw big changes. When 9/11 happened, we created a whole new federal government agency to se-

See Senator Brewer
Page 8

SJNSB & Gliddens receive top honors for annual Polar Bear Tank Race



COURTESY

The Sandhills Journey National Scenic Byway and Mitch and Patty Glidden of Mullen, have been awarded the Leveraging Resources Award at the Heartland Byway Conference in Leavenworth, Kansas.

The Polar Bear Tank Race has proven to be a major fundraiser for the byway and continues to grow. The Gliddens have gifted the byway over \$80,000 in 14 years and they are to be commended for their commitment, time and dedication in promoting the SJNSB and all Nebraska has to offer.

The idea for a fundraising effort was created in October 2007, when Sandhills Motel owners, Mitch and Patty Glidden organized the Polar Bear Tank Race. Its primary purpose was to put "heads in beds" during slack tourism season.

It was also to serve as a fundraiser for the Sandhills Journey National Scenic Byway. A soup cook-off and winners announced on the night before the race has been an

integral part since its inception.

This is the 14th annual Polar Bear Tank Race and winners of the race are recognized on Saturday evening.

Alumni Banquet Saturday

The 2022 Thedford Alumni Banquet will be held Saturday, June 18, 2022. The Theme this year is "Class of '57 Had Its Dreams, 65 Years Later."

The class of '57 started the banquet when they were juniors. They made the first reunion a money-making project and hired a big band, "Blue Barron" out of Omaha to play for the dance. This year the Alumni is honoring the Class of '57, after 65 years of banquets. All graduates from the classes ending in year 2 and all Veteran graduates are invited to attend.

The doors will be open at 4:00 p.m. CT (notice the

Participants are also booked at the Roadside Inn, 30 minutes away in Thedford, and both communities along the byway are helped in this endeavor.

time change) for registration and social time. The prime rib dinner will begin at 6:00 p.m.

There is a website "thedfordalumni.org" that provides information about the Alumni and also provides a way to register for the banquet and pay dues.

There is a raffle for a set of two Nebraska Husker tickets that can be obtained at the banquet or by contacting Connie Elliott at 308-645-9059.

There will be door prizes, fun and getting reacquainted!

Plan to attend the banquet. Don't let friends and classmates drift out of your life!