

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2021

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

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Courtesy photo

Baby, it's cold outside!

Bundled up in her winter gear, Holly Jenkins helps a newborn calf stay warm in the cozy barn, as temperatures plummeted to well below zero last Friday - and dipped to a bone-chilling 27 degrees below zero or more (depending on who you talk to) on Sunday and Monday night. The heifer calf's maternal brother is the first bull Twisted J Angus has consigned to a sale later this month. Both Holly and husband Jason have high hopes for her as a cow in the future. Calving season for area farmers and ranchers is well underway, with a forecast of milder weather to come this weekend.

School Board Renews Principal Contract

The 2021-2022 principal contract for Chanc McIntosh was renewed at the regular meeting of the Arnold School Board held on February 8.

Superintendent Joel Morgan reported that the COVID-19 dial is still in the same spot and masks are not required.

He also said that The NSA is going up to 75 percent capacity for events beginning February 12.

Board members approved surplus property for disposal,

including a Delta 12" planer, Powermatic drill press, a milling machine and plotter cutter that are no longer used.

Annual contracts were approved for ESU 10 and TEAM Physical Therapy, and the Board approved renewal of membership in the Nebraska Association of School Boards (NASB) for 2021-2022.

The next regular meeting will be March 9 at 7:00 p.m., at the East Campus.

Letters Needed for Next Edition of Alumni News

A reminder to A.H.S. alumni that letters are needed for the 2021 edition of *The Alumni News*. Photos of past programs are also being sought. Letters and/or photos may be mailed to: Arnold Alumni Association, c/o Patty Goodenow, Alumni Secretary, PO Box 121, Arnold, NE 69120, or emailed to: arnoldsentinel@gpcom.net with the subject line reading *Alumni News*. The deadline to submit is March 15.

Village Board discusses need for new flooring in community center to the tune of over \$85,000

The community center floor needs replaced, and it will be costly. Board members discussed correspondence from Jason Blake from Robbins, Inc. regarding bubbles in the pulastic sports floor at their regular meeting held on February 8. The most likely cause, according to the company, is moisture intrusion in the glued down synthetic floor. This is normally the result of water breaking down the adhesive and the water filling the pores of the pad enough to force the urethane to rise. The small cracks are normally the result of the floor being subject to a force greater than the strength of the urethane. The most likely causes tend to be heaving rolling loads, impact from objects and improper footwear being used on the floor. Discussion was held on the chair carts and how the heavy load might have contributed to the problems with the floor.

Village Superintendent Doug De Laune said that H21 Group submitted a proposal to furnish and install Pulastic Classic 110, manufactured by Robbins Sports Surfaces at a cost of \$85,525.00. This cost does not include removing the existing floor.

Board member Scott McDowell said the requirements of the concrete flatness described in the proposal could be a problem, which led to further discussion about other options.

Cheryl Carson volunteered to see if there are grants available, and fundraising was mentioned. Discussion was held on contacting the Arnold Community Foundation, SORC, and the Custer County Foundation to see if there is funding available to help with the project.

AEDC Closes on Property
Arnold's Economic Development Plan came into play recently, when the AEDC closed on the dilapidated property located south of the post office. The purchase will now pave the way for future development in the town. Board members learned of the closing during AEDC Director Cheryl Carson's update.

According to the above-mentioned plan, the Village Board may grant the necessary funds for land purchases to the AEDC. The land will remain the property of the Corporation until such time it is sold or transferred to an eligible business. At a special meeting held in August, the Village Board authorized the AEDC to purchase the property, with the funds ex-

pendent from the Economic Development Fund. A check for \$25,284.22 was issued from the Economic Development Fund on February 4 to the AEDC for the purchase.

Wastewater Plant Improvement

Board members voted to purchase a Vogelsang XRipper Channel Grinder, after being presented information by Cary Ernst, salesman with Iowa Pump Works.

Just the name sounds impressive. The XRipper will shred solid and disruptive matter such as wet wipes, etc., and is an efficient means of protecting pumps and system components from clogging - something wastewater plant operator Harvey Foran has been dealing with for years. The grinder will come at a cost of \$27,540.16, but will be well worth getting rid of some headaches at the plant. The XRipper can't perform miracles. Clogging, blockages and damage occur when people flush items that should not be flushed, and De Laune said for some reason, there has been an increase in disruptive matter that shouldn't be flushed in the past two years. Residents are asked to be mindful of what they flush and the problems it can cause.

Camping Rates Increase

Board members passed a resolution setting the rates for camping fees to \$25.00 for campers/RVs/trailers (using amp connection) per night, including one tent, and \$10.00 for primitive per night. The resolution also limits camping in one spot for more than 14 consecutive days and sets that fee at \$225.00 for electrical sites. Before passing the resolution, members heard and discussed AEDC Director Cheryl Carson's concerns about increasing the rates. She presented a camping fee comparison from other sites in the state, saying that Arnold has had an increase of camper stay nights, which has been the goal with all of the improvements.

"I am concerned that this might potentially scare off the new clientele Arnold has attracted with the \$10.00 per night increase. This could adversely affect the businesses in our community, as well as park revenue," she said.

Board members felt the new rates are in line and decided to stay with the decision they had previously made.

See New Flooring, Page 8

“The Road Home” wins contest

Recoy's entry wins U.S. Senate Fall 2020 Photography Contest

Arnold sophomore Halie Recoy has been named a winner in the U.S. Senate Fall 2020 Photography Contest. Art Instructor Miss Berglund introduced and encouraged all of the photography students to enter the contest that called for images of Nebraska scenery. Halie's entry was taken just outside of Arnold on the River Road.

"I chose that spot because the sunrise was extremely pretty, and I wanted to capture the beauty of the reflected sunlight along with the beautiful landscape behind the signs. I named my picture 'The Road Home' because it fit really well with where the picture was taken, and I wanted to show that there is beauty in things that we see everyday," said Halie.

Halie was notified by email that her photo had been selected to be printed and displayed in one of Senator Sasse's four Nebraska offices. The con-

test was open to students across Nebraska and only 40 winners were selected out of 115 entries. Halie's beautiful photo will be displayed in both the senator's Lincoln and Kearney offices.

"I was extremely excited and very surprised because many talented photography students submitted their photos to this contest," said Halie.

Halie said she really enjoys photography and all that she has learned from Miss Berglund.

"I have learned so much about how to take the best quality pictures and how to set up the composition to get such a beautiful picture," she said.

In a February 11 press release, Senator Sasse said, "Nebraska is home to 'The Good Life' and I am proud to recognize these young Nebraska folks who have worked hard to showcase its beauty. Your talents deserve to be shared with Nebraskans across the state."



Photo/Halie Recoy

With the above entry of a photo taken on the River Road, Arnold sophomore Halie Recoy was named a winner in the U.S. Senate Fall 2020 Photography Contest.