

# The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2021

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

(USPS 032480)

SINGLE COPY: 75 CENTS

VOLUME 104, NUMBER 37

## Chili Cook-off returns in 2021

Teams will vie for best chili this Saturday, February 27

Arnold Chamber will be hosting the 32nd Chili Cook-off this Saturday, February 27, at the community center.

Serving of the public will be held from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., and will include contestants' chili, potato and chicken noodle soup. St. Agnes Church will be selling pies for dessert.

Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place Best Chili winners, People's Choice, Mr. and Ms. Congeniality, and Best Decorated Booth will be presented from 7:00 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. There will be no entertainment this year.

If anyone would be willing to help in any way, volunteers are always accepted and appreciated. Contact Allison Goodenow if you would like to help or have questions.

Last year's event was cancelled due to the pandemic, so organizers are excited to bring the event back.

## Code Red Notifies Residents of Rolling Blackouts

With temperatures plummeting to 45 degrees below zero last week, Custer County residents who had already signed up for Code Red alerts had a heads-up that controlled rolling black-outs would be implemented. For Arnold, the rolling blackout only lasted about an hour, but it was long enough for temperatures in homes and businesses to cool down significantly.

CodeRED is a web based system which allows Custer County Emergency Management the ability to reach a large number of citizens in a very short period of time, by geographically based delivery of phone and text messaging. The system uses the latest in mass notification technology making the system very easy to use.

Custer County Emergency Management is providing this service for residents to receive alert notifications for Severe Weather and Emergency Notifications on your telephone or cell phone.

In addition, it allows residents the ability to create their own account so they can add or remove numbers they want the system to call. You can sign up for CODE RED announcements on the Custer County website at <https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/en-US/A18390C1910C>.

Brad Hans, MPPP's Director of Wholesale for Electric Operations said those few days were an unprecedented time in the industry, both from an electric and natural gas perspective. Grid operator SPP had to implement controlled blackouts to prevent further uncontrolled cascading blackouts of much greater severity, natural gas pipelines were at capacity, and natural gas and electricity prices soared due to extremely high demand.

On Monday, February 15, 2021, NMPP distributed initial information to all MEAN Participants regarding the fluid situation and specific actions that were to be taken in the Southwest Power Pool (SPP) footprint.

“This initial effort to get communication out as quickly as possible for communities to act upon was our priority,” said Hans.

See Code Red, Page 2



APS Photo

Sam Cool and substitute teacher Mrs. Staroski add weight to Eli Taylor and Faith Bierman's winning bridge.

## Suspension Bridges Bring Suspense

By Halie Recoy  
APS Sophomore

Could you build a bridge with only dry spaghetti, paper, popsicle sticks and glue? And then, how much weight would it actually hold? The APS students learned a lot about engineering last week thanks to Mrs. Staroski and Mrs. Sandager's lesson plans.

Each class, grades 7-12, split up into groups of two and had a competition of who could build the best suspension bridge.

“It was a super-cool project that the kids really enjoyed. It

took a lot of teamwork, and it was hilarious to watch them work together and to watch them argue about how to build it. This was a project to see how long it took for the bridge to fail,” said Mrs. Staroski.

The Grand Champions for the bridge building project were Eli Taylor and Faith Bierman. Their bridge ended up holding 6,900 grams (15.2 pounds). They used their materials wisely and they added a little bit of sparkle for looks.

“The bridge held up a lot better than we thought it would. It was built with a solid base which made it sturdy, and the width of our base helped

spread out the weight that the bridge was holding,” Eli Taylor stated.

The requirements that each bridge had to meet included: it had to be at least two feet long, a matchbox car had to be able to drive over it, and you could not go over the spending limit of \$20,000. Each bridge was also tested to see how many grams the bridge could hold before it broke. They started by doing some research on real suspension bridges, drawing blue prints, to figure out what they wanted to build with the supplies they had.

They had a budget of \$20,000 to purchase supplies. For exam-

ple, the price of spaghetti was 10 pieces for \$150, rubber band for \$200, use of scissors for \$200, one popsicle stick \$550, and one extra glue stick was \$400.

Every group did an amazing job and they all enjoyed this project. Mrs. Sandager set up this project because she knew that the kids and her substitute teacher would love building this while she is on maternity leave.

“A lot of cheering and Oohs and Ahhs could be heard throughout the high school building when they were breaking those bridges with weight,” said Mrs. Moninger.



Photo/Devin Peterson

Devin Peterson captures a typical day on the ranch, as her dad, Cory, feeds calves. The photo has been named one of the winners in the U.S. Senate Fall 2020 Photography Contest

## Celebrating Work

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

Arnold sophomore Devin Peterson 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. Devin's entry was taken as her dad fed cattle on the farm.

“I found out at the beginning of February when I got home from sub-district wrestling and saw that I had an award from Ben Sasse. I was really surprised and excited because I never saw the email saying that I was one of the entrants cho-

sen,” said Devin. “I chose the subject because one of the categories was “Celebrating Work” and my dad and I thought feeding his calves was a perfect subject.”

Devin's photo was printed and is now on display in Senator Sasse's Kearney office. The contest was open to students across Nebraska and only 40 winners were selected out of 115 entries.

Devin said she likes photography and she is learning a lot.

“I mostly like taking landscapes, action shots, or pictures of animals, but Ms. Berglund really gets us out there and

helps us explore all the options and techniques in photography,” she said.

Arnold High School was represented by two winners this year. Halie Recoy's photo was featured last week.

“Our office had a total of 115 entries and 40 photos were selected. Great talent you guys have over in Arnold,” said

Brooke Bolam, Deputy Press Secretary for Senator Sasse.

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.”

## Chamber Drive Is Underway

Arnold Chamber is currently holding its membership drive for the new year. Flyers were mailed out in February, but if you missed it, dues for 2021 fol-

low: business - \$50.00; individuals - \$20.00; 65+ - \$10.00; and junior members - free.

Please mail dues to: PO Box 166, Arnold, NE 69120.