

# The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2022

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

(USPS 032480)

SINGLE COPY: 75 CENTS

VOLUME 106, NUMBER 19

## Students Are Reading All About It

NPA, the *Sentinel*, and school partner up to get *Kids Scoop News* into the hands of young people.



Courtesy photo

Third graders kick back to read their first-ever edition of *Kid Scoop News* - now being delivered monthly to students in grades 3rd, 4th, and 5th by the *Sentinel* in partnership with the Nebraska Press Association and the school.

Debbie Connelly of *The Arnold Sentinel* made a special delivery to Arnold Public Schools last week. Students in grades 3rd, 4th, and 5th received the 24-page October edition of *Kid Scoop News* featuring a colorful, Halloween themed front cover announcing what was inside...“Spooky Stories,” inviting them to poke through the pages and find tips for writing stories that are silly and spooky; “Wrap Stars,” where they could unravel the Mummy Mysteries to find out the history of mummies; and “Veggie Fear?” giving them a way to make veggie fear disappear with Count Alucard.

Each month throughout the school year, Debbie will make another delivery of the newspaper-for-kids that ‘wraps’ favorite topics in activities such as word searches, drawings and puzzles kids really love. Unlike digital devices, with *Kid Scoop News*, students get their own personal copy to hold and read, write in, cut up and take home. It’s a unique partnership between the Nebraska Press Association, the *Sentinel*, and the

school to connect with younger audiences and get newspapers into the hands of kids.

“When the Nebraska Newspaper Association started contacting us about *Kids Scoop News* and how to get it into the school, they suggested different ways of finding the money needed to pay for it, including asking for donations from businesses, or applying for grants,” said *Sentinel* editor Janet Larreau. “I spoke with Arnold School Superintendent Joel Morgan and after he spoke with the elementary principal and the teachers, there was no hesitation on the school’s part to fund it – something I gather that not all schools are willing to do. Our school is one of the greatest out there when it comes to working with the community.”

Mr. Morgan said he feels *Kids Scoop News* is a great way for the school to be able to partner with *The Arnold Sentinel* to support literacy skills while creating an opportunity for the students.

“This is also an excellent chance for students to bring

something home from school that could engage the entire family. Any opportunity for students to read is great, but to have informational stories, along with illustrations and activities is a great way to promote learning. The younger we learn to value news at any level, the more informed we will be,” he said.

Fourth grade teacher Katie Blowers plans to use the newspaper as an incentive for the kids to finish up their work.

Third grade teacher Jamie Neth said she is planning to do some things with the newspaper in the classroom, like reading the nonfiction articles with the students, then they will be able to take it home to enjoy the games, puzzles and jokes.

“I think this will be a fun addition to the classroom in reading about real things. For example in this first issue there are articles with facts about popcorn, different kinds of animals and a woman named Dorothy Butler Gilliam. The kids are excited to read about interesting things in our world,” she said.

## Village Board Discusses Water Main Upgrades For New Housing

Infrastructure needed for building duplexes on the 300 block of South Walnut (south of the post office) was on the Village Board’s October 10 regular meeting. Lane Chesley, who has purchased Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6, Original Town, from the Arnold Economic Development Corporation, and Scott McDowell were at the meeting to discuss the water and sewer mains. Water Commissioner Rusty Wyckoff recommended that the main be upgraded from 2” to 6” on Walnut Street between 2nd and 3rd Avenue and 3rd Avenue to Highway 40, instead of 2” to 4”, which had been discussed at the September meeting.

The Board then authorized Village Engineer Tom Werblow to submit the plans for the Water Improvement Project to the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services to be approved. Superintendent Doug DeLaune said the sewer main is in the middle of Walnut Street and is 8”, so nothing needs to be done at this time.

### Insurance Premium Goes Down

Joe Bob Atkins of Arnold Insurance Agency gave Board members some good news while presenting the renewal of the Village’s insurance policy. The premium for 2022-2023 is \$67,54.00, compared to the 2021-2022 premium totaling \$73,669.00. The decrease is mainly due to cancelling the Commercial Output Policy after the generators were removed. All members present approved renewal of the policy.

After presenting the Board with a list of claims that the Village had for 2021-2022, Atkins recommended monthly safety meetings be held, using safety manuals, logs, and videos that can be used. Superintendent DeLaune and Board member Donnell DeLosh will be on the committee.

### Agreements Signed

Board members approved a agreement with Hanna:Keelan Associates P.C. to prepare a Blight/Substandard Determination Study for a fixed fee of \$6,000.00.

A Professional Service/Consultant Agreement was also approved with Hanna:Keelan Associates for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funded planning project. The planning project includes: Preparation of a new comprehensive plan, comprehensive community housing study, and review of local zoning and subdivision regulations. The Village will reimburse the consultant on an agreed payment schedule, and the total amount reimbursed will not exceed \$40,000.00. The effective date of the agreement will be October 10, 2022, with a termination date of August 10, 2023.

### Community Center Fund

Board members voted to issue a check for \$5,000.00 to the Nebraska Community Foundation: Arnold Community Center Account – a sub-account of the Arnold Community Foundation Fund. The account raises funds for upkeep, main-

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## Principal, Teachers Will Take the Plunge Oct. 27

Arnold students have done it again...they’ve reached their reading goal for Principal Chanc McIntosh to take the plunge at Hidden Valley Campgrounds on Thursday, October 27. Not only did they reach that goal, they also reached a higher goal to make sure two teachers jump as well into the freezing water.

“Hopefully, it will not be snowing this time like it was when Mr. Morgan took his reading plunge,” said school librarian Debby Moninger.

On the 27th, students will go

to Hidden Valley Campgrounds for a hot dog feed, and the public is welcome to come after lunch at 12:00 to watch the plunge. First off, Mr. McIntosh will have some recognitions he will share, the school’s book clubs will host a pep-rally type game for sections of students, and then the principal and the two teachers who “win” the students’ votes will jump in the lake. Students will head back to school around 2:00 p.m., and school is dismissed at 2:40 that day for fall break.

## Fire Prevention Week Celebrates 100 Years

### Smokey Bear helps AVFD present program

The National Fire Prevention Association is celebrating their 100th anniversary of Fire Prevention Week™ (FPW). This year’s FPW campaign, “Fire won’t wait. Plan your escape™”, works to educate everyone about simple but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe from home fires.

Today’s homes burn faster than ever. You may have as little as two minutes (or even less time) to safely escape a home fire from the time the smoke alarm sounds. Your ability to get out of a home during a fire depends on early warning from smoke alarms and advance planning.

The Arnold Volunteer Fire Department did their fire prevention program at Arnold Public School on Thursday, October 13, for Preschool through 5th graders, along with children from Homegrown Kids Daycare. Those from the fire department helping with the fire prevention program were Robbi Tickle, Andrew Tickle, April Tickle, Heather Hagler, Cassy DeLosh, and Tammy Weinman.

Cassy went over information to help children plan their escape route out of their homes in case of a fire and to make sure they have two escape routes out of each room. Cassy and Andrew demonstrated to

the kids what fire gear firefighters wear and what equipment they use. They also demonstrated how they would enter a room and locate someone who was trapped in a house and needed help out.

This year’s 5th grade fire prevention t-shirt design winner was Jose Jr. Melendez. The t-shirt sponsors are EN Ag Transport LLC, Weinman Farms (Darren and Tammy), Smith Ag, Reed’s Food Center, Touch of Grace Massage Therapy, Arnold Insurance Agency, Homegrown Kids Daycare, Arnold Volunteer Fire Department, Mills Hardware, Brew-Bakers Coffee House and Gifts, and Country Partners Coop.

A special guest, Smokey Bear, made his appearance at this year’s fire prevention program. Smokey Bear was born on August 9, 1944, when the USDA Forest Service and the Ad Council agreed that a fictional bear named Smokey would be their symbol for forest fire prevention. After attending a Fire Prevention class at Nebraska State Fire School, Tammy knew she wanted to bring the popular fire prevention symbol to Arnold. Smokey used to be a very popular symbol years ago and the Forestry Service is trying to bring that back due to the increase in wildfires because of the dry conditions. The children were given

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Courtesy photo

Surrounded by an overly excited group of elementary students and teachers, Smokey the Bear presents fire prevention themed books to school librarian Debby Moninger last Thursday during the annual Fire Prevention Week program. Pictured left, front, are Arnold Fire Department members Robbi Smith and Tammy Weinman, who joined other members in teaching students the importance of fire safety.