

Happy Thanksgiving

*"Reflect upon your present blessings, of which every man has plenty;
not on your past misfortunes, of which all men have some." – Charles Dickens*

The Arnold Sentinel

"Serving the South Loup River Valley"

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2022

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ACFF Hosts One Of The Most Successful Fundraisers



Current SORC Board members were presented the Group Philanthropy award at Saturday night's ACFF's annual fundraiser. Pictured are (front, l-r) Joe Schown, Della Dailey, Becky Dailey, Shelley Smith, Skip Hecox, Josh Cool; (back, l-r) Brock Dailey, Aaron Olson, Don Olson, Shane Cool. Not pictured are: Clay Mohr, Jason Jenkins, Brady Weinman, RT Green, and Jeff Preston.

Two-hundred people gathered at the Arnold Community Center last Saturday night for the Arnold Community Foundation Fund's 13th annual fundraiser. The night began with a social hour, followed by a dinner and live auction. Proceeds from the auction brought in approximately \$63,000.00 - one of the most successful fundraisers to date. The fundraiser builds ACFF's unrestricted endowment - an account that provides a steady stream of resources for the community. ACFF Board members Shane

Cool and Holly Remund presented the Philanthropist of the Year awards.

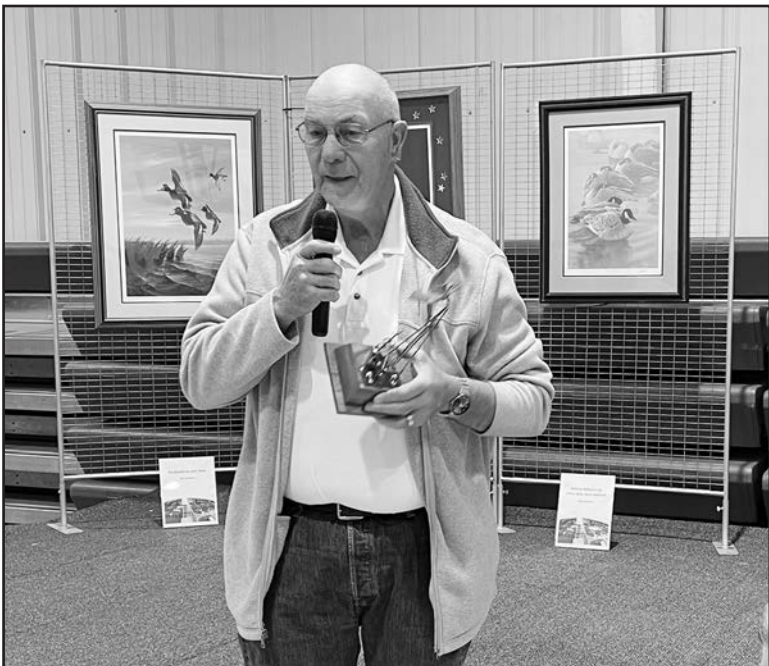
Don Olson was presented with the Individual Philanthropy award.

"The award is going to a person that has given a lifetime of service to the community and to the county, and that is just in the last 20 years. He is hands-down one of the busiest guys in the State of Nebraska," said Shane.

Don has been involved with many community services over the years. The most notable would be his 24 years of service

to the Custer County Board of Supervisors. He served on the Rural Fire Board for many years and helped build one of the best equipped volunteer fire and EMS departments in the area. He is considered one of the founding fathers of the Sandhills Open Road Challenge, working with the county board for authorization to run the race on the county road, served as president, and rolled up his sleeves to get the work done.

The Sandhills Open Road Challenge Board received the Group Philanthropy award that



Kristi Dvorak photos

Don Olson was the recipient of the Individual Philanthropy award.

Holly said is truly a one-of-a-kind organization that has put Arnold on the nationwide map in the world of road racing.

SORC received the award due to its generous donations through the years to area civic organizations, scholarships and

fire departments. Around \$1.5 million has been donated over the last 22 years and it continues to grow.

During the presentation, all of the current SORC Board members were recognized.

Christmas Around Town Set for November 30

Arnold Chamber will host its annual Christmas Around Town on Wednesday, November 30. Events will be held downtown all day, with businesses holding open houses, drawings, and specials and some will be extending their hours.

The day will include Santa's Visit, the opportunity to interact with live reindeer, hayrack

rides, treats of cotton candy and popcorn, and Finch Library's cookie contest. Residents can gather for a tree lighting ceremony at 5:00 p.m. The switch will be thrown at 5:15.

Shopping locally will give everyone a chance to enter drawings for Chamber Bucks.

Please turn to page 8 for details of each event to enjoy.

Village Considering Hiring Code Enforcement Officer

Public input welcome

The need for a code enforcement officer in Arnold was a topic of discussion at the November 14 Village Board meeting. Offenses of abandoned automobiles and unlicensed or inoperable vehicles was included as an agenda item, but a code enforcement officer could take care of other offenses, such as dogs running at large and overgrown weeds on personal property.

Brent Kulp said that as a Board member, he does not want to drive around and look for violations; however, if the

Village gets an official complaint, then it can take action. Violations are handled on a case-by-case basis. A resident asked why someone has to make a formal complaint to have the ordinances enforced. Kulp said that formal complaints make it a little easier to take action since there's not a police officer or code enforcement officer to enforce the ordinances.

Discussion followed on the option of hiring a code enforcement officer. It was mentioned that Callaway has an officer. Board members directed the clerk to clarify if there needs to be a formal complaint to take action on violations.

Contracting for a code en-

forcement officer will be discussed more at the December meeting. Board members are encouraging residents to give their input.

Landscaping Estimates Approved

The Board went on to approve an estimate from SunValley Landscaping, LCC to clean up the landscaping at the community center and Koubek Gardens. The estimate for the community center totaled \$1,875.00 and Koubek Gardens' estimate was \$1,460.00. The estimates included 24 hours for the community center and 20 hours for Koubek Gardens (maintenance) at \$60.00 an hour, equipment usage, chemicals, and transportation.

Owner Chas Berke said after the landscaping is cleaned up, she offers a monthly maintenance program. During discussion, board members agreed that the landscaping at Koubek Gardens needs to be coordinated with Amanda Wehnes.

AMI Project

Superintendent Doug DeLaune said he will be attending a meeting regarding the NMPP Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Project. The AMI system would eliminate the need for Village employees to manually read the electric and water meters and allows for remote collection of electric and water meters, better management of outages, service calls, and system maintenance. Board mem-

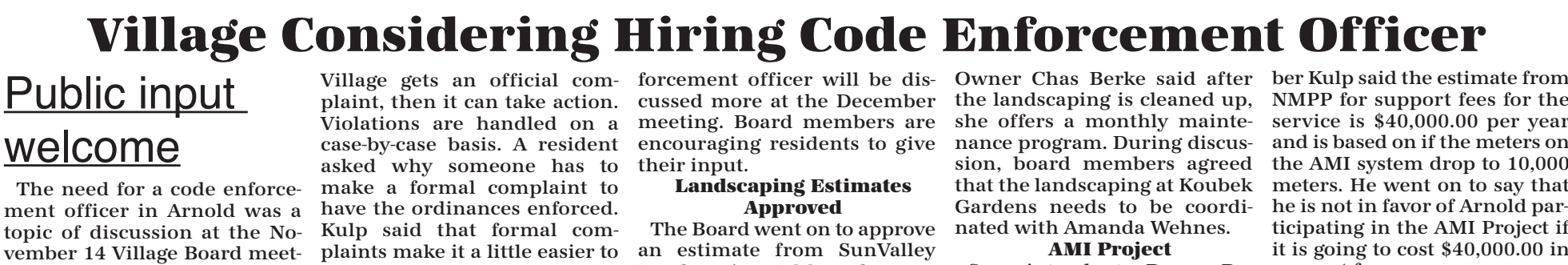
ber Kulp said the estimate from NMPP for support fees for the service is \$40,000.00 per year and is based on if the meters on the AMI system drop to 10,000 meters. He went on to say that he is not in favor of Arnold participating in the AMI Project if it is going to cost \$40,000.00 in support fees.

Ordinance Making Arnold a Sanctuary for the Unborn Passed

During the meeting, Board members adopted Ordinance #472 declaring Arnold a sanctuary for the unborn.

The Board passed the Ordinance after residents voted 151-99 for its adoption at the General Election held on November 8.

Operation Christmas Child - from start to finish



How do you bring a community together to pack 1,000 Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes and then have them distributed around the world? Melody Jennings, who has been the local OCC packing organizer "forever," knows all the steps, from ordering the boxes, reaching out to residents to volunteer and provide supplies, and coordinating the date of the packing party with the school. After **Step 1** (the pre-planning phase) there are three more steps to reach the goal.

(Pictured from left):

Step 2: A group of volunteers, including Jerry and Judy Cool, gather in the school commons area to fold just over 1,000 boxes in a little over 1.5 hours. After the boxes are folded, a youth group shows up to move boxes from the commons area to the gym and help unload the items that will be packed into the shoe boxes.

Step 3: The official packing party set for Thursday, November 17, has arrived. Volunteers packing boxes start at Max and Joan Smith's table where they make the decision to pack a box for a boy or girl. Once a decision has been made, a label is placed on the box. From there, the kids go from table to table selecting items to fill their box. Once they've reached the end of the assembly line, organizer Melody Jennings checks off the items in each box to make sure nothing has been left out.

Step 4: Lastly, shoe boxes are placed in each carton that were mostly assembled and packed by the 7th grade class. Trey Connell, Silas Cool and Lance Jones were a few of those who braved the cold to load the truck for transport to the North Platte OCC distribution center and on to Denver.