

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2022

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

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Santa, Reindeer, and More Brings Christmas Cheer to All



Photos/Debbie Connelly

With the fire truck siren announcing his arrival, Santa Claus waves to everyone gathered on Main Street last Wednesday afternoon. Santa and Mrs. Claus, who was waving from the other side, made a couple rounds on the truck before landing at Koubek Gardens to hand out candy and hear children’s Christmas wishes.

Main Street was busy with activity on November 30, as Arnold Chamber hosted its annual Christmas Around Town. It’s difficult to estimate how many people showed up for the event, as everyone was spread out, visiting Santa and petting his live reindeer, loading up for hayrack rides, enjoying free popcorn and cotton candy, attending open houses and shopping, and of course, dining. A coat of snow set the stage for flipping the switch to light up Koubek Gardens for the holiday season.

“It was packed from 4-7 downtown. Businesses I talked to had a good turnout with people buying like crazy,” said Chamber President April Tickle. “We filled 100 candy sacks, and we were about 50 short. We usually do 100-115, but this year there must have been a larger crowd and more kids out. This might be one of our best years so far, which is shocking, because it was so cold out.”



Beau Brooks, 4-year-old grandson of Vince and Bonnie Connelly of Arnold, enjoys watching one of Santa’s reindeer searching through the snow for a nibble of grass. Beau had many questions for owner Flip Licking of Seneca, Nebraska, who came up with great make-believe answers. Sponsoring the reindeer were: Pinnacle Bank - \$400; Touch of Grace - \$50, First State Insurance - \$100, Mills Hardware - \$100; Tiff Varney - \$25; Anonymous - \$50; AEDC business promotion - \$275.

Fundraising Continues for Historical Museum

As a result of the Arnold Community Foundation community vision meeting held in March of 2022, a group of teachers, business owners, farmers, ranchers, and community members were motivated to bring the initiative of creating a historical museum to life, both as a website and at a building location.

Their goal is to dig deep to preserve these roots - to investigate, illustrate, and honor the town and surrounding area’s rich history and bring to life the stories that accompany the people and events through time by creating a museum. Their mission is to collect stories and preserve artifacts that reflect the rich ongoing history of the area, providing access for people near and far to educate and inspire all generations.

Included in their actions are: Developing a website through the local KD Agency Raising funds through pledges, grants, and their first annual Arnold Area Historical photographs calendar Searching for a suitable building site

Establishing a 1-, 2-, 5-, 10-year, and sustainable plan Applying for their own 501(c)3 status (currently, funds are collected through the

Arnold Community Foundation Fund: Arnold Area Museum)

Seeking stories and artifacts to tell the story of the Arnold area (to be collected soon)

Arnold Area Historical Society Board members are: Renee Bubak, president; Jason Jenkins, vice-president; Rick Peterson, treasurer; Nicole Badgley, secretary; Berni Crow, member; Karen Horst, member; Carlene Lanham, member.

Other committee members for the AAHM include: Kim Beshaler, Becky Dailey, Karen Hough, Barb Peterson, Holly Hornung Remund, Mo Sanford, Carolyn Watkins, and Jason Wehnes.

Contact information about the museum, ordering calendars, or donations follows: Renee Bubak, 308-870-3214 or Nicole Badgley, 308-870-0738; Arnold Area Historical Society, P.O. Box 241, Arnold, NE 69120; arnoldareahistoricalmuseum@gmail.com.

To donate or purchase calendars, write checks to: Arnold Community Foundation Fund with “Arnold Area Museum” in the memo. ACFF is a member of the Nebraska Community Foundation. Donations are tax deductible.



Photo/Debbie Connelly

Arnold Area Historical Society Board members Berni Crow and Carlene Lanham take their turn at selling historical calendars at the Touch of Grace building during Christmas Around Town. Content for the calendars was put together by Berni, Renee Bubak, and Nicole Badgley. Each month features mainly street views. Proceeds from the calendar sales will go towards a museum building. Sixty-one calendars had been sold by the end of the night. The calendars will continue to be available at First State Insurance with Becky Dailey for \$20.00. Shipping is available for out-of-towners for \$25.00. Information on how to order is included in the story to the left.

Downtown Improvement Committee Receives \$5,000 Grant

It was a great day for the Arnold Downtown Improvement Committee, as members gathered in front of the old Archie’s Cafe to receive a check for \$5,000.00 from Custer County Tourism Visitors (CCTV) board member Cheryl Carson.

The Custer County Tourism Committee approved the grant application for window wraps that will promote Arnold.

Carson said grants are only awarded to a project that promotes a town, and this will. The

design concept for the wraps will be approved after submitted.

Carson and Holly Remund are credited with working on the grant.

The Downtown Improvement Committee was formed as a result of the Arnold Community Foundation community vision meeting held in March of 2022. The committee has several goals for the downtown. The wrap project is just the beginning of good things to come.



(Left) Jailyn Strasburg (2nd from right), who owns the old Archie’s Cafe building with husband Justin, receives a \$5,000.00 check from CCTV board member Cheryl Carson on behalf of the downtown improvement committee members (front, from left) Jodi Carlson, Barb Gunther, Tammy Weinman, Diane Sanford; and (back) Holly Remund, Becky Dailey, and Amanda Badgley.