

# The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

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CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

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## Distant Perspective

Local photographer Garald Horst captured this beautiful winter scene at the Arnold Recreation Area during one of his drives around the area. Snowflakes are a wonderful symbol not only of winter, but also of fresh starts. The snow brings a feeling of calmness and purity. It also brings people the chance for a fresh start. Since snow eventually melts and becomes water, it has come to represent rebirth and new beginnings.

We wish all of our readers all of these as we enter the new year.

Photon Freeze Photography - [www.pictorem.com/profile/Garald.Horst](http://www.pictorem.com/profile/Garald.Horst)

## 2022: The Year In Review

As we look over issues of *The Sentinel* that made up the year 2022, we congratulate the community and individuals on all that was achieved in a short 365 days. With you, we celebrated the good news, appreciated all that was done during the bad times, and mourned those who were lost. Without the support and input of our businesses, organizations and individuals who were willing to give us a heads-up, take the time to interview and contribute in many ways, these 52 issues would not be possible. And we thank our readers, whose many spoken words and written notes of encouragement kept us going each week to put out the best small town paper we possibly could each week. In the coming year we will report on many projects and plans that were only seeds

in 2022 come to fruition, and it will be our privilege to cover and then bind these events into archives that will be part of the town's history.

Who and what made the front page news in 2022? Following is the year in review, month by month, as reported:

**JANUARY:** Arnold grads Phil Koubek, Mike Purcell, and Ty Phillips achieved their dream of releasing an album. The community gave Caro Lehmkuhler a big send-off, after she retired from 27 years at the bank. Arnold grad Ashley Beshaler's clever line of hot chocolate was gaining popularity across the country. Historical marker project coordinator Berni Crow placed a marker at the First State Insurance building and at her own Center School. Duane Bowers was re-elected president of the Arnold

School Board. The Village of Arnold was awarded a \$37,500.00 CDBG grant for preparation of an updated comprehensive plan and zoning ordinances, and to conduct a comprehensive housing study. Their veterinary careers led Matt and Corrine Fruge to move to rural Arnold.

**FEBRUARY:** Announcement was made that a new A.H.S. Alumni Directory, published every five years, will go to press soon. Ten Arnold students – known as Junior Chamber members – stepped up to the plate to help their community. The love story of high school sweethearts Maurice and Mary Andre was told. Delaney Rogers won 2nd place at the District level in the Voice of Democracy contest. All eleven Rotary Club members who had the distinction of being Paul Harris Fellows lined up for a photo. Mills Lawn Service owners Terry and Dena Mills sold their business to Casey and Nicole Cozad. A historical marker was placed at the old Farmers State Bank Building, owned by the Justin

Strasburgs, and at the old sale barn site. Village Board members were informed by their engineer that the town's construction and demolition site will last for decades to come. A hot rodder plunged the town into darkness after snapping a power pole. Tony Eggleston was named Company President and Broker for Agri Affiliates.

**MARCH:** The Arnold Cemetery website, which took four years to go live, was almost lost when the platform announced its end of life, but thanks to the generosity of a developer and willing volunteers, was very close to once again being complete. Multiple fans were drying out the community center's kitchen area after crews were called in to clean up water damage caused by pipes bursting. Rascal Martinez provided entertainment for the 33rd Annual Chili Cook-off, with Ali Goodenow chairing the popular event. RT Green got a \$3,000 crazy clipper haircut at the SORC Winter Party, with proceeds being split 50/50 between

the Fall Festival and the fire department. Robbi Smith was named Fireman of the Year, and Andrew Tickle was named EMT of the Year at the annual AVFD Awards Banquet. Lee Eastburn received an engraved beer stein for 40 years of service. Arnold Rotary Club's annual pancake supper raised money for a special project in Kenya, providing shoes for kids. The Arnold Community Foundation Fund hosted two Community Visioning sessions, with a larger-than-expected crowd.

**APRIL:** April and Andrew Tickle held an open house to unveil the new layout of the former Sandhills Showroom (old Spargo building). Moving into the new space were April Tickle, with her existing business Touch of Grace Massage Therapy & Spa, and Josh and Molly Magill, who opened a new business, Oakbrook Physical Therapy. Eric and Yvonne Brast took over ownership of both The Exchange and Mighty Mart. Courtney Beshaler Evans, new director of Riverview Apartments, was overseeing ongoing renovations of the apartments. Mike Harvey and Conrad Pelster reached their 50-year continuous Legion memberships. The annual Chamber Easter Egg Hunt drew a big crowd under sunny skies. The South Loup Invitational was the first test of how well the track's enlarged parking space would work, and it passed. Karen Hough started up a new business in her home, setting up iMRS PEMF Therapy to help residents with ailments. Legion Post 130 announced that it was sending two boys, Clay Witthuhn and Lance Jones, to Boys' State. The community combined forces for the annual Clean-up Day, with students and adults spanning out to take on projects. Senior N.H.S. students completed their project of purchasing a soft serve ice cream machine for the shack. Arnold and Callaway students enjoyed a night of dining and dancing with the 2022 Prom theme of "Diamonds & Gold."

**MAY:** Finch Library began its fundraiser to replace the roof's clay tiles. Fireworks organizer Barb Gunther reported that the cost of the fireworks display would go up 200 percent, and that donations would be needed. The Custer County Foundation was seeking money

## Food Drive Earns Students an Early Day Out

By Talli Martin  
Sentinel Intern

The National Honor Society Chapter in Arnold is always looking for ways to help out the community. This year the local food pantry was in need of help and the chapter reached out to help. But this food drive wasn't like most and held quite the incentive for students. If students reached their goal of 520 items they would get out a day early for Christmas break. Community members are always quite kind, so it was no surprise that we greatly surpassed the goal reaching 767 items. The Arnold food pantry along with the National Honor Society Chapter of Arnold would like to greatly thank the community for their generosity!

The local food pantry is open the first Saturday of the month from 10:00 to 12:00 and by appointment by calling Lori Stutzman at 308-870-4121



Courtesy photo

National Honor Society members find the grand total for the food drive (l-r): Gracie Neth, Tahnna Nokes, Rio Remund, Logan Recoy, Bryn Schwarz, Charli Vickers, and Trey Connell.

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