

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 2023

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

(USPS 032480)

SINGLE COPY: 75 CENTS

VOLUME 106, NUMBER 32

Nuisance Enforcement and Property Clean Up Discussed at Village Board Meeting

Public can give input at February meeting.

Nuisance enforcement and property clean up were discussed at the January 9 Village Board meeting. Board member Aaron Olson said that he and Jason Jenkins recently discussed both issues with Village attorney Mike Borders. If the Village cannot get something done, then the matter will be turned over to the Health Board consisting of Glen Bowers, Doug DeLaune and Rudy Vickers. A concerned resident said that he thinks the Village would have community support of it pursued cleaning up properties, even if it costs money to get the job done. Chairman Glen Bowers said the attorney will need to give guidelines on what is enforceable. Discussion was also held on unlicensed or inoperable vehicles. Consideration of nuisance enforcement, property clean up, and unlicensed or inoperable vehicles will be on the February agenda. The public is encouraged to give their input at that time.

AEDC Update

AEDC Director Cheryl Carson gave an update on the progress of the CDBG Comprehensive Plan at the Village Board's regular meeting held on January 9. She said Hanna Keelan has reported that the Blight and Substandard Determination Study

has been completed and will be presented at special Planning Commission meeting/public hearing on January 30.

The Community Opinion Survey for residents of Arnold, as well as the Workforce Housing Needs Survey for individuals employed in Arnold were presented. Survey questions were reviewed and approved by the CDBG Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee.

Carson attended a meeting in Broken Bow and is currently finishing up components of a grant application, which are required for funding for a Land Development Grant.

Carson said she is also in the process of appealing the draft of the FCC Broadband Availability Map by the deadline of January 13. In order to do so, she is working on gathering speed information.

“Billions of dollars of federal broadband funding will be based on a map being developed by the Federal Communications Commission. Funding will be based on the amounts of unserved and underserved areas in the state,” she said. The current draft of the map shows almost all of urban and rural Nebraska as having speeds in excess of 25/3 and most of Nebraska served at 100/20. Nebraska local leaders

know that these speeds are inaccurate. Unfortunately, funding is going to be based on the assumption that Nebraska is well served by broadband service. It appears that the FCC map lists Arnold as served by broadband based on the availability of cell phone coverage rather than hard-wired dark fiber. The cell phone coverage at broadband speeds may or may not exist, but if it does not exist, it is important that you file an appeal to the map so Nebraska can secure proper broadband funding from the federal government.”

Letter of Support

At Rose Bierman's request, Board members voted to submit a letter of support for the library's application for a Rural Nebraska Historic Preservation Grant. The funds would be used for the purchase of storm windows to protect the front historical windows and for repairs to the basement walls.

E-mail Clarification Concerning Comments from the Floor

Village Clerk Patricia Lamberty presented an extract from an e-mail from the League of Nebraska Municipalities concerning comments from the floor:

“As you know, the League recommends that village board

members only comment and respond to items that are listed on the agenda. Many municipalities have ‘public comment period’ where members of the public can bring up issues of which they are concerned. If a municipality has a public comment period, we recommend that the village board not respond or discuss these concerns at the public meeting out of concern of violating the Open Meetings Act.

In other business, the Board:

- Heard that AEDC Director Cheryl Carson attended the groundbreaking ceremony for Nebraska Affordable Housing Trust Fund home project in Callaway as a representing Board member of CNEDD (Central Nebraska Economic Development District), Arnold Economic Development Executive Director and member of Custer County Economic Development.

- Was presented plans for the Water Improvement Project 2023 by Village Engineer Tom Werblow.

- Discussed the closure of Cell No. 2 and laws concerning the opening of Cell No. 1 at the construction & demolition site.

- Discussed salaries for the pool personnel, and voted to begin advertising for personnel.

Community Opinion Surveys Are Due Jan. 23

Community Opinion Surveys for residents of Arnold, as well as the Workforce Housing Needs Survey for individuals employed in Arnold are available for the public to fill out. Paper copies may be picked up at the Village office. The surveys are also available on-line on the Village of Arnold Facebook page, AEDC Facebook page, or the Arnold Community website.

The deadline to submit the completed survey is January 23.

Pesticide Trainings to Be Held in Custer County

Private pesticide trainings will be held for farmers and ranchers who need to renew their certified private pesticide applicator's license or anyone who wants to become certified. The dates, locations, and times are as follows for 2023: January 30 at the Community Building in Ansley (7 p.m.), February 2 at the Community Building in Sargent (1 p.m.), February 7 at the Senior Center in Callaway (1 p.m.), February 9 at the 4-H Building in Broken Bow (1 p.m.), and February 13 at the Legion Building in Arnold (1 p.m.). In order to become certified, producers pay a \$50.00 recertification fee for study materials and training and will then be billed from the Nebraska Department of Agriculture an additional \$25. If you cannot attend any of these trainings, the other options would be completing an online training costing \$50 or attending a private pesticide training in another county. Pre-registration is required by calling the Custer County Extension Office at 308-872-6831. You must be certified if you intend to purchase or use any restricted use pesticides.

School Board Reorganizes for New Year

Jen Dalrymple was welcomed as a new member of the Arnold Board of Education at their re-organizational meeting held on January 10. Duane Bowers was elected president; Joe Cool, vice-president, Justin Strasburg, secretary, and Eric Nelson, treasurer. During the regular meeting that followed, out-going member Shane Cool was recognized for four years of service on the Board.

During Community Con-

nection time, Sandhills Open Road Challenge representatives Shane Cool, Clay Mohr, and Becky Dailey spoke about the connection with the school and expressed appreciation for the school's support.

Superintendent Joel Morgan said later that he couldn't stress enough how important that connection is.

“SORC has donated to the school and we value the partnership we have with them and

other organizations and businesses in town. They are so generous,” he said.

In other non-action items, Junior Rio Remund presented his ideas of how the school's weight room could be updated, including adding some more equipment and creating more space.

“(Rio's) ideas would make the weight room a little more efficient. He talked with coaches and myself and came up with a

layout. Hopefully, he'll come back next month to present again. It's good to see that student initiative,” said Mr. Morgan.

Members heard a general presentation about the Navitas Energy Savings Program. The first step, which is free, would be to conduct an energy audit.

“(The company) looks at energy efficient projects such as

See Reorganizes, Page 2

National Honor Society Inducts Seven New Members



Courtesy photo

Arnold High School National Honor Society members: front (l-r): Tahnna Nokes, Anna Tullis, Danah Baldwin, Logan Recoy, Taylor Hanna-Miles, Riata Remund, Ella Cool; back: Charli Vickers, Trey Connell, Delaney Rogers, Halie Recoy, AnnaLee Starr, Silas Cool, Lance Jones, Devin Peterson, Clay Witthuhn, Tallianna Martin, Gracie Neth, Rio Remund, Bryn Schwarz.

By Talli Martin
Sentinel intern

The 2023 National Honor Society induction ceremony took place at Arnold Public Schools on Wednesday, January 11. There, we formally recognized students who had been selected

by faculty of the school to be inducted as new members of the NHS chapter. The new members recognized were: juniors Tahnna Nokes and Logan Recoy, along with sophomores Danah Baldwin, Ella Cool, Taylor Hanna-Miles, Riata Remund, and Anna Tullis. These

students were picked not only because of their excellence in academics, but because they are great role models to others.

The ceremony was led by seniors and juniors that are a part of the prestigious organization. National Honor Society sponsor Debby Moninger said, “The

members did a fantastic job conducting the ceremony and really made it their own. With their guidance, it will most definitely inspire elementary to join the program in the future.”

The Arnold chapter serves the community through many ac-

tivities including anything from organizing a school-wide food drive to planning elementary field day.

I can't wait to see what the future holds for the National Honor Society, under the hands of these promising new inductees.