

# The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 2023

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

(USPS 032480)

SINGLE COPY: 75 CENTS

VOLUME 106, NUMBER 33

## Remnants of Snowstorm Could Well Be Seen Into Spring

Snowfall total in last week’s storm recorded at 17”



Photo/Debbie Connelly

Scott McDowell, owner of Loup Valley Construction, was clearing The Exchange parking lot last Thursday - one of several businesses he contracts with for snow removal.

By Janet Larreau

The National Weather Service was giving everyone an early heads-up that “it” was coming and they were right. After a beautiful Tuesday that gave

everyone time to prepare, snow began falling in the wee hours of Wednesday morning, January 18, and within a 24-hour period, a total of 17 inches blanketed everything. On Thursday the sun came out, the temperature rose to 40 degrees, and clean up began. For kids, it

was a winter wonderland, but for adults it was a different story all together. All that could be heard throughout the town was backup warning alarms, as heavy equipment moved tons of snow into massively high piles that already existed from the January 3 storm that



Photo/Janet Larreau

High schoolers Pedro Flores, Logan Recoy and Johnathon Lamphear took advantage of their three snow days to make some extra cash, clearing snow at businesses and residences. “We’re doing it not just for money, but to help people,” said Pedro.

dumped 7 inches of the white stuff.

Village crews and residents, who have the equipment needed, spread out, clearing streets and helping people out, but for one resident, it’s a needed service that his business provides.

“This has been one of the bigger snow years and this one is tougher, because we have had two big snows within a couple of weeks that hasn’t melted much, said Scott McDowell of Loup Valley Construction.

Scott has been involved in the business of providing land leveling, tree removal, and trucking since 1990. Roughly 12 years ago, LVC started a snow removal service to keep equipment busy when the ground is frozen. Starting in 2023, Scott became full owner of the business.

He mainly uses his John Deere tractor with a snow plow, but also uses a skid steer and cat loader to clear the school,

Baptist and Methodist churches, The Exchange, 13 other businesses, and 20-25 residential locations. He also helps open township roads. He usually spends 10 to 12 hours moving snow on his own, but with bigger snowstorms, Eric Nelson helps.

Moisture is always needed, but at this point, everyone would be happy to see the last of the snow and wait for rain in the spring.

Some are reporting different amounts, and say this 24-hour storm might be a record-breaker, but Cooperative Weather Recorder Dell Cerny disagrees.

During his interview on the total amount recorded, Dell said, “I don’t know how old you are, but I’ve seen bigger drifts than this.”

Surrounding communities also received heavy snowfall. An area west of Merna topped them all, with a total of 23.7 inches



Courtesy Photo

Heavy equipment operators formed a line in front of Grazers for a quick lunch break before heading back out to help in any way they could. “I don’t think I’ve ever seen so many people from outside of town come to help,” said Village Superintendent Doug DeLaune.

## Arnold Community Makes Vital Contribution to Patient Care

Giving blood is a selfless act. The hour it takes to give the gift of life can mean a lifetime to a patient with a serious medical need. At the Arnold Public Jan. 16 blood drive, an incredible 31 people donated blood, each making a significant impact on the lives of others.

The donors that attended the blood drive were also helping the seniors of Arnold Public Schools earn scholarship money for college. Each blood donation helps the scholarship

total to increase.

Every day, patients throughout our community and across the country rely on volunteer blood donors when receiving medical care. Cancer patients, trauma victims, organ transplant recipients, premature babies, sickle cell disease patients and others may need blood products.

The next blood drive will be on Monday, March 13, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Arnold Community Center. This will also be the annual Future Blood Donor blood drive where the elementary students learn about the uses for blood and the constant need, as well as help the seniors recruit blood donors.

To make an appointment or to learn more, download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enable the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device. Completion of a RapidPass® online health history questionnaire is encouraged to help speed up the donation process. To get started, follow the instructions at RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass or use the Blood Donor App. A blood donor card or driver’s license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

## Grants Galore

### School’s Greenhouse Project tops \$20,000 in funding

Parts for Arnold Public School’s new Ag/Greenhouse are here but constructing it has been put on hold until better weather arrives. Over the past month, the school has received three new grants for the project, including \$5,000.00 from the John Russell Applegate Fund for Teachers at Mid-Nebbraska Community Foundation, \$5,000.00 from the Custer County Foundation, and \$7,500.00 from the Arnold Community Foundation.

Students have been doing their part, as well, raising a total of \$3,500.00 so far by selling seasonal soaps and growing plants for their spring plant sale. Once the greenhouse is finished, there will be a few new fundraising opportunities such as Bobcat flower planters, a Pick-it-Plant-it Succulent Party and an open greenhouse with a donor plaque auction. The greenhouse will prima-

rily be used for hands-on elective science classes, but Science teacher Melissa Sandager, who is the leader of the project, hopes to get the elementary kids involved as well. She said many teachers have come to her with great ideas on how everyone can get involve. For example, science students can plant mini pumpkins. In the fall, elementary kids can come with their teachers and pick their own pumpkins and then take it to art and decorate it, which will be a lot of fun.

“We are so thankful for all the generosity of these Foundations that have helped make this project possible. We cannot wait to have everything put together and finally get to use our greenhouse,” said Mrs. Sandager.

If you would like to contribute to the new Ag/Greenhouse project, please contact the school office or Mrs. Sandager.



APS Photo

Juniors Gracie Neth & Delaney Rogers pick out seeds to grow for their spring plant sale.