

# The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2023

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

(USPS 032480)

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VOLUME 106, NUMBER 46

## Landscaping Refreshed



(Above) Overgrown landscaping at the community center was cleaned up on Monday, April 17, by Chas Berke (pictured right) of SunValley Landscaping, LLC, who also tackled cutting back overgrown bushes at Koubek Gardens.

Landscaping at the community center and Koubek Gardens received a needed refresh in April, when Chas Berke, owner of SunValley Landscaping, LLC, and her crew came to town on April 17 to clean up. Using large shears, a big truck, and lots of muscle power, the project of cutting back the overgrown bushes and tall grasses took several hours. Resident

Becky Dailey brought up the need for professional landscapers and did the ground work of obtaining an estimate from the company back in October of 2022. Village Board members then approved the estimate presented by SunValley at their regular meeting held in November, 2022. Chas plans to come back to do the edging in both locations.

Amanda (Koubek) Wehnes, who is responsible for maintaining the water feature at Koubek Gardens, said the Koubek family will be working on getting some flowers and plants added around the feature, and possibly a tree or large shrub behind it to detour people from going around the backside. “We are waiting for the weather to warm up. The

feature was built in memory of Kaitlynn Koubek and she loved wild flowers. We will choose flowers that she would have loved and make it a happy place,” said Amanda.

## Sentinel Receives Three Awards In NPA’s Better Newspaper Contest

The Arnold Sentinel came away with three awards from the Nebraska Press Association’s Better Newspaper Contest. First, second, and third place winners in each division were announced during NPA’s 150th Annual Convention on Saturday evening, April 15, in Lincoln.

The three awards received were:

- 1st place in Division B – Single Feature category for a story titled “Family’s Need for a New Home Met by Volunteers of All Ages.” Written by Janet Larreau, the story featured Ed and Alasha Johnson’s struggle with cancer and at the same time, needing a new home due to mold issues.
- The judge commented, “Just a fantastic story about how a community bands together to help a family in a time of need. Very well reported, as all good features are.”

- 2nd in Division B – Front Page category for the October 27th issue’s front page. Debbie Connelly and Janet Larreau combined efforts to come up with the content and design. The issue was chosen because it featured so much about our community on a single page.

The judge commented, “Crisp layout and fun headlines, coupled with a variety of article topics, make for a strong front page.”

- 3rd in Division AB – Youth Coverage category for a series of columns written by Sentinel intern Talli Martin, a senior at A.H.S., who isn’t afraid to put her views about most any topic out there. The judge commented, “It’s refreshing to read the viewpoint of a local student. Great job!”

Members of the West Virginia Press Association judged more than 2,544 separate entries. Categories for both weeklies and dailies were focused on writing, photography, advertising, digital, design and creativity.

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### Huskiers Give Evelyn Gracey the Royal Treatment

By Janet Larreau

It took 91 years for Arnold resident Evelyn Gracey to get her moment of fame. Seated court side in the packed Bob Devaney Sports Center in Lincoln, she was one of 8,247 fans cheering on the Husker volleyball team as they took on Penn State on October 14. Many residents were also watching the game in their homes, when Evelyn suddenly appeared on the Event Center’s big screen with family sitting beside her. The announcer started telling the crowd and viewers all about Evelyn, describing her as a “lifelong Husker fan attending her first ever Nebraska volleyball match.”

Both the Event Center and the Husker volleyball team had heard up that this special lady was going to be in attendance, thanks to Andy Kraus, Vice President - Agencies for Farmers Mutual, who bought her the ticket after a chance meeting this summer at granddaughter Kisha’s house.

“Andy asked her if she liked Husker volleyball and she said yes. He asked her what game would you like to go to and she said Penn State. After a month of two, Andy said, ‘I’ve got the tickets, so bring Evelyn to Lincoln!’” said Kisha.

Players signed a poster for Evelyn and the announcer was given information to share on the air. During the announcement of the Husker team, player Lex Rodriguez threw her little ball across the court to Evelyn. Whitney Laneski was also credited as one of the players who made it all happen. Evelyn was taken out on the court to have her photo taken with the Husker cheerleaders and Herbie Husker and she had the chance to meet many of the players who made it all happen. Evelyn was taken out on the court to have her photo taken with the Husker cheerleaders and Herbie Husker and she had the chance to meet many of the players who made it all happen.

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### Farmer In Training

With corn harvest underway, you never know who’s involved out in the field. Local farmer Zach Hagler snapped the above photo through his combine window of 12-year-old Rae Hagler focusing on operating the grain cart. Zach said his daughter did great. “I didn’t have to teach much. She was a natural. I got to sit back and look for deer,” said Jason Jenkins, who provided Rae a little bit of training. “I thought it was going to be harder, but it ended up being really fun. I went back and helped Dad a few days later,” said Rae.

### Halloween Events Scheduled for Today

Downtown will be busy today (Thursday, Oct. 27), as Chamber hosts its annual Costume Contest & Scavenger Hunt. The costume contest will be held at Koubek Gardens starting at 5:30 p.m., with winners receiving Kisha Theatre vouchers. Trunk or Treat will be held on Main Street, with prizes awarded for the top three decorated trunks. Businesses will be handing out treats during the parade and a fun scavenger hunt will be held. Kendra Viers, Katie Weisman, and Rose Bierman are organizers.

### No Tricks, Just Treats

Brett and Laura Garrison’s furry friend Huggins stands on her hind legs at a teller window, waiting for a doggy treat from the friendly folks at Pinnacle Bank. Huggins and other rule dogs of all breeds and sizes in the community are welcome to come in with their human companions. After a couple of times of waiting, they figure it out pretty quickly. behave, wait patiently, and you’ll receive a goody. No trick required.

“It brings a smile to our faces when our four-legged customers come in,” said teller Carrie Edwards.

### Arnold Public School Interns Program Is Helping Seniors Decide on Career Path

By Janet Larreau

What career will you go into after graduating from high school? It’s a question that all seniors are asked, but the answer isn’t always that easy when you’re only 17 or 18 years old. Talli Martin and her fellow senior classmates have been given the opportunity to begin an early in-depth exploration into a career of their choice through the Arnold Public School Interns program.

“I’m not sure what career I want to pursue when I graduate, so I’m trying to get some real hands-on experience to aid me when making that important decision. When I get older, I want to live in a small town, so I’m really trying to open my eyes to career fields of interest in small communities,” said Talli, who transferred to APS her freshman year in 2019 from Stapleton, as her family had heard how great of a school and community Arnold had.

Talli has been interesting since the beginning of the school year. Her internship lasts for around an hour every day and she gets excused from school to go downtown. She started at Pinnacle Bank and just began

is very grateful for the business owners’ cooperation and for their patience. She said she can’t wait to learn more about these businesses and to connect with more people throughout the community while learning valuable skills of different careers.

“I think the internship program is very important,” she said. “We are fortunate to have the great school we have, so a lot of schools offer opportunities like this one. For me, I can’t just look up jobs and decide my whole future on research. I have to interact and get hands-on experience. I know so many people who think they want to enter a career, but once they step foot in the job they change their mind. Not to mention, I want to be prepared when I get out in the workforce. Who knows where I will be next?”

The whole senior class is taking advantage of the internship program. Devin Peterson goes to the Arnold Medical Clinic and Oakbrook Physical Therapy. Anna Starr goes to Touch of Grace Massage Therapy & Spa and Bureau Veterinary Services. Lance Jones interns at Mills Hardware, and Tisha Cook and Clay Withaba travel to North Platte to a vet clinic and

### Talli Martin began an internship at The Arnold Sentinel on October 17. It’s just one of the internships that Talli and her fellow senior classmates are taking advantage of throughout their senior year to help them decide on a career path.

Courtesy photo

### With Husker player Madi Kubik and Andy Kraus looking on, Husker middle blocker Bekka Altick signs a volleyball for Evelyn Gracey after the Nebraska vs. Penn State match in Lincoln on October 14.

Courtesy photo

## Arnold Students Make MNAC All-Academic Team

The following Arnold students have been named to the 2023 Mid-Nebraska Activities Conference All-Academic Team:

- First Team**  
**(30 or above Composite on ACT)**  
Gracie Neth (Junior) and Logan Recoy (Junior)
- Second Team**  
**(27-29 Composite on ACT)**  
Rio Remund (Junior)
- Honorable Mention**  
**(25-26 Composite on ACT)**  
Delaney Rogers (Junior) and Brendan Streit (Junior)



Courtesy photo

## Announcing...

Donning a Cardinal band uniform, Arnold Schools Superintendent Joel Morgan, who is serving as music instructor until someone is hired, warms up a horn in anticipation of the upcoming spring music programs.

Tonight - Thursday, April 27 - the PreK-5th Grades will be presenting their program at 7:00 p.m. in the school’s auditorium. This year’s theme is “Animated Movie Songs,” so it should be an entertaining show for everyone.

The Grades 6-12 concert/fine arts night is scheduled for Monday, May 1, beginning at 7:00 p.m. The program will begin with music contest pieces and solos, continue on with recognizing the Speech and One-Act teams, and close out with the 6-8 choir.