

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

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Finch Library Roof Restored to Pass the Test of Time

Final phase completed thanks to hundreds of donators.



Photo/Andrew Tickle

Weathercraft roofing workers apply green clay tiles to the Finch Library roof at the end of May. The renovation project is now complete.

By Janet Larreau

Finch Memorial Library's roof renovation project was completed towards the end of May, thanks to generous donations received from all across the country. The fundraiser to help replace the green clay tiles that were original to the almost 100

year old roof was more successful than any library board member, or the director, imagined. The total estimated cost to replace the roof was \$108,148.60. Insurance money took care of a large percentage of the cost, but an additional \$14,200.00 was needed. Board members and director Marcy Lucas came up with the idea of

selling one tile for \$15.00 – in memory of someone or just as a donation. Word went out through the newspaper and in other ways, and people responded.

“We got money from everywhere,” said library board member Rose Bierman. “The fundraiser started last year at Alumni and we received money

from not only Arnold residents, but from Lincoln and Omaha, all over Nebraska, Texas, Colorado, Virginia, Washington, Arkansas, Arizona, Florida, and a lot from California. Many letters were received with those donations, with a common theme of they or their loved one had fun memories of coming here in their childhood.”

“I just want to save that precious, old building.”

- Finch Memorial Library Director Marcy Lucas, upon completion of roof project

Still, with all the donations, Rose said they are about \$736.00 short of the goal. The library also received a Custer County Foundation grant for a tankless hot water heater. The cost of the heater came in \$1,000.00 less than estimated, and that money was applied to the roof project.

As promised to those purchasing a tile in memory of someone, a memorial plaque will soon be created by Schoolhouse Graphic Products. More names could be added to the list of literally hundreds of names if additional tiles are purchased.

“The plaque will have to be installed outside, because it will be too large for the inside of the building. The love of the library is very evident in this fundraiser,” said Rose.

Ryan Tullis, Project Manager for Weathercraft Roofing, said it was an exciting project and he was thankful to be part of it in his hometown.

“It is a rare opportunity to be working on these roofs because they do not need to be replaced very often,” he said. “For example, this one was originally installed about 100 years ago. It's a bit of a puzzle because certain

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Give 4 Custer County Matching Grant Will Benefit Two Arnold Entities, AEDC Will Sponsor Library

Arnold Economic Development announced last week that it will be the sponsor for the Give 4 Custer County on behalf of Finch Memorial Library and will be supporting the Arnold Historical Museum committee as they seek funding.

“Finch Library does not have a nonprofit status, so they need a receiving 501. AEDC was happy to fill that role to make it possible to participate. Any monies raised will be turned over to them for their project,” said AEDC Director Cheryl Car-

son.

This is the same role the AEDC filled for the Village of Arnold in 2021, when Custer County Foundation first rolled out the Give 4 Custer County fundraising event to celebrate their 30th year anniversary.

That effort brought in just over \$18,000.00 to put toward the new community center flooring.

“The Arnold museum will also be participating in the Give 4 Custer County fundraiser. They do have a 501

status and will be able to participate on their own behalf; however, the AEDC is promoting and supporting each entity in their quest for donations to

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Kid Fun At The Toy Table

After cruising the city-wide garage sales with his parents and siblings last Saturday, 6-year-old Will Urbanovsky ended up dressed as part dinosaur, part pirate, as he just couldn't wait to throw on the costumes. “It's a long way until Halloween, but he'll have fun with them,” said his patient dad, Brent, who wanted to join in on the fun with his wife and five kids. The Urbanovsky family (including, pictured, mom Tori, sister Daneo, and brother Tucker), joined bargain hunters from near and far to help over 22 residents, organizations and businesses get rid of some stuff and make a buck or two at the annual Chamber sponsored event organized by Deb Hall.

And what about the stick horse? Well, he ended up in the Goodwill Truck that was brought to town and parked south of the city park for several days. - Debbie Connelly photo

A Special Guest

Alice Conner Represents Class of '43 at A.H.S. Reunion



Arnold Alumni Program co-emcee Ty Phillips chats with the only remaining member of the Class of 1943, Alice Hagler Conner, at the May 27 reunion in the school's auditorium. Her son, Dennis Conner, traveled all the way from Florida to make sure Alice arrived safely to celebrate her 70th year since graduating. She currently resides at the Good Life Center in Callaway. Still spry, she enjoyed the evening and was welcomed by alumni of all ages. The remaining seven honored classes are pictured inside this issue. - Jessica Tickle photo