

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

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Supply Up, Demand Down for Grain

Farmers putting long hours in the fields to beat the weather

Combines have been rolling in the fields, taking advantage of good weather and doing their best to avoid what might be coming.

“The biggest thing is to get the crops out before wind, or snow, or another hailstorm, or something like that comes along,” said Country Partners Cooperative Manager Donnell DeLosh.

With this season’s good moisture, dryland corn

is above average by quite a bit and expectations for irrigated corn yields are good this year. A hot August and hail took a lot of bushels of soybeans, so they’re off a bit. Country Partner’s purchased Anderson’s Grain site in Anselmo and a lot of beans are going that way.

Country Partners Vice-President of Grain, Scott Hillius, said the elevators everywhere were empty this year, so there



With temperatures reaching 85 degrees, a combine unloads corn into a grain cart at the Hagler Farms Friday afternoon of last week. - Courtesy photo

should be ample space for storage. Farmers are coming off of multi-year highs of the price per bushel, but that has changed in 2023.

“Last year, it was \$6.00 something and now it’s less than \$5.00 due to a combination of things,” said Hillius. “It’s a bigger crop and there’s less

overall demand. Ethanol plants are making good margins and grinding away like they should be. We’re thankful for that, but we’re not exporting.

Our carryout has grown this year. With higher input costs this spring and with the set-back in prices over 6-12 months, they’re reluctant sellers.”



Senior Rio Remund helps Dwayne Barraza up, while Sarah Coleman holds the horse steady during “Principal Challenge” day held last Wednesday. It was all part of several old-time activities students had the chance to do. - Debbie Connelly photo

Annual Challenge Takes Kids Back In History

For several years now, Arnold Public Schools has held a Principal Challenge for students in Grades K-12 during the first quarter. By meeting the challenge of an Accelerated Reading goal of thousands of points, students have sent past-principals to sleep on the high school roof all night, dive into frigid October waters, and taped them to a tree. This year’s challenge was dubbed “Now & Then Principal Challenge”.

“Since Ali (Rosentrater) Goodenow is returning to Arnold School this year as the principal, she wanted to pay homage to the teachers she had throughout her elementary and

high school career and remembered the Nebraska history activities she had done at various times,” said APS librarian Debby

Moninger, who organizes the challenge.

For the first time in a long time, the kids didn’t

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Bowling Put on Hold

Twenty-twenty-three would have marked the 60th year that residents have enjoyed bowling in Arnold, but the lanes are silent now as owner Dell Cerny waits for a buyer.

Stuart Watson opened the bowling alley in 1963, and Cerny bought it from Watson in 1980. Cerny eventually tore the old building down and put up the new one that is seen today. Cerny sold the

business to Amber and Mitch Tatman in October of 2021, and the couple turned it back over to Cerny this year due to personal reasons.

“We’re going to close it for now until we find a buyer. There’s lots of paperwork to do and nobody wants to do that,” said Cerny, who is hopeful that someone will be interested.

Oh, the Places You’ll Go Nebraska Passport Program takes Scott twins to state’s hidden gems

By Janet Larreau

Well-known Arnold twins Peg and Pat Scott have been discovering parts unknown to the rest of us since 2017 through their participation in the Nebraska Passport Program. Each year, there are 70 featured attractions and 10 themed categories. Since they

started registering for a passport, there have only been two years that these seasoned travelers didn’t make all 70 stops and earn their Champion Passport t-shirt.

The purpose of the Nebraska Passport is to help travelers discover Nebraska’s hidden gems. The passport is special because it offers a wide

variety of travel adventures, including museums, parks, restaurants, wineries, retail stores and more. This year’s program represented 56 communities spanning the entire state. Each year, travelers have from May 1 through September 30 to visit the attractions and collect their stamps. If the attraction is closed, e-mailing a selfie proving that you were there will do. At the end of October and into November, prizes are awarded through a drawing. Different companies participate in providing prizes, such as valuable coupons and odds-and-ends, and some winners receive Nebraska Lottery vouchers. It all varies from year-to-year.

Prizes are great, but Peg and Pat participate for the adventure.

“We’ve been all over the state of Nebraska since 2017. It’s enjoyable to just be able to drive and check out places that we didn’t have a clue that existed. It gives us a chance to do something we never would have done. It keeps us going and doing something and it helps those shops,” said Peg.

Among their stops, Peg and Pat’s favorite was a mercantile store located “somewhere.” “There’s



Peg and Pat Scott have several Nebraska Passport Champion t-shirts in their wardrobe, as the twins have completed all 70 stops five of the seven years they have participated. - Debbie Connelly photo

been so many stops that at this point, we can’t remember the towns,” said Peg.

“It reminded you of going to Gambles in Arnold that was owned by the Cunninghams and Mays. There was just everything in there. It had a soda fountain at the back of the store and malts made with spinners, an old cigarette machine where you selected the brand and pulled the lever, and an old telephone operator system. A toy train was going round and round at the top of the shelves. It was just fun.”

Another memorable stop was in the northeast part of the state. The old-time hotel had a cafe in the bot-

tom and rooms at the top. During their years as participants, two of the stops were just a few blocks away in Arnold – Brew-Bakers in 2020 and Grazers Bar & Grill in 2021. Both Peg and Pat said it is fun to make stops and run into other people on the Passport that you would see elsewhere.

Since both were working – Peg as manager of Country Partners Cooperative and Pat as an agent at First State Insurance – they made their trips on the weekends. They said it was tough getting around to all of them. Now that both are retired, they said this year was much easier.

Since starting in 2010, interest has grown in the

Passport program. Here are the program statistics as of October 16, 2023.

Number of Passport Booklets Requested - 47,500

Participants Who Visited All Stops - 1,027

Total Stamps Collected (from Passport app) - 129,510

More information can be found at NebraskaPassport.com.

(Editor’s note: A big thank you to Mary Becker for providing this tip on a story idea. Mary participated in the Passport program for the first time this year, and completed all 70 stops, starting mid-summer).



One of Peg and Pat’s favorite Passport stops over the years was a mercantile store that had an honest-to-goodness soda shop with real-life soda jerks dressed for the times. - Courtesy photo