

# The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2023

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

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## Street Fills Up Last Thursday for Halloween Carnival

Even though the weather wasn't great, it seemed everyone who could turned out for Thursday's Halloween Carnival & Contest. Downtown's main street started filling up after an early-out for school with every conceivable costume and age group, from tiny tikes to middle-schoolers. Kids played games set up by student volunteers in and around Koubek Gardens, visited the decorated trunks set up for trunk-or-treating, and went in and out of businesses, where they were welcomed with treats by business owners. They were even able to take a pretend cruise and have their picture taken in a Barbie car in Four County Boutique. Because of the chilly weather, age groups were called into the Rialto Theatre for the costume judging. Judges Kay Lohmiller, Carlene Lanham, and Laura Garrison chose the top three winners in each group and beforehand, the top three trunks.

This year's organizers for the Chamber-sponsored event were Rose Bierman and Katie Weinman. Please turn to page 8 to see all of the winners.



Who couldn't help but notice cowboy Kowen Dalrymple riding a chicken down the street for some Halloween fun? - Courtesy photo



Soldier Zoyer Tickle concentrates, as he takes aim at a line of empty Mountain Dew cans at the carnival. - Janet Larreau photo



**BEAN BAG TOSS** - A carnival participant tosses a bean bag at the board in an attempt to land the bag into the clowns' open mouths to win a prize. It was one of several games kids had a chance to play at Thursday's Halloween Carnival in downtown Arnold. Youth from the school set up and manned the games for Chamber. - Debbie Connelly photo

## Behind The Scenes... Local creativity props up One-Act



Art students Samantha and EvaLynn Aonch use their talent to paint the backdrops for the A.H.S. One-Act "Anne of Green Gables." - Courtesy photo

The A.H.S. One-Act Team will be presenting the turn-of-the-20th-century play "Anne of Green Gables" this season and after weeks of practice, the students are set to compete in their first dual November 4 at North Platte High School. While team members work on their acting skills, many other people have been involved behind-the-scenes in creating and finding seemingly impossible props that fit the period. When it comes to props, quality matters and effort

matters. "Props are an important detail to set the stage and feel for any stage show. When telling a story of a community in the early 1900s, we try to be as accurate as possible to that time period," said Head One-Act Coach Lana Cool. The play, adapted by Karen Layman from the novel by L.M. Montgomery, tells the story of elderly Marilla Cuthbert and her shy brother Matthew. When they decide to adopt an orphan to help with farm work, they expect a boy to

arrive at the train station. Instead, a talkative, imaginative girl with fiery red hair shows up - Anne (with an E) Shirley. The trials and tribulations the Cuthbert's fear come to pass as Anne insults Marilla's best friend, smacks the school's prize pupil with a slate, and inadvertently serves her best friend a disastrous drink. All while the town of Avonlea looks on with curiosity and speculation. Lana said for this play, some of the stand-out props that come to mind are antique-looking chalkboard slates and an old-time chalkboard for the school scenes, vintage costumes, and an heirloom baby bassinet passed down for four generations. "We pride ourselves on paying attention to details. It matters," said Lana. "So we put a lot of effort and attention to research and making sure we are telling the story in the most accurate way possible. We are lucky to have wonderful support from smart people. Miss Berglund and Mr. Mohr work closely with us to create beautiful stage pieces and custom built and painted backdrops to set the scene. Sue McKain, the costume designer for North Platte Community Playhouse, is an expert in period costuming

and is the key component in making our actors and actresses look great." Another important prop for this particular play are newspapers. "Did You Hear?" is a main thread that weaves through the story and depicts the way the community accepts (or doesn't) the new quirky orphan that has moved into town. The newspapers are utilized to create a sense of spreading "news" or gossip. Lana said they started out rehearsing with old Sentinel's, but wanted to make sure they were authentic to the time period, so Holly Remund contracted the talented gals at the Arnold Sentinel and discussed the possibility of recreating an authentic-looking newspaper. "The newspaper turned out so much more wonderful than we could have imagined," said Lana. "Janet and Debbie embraced the project and researched and worked hard to create a beautiful and authentic prop for our team to use on stage and have as a keepsake. It's so cool. We are so grateful for the gals at the Arnold Sentinel who gave their time and talents for our play production team. What a beautiful act of support for these hard working kids. My only disappointment is that our audience members

THE AVONLEA ADVOCATE

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AVONLEA VILLAGE  
6¢ A COPY

Containing a variety of useful, entertaining matter.

WORD IS, CUTHBERTS ADOPTING A BOY

A BIG MIX-UP AT THE TRAIN STATION

ANNE SAYS THEY DON'T WANT HER!

NEIGHBOR OFFENDS ANNE

OUTRAGE ENSUES

NEIGHBOR OFFENDS ANNE

One-thousand copies of a one-of-a-kind newspaper, The Avonlea Advocate, was designed and sent to press especially for the "Anne of Green Gables" play by the gals at the Sentinel.

and judges won't be close enough to the stage to see all the fun personalized details and headlines and illustrations that are in

each newspaper." Please turn to page 4 to see this season's full schedule of competitions.