

# The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2023

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

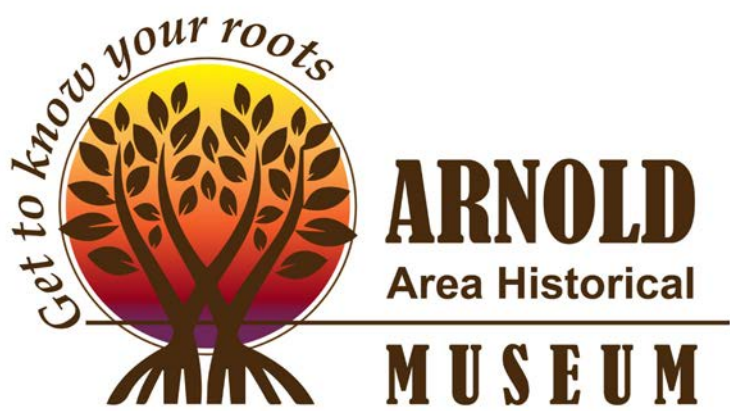
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## Cornerstone Campaign Gaining Strength

Large committee sets its sights on completing goals



Former Arnold art teacher Julie Mohr designed the logo for the Arnold Area Historical Museum. It is just one of several goals the committee has met.

First in a series on the Arnold Area Historical Museum project.

The new 2024 Arnold historical calendars featuring country schools were receiving quite a bit of attention during yesterday's Christmas Around Town. Arnold Area Historical Museum committee members were selling the calendars in Touch of Grace for \$20.00 each and talking to residents about the project of restoring Archie's Café into a museum. This was the second year a calendar has been

printed and sold in an effort to raise money and awareness for one of the biggest projects the town has undertaken.

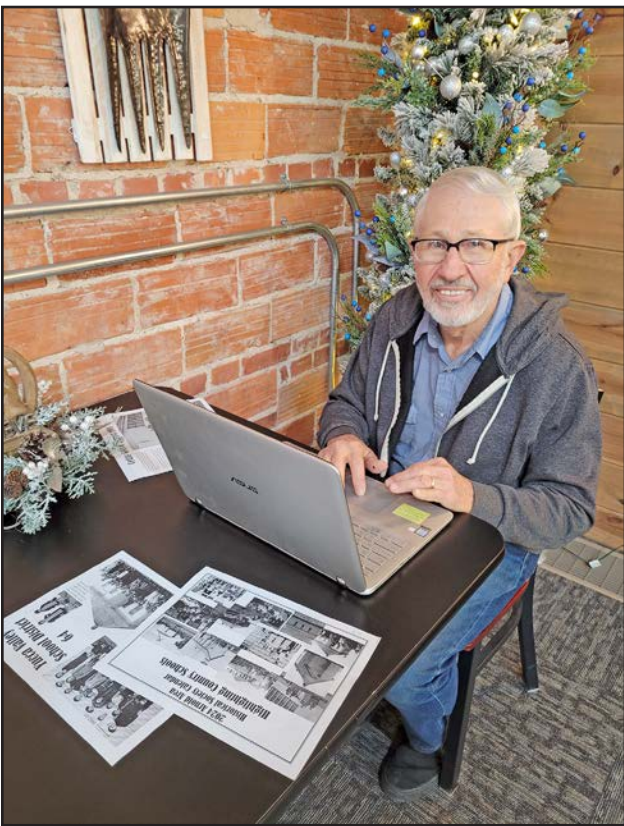
The community vision meeting hosted by the Arnold Community Foundation in March of 2022 was the catalyst of this project. What started as attendees putting their name on a sticky note stating their interest in the "big dream" idea of creating a museum in town has become a commitment to making this dream a reality. This invested group has grown

to 20 committee members that includes business owners, farmers, ranchers, teachers, retired teachers, and community members. In July 2022 they began this journey with lengthy discussions about what this museum might entail, possible building locations, ways to fund, how to keep people coming through the door and so much more.

A second integral piece was the collaboration with the history and English teachers at Arnold High School. For years now, students have com-

pleted historical research projects about our area, with homesteads as the focus in the last two years. Teachers Mr. Jason Wehnes and Mrs. Nicole Badgley were inspired to make these detailed student projects available to the general public and for anyone seeking historical information about our area. Naturally, these two projects by the school and the community would have the greatest far-reaching impact if combined.

Goals accomplished to this point are numerous. First was the establishment of a mission statement: to collect stories and preserve artifacts that reflect the rich ongoing history of our area, providing access for people near and far to educate and inspire all generations. Another priority was the completion of becoming a 501c3 non-profit entity. Former art teacher Julie Mohr shared her talents to produce their logo, encompassing the ideals of their inspirational quote by Marcus Harvey, "A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots." Their first annual historical calendar was produced as a fundraiser, largely using photos from the book "One Hundred



Arnold Area Historical Museum committee member David Leach was a key person in completing the 2024 historical calendars that were sold during Christmas Around Town. Proceeds will go towards the Cornerstone Project of restoring Archie's Café into a museum. David is also the author of the series "Historical Snippets" that appear each week in the *Sentinel* and on the AAHM's Facebook page. - Debbie Connelly photo

Years on the South Loup" by Norene Hall Mills. Her daughter Suanne Mills Lind had graciously given the committee permission to use anything from her mother's diligent recording of our area's

history. The most recent accomplishment was the decision to purchase the cornerstone of our historic Walnut business district from Justin and See CORNERSTONE CAMPAIGN page 2

## Stop Signs, Code Enforcement Discussed

The law says the vehicle on your right has the right-of-way if there isn't a stop sign, but out-of-town drivers following their smart phone navigation aren't aware that (historically) this law doesn't seem to apply to any north/south street in Arnold. If you're driving north or south, you just keep going.

Soon, there won't be any confusion on who has the right-of-way on one street that carries more and more of out-of-town traffic. At the request of

a resident, Village Board members voted to install stop signs all along North Carroll Street as they went through their agenda on November 13. A resolution to provide for the placing of the stop signs will be on the December 11 agenda.

Code enforcement was another agenda item. The village clerk said that the village attorney is checking into whether the Village can issue fines without a code enforcement officer. This item will be discussed again in January.

Garald Horst, DBA Cedar Shadows LLC, was at the meeting to talk about canvas prints for the hallway at the community center. Discussion was held on using historical pictures, such as the sale barn. A committee will meet with Horst and bring recommendations back to the board.

Board members learned that current monthly Blue Cross-Blue Shield premium rates will go up 17.24% effective January 1, 2024. Liana Hrupek,

Operations Manager & Agent at Nebraska Owners Insurance Agency, was at the meeting to discuss quotes and presented some options that would include increasing deductible rates. Board members decided to continue with Blue Cross and Blue Shield, increase deductibles, and increase the contribution to each employee's Health Savings Account from \$3,000.00 to \$3,500.00, effective January 2024.

In other business, board members voted to issue

a check for \$59,350.00 to Macqueen Equipment for a 2012 Global MX3 Street Sweeper. The board accepted a quote for the sweeper at their August meeting contingent upon a demonstration, which was done on November 7. The old 1992 Elgin Street Sweeper will be sold on Big Iron Online Auction.

Village Superintendent Doug DeLaune said EMC is sending an insurance adjuster to look at the community center floor on November 14, NDOT is going to allow the Vil-

lage employees to install the pole for the traffic display sign, and there is still an issue with one of the fountains at the ARA.

The clerk reported that tipping fees at Lexington Area Solid Waste Agency will increase January 1, 2024, to \$37.00/ton. The current rate is \$35.00/ton. Custer Public Power District Board of Directors approved the proposed wheeling rates at the September 2023 board meeting. The new rates will be effective January 1, 2024.



## Elves at Work

Volunteers (from left) Debbie Connelly, Dayna Larreau, and Taylour Snyder were busy getting Koubek Gardens ready for the holiday season last Wednesday afternoon. The project of lighting up the gardens with 11 trees, setting up lights on the water feature, and adding some fun characters and additional lights, took several hours with Taylour leading the charge. Student Eli Rogers dropped by later and was a lot of help. The decorations were purchased by the AEDC with LB840 funds and were set up the last couple of years by Cheryl Carson and Garald and Karen Horst. Cheryl and husband Sean hooked the electricity up this year. - Janet Larreau photo

## Decorating for the Season



From big, beautiful summer flowers to fall grasses and pumpkins, Downtown Highway Improvement committee member Krista Eggleston hasn't missed a beat in keeping the new large planters along Highway 92 current with the season ahead. With help from daughter Morgan, Krista spent most of last Wednesday switching out the decorations using white lanterns, pine cones and fresh greenery. The project's goal is to draw travelers to stop in town. - Debbie Connelly photo