

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

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CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120 (USPS 032480) SINGLE COPY: 75 CENTS VOLUME 107, NUMBER 43



(Above) It was every man for himself last Saturday at the city park, as ages 5-7 were given the go-ahead to leave the start line and grab candy-filled Easter eggs. (Below) The Easter bunny fends off a playful child as other children gather around laughing. Gold and silver egg prize winners are pictured on page 8. - Debbie Connelly photo

Scrambling for Eggs

Kids gather at the park for annual Chamber-sponsored hunt

It was a frenzy of activity at the city park last Saturday morning, as organizers shouted “Go!” and kids in four age groups took off to find the prize winning gold and silver eggs and gather as many candy-filled eggs as they could in a relatively short amount of time.

With the original hunt scheduled for March 23 canceled because of cold and windy weather, and a spring blizzard hitting the area at the beginning of the week, it was uncertain whether the storm date of the 30th would even happen. Organizers knew it was now or never, so everyone bundled up and ended up having a good time regardless of the weather.



Community Clean-Up Day Set for April 22

Call the Village office to get your name on the list



The calendar has turned to the month of April, which means it's time to do some spring cleaning in Arnold. The entire month will be devoted to helping everyone get rid of unwanted stuff, but on April 22, things will really kick into gear during the annual Community Clean-Up Day.

Volunteers from Chamber, Rotary, Legion, and the school, along with Village personnel, will be cleaning up not only personal property, but community property as well. A list will be compiled of all requests for help. Contact Patty Lamberty at the Village office to be added to the list. You can also sign up to be a volunteer.

The Village is giving residents the golden opportunity to use a roll-off container near the street shop, free of charge, the entire month. Keep in mind that construction rubble, old tires, and household hazardous waste should not be disposed of in the container.

Legion members will be available to take almost any kind of metal, including aluminum, steel, cast iron, wrought iron and stainless steel. This includes items like aluminum pipe, old lawn mowers, washers and dryers (NO refrigerators or freezers), engine blocks, old cars, bicycle frames, and barbecue grills. They will also take old batteries. Mike Harvey said the men can bring their trailer to your home to load heavy items with a tractor for the entire month of April by calling him at 308-530-1065 to ask for help. Otherwise, the trailer will be parked at Mike's shed and you can place metal items on it at any time during the month. Men will pick up at the curb on April 22.

Clothing in good condition and household items are accepted at the St. Agnes Thrift shop.

The Village will provide bottled water for the volunteers, and Chamber will provide the lunch. A storm date of April 29 has been set.

Custer County Foundation Announces New Executive Director



(Custer County, NE) The Custer County Foundation is excited to announce a new Executive Director has been hired!!

Rilee Daffer of Broken Bow will take the reigns of the Foundation in late May.

Rilee comes to the Foundation from North Park Elementary School in Broken Bow where she's been a teacher for 10 years. She has a Bachelor of Science degree in Education and a Master of Science in Education - Curriculum and

Instruction. Rilee brings to the position experience of managing, multi-tasking, critical thinking, and creativity. Rilee has served as the Social Media Specialist for North Park Elementary for the past four years and has been the Secretary/Treasurer for the Broken Bow Parent Teacher Association.

Rilee stated, “I am excited to be hired on as the

Executive Director of the Custer County Foundation! I am looking forward to continuing to grow the Foundation and connections within our community.”

Andrew Tickle, President of the Foundation's Board of Directors stated, “We are excited to have Rilee coming on board and joining the Foundation. She is local and understands the area and

how important the Foundation is for the county. She is going to make a great addition to the staff. Please stop by and introduce yourself once she gets started working”.

The Custer County Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit, tax-exempt organization that was created in 1991 to promote charitable giving for the good of the communities of Custer County.

The steady growth of the Foundation is driven by donors' generosity and the ideas and beliefs that the Custer County Foundation can make a difference in the lives of the people who live and work in Custer County. The Foundation exists because of people who have the desire to give back to the community where they lived, prospered, worked, and played.

Dell Cerny recognized for 50 years on AVFD

By Janet Larreau

In mid-March, Dell Cerny received due recognition for 50 years of membership on the Arnold Volunteer Fire Department. His award of a gold plated ceremonial firefighters axe mounted on an engraved plaque, was a fitting tribute for the Arnold resident who has served the department not only as a firefighter, but as a first responder, fire investigator, and information officer.

Robbi Smith, who isn't too far behind Dell in his service to the department for 45 years, joined the AVFD in 1979. Dell had been there since '74 when Robbi came in.

“Dell had already been a firefighter in Gordon for 10 years, so he had a lot of knowledge for being

around that long,” said Robbi. “When he got his job with the fire marshal's office as a fire investigator, he brought that in, too, how fire works from the investigation side and things to look for. As he got older, he became our information officer.”

Dell took classes, passed the exam, and received his first responder license at one time. With this certification, Dell went direct to a scene instead of going with the ambulance crew. He also served as President of the Nebraska Volunteer Firefighters Association.

AVFD Rescue Captain Tammy Weinman said Dell has always been very dedicated to the department. He still attends the meetings and wants to be a part of the department as much as he can. His

main job now is answering the Custer County Emergency Management test page sent out every Monday night at 6:00 and he answers loud and clear.

Both Dell and his daughters, Marcia and Barb, who were there to see him receive the award, were moved by the plaque he received that night.

“He was so thrilled to receive the award,” said Barb. “They won't let him retire, and he looks forward to answering the test page. When he had his own ambulance call, six or seven showed up. We want to thank each and every one of the department members for keeping him a part of his family. It's so important to me that they treat him like family, care for him, and show him respect and love.”



Dell Cerny's daughters, Marcia Gibson (left) and Barb Gunther, were pretty proud of their dad as he was recognized for 50 years of service on the Arnold Volunteer Fire Department at the AVFD's annual awards banquet. - Patti Schwarz photo