

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2024

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

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From Youngest to Oldest, Residents Head to the Polls

Arnold Village slightly above county-wide turnout

Thirty-one percent of eligible voters in the Village of Arnold cast a ballot in the Primary Election held on May 14, compared to a 29 percent turnout county-wide. Election official Constance Gracey said that this year, with the new voter ID law in place, voters without an ID at the time of voting have seven days to show their identification at the county clerk's office. Because of this, results will not be official until May 23.

This year's Arnold poll workers – Amanda Wehnes, Carlene Lanham, Merri Jo Halstead, and Pat Scott - signed in 184 voters that included six first-timers, Rio Remund, Ethan Furne, Samantha Wonch, Charli Vickers, Pedro Flores, and Johnny Lamphear. Furne, who is now 17, was the youngest to cast a ballot. He will

turn 18 by the general election, and by law, was able to register ahead of the primary to become eligible to vote in both elections.

The oldest female to cast her vote was Mildred Smith who is 102 years old, and the oldest man was 92-year-old Max Smith.

In Custer County's unofficial results, the Republican Ticket dominated, with Donald J. Trump for President, Deb Fischer for US Senator, Pete Ricketts for US Senator, and Adrian Smith for Congress Dist. 3 receiving the most votes by far. Tanya Storer received the most votes for Legislature Dist. 43. Democrats voted for Joseph Biden Jr. for President, Preston Love Jr. for US Senator, and Daniel Ebers for Congress District 3.



Youngest - 17-year-old Ethan Furne



Oldest - 102-year-old Mildred Smith

A.H.S. Alumni Reunion Is This Saturday

Out of town A.H.S. alumni are arriving in town this week for the annual reunion set for Saturday, May 25, at the school. Individual honored classes will also be getting together at several locations before the banquet and program begin.

Banquet tickets will be sold at the Rialto Theatre on Friday, May 24, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Saturday, May 25, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Tickets will start selling at the school at 3:00 p.m. Dues may also be paid at any of these times.

Serving of the banquet will be held from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., and the program will follow.

This year's president, Cheryl Mills Uhrmacher, has invited Don Swanson, a Lincoln resident and 1973 grad, to emcee this year's program. Don is remembered for his achievements in FFA during his high school years, and went on to become an attorney, receiving many legal honors. He is also involved in various organizations and served on boards in the Lincoln and Omaha, Nebraska, areas.

Memorial Day Services Monday, May 27, 10:00 a.m. Arnold Cemetery

American Legion Post 130 and VFW Post 6157
(In case of inclement weather, the program will be at the Baptist Church)

9:45 a.m. ...Honor Guard Commanded by Mike Harvey
10:00 a.m.Post Color at Memorial Monument
Welcome..... John Phillips

National Anthem

Address.....Tony Tangwall
Presentation of Wreath.....Max Smith
Salute to Fallen Comrades.....Honor Guard
Taps

Benediction.....Chaplain Gary Halstead
Presentation of Memorial Wreath to those
who died at sea at Loup River
Salute to Our Fallen Comrades.....Honor Guard
Dismiss Honor Guard

AEDC Identifies Another Lot for Sale

Village Board Approves Purchase for Future Workforce Housing Development

The Arnold Economic Development Corporation is moving ahead with development of future workforce housing, identifying lot for sale at 702 N Broadway. At the May 13 Village Board meeting, Director Cheryl Carson's request for \$12,500.00 to purchase the parcel and pay other costs to prepare the lot for housing was approved by all members present. The purchase of three other connected lots in the west part of town was recently approved by the Board, paving the way for several lots to be cleaned up and

sold.

Also at the request of the AEDC, Board members approved a \$2,000.00 grant to be issued to Dahlia Valley Ranch to accompany a loan from the AEDC revolving loan fund. Both the loan and grant will be used for business expansion.

Tree Board Update

Mary Becker gave an update on the newly established Arnold Tree Board. Members met with Nebraska Forest Service Ranger Crissy Land, who provided valuable information about the grant

process. If secured, a tree grant that was submitted by the deadline of May 15 will be used for cutting down 10 diseased or dead trees, removal of stumps and planting ten new trees in their place. This first grant has a limited amount of funds available, but there will be future grants. All of the research that went into writing the first grant can be used for subsequent grants. The ten trees were identified when the Tree Board did a tree inventory. Members will be meeting again to come up with

a plan for the Arnold Recreation Area.

CC Landscaping

Superintendent DeLaune said the landscaping at the community center is causing a water issue next to the building. There are two layers of plastic and several layers of mulch, and the water from the downspouts is not able to drain away from the building due to the depth of the mulch. DeLaune said the mulch needs to be down to grass level. Board member Donnell DeLosh commented that the community center is a focal point, and the landscaping needs to look nice. There was no money budgeted for landscaping for this fiscal year, but it will be included in the 2024-2025 budget. DeLaune will proceed with a temporary solution that was discussed during the meeting.

Comments from the Clerk

Patricia Lamberty informed the Board that the Village will continue to collect household hazardous waste throughout the year, using the containers provided by Red Willow County Household Hazardous Waste. Village employees will take the containers to McCook when they are full. The scrap tire event is May 30-31 and June 1 in Arnold. The Village received a \$500.00 donation from the Custer County branch of the Salvation Army to go towards swimming lessons.

In other business, the Board:

Heard a concern from Mary Becker about the street improvements on Cedar Street that has an issue. Mary presented pictures showing where the rock is gone and the previous service can be

seen. Village Superintendent Doug DeLaune said that Tri State Paving used material provided by the Village, and smaller chips will be used in the future, which will alleviate issues. It is mostly an issue on the north end of Cedar Street. Board member Zach Hagler said the Village needs to keep an eye on it.

Neil and Diana Coleman approached the Board regarding the issue of a resident living in a storage unit. Diana said they are aware that this is a private matter, and the Village does not have any ordinances regarding living in a storage unit. However, they wanted to formally inform the Board of the situation. The individual is causing problems, and the problems are escalating. Law enforcement has been called multiple times.

Arnold Blood Drive Scheduled for May 24

Healthy individuals are needed every day to maintain an adequate blood supply for patients in need. Once a donor has made the commitment to give blood, it is important to take a few simple steps to prepare and help ensure a good donation experience.

The community is invited to help save lives by donating blood on Friday, May 24, 2024, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Arnold Community Center. Get a good night's sleep, drink an extra 16 ounces of water, eat iron-rich foods to maintain a healthy iron level and consume a low-fat meal before donating.

When you come to give blood May 20-June 9, you'll get an exclusive Tetris + Red Cross T-shirt, ltd qty. Let's build the blood supply, donation by donation! We will also be

honoring our 100+ unit donors at this blood drive! Donating blood is an easy way to help others and only takes about an hour. The Red Cross encourages donors to give blood every time they are eligible.

To make an appointment or to learn more, call or text Amanda Koubek-Wehnes at 308-660-6709 (work) or 970-310-9421 (personal), download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enable the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device. Completion of a RapidPass® online health history questionnaire is encouraged to help speed up the donation process. To get started, follow the instructions at RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass or use the Blood Donor



App. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

Discussion Continues on Code Enforcement for Village

Code enforcement was on the agenda at the May 13 Village Board meeting. Chairman Glen Bowers said that in the Ordinance Enforcer Agreement drafted by Village Attorney Mike Borders, it lists enforce regulations pertaining to zoning, building, and land use as a duty. Superintendent Doug DeLaune is the zoning administrator and enforces those regulations. Bowers said that the Board has agreed that written complaints need to be filed, and that is not in the agreement. Board member Donnell DeLosh said that he

doesn't think the Village needs a written complaint on every issue such as vehicles and properties. Someone asked if the Village has an ordinance, why does a complaint have to be filed to be enforced? DeLosh replied that he does not think you necessarily have to, unless it is a dog bite.

Discussion was held on the pros and cons of contracting for a code enforcement officer versus a village employee becoming the officer. Bowers said the Board is working on a job description. DeLosh, Zach Hagler, and Doug DeLaune will

meet with the Village employees to see if someone is interested in becoming an officer as part of their duties.

Discussion was also held on properties that need mowed. The Village charges \$75.00 to mow, using the Bobcat, and \$37.50 for a half hour. It was suggested that amount needs to be higher.

Cheryl Carson informed the Board that she spoke with Mike Harvey about starting a vehicle program. Harvey will talk to other Legion members about the idea.