

# The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2024

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

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## Grant Provides Shade Trees for ARA

Arnold seventh grader Jose Melendez, Jr. had the honor of helping Chas Berke of SunValley Landscaping plant the first of ten new trees at the Arnold Recreation Area on October 3. Melendez received the special invitation to assist Berke because of a prize-winning essay he wrote as a sixth grader.

His topic was on the need for shade trees at the park, and when he presented it to Rotary this past May, he learned that it was already in the works.

“(Jose) was very respectful and interested in the process,” said Arnold Tree Board member Mary Becker, who invited Melendez to help.

This is the second grant awarded to the Village of Arnold for new trees. Becker said the first was for residential areas within the Village, and the second was for ten free trees only at the ARA. Funding in the amount of \$4,534.89

to install a drip system, as well as planting, staking, and mulching, was approved by the Village Board at a special meeting held on September 30, and work immediately began.

The trees were all planted in the new campground area, and the drip system went in the following day. All work was done by SunValley Landscaping.

No two trees are alike. Not only will they provide shade, but also beautiful seasonal colors. Following are the ten varieties: Spring Snow Crab, Perfect Purple Crab, Rocky Mtn. Glow Maple, Emerald Lustre Maple, Bur Oak, Celtis Hackberry, Canada Red Chokecherry, Prairie Expedition Elm, and Jeronimus Cottonwood.

“These ten trees change the whole look of the new campground. It is amazing,” said Becker.

The ten free trees program is funded by the US Forest Service and the Nebraska Environmental Trust.



Jose Melendez, Jr. assists Chas Berke of SunValley Landscaping in planting a new tree in the new campground area at the Arnold Recreation Area on October 3. Ten new trees were planted at the ARA last Thursday - the result of a Nebraska Forest Service grant awarded to the Village of Arnold. - Courtesy photo

## Village Hires New Utility Employee

The position of utility employee was filled at a special Village Board meeting held on September 30. Eric Holmberg accepted the original offer made by board members at their September 23 special meeting, and started to work on October 1. Consideration of appointing Patricia Lamberty as interim project coordinator will be on the October 14 agenda.

## Wentworth Will Hold Book Signing

Nebraska author Tricia Wentworth will hold a book signing, Monday, October 21, at the Rialto Theatre from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. The event is being hosted by the A.H.S. Book Club and will include concessions.

Wentworth is the author of the award winning young adult “Culling” series. She is originally from small-town Nebraska, and after spending several years in the big city, returned to small town Nebraska resides there with her husband and three sons.

## Homecoming Royalty



Arnold seniors AJ Starr and Riata Remund were crowned Homecoming royalty at Callaway's field after Friday's varsity football game against Pleasanton. - Jessica Tickle photo

## Ballot Initiatives/Referendum Certified

Five initiatives and one referendum have been certified by Nebraska Secretary of State Bob Evnen for the 2024 General election ballot. Voters will decide on:

- #434 Protect Women and Children Constitutional Amendment
- #435 Private Education Scholarship Partial Referendum
- #436 Paid Sick Leave Initiative
- #437 Nebraska Medical Cannabis Patient Protection Initiative
- #438 Nebraska Medical Cannabis Regulation Initiative
- #439 Protect the Right

to Abortion Constitutional Amendment

These will be published in newspapers across the state beginning the week of October 14 for three consecutive weeks.

In a news release, Evnen said this is a record number of petition-initiated ballot measures on a Nebraska general election. Voters should take the time to review each measure before they step into the voting booth.

The first of two articles written by Paul Hammel detailing the six ballot initiatives Nebraska voters will consider appears on page 8 of this issue.

Important upcoming dates:

October 18 – Deadline to register to vote online (by midnight), by mail (postmarked by Oct. 18), at a state agency (DMV, DHHS, Dept. of Ed.), via deputy registrar or via personal agent.

October 25 – Deadline to register to vote at county election offices (by 6pm local time).

October 25 – Deadline to request an early voting application be mailed.

November 4 – Last day to vote early at a county election office.

## ROTH ID Tags Part of Upcoming AVFD Car Seat Inspection

The Arnold Volunteer Fire Department will be hosting a car seat inspection on Saturday, October 12, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at the Arnold Fire Hall. Certified Child Passenger Safety Tech, Sara Anger, from Merna, will be on location and will be doing the inspections. Arnold Fire Department members will be there to assist and hand out ROTH ID TAGS and see that the tags are put on properly.

Almost half of car restraints are used improperly, and the Arnold Volunteer Fire Department thinks it's important to offer this service to the community.

“The thing that really made us want to host an event like this, is coming across the use of ROTH ID TAGS,” said AVFD member Tammy Weinman.

ROTH ID Tags are a universal emergency contact

identification system. It is an information tag that can be affixed to any car seat used by an infant, young child or person under the care of a parent or guardian. In case of an emergency, the child can be identified quickly, and their emergency contact can be reached. Once the first responder locates the ROTH ID tag, the tag can be removed and placed on the child's wrist or ankle. This will insure the child will have proper identification on them with emergency contract information available if the child is separated from their parent or guardian.

The ROTH ID TAGS are made in the United States and the company is family owned and operated by the Roth family. The tags were created after tragedy struck their family.

Right now, the ROTH ID TAG company is doing

a giveaway worth over \$50,000 worth of ROTH ID TAGS to their Community Partners, who are registered for the giveaway. Arnold Volunteer Fire Department is a community partner and has registered for the contest. You can vote for Arnold Volunteer Fire Department by going to rothidtag.com and visit their Community Partner Grand Giveaway and vote for Arnold Volunteer Fire Department. They will be giving away 1 Platinum Prize Winner - 2500 Roth ID Tags (\$12,500), 2 Gold Prize Winners- 1500 Roth ID Tags (\$7500 value), 5 Silver Winners- 500 Roth ID Tags (\$3000 value), and 10 Bronze Prize Winners- 100 Roth ID Tags (\$1000 value).

If you have any questions, you can contact Tammy Weinman.

## Continued Training



Arnold EMTs Jane Lashley, Tammy Weinman, Cassy DeLosh, and Heather Hagler participated in the Escape the Burn Room class during the Flat Rock EMS Conference. - Courtesy photo

Four members of the Arnold Fire Department attended the last day of the Flat Rock EMS Conference held at Mid Plains Community College in North Platte on Sunday.

The highlight of the conference has been the

escape room the last two years. EMS providers test their knowledge and skill in a fast paced, scenario-based escape room. This year the scenario was based on a burn victim from an explosion.

Medical Incident within

an Incident, System of Care STEM/ Stroke Operations, and Communicating with the Communitatively Vulnerable were other classes that were attended.