

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2024

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120 (USPS 032480) SINGLE COPY: 75 CENTS VOLUME 108, NUMBER 19



Veterans Memorial Takes Shape

Arnold Legion and Sons of American Legion members pitched in to help pour the pad at the future site of the Veterans Memorial on land located at the intersection of Highways 92 and 40 on October 7. Pouring cement from the pad out to street for parking will be the next step, which could be as early as this week. Mike Harvey said depending on funding, the goal is to have the memorial stones and flags set in the spring of 2025. Information on how to donate to the memorial fund can be found on page 10. Another partial source of funding is coming from the Legion’s metal collection trailer located at Harvey’s shop, where all matter of metal is accepted. Legion is also seeking out people who are willing to donate their junk vehicles.

- Debbie Connelly photo

Up a Tree

Last Friday morning, the entire school was out at the Arnold Recreation Area to watch Principal Ali Goodenow climb a tree, eat her lunch perched on a limb, and like the proverbial cat rescue, watch the fire department drive in with the siren blaring to get her down.

The scene was the result of thousands of words being read by students in the 1st quarter Principal’s Challenge.

Sometimes it comes down to the wire, but so far, the kids have always met the annual challenge. Principals have found themselves sleeping on the roof of the school, plunging into the cold ARA lake, and being taped to a tree. Every year, someone dreams up a new situation to spur the kids on. This year’s schedule included lunch from the grill and some fun games – all at the ARA.

The school’s goal was for both elementary and high school kids to earn a total of 2,500 Accelerated Reader points by the end of the 1st quarter. With just one week to go, students were 300 points short of the goal. Then, with only one day to go, the total number had jumped to 3,161 points – that’s 950 points in just one week.

Librarian Debby Moninger said the elementary kids led the charge, working hard the entire quarter; the junior high and high school students had a slower start, but their numbers jumped quickly as they read larger books.

“I’m very proud of the number of students who have read to reach the goal, but it’s even more exciting to see the variety of books they are reading and hear them talking about their books,” she said.



Students chant, “Higher! Higher!” as Principal Ali Goodenow climbs a tree and settles in to eat lunch before being rescued - the result of kids meeting the annual Accelerated Reader Challenge in the 1st quarter. - Debbie Connelly photo

Fire Prevention: AVFD Gets the Word Out

Annual program presented around 2024 theme of making smoke alarms work for you

The National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®) announced “Smoke alarms: make them work for you!”™ as the official theme for Fire Prevention Week™, October 6-12, 2024, at the NFPA Conference & Expo® in Orlando, FL. This year’s focus on working smoke alarms comes in response to NFPA data, which shows that the majority of U.S. home fire deaths continue to occur in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.

“Smoke alarms can make a life-saving difference in a home fire, but they have to be working in order to deliver the needed protection,” said Lorraine Carli, vice president of the Outreach and Advocacy division at NFPA. “This year’s Fire Prevention Week campaign reinforces the critical importance of smoke alarms and what’s needed to install, test, and maintain them properly.”

Having working smoke

alarms in the home reduces the risk of dying in a home fire by more than half (54 percent). However, roughly three out of five fire deaths occur in homes with either no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms. More than one-third (38 percent) of home fire deaths result from fires in which no smoke alarms are present.

“People tend to remove smoke alarm batteries or dismantle them altogether when they don’t know how to fix the issue. These actions put them at serious risk in the event of a home fire,” said Carli. “This year’s Fire Prevention Week campaign gives people the tools and know-how to keep their smoke alarms in working order.”

Key messages for this year’s Fire Prevention Week theme, “Smoke alarms: Make them work for you!” include the following:

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside

each separate sleeping area (like a hallway), and on each level (including the basement) of the home.

- Make sure smoke alarms meet the needs of all family members, including those with sensory or physical disabilities.
- Test smoke alarms at least once a month by pushing the test button.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old or don’t respond when tested.

The Arnold Volunteer Fire Department presented this message to the students at Arnold Public School on Thursday, October 10. Fire department members that helped with the program were Andrew Tickle, April Tickle, Cassy DeLosh, Tammy Weinman, Heather Hagler and Jackie Meyer. The students were treated to fun fire prevention songs, videos, games and a special guest Sparky The Fire Dog.

Individual classes also

took turns touring the ambulance and fire truck. “We go up every year, and (the kids) never seem to get tired of seeing the equipment,” said AVFD member Tammy Weinman.

The winners of the AVFD’s annual 5th grade t-shirt contest were Kate Kulp and Emery Schacher. Their designs appear on the front and back of the t-shirt that is handed out to each student in the elementary school. The shirts were sponsored by the Arnold Volunteer Fire Department, Arnold Insurance, BrewBakers, Country Partners Coop, EN Ag Transport, First State Insurance, Homegrown Kids Daycare, Mills Hardware, Reed’s Food Center, RSS Ag, Touch of Grace Massage, and Weinman Land & Cattle. The students also received bags with fire prevention-themed gifts.



Arnold Fire Department member Cassy DeLosh gives a thumbs up to the annual 5th grade fire prevention t-shirt contest winners, Kate Kulp and Emery Schacher. Their designs appear on the front and back of the shirt that is handed out to all elementary students.- Courtesy photo