

# The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2024

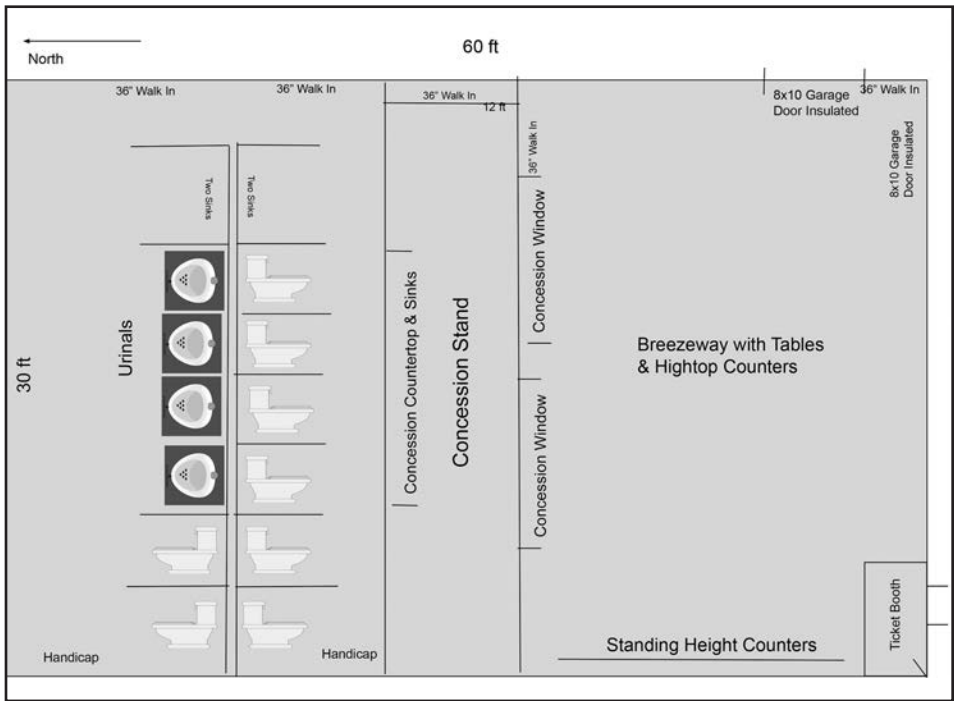
CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

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## School Board Approves Building New Concession Stand



(Above) A drawing of how the football field/track's new concession stand will be laid out. Plans are for the stand to be up and running by the first track meet of 2025.

## Forty-year-old model will become storage

The Arnold School Board approved building a new concession stand at the track at their regular meeting held on October 15. The 30'x60' building will be located to the south of the old concession stand, which will become storage.

The new stand will feature a ticket booth, covered concession windows, a breezeway with picnic tables and hightop counters, and handicap accessible men's and women's restrooms, and two 8x10 garage doors.

"The new concession stand will be way more accessible. It will open things up and make the experience better. People will be able to get out of the elements and stand and eat, and utilize the walk-in or the garage door areas. It will be bigger and more adequate for

electrical," said Superintendent Joel Morgan.

Funding for the \$130,000.00 project will come from the special building fund. No new levy dollars will be needed.

Mr. Morgan said that decisive decisions made by the building and grounds committee, and ultimately the Board, make both the school and community better. The decision on a new concession stand is a prime example.

"Arnold School has \$2.3 million in investments on the special building fund, and we're growing interest annually to help with projects like this," he said. "We want to be at the forefront. We want to be the hub as far as MNAC and other track invitations and the place where people want to go. If we're going to do some-

thing, we want to do it right. We've seen it time and time again. I think that's the way the Board has always been."

At the date of the meeting, the school expected dirt work for the building to begin in a couple of weeks and from there, concrete will be poured and the building will go up so that finish work can be done this winter. The goal is to have the concession stand up and running by the first track meet of 2025.

*Editor's note: The current concession stand was built in 1984. One of the big features of that new build were restrooms. Up to that point, concessions were served out of an old horse barn that was moved in from the old race track at the rodeo grounds south of town, and an outhouse was available "on the hill."*

## Board Authorizes Conditional Use Permit for New Business

A long list of agenda items was gone over at the Village Board's regular meeting on October 14.

At the request of the Arnold Planning Commission, the Board authorized a conditional use permit requested by Ned Pelster for property at 905 N Carroll Street. Under zoning regulations, the property can now be used as a storage and distribution point for crop protection inputs, with the condition that the permit has an expiration date of five years from the date that property ownership is secured. The current buildings will be made compliant with Nebraska Administrative Code Title 198 before operations begin. Future expansions can be made for larger containers, but would require additions of infrastructure to comply with Title 198.

A public hearing was held prior to the Board's unanimous vote. No comments were heard from the floor.

**AEDC Update**

In her update, Arnold Economic Development Director Cheryl Carson reported that the Nebraska Affordable Housing Trust Grant, which Arnold was participating in with CCEDC, was not

approved by the State of Nebraska. The AEDC is still waiting on the decision on the Walking Trail grant from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development. They originally expected to have a decision sometime in October.

She also reported that the Nebraska Department of Transportation has put the sidewalk by the bridge back in, and the sidewalk was extended.

She will be working with Kristi Dvorak to put the Comprehensive Plan and the Zoning Regulations on the website.

**Comments From the Floor**

Mike Harvey suggested that the meeting start with the Pledge of Allegiance since there is a flag in the meeting room. RT Green donated the flag and flagpole to the Village.

A resident asked about the status of the lots that need cleaned up, and if the attorney is sending out letters. The response was that the attorney is not sending out letters at this time, due to the fact that code enforcement/code enforcement officer was put on hold since the superintendent resigned.

RT Green asked about the status of camping cabins at the ARA project.

The Village had previously authorized Mike Harvey to proceed with the project, but Harvey said he originally spoke with Clay Mohr about having the shop kids build it, and there has been a change in school personnel since then.

A resident asked the question of who is responsible for filling in the holes that Great Plains Communications contractors have left. The resident said the holes are going to cause issues during snow removal.

**In other business, the Board:**

- Adopted a zoning ordinance and zoning map, establishing the boundaries of zoning districts, and voted to contract with Marvin Planning Consultants for zoning assistance.
- At the request of Legion members Mike Harvey and Don Olson, agreed to pay for the concrete from the pad to the street for the parking lot at the Veterans Memorial located at the intersection of Hwy. 92 and North Carroll. The cost will be approximately \$7,000.00. Legion will provide the labor.
- At the request of the Arnold Community Gun Club, voted to pay for the replacement of the con-

crete foundation/building foots on the east side of the gun club building and on the north side for ADA access. Village employee Eric Holmberg was authorized to assist with framing and smoothing the concrete after it is poured.

- Agreed to have Harvey Foran renew his Water and Wastewater Operator Certification; appointed Eric Holmberg as the designated operator in charge at the construction & demolition landfill, and Tory Edwards as backup designated operator.
- Heard that premiums for the Village's insurance for the 2024-2025 fiscal year will be \$87,321.00 – an increase of \$4,357.00. The decision was made to drop the coverage on the

fountains and the dolphin wave pool cleaner.

- In the monthly update, heard that employee Eric Holmberg did an inventory of the dumpsters and made a list of the ones that need repaired. Holmberg and Tory Edwards are in the process of trimming the trees in the alleys that are causing issues with the trash truck, and both are in the process of cleaning and organizing the shop.
- Directed Holmberg to install a solar light on the 800 block of Cedar Street due to an electric line for the street light going through two trees. Holmberg suggested it, because the trees would need to be extensively trimmed.

## Trunk or Treat is Today

Downtown will be blocked off today (October 24) for the annual Chamber-sponsored Trunk or Treat. Trunks will open at 3:30 p.m., and the costume contest starts at 4:00 at Koubek Gardens. Junior Chamber members will manning a caramel apple booth sponsored by First State Insurance, and Black Sheep Meats will be offering a meal for sale.

Taylor Snyder is chairman of the event.

## Firefighter 1 Class Starts Dec. 5

The Arnold Volunteer Fire Department will be hosting a Firefighter 1 class starting December 5, 2024, and ending around March, 2025. This is a blended learning class that is put on by the Nebraska State Fire Marshal Training Division (SFMTD). Book work and testing is done on the participant's own time online and hands-on training done in person with SFMTD.

If you would like to be part of the class, please contact Arnold Fire Chief Andrew Tickle at 308-529-1919.

## Red Kettle Campaign Coming to Town

The Custer County unit of the Salvation Army has received permission from the Arnold Village Board to use Koubek Gardens for their Red Kettle Campaign.

In his request to the Board, coordinator Philip Sloat said that currently, they have bell ringers at large Red Kettles in three locations in Broken Bow. They are still working out the details of expanding into Arnold on

Fridays and Saturdays and will need to recruit people in town to ring bells and take care of the large Red Kettle when it is not in use.

Ninety percent of all the money given to the campaign stays in Custer County. Salvation Army supports people in need and local communities in the county with many different projects and with support for schools and food pantries.



A crew from Kennedy Nursery & Landscaping finishes up planting a White Oak tree at the residence of Joan Schuster (pictured, right) last Friday morning. Joan, who purchased the first new duplex in town and is in the process of landscaping, was excited to be one of the recipients of a free tree made possible by a Forest Service grant awarded to the Village of Arnold. - Debbie Connelly photo

## Residents Receive New Trees

Several varieties of trees are breathing new life into the environment after Phase II of an on-going process was completed last week.

As last reported, a Forest Service grant of \$15,740.00 provided funding to remove ten trees and replace them in residential areas. After the trees were identified by the Arnold Tree Board and cut down, Kennedy Nursery & Landscaping was contracted to replant, stake and mulch. This was accomplished on October 17 and 18.

Following is a list of homeowners, locations, and type of trees that were planted. According to grant guidelines, all residential trees were planted in the front yard, with the owner agreeing to care for them.

Craig Furne, 713 Woodland Drive, White Oak.

Daryl Tickle, 509 North

Carroll, Greenstone Elm.

John Halstead, 204 North Walnut, Caddo Sugar Maple.

Joan Schuster, 304 South Walnut, White Oak.

Tory Edwards, 109 Jefferson, Triumph Elm.

Gene Tullis, 704 North Walnut, Shademaster Honeylocust.

Leann Edelman, 700 South Carroll, Heritage Oak.

Berni Crow, 500 block of North Walnut (site of little schoolhouse), Shademaster Honeylocust.

Eric Holmberg, 603 North Haskell, Caddo Sugar Maple.

Marvin Larsen, 408 North Haskell, Greenstone Elm.

Three more trees were planted at the Arnold Recreation Area. Two of the varieties were: Heritage Oak and Triumph Elm.