

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

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Preserving the Past

New storm windows added to long list of Finch Library’s completed projects



A contractor installs a new storm window over Finch Memorial Library’s original transom window. Once completed, the project will result in replacing all the building’s storm windows that date back to the 60s or 70s. - Jessica Tickle photo

By Janet Larreau

Replacing the old storm windows on Arnold’s now 100-year-old Finch Memorial Library building has been on the “to do” list for quite some time now. No one’s for sure, but the current storm windows date back to the late 60s or early 70s, and it goes without saying, were inefficient. There was also a great need to protect the original front transom windows that were uncovered during an interior project.

Grants from the Mid-Nebraska Community Foundation for \$500.00, the Arnold Community Foundation for \$8,814.38, and the Custer County Foundation for \$4,000.00 helped

fund the project.

With the money secured, work began this fall. The temporary outside coverings over the transom windows was removed, the window trim was scraped and repainted, and areas were re-caulked. Installation of the new Low E glass storm windows began a couple of weeks ago. The windows will not only protect and preserve the original 100-year-old wood and glass windows, but protect the interior woodwork and contents of the library as well.

Library Director Marcy Lucas said there was a hiccup in the process, when six of the windows for the front were sent back to be cleaned. The smaller windows were in-

stalled, and they’re waiting for the bigger windows to be returned and installed.

Any money remaining after the window project is completed will be used for repairing the interior wall surface of the basement.

AEDC Director Cheryl Carson, who applied for two of the grants under the AEDC’s non-profit status, said, “The library’s regular allocated yearly budget funds given to them by the Arnold Township is only enough to meet basic operating needs. They are not allotted enough to make necessary repairs and perform any major upkeep of the building. Therefore, the library board has had to

work hard to raise the money needed for repairs over the last several years. Since the Village of Arnold does not own the property, they cannot provide any funding to support it.”

Either through fundraising, memorials, grant opportunities, or volunteer hours, the following needed repairs have been addressed and completed:

- Tuck point exterior brick of entire building - \$27,350.00
- Replaced unsafe sidewalks - \$4,508.00
- Replacement of damaged Mexican pottery roof tiles and underlay - \$108,148.60
- Addition of gutters - \$4,673.00
- Removal of interior

drop ceilings (With the removal of the drop ceilings, the beautiful original woodwork, moldings, and arched transom windows above the entry and front windows was discovered intact.)

- Update of HVAC system (energy efficient)
- Replacement of old lighting to energy efficient lighting
- Replacement of non-working hot water tank with Tankless water heater system (energy efficient) - \$2,990.00
- Interior main level painting after drop ceilings were removed (donated labor)
- Repairs to the exterior lawn and grade and installation of sprinklers after the weight of heavy equipment during roof repairs destroyed the outside lawn and ground around the building - \$10,000.00

Finch Library was built in 1924 and is listed with the National Register of Historic Places.

Current Finch Memorial Library Board members are: Carlene Lanham, Pam Smith, Rose Bierman, Penny Allen, and Cindy Tullis.

Watch For Election Results Next Week

Due to the *Sentinel’s* print schedule, results of the November 5 General Election were not available by press time and will appear in the November 14 issue.

Attention Arnold Businesses

Sign up now to participate in AEDC’s new holiday shop-at-home promotion

The Arnold Economic Development Corporation (AEDC) will be sponsoring a new shop at home promotion and is asking businesses to sign up by November 15 to participate. This event will be funded through LB840 funds.

The promotion is intended to draw customers into every participating business, even if they aren’t retail. Participants will be able to pick up a card, and with enough stamps, will earn a chance to be in a drawing for Chamber Bucks.

If a business is retail, a minimal \$10.00 purchase will earn the customer a stamp on their card. If a business is not retail, they can indicate what the customer could do to earn a stamp, such as leave a donation to the food pantry or an organization that has an ongoing project. Businesses must be able to have someone available if a participant stops in to receive the stamp on their card.

Cards will be stamped through the month of December.

Businesses are asked to sign up by November 15 by either stopping in the AEDC office, or calling or texting Director Cheryl Carson at 308-520-1455.

One-Act Play Will Showcase Strong Female Talent

Arnold High’s one-act play schedule started last Saturday with the Gothenburg Festival and will continue into the month of December. The 2024 play is “Marching On,” the story of Nebraska native, Doris Stevens, who teams up with a group of young women to join the suffrage movement in 1912. Their efforts led to the ratification of the 19th Amendment, granting women the right to vote in America. These young women organized historic parades, took to the streets to protest, clashed with the President, and risked their lives in the name of women’s equality.

Head director Lana Cool, who with her co-directors and volunteers, has led Arnold to four consecutive state championships. She said this play was chosen specifically for this cast.

“We had a lot of girls in our cast and a lot of really strong, talented seniors, so I wanted to showcase all of the girls that we have,” said Cool. “With six or seven really strong female leads, this show allows that. We have girls that have been state champions the last three years. We have state champions in not only one-act, but speech as well, so we wanted their talents to shine.”

Residents will have the

chance to see the play at the community performance set for November 15 in the school’s auditorium.

Cast and crew members are:

Cast:

Doris Stevens – Ella Cool

Alice Paul – Danah Baldwin

Lucy Burns – Anna Tullis

Mable Vernon – Ivy Tullis

Ruza Wenclawska – Realta Leach

Inez Milholland – Madelyn Logsdon

Carrie Chapman Catt – Josie Christensen

Maud Park – Piper Strassburg

Anna Shaw – Adelei Tullis

Dudley Malone – Paxton Bierman

President Wilson – Luke Tullis

VP Marshall – Eli Rogers

Chief of Staff/Representative Burn – Hyden Myers

Virginia – Serenity Bohrah

Rosie Rae – EvaLynn Wonch

Lillian – Angel Mills

Francis – Josie Lehmkuhler

Ruth – Jade Bierman

Dorothy – Danielle Duponcheel

Elizabeth – Brook Bierman

Messenger – Walter Bierman

Crew:

Dolores Duponcheel, Eli

Hunt, Tylee Smith, Asher Evans, and Jami Lamphair – spotlight

Haydn Stretesky – lights

Summer Morash – sound

Jaden Baker – lights/sound

Rae Hagler and Sara Latieque – costumes, makeup

Alex Mills – set

A.H.S. One-Act Schedule:

November 9 - Ogallala Festival

November 15 - Community Performance @ Arnold

November 19 - MNAC Competition @ Arnold

December 3 - District Competition @ Hyannis

December 11 - (If qualify) State Competition @ Norfolk



Brook Bierman, Josie Christensen, Walter Bierman, Ella Cool, and in background, Sara Latieque, paint a prop for Arnold High’s one-act play set. After winning four consecutive state championships, the kids and their coaches are excited for the season. - Courtesy photo