

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2025

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120 (USPS 032480) SINGLE COPY: 75 CENTS VOLUME 108, NUMBER 46

“To the Stars”

Grades 6-12 students present spring concert

“To the Stars” was the theme of this year’s 7-12 grade spring music program. Director Tonya Welch put together a great program, showcasing the growth seen in the music department this year.

The 21-member Cardinal Chorale group, made up of students in grades 4-6, gave their second performance since forming this year, singing three songs. Sixth grade band members followed that performance, playing three songs.

The showcase highlighted the singing voices of EvaLynn Wonch, Adalei Tullis, Madelyn Logsdon, Eli Rogers, and Angel Mills. Rogers, who is a junior, entertained the crowd, singing “You’re Cheatin’ Heart,” adding some commentary along the way.

The 7-12 choir, which has grown to 25 members, performed five pieces, including “Ad Astra” (“To the Stars”).

The band, now growing to 39 members, performed four pieces, including “Celtic Air And Dance.”

The music department has had a great year, participating in MNAC Band & Choir, the Kearney Underclassmen Honor Band, the Doane Vocal Festival, North Platte 8th Grade Band, the Doane Fall Festival of Winds, UNK Honor Choir, Singing Youth of Nebraska, and the UNK Orchestra Festival.



Directed by Tonya Welch, 39 members of the 7-12 grade band performed four pieces at the annual spring program held on April 14. - Jessica Tickle photo

Village Board Hears Updates, Approves Requests

Arnold Village Board members approved collaborating with the Custer County Economic Development Corporation (CCEDC) to apply for funding to build a new home in Arnold at the Board’s April 14 meeting. The request came from Arnold Economic Development (AEDC) Director Cheryl Carson, who said the funding would come from the Nebraska Affordable Housing Trust Fund (NAHTF). If funding is approved, the money would be used for the construction of a new home on an AEDC-owned lot located at 702 N Broadway.

Tree Board Update

In her update, Arnold Tree Board member Mary Becker said the National Arbor Day Foundation recognized Arnold as a

Tree City USA for 2024. The tree board will collaborate with Arnold Public Schools for an Arbor Day Celebration on April 25 that will help Arnold to be eligible for the Tree City USA award in 2025.

At Becker’s request, board members adopted a proclamation designating April 25, 2025, as the day of celebration of Arbor Day in the Village of Arnold.

Carroll Street Courts

The board reviewed designs for the sign at Carroll Street Courts, choosing the design submitted by Taylor Hanna-Miles. Mary Becker then provided an update on the courts project. Arnold received a \$12,000.00 grant from the Arnold Community Foundation and a \$2,000.00 grant from SORC to help cover the cost of

the proposed new basketball, pickleball, and tennis court. Grant requests were sent to Mid-Nebraska Community Foundation and the Custer County Foundation, and the Village will be notified in May or June if the grants are awarded. Board member Donnell DeLosh mentioned that the area surrounding the courts will need to be beautified after construction of the court.

In other business, the Board:

- Voted to hire Tom Dennis and Ethan Furne as seasonal employees.
- Voted to hire Rusty Wyckoff as a backup on the weekends for trouble calls, mosquito spraying, and snow removal at \$23.00 an hour.
- Heard the monthly update from the clerk.

Clean-Up Day Is Monday

The school and local organizations will be “Making Arnold Shine” on Monday, April 28. Residents on the list will receive help with cleaning up, and Legion will be available to pick up all kinds of metal. A reminder that household hazardous waste is being accepted at the street shop at 120 S Broadway.



Discussion Continues on Code Enforcement

Board considers abatement option

The Arnold Board of Trustees discussed code enforcement and abatement of properties that are in violation of codes at their regular meeting held on April 14. Chairman Zach Hagler said that Dan Osmond conducted training with the code enforcement officers on April 10. The clerk said that village attorney Mike Borders is working on the warning and citation tickets. Members then passed Ordinance 489, creating a

violations bureau for the collection of penalties for non-moving traffic violations and other offenses as defined in the Arnold Municipal Code and to set the penalty amount for violations.

During discussion of nuisance abatement, Hagler said the code enforcement officers have compiled a list of properties that are in violation of two sections of the code. In consideration of contracting with West

Central Nebraska Development District (WCNDD) for nuisance abatement, he said, “I think it would be worth it to have a conversation with them. Even if we sent out letters and issued tickets, we wouldn’t have anyone to clean up the property,” he said.

The clerk said that she has contacted WCNDD, and they will do a presentation on nuisance abatement at the June 9 meeting.



Wheelbarrows Not Required

A patriotic wrapped pumper truck pulled up to the site of the Veterans Memorial the morning of April 14 to give Legion and Sons of American Legion members a big hand in pouring ten yards of cement for the flag poles. High schoolers Malachi Neth, Elijah Cool, and Wacey Schultz were brought to the site by industrial arts teacher Todd Phelps to watch how a pumper truck operates. Mike Harvey said the nine flags could be up by the end of this week.

- Debbie Connelly photo