

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

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Arnold School Board Holds First Community Engagement Meeting

About 40 community members, all school board members, and representatives from Wilkins Architecture Design Planning (ADP), BD Construction, and Northland Securities, filled the school's gym on Tuesday, May 20, for the first Community Engagement Meeting on the proposed facility project.

Superintendent Joel Morgan welcomed and introduced the panel to those in attendance. Morgan reviewed a timeline for the proposed project starting with identifying facility needs in March of 2024. Wilkins ADP then completed a facility assessment in June 2024, and the school board reviewed the assessment in October 2024. From November 2024 to January 2025, board members attended workshops to discuss facilities. In February, interviews were conducted to select a construction manager. The school board released their initial facility design in March. At the April meeting the board discussed a plan to engage the community in the decision making process. At this time, a Bond Election (mail-in-ballot) will take place September or October 2025.

Jacob Sertich, Managing Architect of Wilkins, discussed the current facility issues and needs, showing photos of outdated spaces. Sertich then presented the school's initial facility design, "Option E", which was printed in the March 20, 2025, issue of the *Arnold Sentinel*. Sertich showed renderings put together by Ben VanBrocklin, Architectural Designer of Wilkins. The renderings show different views of the potential facility from all directions and a bird's-eye view. To view these images you can visit the school's website: arnoldpublicschool.org

Austin Larson, Construction Operations Director/Estimator with BD Construction Inc., presented the "ALL IN" cost of the project. The \$24.7 million project includes hard construction costs, design and engineering fees, bond issuance fees, and contingencies.

Superintendent Morgan and Toben Buchanan with Northland Securities, together, talked through the district financials.

See Community Engagement Meeting page 5.



Arnold alumni gathered at the school's gym last Saturday for the annual banquet and program with 250 enjoying a sous vide beef dinner served by the Weinman family, and more showing up for the program. - Jessica Tickle photo

A.H.S. Alumni Reunite Over Long Weekend

By Darlene Rimpley

Alumni: an organization of members who belong to the group.

High school alumni: members who graduated from a named school.

Arnold High alumni: WOW! There is no definition to describe the Arnold High Alumni! Especially the AHS gathering, which was the event held on Saturday night, May 24.

Words cannot describe the fun which took place

over the long weekend, beginning with a class get-together on Friday night and going through a breakfast gathering on Sunday morning.

To start with, the Class of 2005 had a cookout on Friday night and then bright and early on Saturday, well 9:00 a.m., the Class of 75 went back 50 years, as they gathered at the gamble store, made their way to the Spargos building, meander down the street to the Jamison clothing store, across the

street to the Model Café, over a block or so to the lumber yard, and back to Archie's Café. Ah-h-h the memories.

Gatherings on Saturday afternoon for the remainder of the classes and then onto something new - a social hour preceding the meal, and the tongues were busy as greetings were passed around.

A delicious meal prepared by Jean Weinman Thunker '73 was enjoyed. The Weinman clan furnished the meat for the

meal, as well as serving it. Thank you, Weinmans.

Then it was time for the program. Cheryl Mills Uhrmacher '72, the 2025 Alumni President, introduced the Master of Ceremonies John Rosentrater '77. The audience stood in awe as Arnold High School's drum line led in the color guard carrying military flags.

During the memorial, John Phillips read the names of alumni who

See Alumni page 5.

Memorial Day REMEMBER & HONOR



Last Friday the Junior Honor Society, Legion and Auxiliary members, and volunteers decorated the graves of veterans with flags and crosses with poppies as a way to honor their service. Pictured above are JHS members Jeremiah Morgan and Jaxsen Schacher.



Memorial Day services were moved to the Baptist Church due to inclement weather. Sgt. Gary Halstead gave the address and spoke about five unique, extraordinary individuals, with the fifth being an organization, the United States Army (The Gulf War), who have served our country.



Furne Wins Silver Medal at State Track Meet

Senior Ethan Furne was the runner-up in the Class C boys long jump at the 2025 NSAA state track and field championships held at Burke Stadium on May 23 and 24. Ethan jumped 22' 6" for a personal best, a new school record, and was just a half inch short of winning the gold.

For a full state recap please turn to page 4 of this issue.

- Leta Connell photo



On May 15, Palmer Monument Company of Broken Bow delivered the Arnold Veteran Memorial's main wall with the columns and service emblems. It reads: To honor the men and women who have served the armed forces of the United States of America and to inspire those yet to serve - All gave some. Some gave all. - Debbie Connolly photos

Donation Made to Veterans Memorial

Mark Mastropasqua of Turtle Lake, North Dakota, was in the area turkey hunting a few weeks back when Arnold's on-going Veterans Memorial project caught his attention.

After asking around, he was given Project Coordinator Mike Harvey's contact information. Last week, Mike received

the following letter in the mail:

Mike, I would like to make this donation to remember those that gave everything to keep the USA free.

It's a beautiful memorial.

Respectfully,
Mark Mastropasqua