

The Arnold Sentinel

"Serving the South Loup River Valley"

THURSDAY, JULY 31, 2025

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

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SORC Documents 25 Years of Racing

Hard-bound souvenir book goes on sale end of July

"The history of the Sand- compile and design. The with current records. hills Open Road Challenge (SORC) is complex. It is about one man's dream and key players who came alongside to develop what is now known as the most challenging road race in America. It took a vision. It took a community. It took drivers and camaraderie. It took permission from the Custer County Board of Supervisors. It took landowner permission. It took at least 11 fire trucks and three ambulances from area volunteer fire departments. It took two crop-dusting planes capable of dropping water. It took a \$4,500 insurance premium for a two million dollar policy. It took 100 trainable volunteers. It took all of this and more to make the first race possible..."

The above introduction tration/check-in, to the much anticipated Sandhills Open Road Challenge 25th anniversary souvenir book gives readers just a glimpse of what's to follow in the 102page hard-bound cover book that took months to feature of four drivers

book will be on sale by this week's SORC event.

The research involved in documenting every aspect of 25 years of racing in Arnold was no easy task. "It's got everything," said Kristi Dvorak of KD Agency, who designed the ries from 2001-2025 book while working with a group of dedicated volunteers.

Following is a highlight of a few things included ers in the book:

- SORC's history, including memories from Joe Shown, Don Olson, and **Gary Patterson**

- Photos and top results from the inaugural event

- Interviews with drivers who have participated for 24 years

- How SORC put together several aspects of race First State Insurance for week, including registech, numbering, timing and scoring, housing, and preparing volunteers

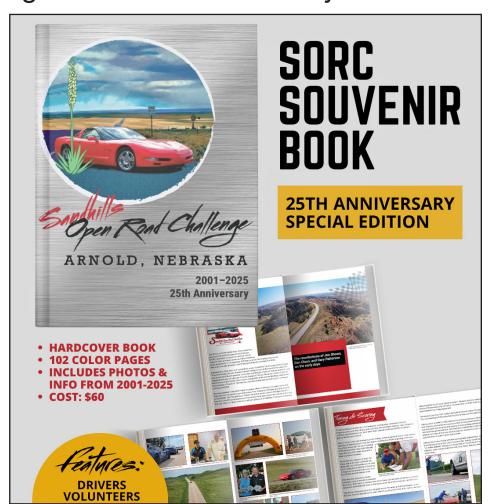
- A look back at the Thedford Grudge Match in 2008 formation, e-mail: info@ - Loup 2 Loup

- Shootout, including a Becky Dailey.

- Friday afternoon events
- Saturday's race - Saturday's barbecue
- and awards - A list of sponsors who have supported SORC
- since the beginning - Photo gallery of memo-
- A list of the 650 drivers who have participated to
- date - Lifetime number hold-
- Volunteers, including the safety crews
- A recount of how the Winter Party began by **Bruce Younglove**

- Projects and organizations SORC has supported with the proceeds

available Books are to reserve or purchase from Becky Dailey at \$60 each and at the Arnold Community Center during SORC registration. A copy can also be mailed (shipping charges will apply). For more insorcrace com or contact



The Sandhills Open Road Challenge has been promoting its 25th anniversary special edition souvenir book as part of the big celebration planned for August 7-9.

SORC Estimates \$1.75 Million of Proceeds Donated to Area Since Inception

reprinted with permission Road Challenge 2025 souvenir book:

The Road Challenge (SORC) has made a significant impact on Arnold and the surrounding communities since its inception in 2001. The support from landowners. volunteers. sponsors, board members,

The following article is and rescue personnel has This has elevated the care Arnold Cemetery, Arnold been vital in driving the from the Sandhills Open success of each event. Not only does the local economy receive a tremendous Sandhills Open boost during race week, but SORC has enriched the area by donating approximately \$1.75 million of its proceeds.

> Examples of SORC's donations include:

Over \$355,000 to the Arnold Volunteer Fire & host homes, drivers, navi- Rescue Department and gators, and volunteer fire other area departments. ter, Arnold Food Pantry,

they provide and allows them to tackle emergencies more efficiently with the purchase of equipment such as Jaws of Life, a John Deere Gator, a command vehicle, 12 Lead ECG, and bunker gear.

been contributed to Arnold community projects and organizations, including Arnold Chamber, Arnold Community Cen-

Golf Association, Finch Memorial Library, Rialto Theater, Riverview Apartments. Arnold Area Historical Museum, Arnold Veteran's Memorial, 4th of July community fireworks, Operation Christ-More than \$441,000 has mas Child, and various vouth groups.

donated to Arnold Public Schools for timing See SORC DONATIONS,

page 10.

Senator Storer Will Be In Arnold Today Senator Storer will be in Arnold on Thursday, July

31, and invites constituents to join her for a meet and greet at BrewBakers from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. This informal event offers community members a chance to meet the Senator, hear about the recent legislative session, and share any questions or concerns.

In the evening, Senator Storer will be speaking at the Arnold Rotary Club meeting at 6:30 p.m.

New School Census

Arnold Public Schools pared to 223 in the last Over \$213,000 has been has released its 2025 census report of the number the district. The current total is 220 children, com-

The district count broken of children ages 5-18 in down includes 196 chil-See SCHOOL CENSUS, page

Weekly Farmers Market Is Booming

Arnold's Farmers Market was in full swing on July 24, filling up the east side of South Walnut Street. Twelve vendors were offering garden vegetables, baked goods, jewelry, honey, craft items, and bath salts. The farmers markets are held every Thursday morning through September.

