

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

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CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

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Using a boom truck, Palmer Monument workers lift an almost 5,000 lbs. engraved monument off the truck bed at the site of the Arnold Veterans Memorial. - Debbie Connelly photos



Veteran Mike Harvey is tickled to point out his name on a monument.

Stones Set at Vets Memorial

There was excitement in the air last Wednesday, October 8, as Palmer Monument arrived at the site of the Arnold Veterans Memorial to place five granite stones in a circular pattern around the center black granite memorial.

It was the moment Mike Harvey had been anticipating since the foundation for the memorial was poured almost one year ago to the day. Once the monuments were set in place, he, along with other Legion members, wasted no time in finding their names among the 511 veterans names listed on four of the five stones. Mike pointed out that there are 511 names listed on each of the four stones and the fifth is blank, leaving plenty of room for more names to be added. Future names will be engraved on-site.

“The project is nearing completion. All we’re waiting for now is the electrician to wire the lights,” said Mike, who chaired the project from the beginning.

Bringing Palmer Monu-

ment’s boom truck to set the around 5,000 lb. each stones were Shane Kelly and Trent Keezer – the same men who set the center monument.

“We were very fortunate to be a part of this,” said Shane. “Doing a project of this size is pretty rare. It’s pretty neat, especially in a small town because everyone knows the names. It keeps you motivated to do a good job. Mike and all of the people involved made the task much easier.”

In front of each of the five monuments is a decorative concrete star. This work was done by Billy Hulse.

“I heard word for plans for a vets memorial when I was working on Don Olson’s patio,” said Billy. “I told Don, ‘Let me know, I want to be involved!’ I got together with Don and Mike, and before I knew it, I was part of it.”

Billy, who took decorative concrete classes several years ago, came up with the star design. He said the next step in the decorative concrete application will be the pinnacle of it all - a 14’x20’ de-



Palmer Monument workers Shane Kelly and Trent Keezer, with help from Mike Harvey, set a monument in place. Also pictured are decorative concrete stars that have been applied in front of each wall of names.

sign in front of the center marker. As of last week, the design was yet to be decided.

“It depends on the weather when it will be done. If it’s nice, my goal is Veterans Day. If not then,

Memorial Day 2026. I’m proud that I’m a part of it. I’m a patriot,” he said.

Mike was in charge of gathering all of the names for the markers, and he apologizes if any name has been missed. Contact

him at 308-530-1065 if one has been missed or if you would like to add a name.

“Quite a few people have been pulling in and taking pictures and sending them to family members. One lady said she didn’t

have anything from her dad’s service years. She is tickled to death that his name is on it,” said Mike.

Is Cassy Scary?

Kids ‘charge into fire safety’ at annual program



Arnold pre-K through 1st grade kids were being asked, “Is Cassy scary?” as Cassy DeLosh got into full gear and crawled toward her son, Dekker, during AVFD’s annual fire safety program held at the fire hall. This part of the session focused on getting down low during a fire and not being afraid of a fireman in full gear and what their voice sounds like with their mask on. Turn to page 5 for a full report on the day. - Debbie Connelly photo

Arnold Residents Receive CEDC Awards

BROKEN BOW, NE - The Custer Economic Development Corporation (CEDC) celebrated another successful year of building community at the annual CEDC Member Appreciation Picnic and Awards Ceremony on Sunday, October 5.

Several awards were presented to area citizens and businesses recognizing their ongoing commitment to the betterment of the Custer County area community.

The CEDC Wheelhorse Award recognizes an area citizen who represents a steadfast and driving force in shaping the community.

In announcing Chris Smith as this year’s CEDC Wheelhorse recipient, CEDC Executive Director Scotti Ross stated it

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Dahlia Valley Ranch owner Lisa Nelson of Arnold (pictured with CEDC president Jami Anderson) was the recipient of the Custer Economic Development Corporation Ag Innovator award for 2025. - Photo courtesy of Custer County Chief