

Best Wishes for the Holidays
and In the New Year

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2025

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

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Fate of Gun Club Will Be Discussed at Jan. Meeting

Discussion was held on insurance for the gun range building. The quote for the building and liability is \$1,622.57. This gives the Village liability coverage as the owner of the building, but it doesn't give the Village liability coverage for the shooting range. The gun club would have to get their own liability coverage at a cost of \$858.00. Cheryl Carson said that the dilemma is that the memberships have decreased from 32 households to currently 17 households that pay

dues to the gun club, and the club would not have enough revenue to pay the insurance, utilities, and repairs on the building. During discussion, it was noted that since the Village owns the building, that it could help with that cost. The club is looking at sustainability and whether it is feasible to keep it open. The quote for the gun range building and liability and whether it is feasible for the club to keep it open will be further discussed at the January 12 meeting.

The Arnold Village Board of Trustees reorganized at their regular meeting held on December 8. The acting chairperson, Patricia Lamberty, called for nominations for the election of a chairman. Moved by DeLosh and seconded by Snyder that Zach Hagler be elected chairman. The full council voted aye, and the acting chairperson surrendered the chair.

Chairman Hagler appointed the trustees to the following committees:

General (Community Center, Parks, & Swimming Pool) - Donnell DeLosh and Jason Jenkins
Streets - Glen Bowers and Donnell DeLosh
Water & Sewer - Glen Bowers and Zach Hagler
Electric - Jason Jenkins and Austin Snyder
Solid Waste - Zach Hagler and Austin Snyder
The following appointments were made from January 1, 2026, to December 31, 2026: Village Attorney - Mike Borders; Village Clerk/Treasurer - Patty Lamberty; Village Engineer/Street Superintendent - Consultant Thomas C. Werblow.

The Arnold Sentinel

was designated as the official newspaper for publication of all the Village business. Pinnacle Bank was designated as the depository for all of the Village business.

Chairman Zach Hagler appointed Glen Bowers as the village representative to the AEDC, and Donnell DeLosh as the alternate village representative.

Patricia Lamberty said the term of Kathy Halstead on the Citizen Advisory Committee expires this month, and Halstead does not want to be reappointed. At that time, Jessica Fletcher was appointed to take her place for a term of four years. Glen Bowers volunteered to be the ex-officio member of the committee.

Aaron Coleman, whose term on the Housing Authority Board expires in December, was reappointed to that board for a term of five years.

The terms of Becky Dailey, Gary Larreau, and Peg Scott on the Planning Commission expire this month. Dailey, Larreau, and Scott were all three reappointed for a term of three years.

Chairman Zach Hagler, Village Superintendent Eric Holmberg, and Amanda Wehnes were appointed to the Board of Holmberg's salary by \$1.00 per hour since he passed the Wastewater Operator Certification exam.

In other business:
In her update, AEDC Director Cheryl Carlson said that T.C. Engineering is working on the cost estimates for Phase 1 of the Downtown Sidewalk Project.

Board members considered The Exchange's Managers Application to the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission, and voted to approve the application of Lori Stutzman as manager.

After consideration of two quotes for a snow pusher, the Board accepted the quote from C & I Equipment in the amount of \$4,700.00.

In the monthly update, Board members were informed that CPPD will

change out the regulator and fix the hotspots on December 9. Employees sewer jetted Woodland Drive, North Cedar, and North Broadway, put up a snow fence, and organized the poles and piles at Old Mill Park.

Board member Donnell DeLosh mentioned that the Village should consider cutting down the cedar trees at the construction & demolition site. This will be further discussed at a budget workshop.

The village clerk reported that the Planning Commission held public hearings on November 24. By a vote of three yes, 1 no, and 1 absent, the commission recommends that the village board consider changing the minimum square feet living/livable floor area from 1,200 square feet to 900 square feet, and to consider (by a vote of 4 yes, 0 no, and absent 1), deleting bed and breakfast as a permitted principal use and structure in the C-1 Central Business District. Public hearings for the Village Board will be held on Monday, January 12.

2025: The Year In Review

Editor's note: This week, we look back on what made the news in 2025. It was a busy year for the community, as events and celebrations were held, projects were started and completed, and money was raised to keep this progressive community moving forward. The town celebrated births and mourned the deaths of people we knew and loved, and helped those in need.

Read on for who and what made the front page in the year that is soon coming to close...

JANUARY

A-1 Auto announced that Darci Barnes was the winner in their car give-away.

Twenty dead or dying trees were being removed from the Arnold Recreation Area - a project of the Arnold Tree Board.

January 14 marked 100

years since the final move

was made into Finch Me-

orial Library and it

began serving area resi-

dents.

Fourteen customers in the Village of Arnold received some financial help with their January utility bill, thanks to a grant from the Roy and Gloria Dinsdale Foundation through the Arnold Rotary Club.

A former Colorado couple - Nike and Hannah Vassios and their kids - were a featured family. They established Long View Pastures west of town and were raising happy, healthy chickens.

Four businesses - Oak-

brook Physical Therapy,

Echo Financial, Pinnacle

Bank, and First State In-

surance - collected dona-

tions for a worthy cause

through the 2024 Arnold

Passport Program, result-

ing in over \$1,000.00 going

into the community.

Arnold Public School's

board and administration

met with an architect on

design options for a major

improvement to the facil-

ity.

Winners were drawn in the Arnold Passport Holiday 2024 Edition, an

AEDC-sponsored shop-at-home promotion.

Professional movie buyer Joe Garel from L.A. was making life easier for Rialto Theatre volunteer

Mary Becker, taking over

the hard job of selecting

and booking movies.

The Arnold Volunteer Fire Department was hosting Fire Fighter 1 classes in Arnold, put on by the Nebraska State Fire Marshal's Training Division.

FEBRUARY

Arnold School's green-

house was officially in

production, providing

food for the school's cafeteria.

Dena Mills was elected

to serve as Arnold Cham-

ber's president, with Taylour Snyder elected vice-president.

About a dozen communi-

ty members were in atten-

dance at a special school

board meeting to discuss

facility needs and poten-

tial construction design.

Macy Koubek was cele-

brating the one-year an-

niversary of her home-

based business, Blissful

Bites.

Margie McDowell an-

nounced that she would

be unplugging her ma-

chines and retiring from

her long-time business,

The Quiltmaker/Mrs.

Mac's Monogramming.

Village Board members

made a solid plan for code

enforcement, creating a

code enforcement officer

according to Nebraska

statutes.

Village board members

Glen Bowers and Donnell

DeLosh met with Arnold

Tree Board members to

decide on four priorities

for the Arnold Recreation

Area that would help

guide the tree board on

writing grants.

The Arnold Township

Board established an Arn-

old Cemetery Board to

enhance the upkeep and

management of the cem-
etery.

A.H.S. senior Danah Baldwin had the rare opportunity to sing the national anthem at the Nebraska State Wrestling Meet.

Dawson Mason went into

the finals at the Nebraska

State Wrestling Meet - a

first for the South Loup

Bobcats.

MARCH

Seven teams competed in Chamber's 36th Annual Chili Cook-Off, with J & V Firearms winning first place.

At the end of February, fire crews and agencies were making significant progress in controlling what was now called the Custer County Complex Fires.

At their regular meeting in February, the school board approved the Construction Manager at

See Year In Review,

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From September 2024 and into 2025, The Sentinel tracked the progress of the Veterans Memorial project, phase by phase, until Legion and the community celebrated its completion in October.

- Debbie Connelly photo



SORC founder Joe Shown signs a copy of the SORC Souvenir book for a young fan. The 25th anniversary special edition full color book was published as part of the event's big celebration in August. - Kristi Dvorak photo