

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 2017

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

(USPS 032480)

SINGLE COPY: 50 CENTS

VOLUME 100, NUMBER 29



The Custer County Foundation Board of Directors gather before the gala. Left to right: Brett Eggleston, Micky Schneider, Julianna Jenkins, Craig Safranek, Deb Girardin, Mary Beshaler, Jami Anderson, Alicia Hermsmeyer, Lindsay Divan, Lynda Tincher, Chris Smith, Karen Evans, Russ Rice, Guy Mills, Jr. and Jeff Denson.

Cemetery Wreath Program Featured on Nebraska Rural Living Website

The Arnold Cemetery Wreath project was featured in December's *Nebraska Rural Living*—an online resource for stories about the reality of life in rural Nebraska versus the picture presented by the media.

Kristi Dvorak, who is the creator of the Arnold Cemetery website and wreath program, said she was pitching some story ideas to Betty Sayers of *Nebraska Rural Living* when Betty asked if she had any ideas for a December Christmas story for their “Rural Success Stories” section. Kristi said she naturally thought of the wreath program. Sayers was intrigued with the story idea, so Kristi wrote and submitted a story for publication.

The story was posted on NebraskaRuralLiving.com on December 6 and was featured in their monthly email to their subscribers. Shortly after, the story was picked up by NTV for *Good Morning Nebraska*.

The “Arnold Cemetery Wreath Program” story had more views in the ten days it was live on the site than any other Rural Success story posted in 2016.

“The story delights me and warms my heart and inspires me even more to love towns under 10,000 in Nebraska,” said Sayers.

Anyone may go to their website to subscribe to the monthly email featuring rural Nebraska communities and successful entrepreneurs. Kristi has been working with Betty to plan additional stories that include the Arnold area in 2017.

To link to the wreath program story go to: <http://nebraskaruralliving.com/arnold-cemetery-wreath-program/>

Calling All Babies of 2016

The Arnold Sentinel will be featuring babies born in 2016 in an upcoming issue. Please submit photos and information, including baby's name, birthdate, parents and grandparents name by emailing arnoldsentinel@gpcom.net, mail to PO Box 136, Arnold NE 69120 or stop in at the office.

The feature is open to all of our readers no matter where you live. Deadline to submit photos is January 18.

Pancake Supper Rescheduled

The pancake supper for Cole and Jenny Leach that was postponed due to bad weather has been rescheduled for Sunday, January 8, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Baptist Church. There will be entertainment throughout the evening.

Cole and Jenny are directors of Homeward Trail Bible Camp. There will be a free will offering to help fund the camp.

Custer County Foundation Raises Over \$122,000 at 12th Annual Gala & Auction

The Custer County Foundation held its 12th Annual Gala & Auction on Saturday, December 10, at the One Box Convention Center in Broken Bow. By raising over \$122,000.00, the evening was deemed a success. The foundation sincerely appreciates the generosity of the many businesses and individuals throughout Custer County. Thank you for making it possible to have a successful event!

The theme this year was “Unlock the Magic of the Season.” Magician Jerod

Cernousek from Holdrege entertained the guests in attendance by performing magic tricks tableside and on stage.

As guests arrived they had the opportunity to purchase keys for \$10.00 each. After all keys were sold, guests tried to unlock one of three gift boxes containing cash prizes donated by Muddy Creek Ag (\$250.00), Arrow Aviation, Inc. (\$500.00), and the Custer County Foundation Board of Directors (\$1,000.00). Dave Belina won the \$250.00, Peg Keller won the \$500.00, and

Kent Leibhart unlocked the gift box containing \$1,000.00.

Other highlights of the evening included the ever popular “Heads or Tails” game. For \$10.00/necklace guests had the opportunity to win \$500.00 cash by simply choosing either “heads” or “tails” at the toss of a coin. Kathy Eberle beat out the competition and was the lucky winner of the \$500.00.

Karen Smith was the lucky winner of the beautiful vintage dancing diamond 14k

white gold necklace donated by Sargent Irrigation Company.

The evening would not have been complete without the drawing for the Polaris Ranger Side by Side sponsored by Ag-Land ATV and Custer County Foundation Ag Boosters. And the winner was... Cindy Duncan of Broken Bow.

Proceeds from the evening will be incorporated into the funds of the foundation and returned to Custer County in the form of grants for charitable organizations and

scholarships for non-traditional students.

The Custer County Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit, tax exempt organization that was created in 1991 to promote charitable giving for the good of the communities of Custer County. The steady growth of the Foundation is driven by donors' generosity, ideas and beliefs that the Custer County Foundation can make a difference in the lives of the people who live and work in Custer County. The foundation exists because of people who have a desire to give back to the community where they lived, prospered, worked and played.

Incentive Parties a Win-Win For Arnold Students

By Leta Connell

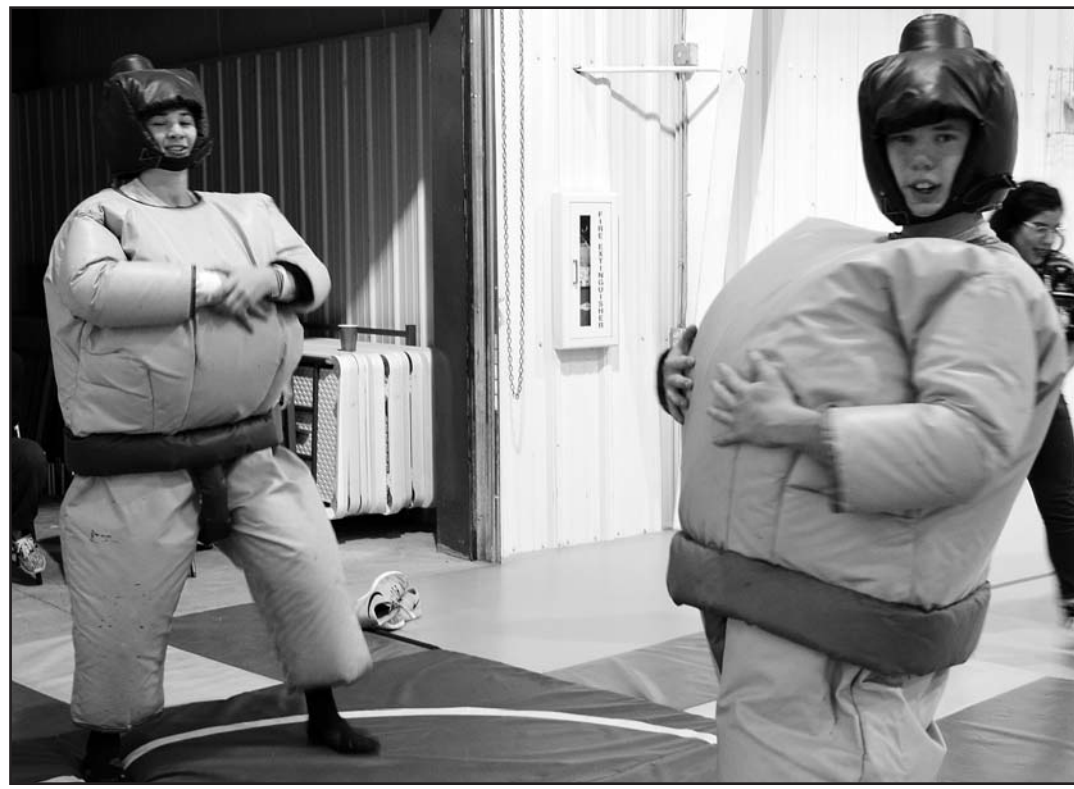
The end of every quarter in Arnold Public Schools means incentive party time for qualified junior high and high school students. This is the fifth year of celebrating Arnold students for their hard work and dedication each quarter.

Second quarter selections came in the form of a talent show featuring “Arnold's Got Talent” for the junior high grades 6-8. The high school (grades 9-12) bounced around and into each other with bubble soccer and sumo wrestling.

To be able to attend, junior high students must have good grades and their planner must be filled out and signed weekly by their teachers. The high school students must also have good grades, but regular attendance is their other requirement to attend the incentive party.

While the requirements are a little different between junior high and high school students, the results are always the same with lots of smiles, laughs and tons of fun had by all.

In the beginning the incentive party included 6-12 grades, but is now divided between junior high and high school. Dr. Lewis was initially in charge of planning the party activities for each group. The Arnold PTA and many other community members have willingly stepped in to help out over the last three years. The incentive parties have become a huge favorite among students. It is always a win-win situation when you couple academics and responsibility with goals, rewards and fun. Stay tuned and watch your *Arnold Sentinel* to see what the third quarter party brings.



High schoolers Grant Jones and Cooper Taylor compete in sumo wrestling at the second quarter incentive party.



Competition judges for the second quarter incentive party (from left) Mike Nelson, Dylan Nelson, Lana Cool and Dawn Lewis. (Courtesy photos)



Cecilia Wonch quickly sketches Santa's face as a competitor in the incentive party talent show.