

# The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

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CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

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(From left) Gordon Block of Sterling West, Cheryl Carson and Brandi Corbin show the new bucket swings for the city park that Brandi won in a giveaway sponsored by Sterling West of Gothenburg. (Fallon Gibson photos)



(From left) Cheryl Carson, Gordon Block of Sterling West and Becky Dailey are shown with just two of the new bright blue benches and tables that were purchased with donated funds and unloaded at the city park on Monday morning.

## Annual River Battle is This Saturday

The 7th Annual Arnold River Battle is set for this Saturday, July 15, at Hidden Valley Campgrounds. A cook-out and registration will start at 12:00 noon. The cook-out is open to the public, with proceeds going to Hidden Valley.

There will be two categories: Adult (18 or older) and Youth (18 and under). The river battle is a timed event, and it's up to participants how fast or slow they go. Adults can compete in canoes, kayaks and tubes. Youth may bring kayaks and tubes, and must have a waiver signed by a legal guardian.

For more detailed information on the river battle, and how to register, please see the advertisement on page 6.

## Early Deadline Notice

Due to staff being out of the office this coming Monday, the deadline for all news and advertising for the July 20 issue will be this Friday, July 14, at noon. Any items turned in after noon will be included in the July 27 issue.

## 4-H Council Meeting Scheduled

The Custer County 4-H Council will meet on Monday, July 17, 8:00 p.m. at the 4-H Building in Broken Bow. A meeting agenda will be posted at the Custer County Courthouse and Nebraska State Bank, in Broken Bow, after July 10. The business meeting is open to the public.

## City Park Gets Updates

On April 14, Arnold Economic Development posted a call to action on their Facebook page, asking Arnold residents to enter a giveaway for two bucket swing set seats given by Sterling West of Gothenburg. (Incidentally, this company is who Sandy Hicks, the previous AEDC director, worked with on the purchase of playground equipment.) All that was needed to enter the giveaway was to share the Facebook post, like their page and enter Arnold City Park as the location they would like to see receive the seats. The community with the most entries would then advance in the drawing, and from the advanced stage, one community member's name would be picked. Arnold came through with the most entries,

and Brandi Corbin's name was picked!

In the meantime, Cheryl Carson, AEDC director, was hearing input from parents and community members about the condition of the merry-go-round, how it would be nice to add another set of toddler swings to the park and maybe some other playground equipment.

Carson said, "There are several factors to consider which shows we should continue to make improvements to the city park. Arnold has many young families with children. Homegrown Kids Childcare also takes children who they care for to play at the park, and grandparents take their grandchildren to play there. It's an area visitors' stop. Families

have reunions there, and our community gathers for events. From this, came the idea to begin gathering estimates to replace the tired, worn out equipment, search for funding, gather supporters and ultimately present the idea to the village board and the community of Arnold."

At the same time, Becky Dailey had an idea and attended the May 8 village board meeting to ask for consideration. Since there has been a need at the Arnold Recreation Area to add more tables for use by park visitors, Becky introduced the idea of purchasing new tables for the city park, as well as some new benches. With the possibility of purchasing new tables and benches, this would allow for the potential of mov-

ing the older tables located at the city park out to the recreation area, which would meet the need of additional tables there. By purchasing new tables and benches for the city park, they would complement the new playground equipment installed a few years ago, as well as be easier to use and move around. The village board was supportive of Becky's request and gave her the approval needed to move forward with the project.

Cheryl and Becky have combined their ideas together into one project to make improvements to the city park. Cheryl was already in contact with Sterling West on playground equipment and asked them about pricing for Becky's tables and benches. Becky picked out the color and style of tables, pricing results came back, and

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Organizers of the Devil's Den Bike Rally pose with a hand carved wooden rally mascot last weekend. The donated piece, along with several other items, were auctioned off for charities. Pictured are: (front, l-r) Heather Hagler, Berni Crow, Tammy Weinman and Kendra Nelson; (back, l-r) Mike Nelson Zach Hagler, Dave Crow, Kevin Edwards, and Darren Weinman. (Tammy Weinman photo)

## Bike Rally Has Best Year Yet

By Jasmine Nelson for *The Arnold Sentinel*

With its most successful year yet, the Devil's Den Motorcycle Rally had 174 bikers from across the state participate in the annual poker run and show & shine on July 7 and 8. In its sixth year running, the event changed locations. For the past two years, the rally has been at the community center for the majority of the weekend; however, president Mike Nelson and team decided to move the Saturday night concert event to the Arnold Recreation Area, giving it a more open and inviting feel.

"We decided to move (to the recreation area) because there would be a lot more room for everyone to just relax. It also gave bikers a place to stay during the weekend that was easier for them to get to, all the while enjoying the shade and

the lake," said Nelson.

The rally officially kicked off on Friday, July 7, with a free concert by "Swymbirds" and "Prairie Fire" (which Nelson is a part of). Guests were invited later to get up and sing karaoke with any song they chose. This was a new part of the rally that gave people a "taste" of what the weekend would consist of.

Saturday began bright and early with a breakfast provided by the Arnold High School after prom committee and Arnold juniors and seniors. They served homemade cinnamon rolls, breakfast burritos, milk and juice. While bikers got their day started, they registered for the poker run. From 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., the motorcycles were shown off during show & shine. There were several categories for this competition, including "Best Old School Bike," which was

won by Daniel Denaeyer. The award of "Best Stock Bike" was given to Darrin Hansen and "Best Custom Bike" was awarded to Mike Viter.

Soon after, the bikes were blessed, and they were off on the poker run! The first stop was either Keane's Suzy's Pizza or Jim's Bar right here in town. They made their way to the Fubar in Anselmo, Legend's and Sylvester's in Broken Bow, Hangar 22 in Callaway, and received their last card at the Arnold Recreation Area. Once

there, they were greeted with a barbecue pork dinner provided by the rally and served by the South Loup Bobcat cheerleaders.

Taking 1st prize (and \$150.00) for the poker run was Roni Wilson, with 2nd place and \$100.00 to Aaron McMichael and 3rd place/\$75.00 to Mike Viter.

While bikers and residents alike got to eat and take in the beautiful scenery of the recreation area, "The Bricks Band," coming all the way from Lincoln, Nebraska, took the stage. With their mix of classic rock and new sound, they wowed the crowd and got the night started on the right note. Soon after their departure, "Slant-piece" took the stage. Based out of Kearney, Nebraska, the group was quite different from their predecessor. Known for their heavy sound and rockin' moves on stage, they appealed to the fans of hard rock.

While waiting for the last band to take the stage, Mike Nelson raffled off the custom guitar that was part of the "Fender Square Infinity" series. After a grueling wait the winner was announced. Dan Zoerb from Mason City, owner of DJT Zoerb Trucking, was randomly selected. To add another generous donation, Zoerb gave \$250.00 to the rally in support of their charities: Out of the Darkness-Suicide Prevention, Autism Awareness and the TeamMates mentoring program.

"This is one of my favorite events of the year. I love going on the poker run and going to



A Fender Square Infinity series guitar with custom artwork was auctioned off at the rally, raising money for charities.

the events on Saturday night. I plan to keep coming back," proclaimed Zoerb.

There was then a live auction of several items, including a hand-carved picture of the Devil's Den mascot, which sold for \$550.00. Many items went for similar amounts, and all of the proceeds went back to the charities. The money will be used for a variety of programs between the charities, and a good portion will benefit the Arnold school system.

To round out the awesome night, guests were treated to a performance by "The Back Forty" out of Norfolk, Nebraska. The night was spent surrounded by great people and great music, with an even better view of the Arnold sunset.



Motorcycles are lined up in the community center parking lot for show & shine during the Devil's Den Bike Rally on Saturday morning. (Tammy Weinman photo)