

# The Arnold Sentinel

"Serving the South Loup River Valley"

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CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

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Project manager Berni Crow (right) recently received a \$500.00 grant from Custer County Foundation Executive Director Lindsay R. Divan for the historical sign project sponsored by Rotary. Crow's Center School House is the first to have one of the historical signs posted. The historical sign (pictured on the building to the left) is a photo of Center School District #185 taken by Solomon Butcher, with a historical description about the school underneath. When the project is completed, at least 40 of these signs will be placed on or near buildings throughout Arnold. (Fallon Gibson photo)

## Historical Signs Project Receives Grant From CC Foundation

The Arnold Rotary Club has embarked on a new project introduced by member Berni Crow. Having seen a similar project in Bennington, Nebraska, Berni presented the "Historical Signs" project to the club. It was approved, and Berni then proceeded to apply for two grants at the suggestion of AEDC Director Cheryl Carson. Before the grant deadlines, Crow collected enough support signatures to get the project up and running.

The project entails collecting historical information about buildings in Arnold, finding the oldest possible photo of the original building, writing up a brief story recording its history, then having the sign produced by School House Graphics. One sign has already been completed and now hangs on the little country school, Center School District #185 Museum and B&B. This building is owned by Crow and was the easiest story to complete since she has personal interest in the building. The historical signs project has to be completed within two years.

Recently, Lindsay R. Divan, Executive Director of the Custer County Foundation, presented the grant check for \$500.00 to Crow, who is the project manager for Rotary. The Custer County Foundation is a non-profit community trust, which is structured to seek out, receive, and administer funds to meet the present and future needs of the residents of Custer County.

Lindsay came to Arnold to see the building where the first sign was posted. As this project progresses, photos will be sent to the Custer County Foundation to show the progress being made.

The Village of Arnold gave their support of the project at a board meeting in May. Where necessary, some of the signs may be posted on preexisting poles, on a one by one basis. Crow had visited with several building owners to get their support of the historical signs project and to attain permission to place one on their building. Each building owner will have a chance to have their own input and to approve the stories recorded before the sign goes to School House Graphics for completion. Crow had come up with a list of at least 40 buildings. Even if you are not the owner of one of the buildings, you can still supply her with any information you have. The signs that will be completed first are the ones that she already has information on.

Berni said she would love any information patrons have to make the stories as accurate as possible. Also, she is in need of the oldest photo versions of each of the buildings selected. If a patron was not contacted, and wants a sign on their building, feel free to contact Crow.

Berni and Cheryl Carson envision a "Walking Tour" featuring these buildings as an additional feature in the near future.

## Village Board Approves Installation of Park Equipment

The Arnold Village Board of Trustees gave their permission for playground equipment to be installed at the Arnold Recreation Area at their regular meeting held on July 10. Becky Dailey attended the meeting and said that the Arnold Community Foundation purchased the used equipment from Mc-Daid Elementary School in North Platte. Duane Bowers, Shane Cool and Joel Morgan dismantled the equipment and transported it to Arnold. Dailey is hoping that the equipment can be installed sometime this fall, and volunteers will be needed. Please contact Dailey if you would be willing to help.

### Water Tower Bids

The board considered two bids for painting the exterior of the water tower, and accepted the bid from Maguire Iron, Inc., for \$27,870.00. The shell and roof portion will be painted a light gray and the name Arnold will be painted in true blue. The second bid from Central Tank Coatings, Inc., was for \$29,150.00, and included \$1,500.00 for a new logo. This company stipulated that the present sign on the tank be repainted as it now appears.

### New Floor Machine

Board members considered a proposal for a floor machine to clean the community center. Cash-Wa Distributing has a demo unit with 30 hours for \$4,400.00 and a new unit costs \$5,190.00. Members voted to purchase the demo unit provided the warranty is the same as the new one.

### Electrical Rates Adjusted

Board members voted to adjust electrical rates by 4.9 percent for October 2017 and October 2018 based on a recommendation by Nebraska Municipal Power Pool. NMPP recently completed a cost of service study reflecting 2016 actual and 2017 budgeted revenues and expenses. The study revealed that \$260,000 is projected for the next three years to cover the remaining electrical conversion work.

### AEDC Update

The Village Board was given an update by AEDC Director Cheryl Carson on how the Arnold City Park Improvement Project is going at the July 10 meeting at the Community Center.

Since updates, including bucket swings, tables and benches, have already been made, her main focus right now has been looking into replacing the merry-go-round and possibly adding an additional set of toddler swings.

Carson said that she is open to community suggestions if there are other ideas or needed im-

provements for the park. There is also some discussion of adding a few pieces of adult outdoor workout equipment later on down the road.

Becky Dailey's part of the combined park improvement project has been completed with the replacement/addition of new tables and park benches. The colors and style of the benches and tables were picked by Becky and were delivered on July 6 and 10.

Two new AEDC members were added. They are Pepper Werner and Cassy DeLosh.

Carson said that she's still waiting to hear from Great Plains Communications on what their recommendations are on connecting the live cams for community events.

She also said that York, Nebraska, is in the stages of developing their LB840 plan. The AEDC was contacted to give their input on several questions ranging from the prevote stage, educating the community as to what LB840 can do, to how it has benefited our community since implementation, how long Arnold has had LB840 and several other topics. Scribner, Nebraska, has also inquired about how we administer grants and loans, as they are working on drafting guidelines in their community.

Carson continues to attend regular monthly meetings, updates the Arnold website and Facebook pages, Visit Nebraska

site, and advertises events through radio, T.V. and print ads.

In other business, the board:

- Offered the superintendent position to Bob Pettit of Mullen.

- Heard a report from Doug De Laune that a cement pad will be poured for the generator at the community center. Red Fern Electric has been contracted to install the generator. The generator for the local well and the generator for the wastewater plant will be scheduled for installation.

- Was informed by the clerk that there is \$1,809.82 in the community center account at the Custer County Foundation. Voted to withdraw the funds and close the account.

## Humanities Speaker Will Appear at Rialto Theatre on July 24

Nebraska Humanities speaker Vicki Troxel Harris will present "African-American Settlers and Cowboys of Nebraska" at the Rialto Theatre on Monday, July 24, at 7:30 p.m.

A former teacher, Harris brings to light the stories of brave African-Americans who made their way to Nebraska in the late 1800's. Presented in her own story-telling fashion, history comes alive. Partici-

## Additional Contributors to City Park Equipment

In last week's issue, *The Sentinel* reported on new equipment purchased for the city park and listed contributors. Two organizations need to be recognized and added to the list.

The Arnold Community Foundation was among contributors

to the park bench and table purchases. Western Riders 4-H Club purchased two tables with memorial monies donated on behalf of Roger Murray and Don Ambler, as well as some of their own funds. These tables are in memory of both individuals and will be used at the Arnold Roping Arena.



Nebraska Humanities Speaker Vicki Troxel Harris. (Courtesy photo)



Third in a series on family members who serve together on the Arnold Volunteer Fire Department. Photos and stories by AVFD member Tammy Weinman.

## Volunteer Service: It's All In The Family

(Pictured from left) Eric and Susan Nelson are featured this week.

Susan Nelson has been on the fire department for 29 years as an EMT. She joined the fire department as a way to give back to her community.

"Arnold helped me raise my son, and I like the medical field. It gives me satisfaction to be able to help people," said Susan.

Susan's son, Eric Nelson, is also on the



fire department.

"It's exciting to see him grow and succeed," she said.

Eric has been a fireman and EMT on the department and is currently serving as the fire chief. Eric joined the department in January of 2001. He was encouraged to join the department by his mother.

"I was returning home from serving

in the military, so anything involving excitement sounded fun!" he said. "It's an honor to serve with family on the department."

Eric feels that community service is rewarding in the fact that you are protecting your community and residents in their time of need.

"It always feels good to lend a hand," he said.