

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

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Live Training

Arnold Fire Department members (left) put on their SCBA gear before entering a burning house during a live fire training last Sunday in Arnold. The old Beeken house (pictured below) on West 3rd Street, owned by Frank Hauser, was used for the training. Several department members practiced entering the structure, and EMTs were on hand to take vitals before and after the firemen entered the burning house for fire rehab training.

Tammy Weinman photos



A.H.S. Commencement Exercises Set For Saturday

Fourteen Arnold seniors will receive their diplomas this Saturday, May 11, at 2:00 p.m., in the school auditorium. Arnold businesses are saluting these hardworking seniors inside this issue. Watch next week's issue for the announcement of valedictorian and salutatorian, and scholarships received by all the seniors.

JHS Students Pass The Baton on to Continue Recycling Program

By Janet Larreau

A continuing program started by past members of the Arnold Junior Honor Society (JHS) has resulted in a staggering amount of paper and plastic bottles that aren't ending up in the landfill.

The recycling program at the school started as a 9th grade HS project two years ago. Jadeyn Bubak was president, Landyn Cole was vice-president, Bailey Schwarz was secretary, and other members were Kylee Lehmkuhler, Kacey Dvorak, Sam Cool, and Cooper Atkins.

"I asked them to look around the school and reflect upon their elementary and junior high years to see what they would like their new focus to be. They all remembered recycling activities that they did in elementary school during Mrs. Crow's class. This also happened to be the time Mrs. Crow was talking about retiring in two more years. They decided that they wanted to try and implement a recycling program that would honor her and their previous activities," said JHS sponsor Debby Moninger.

Landyn, Bailey and Jayden ended up being the co-chairs that year, and made a goal to put recycling boxes at each of the printers. They decorated the boxes because they felt that a hand-designed box would get better recognition. The National Honor Society was also focusing on recycling by applying for a grant for a hydration station, so students would refill their water bottles to reduce plastic bottles. With this in mind, they decided to add plastic bottle recycling. There are two recycling cans for plastic bottles - one close to the pop machine and exit, and one in the commons room for shacks. Whenever there is an outside game, the recycling can is moved from the lunchroom to the outside shack.

As time passed during their freshman year, the co-chairs decided it would be a good idea to

expand on the paper recycling by putting boxes in the classrooms. There are currently boxes in each elementary room and most secondary rooms. Landyn and Jadeyn also designed ads for the sporting programs to remind fans to recycle, and a bulletin board to update students on totals. Even though they graduated from JHS, they continue recognizing the work as writers of the newsletter.

A new group of freshmen took on the challenge this year. RayLee Downing, Stella Lewis, Faith Bierman, Shayla Tickle, Colbi Smith, and Reagan Cool continued with the recycling program to expand it and focus on consistency.

"Consistency was a real challenge due to weather and the impact upon the schedule, especially the second semester,"

said Mrs. Moninger. "The recycling program has really shown leadership potential as the students work together and balance their service commitment with school. The staff definitely notices when students have

found ways to manage the recycling. It's not the most glamorous service project, but makes huge difference on the environment. I tend to notice other schools that also recycle when I'm at sporting events. As

more and more schools focus on their area, the ripple effect could be amazing!"

Currently, the totals recycled are: paper - 2,845 pounds, and

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Retirement In The Forecast

Mr. Swingle is ready to start new chapter of life



Arnold Science teacher Gerry Swingle will be retiring at the end of this school year after teaching for 36 years. He started teaching in Arnold during the 1985-86 school year after teaching two years in Campbell, Nebraska.

His interest in Science is what led him to a career in education, and over the years he has tried to help students develop an interest in Science.

As for the good and the bad, Mr. Swingle said for the most part, the introduction of technology has been a positive influence on education. He feels standardized curriculum and testing has done nothing good for education.

"Some of my favorite memories, and the things I am most proud of come from the Outdoor Education programs that I did," he said.

After retirement, Mr. Swingle will be continuing with Arnold Ag Service, and during he and his wife, Cindy's, spare time, will be traveling and continuing to enjoy outside activities by getting more involved in adult outdoor education classes.

"I have enjoyed the years that I have taught at Arnold and am happy with my decision to teach at Arnold for 34 years," he said.

Leta Connell photo



Photo/Debbie Connelly

Arnold Junior Honor Society members are pictured with retiring teacher Berni Crow (far right), in front of the "Litter Free School" sign that sits on the east side of the school. Also pictured is one of the recycling bins that are used inside of the school. Students are: (back, l-r) Stella Lewis, Shayla Tickle, Colbi Smith, Faith Bierman, Landyn Cole, Jadeyn Bubak, Kacey Dvorak; (middle) Kylee Lehmkuhler, Bailey Schwarz; (front) Halie Recoy, Devon Peterson, Reagan Cool, Silas Cool, Clay Witthuhn, and Lance Jones.