

# The Arnold Sentinel

"Serving the South Loup River Valley"

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CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

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## Notable Quote

"In the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years."

-Abraham Lincoln

## Local Primary Election Filings Update

The Custer County Clerk's office gave an update on local Primary Election filings last Friday.

On the Arnold School Board, there are three open positions. Incumbents Duane Bowers and Eric Nelson filed by the February 18 deadline. Incumbent Diana Coleman did not re-file by the deadline. No non-incumbents had stopped into file, leaving the third position open with no candidates as of yet.

For Arnold Hospital District, there are two open positions. Incumbents Heather Furne and John Phillips filed by the February 18 deadline.

There is still time for non-incumbents to file. Clerk Conni Gracey reminds everyone that they have until March 2 at 5:00 p.m. to file at the Custer County Clerk's office.

## 2020 U.S. Census Takers Sought

Residents have the opportunity to make some extra cash by becoming a census taker for the United States 2020 Census. The job includes flexible hours, weekly pay, and paid training. You can apply online at [2020CENSUS.GOV/JOBS](https://2020CENSUS.GOV/JOBS) or call 1-855-JOB-2020. The U.S. Census Bureau is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

## Village Board Withdraws Request for Hazard Mitigation Funding

Arnold Village Board members voted to withdraw their request for hazard mitigation funding at their February meeting. The project's scope of work included installation of an additional culvert at Old Mill Park placed adjacent to the existing culvert. FEMA determined that the project was not cost effective, and the Village had the three options of formally withdrawing its request, revising the scope and cost of the proposed mitigation measure, or completing a determination memorandum for the scope of the project to remain the same.

### AEDC Update

Arnold Economic Development (AEDC) Director Cheryl Carson reported that Melissa Sandager is a new member of the AEDC Board. Sandager is the new Science teacher at APS.

AEDC is waiting to hear if the application to add the Arnold Lake, Campground and Recreation Area to the Great Park Pursuit program was accepted.

Carson reported on Arnold's application process of entering the HGTV Hometown Takeover competition. The process of submitting five photos, a video and writing about the community was completed by February 7.

She also reported that Chamber is holding its 2020 membership drive. Dues are \$30.00 for businesses and \$20.00 for individuals.

**In other business, the Board:**

• Designated the month of April as community clean up

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## Just a kid at heart

### Harv Foran moves collection to new "Legoland"

By Janet Larreau

When Harvey Foran isn't at work for the Village of Arnold, or tending to things up at the ranch north of Arnold, you can find him immersed in his own personal "Legoland." Ask Harvey anything about Legos, and he's full of information - from the very beginning to the present.

Harv said that as a child growing up in the 1950s, Legos didn't exist. When he was in the military from 1969 to 1970, he had a friend that was talking about his Lego collection.

"Being naive, I asked, 'What is a Lego?'"

His friend responded with, "They are plastic bricks that you put together and build things."

So Harv asked, "Like a jigsaw puzzle? You put pieces together and make a picture?"

The response was, "Yea, but these are 3D bricks."

Around 1971 or 1972, Harv's wife Barb's grandmother, May Burns, mailed in a coupon off a Velveeta cheese box and a couple of bucks to receive a bag of Legos for Barb and Harv's kids. Of course, Harv knew what they were.

"We still have those Legos today," he said. "For some reasons unknown, we never bought the kids any Legos. I think it was because we couldn't find them in stores around here."

Fast forward to 1980, when Harv was working for the Arnold Utilities and taking a class for his wastewater certification. The instructor started talking about HIS Lego collection. Then, one day, Harv was visiting with a good friend, Todd Smith, who asked what Harv wanted for Christmas. When you're in your 30s, you don't ask for toys, but Harv did.

"Legos," he said, and pooh-pooed it.

Todd ended up bringing Barb and Harv their gifts, and low and behold Harv's was a Lego pirate ship.

"Todd and I built it together. I was hooked and the rest is his-



Harvey Foran (with wife Barb), who collects and plays with Legos, stands by the latest addition to his new Lego House. "I have an adult costume you can wear for Halloween and such. I went on-line and ordered a 6' tall male mannequin like you see in a clothing store. When it arrived, it was a 5'8" female. With the suit on, I thought no one would be the wiser. My daughter Chris decided to have a contest on Facebook to name Dad's new friend. Then it started, 'How do we know it's a man? Looks like a woman. If it's a woman, it needs a woman's name, etc.' I caught a lot of flack," said Harvey. By the time of this writing, the "Name Harv's new friend" contest had ended and the winner was...drum roll please...Debbie Moninger with the name of Leroy, which is their late son Clint's middle name. The bowl on the table contains the very first Legos that started it all.

tory. I often wish Todd could see what he got started. RIP my dear friend," Harv said.

By then stores were loaded with Legos. Harv started buying more, and Barb was getting more for gifts.

"I'm building and building with no place in the house to display them, so they would go in cardboard boxes and to the basement," he said.

Years down the road, the Jim Neesson property next door to the Forans came up for sale with a nice trailer house on it, and like most of Harv's ideas, the light bulb came on at 3:00 a.m., and it hit him: LEGO HOUSE!

"Barb, bless her heart,

agreed," said Harv.

Through the years, the trailer was getting fuller and fuller and age was taking a toll on the trailer...leaking windows, bad floors, etc. Harvey's Legos were starting to collect dust, and it was disheartening. He was laden with deep, fond memories of the times he spent there with Barb and the grandkids building Legos for hours.

Again, with Barb's blessing, Harv contacted Gary Larreau to erect him a new building next to the Forans garage. The 24x50' new Lego House was completed in 2018. Harv brought all the Legos from the trailer and just bunched them in the new building, with help

from Barb, daughter Chris, James, the grandkids, and Julie Bailar.

Exactly how many sets were moved? Well, he's not exactly sure.

"I had all of my sets cataloged by theme and number on an old computer. I had no printer, no backup, and guess what: CRASH. As I recall, I had about 450 sets listed. I have bought probably another 30 sets since the big crash," he said.

"It's an ongoing process and will probably never end because I have more to build and still buying. When people come to tour the house, I tell them to

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Courtesy Photo

## A sweet American tradition

### Arnold Girl Scouts set up cookie booths over the weekend

(Pictured, l-r) Ava Bierman, Kora Dailey, Bree Blowers, Emma Bierman, Zeva Tickle and Emery Schacher were manning a Girl Scout cookie booth Saturday afternoon at Mills Hardware. Cookie sales started in the morning at Mighty Mart, with Berklee Preston, Paityn Dailey, Ruby Hagler, Aubry and Avery Corbin and Addie Dalrymple in charge of that booth. "We had great support," said their leader, Michelle Preston. Loyal cookie customers can justify all those tasty boxes of cookies they buy by knowing that the girls aren't just raising money for activities, but learning the following 11 business skills: 1. Goal setting; 2. Interpersonal skills; 3. Business ethics; 4. Strategic thinking; 5. Money management; 6. Persuasiveness; 7. Accepting rejection; 8. Stepping up to competitors; 9. Marketing; 10. Teamwork; and 11. Branding. The idea of teaching these skills to girls by selling cookies was conceived in 1912 by Juliette "Daisy" Gordon Low. Buying and eating Girl Scout cookies has now become a cherished American tradition. The girls will be setting up another cookie booth in Stapleton at Kimber's on Saturday, February 29, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.