

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

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Boutique Opening on Main Street

By Janet Larreau

Sugar Sand Boutique will open for business in Arnold on Wednesday, October 23. Located at 117 S Walnut on Main Street, the business is owned by Bobbi Starr and daughter-in-law Ellie Starr.

The business, named by Bobbi's husband Scott for a type of white sand found in the Sandhills, has been doing well since October of 2018, when Ellie and Bobbi started selling items on Facebook and Instagram.

“It was Ellie's idea, and I said, ‘Let's do it!’” said Bobbi.

Bobbi and Scott purchased a home in Arnold three years ago to allow their kids to go to school at APS. Their main residence is still on the ranch near Stapleton. Ellie, who is originally from Michigan, met the Starr's son Austin in college. They were married and live at the ranch.

When it came time to open a storefront, Arnold was the logical choice.

“We've always wanted a storefront, but it just wasn't the right time. We looked around, and it was too expensive in North Platte. This makes more sense to have the business storefront in Arnold. We had a pop-up here and it went very well,” said Bobbi, who with Ellie is leasing the building from owner Shavonne Schacher.

Sugar Sand Boutique offers



Courtesy photo

Ellie (left) and Bobbi Starr are making preparations to open Sugar Sand Boutique in Arnold next Wednesday, October 23.

something for everyone of every age and taste. There are women's tees, tops, sweaters, jeans, ponchos, jackets, shoes, jewelry, blankets and cups. Popular brands will include Pendleton and Kancan. The owners said they will do their best to offer some men's items.

“I like to wear everyday clothes,” said Ellie. “We won't target just one age group. It just depends on people's style. We want a quick turnaround, so we'll order six items and that's

it, unless it's ordered on-line. We'll restock in the store if requested.”

As far as pricing, Ellie said, “We've gone to other boutiques, and you have to give them an arm and a leg. We'll try to make it affordable for everybody.”

The business will continue online, with Ellie taking the orders, and Bobbi shipping them out from the storefront.

Ellie and Bobbi also plan to do

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School Board Agrees on Administration Configuration for 2020-2021 Year

By Janet Larreau

A decision was made on the administration configuration for the 2020-2021 school year at last week's school board meeting. The board will hire a superintendent/high school principal and elementary principal/curriculum director. Interim Superintendent Mark Sievering said the board looked at several different options for next year. When they were finished, there were seven different configurations listed. They looked at the pros and cons of each, and decided the best choice moving forward would be Mr. Morgan serving as superintendent and maintaining his high school principal duties, and hiring an elementary principal who will have other duties, such as curriculum. Both positions will be full-time.

For the last several years, Arnold has shared a superintendent with another school to save money, and with the resignation of Superintendent Dr. Dawn Lewis, and with Callaway Schools no longer wanting to share, board members considered the possibility of Principal Morgan serving as both K-12 superintendent and principal once he is certified to be a superintendent. According to accreditation rules, Arnold has too many teachers for Mr. Morgan to serve both roles. It was also decided that hiring a part-time administrator would be too difficult.

“At this time, it will allow

some things to get more attention. One person who is dedicated to that will be better for the district,” said Mr. Sievering.

Stage Lighting

In other action items, board members gave their approval to purchase a wireless LED lighting system for the auditorium's stage with a school contribution of up to \$3,000.00. Mr. Sievering said that the system the school had looked at was going to be just south of \$9,000.00, and the SORC stated that they would contribute \$6,000.00 towards the purchase. If a model that will do a better job is found, Mr. Morgan has some ideas where the school could obtain some additional funding. The LED lights will provide better lighting, without dark spots, and also be more energy and cost efficient. With Arnold hosting conference One-Act this year, it created a good time to do this project.

Laser Purchase

With a unanimous vote by members, ReVision grant funds will be used for the purchase of a laser for the school. The \$39,000.00 item will be bigger and more powerful to engrave a variety of larger items.

Community Engagement

Approval was given for utilization of the Nebraska Association of School Boards (NASB) Community Engagement Process. The process will allow the board to hear from the community, businesses and parents, and to know what the

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Elementary Students Get Close-Up Look at Lifenet



Courtesy photos

Wearing their fire prevention t-shirts and sunglasses, Arnold elementary students were excited to look inside a Lifenet helicopter that landed on the school's practice field last Wednesday morning. The helicopter's arrival was a special part of the Arnold Volunteer Fire Department's Annual Fire Prevention Day.

AVFD Hosts Annual Fire Prevention Day at School

The Arnold Volunteer Fire Department held their annual Fire Prevention Day at Arnold Public School Wednesday, October 9. Fire Department members Eric Nelson, Cassy DeLosh, Heather Hagler, Tammy Weinman and Susan Nelson were there to share lifesaving information to grades K-6.

The students were given coloring booklets that went over the importance of having smoke detectors and how to test them, planning an escape route for your home and bedroom in case of a house fire, and also having a meeting place for your family.

“We hope the students take this information home and share it with their parents. All of us on the fire department feel it is important to educate children on fire prevention and safety. We are dedicated to making sure the children in our community trust us and know we are here for them in case of an emergency. We want

to build a relationship with them, so if we do ever get called to help them in an emergency situation, they recognize us and know we are there to help. We hope they never have to encounter a home fire, but if they do, we want them to be prepared because of the information we have given them,” said Rescue Captain Tammy Weinman.

The students were also given pencils, water bottles, glow stick for Halloween, stickers, sunglasses and fire prevention t-shirts.

Every year the fire department has a drawing contest for the 5th graders and the winner gets their drawing on the front of the t-shirts. This year's winners were Elliot Brast and Walter Bierman. Those sponsoring the t-shirts this year were Homegrown Kids Daycare, Mills Hardware, Smith Ag, BrewBakers Coffee House and Gifts, Touch of Grace Massage, Weinman Farms, Arnold Volun-

teer Fire Department, Country Partners Coop, Triangle Lanes, Sandhills Motors and Reeds Food Center.

The fire department wanted to do something new and fun for the kids this year for fire prevention, so Lifenet of North Platte was invited to come to Arnold. Lifenet crew Neil Barnette, pilot; Kirsten Bradley, nurse; and Michael Vargas, paramedic, landed on the practice field around 9:00 a.m. and let the kids look inside the helicopter while answering questions the kids had about the aircraft.

The kids were also able to look at the fire truck and ambulance, and they were shown the equipment that is used by the Arnold Volunteer Fire Department.

“The heat imaging camera was one of the favorite pieces of equipment the kids seemed to enjoy learning about,” said Weinman.



Fifth graders Walter Bierman (left) and Elliot Brast (right) were this year's winners of the fire prevention t-shirt drawing contest.