



Serving the
South Loup River Valley

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

(USPS 032480)

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The Arnold Sentinel

What's For Sale or Rent?

AEDC Director,
Entrepreneurs
Helping People
Find the Right Fit

Sixteen homes have sold in Arnold since January of 2016, and there's more people on the list looking for homes to buy.

"Some of the homes sold are to people from out of the area, and some are to younger families moving up to a larger home," said Arnold Economic Development (AEDC) director Cheryl Carlson, who is in charge of listing homes on Arnold's website, and helps buyers find the right fit. "This is always a good sign when our young families decide to either finally buy a home here, or buy a bigger home. Either way, they have decided to make Arnold their home."

There's another list of people looking for rentals, and again, Carson tries to help them find an apartment or house that will work for them.

"I seem to get more rental requests for homes that are at least three bedrooms, due to the fact people may have two or more children," said Carson.

Arnold residents Neil and Diana Coleman have been working to buy up houses that just don't seem to sell, and flip them into something that buyers want and can just move into. Neil, who is currently a salesman for Titan Machinery, and Diana, who manages their rental properties in Arnold, sub



A gate welcomes guests to the back yard of a home in Arnold that Neil and Diana Coleman are flipping to help with the growing need for family housing in Arnold. This photo, and many more of the renovated house and other homes for sale or rent in Arnold are on Arnold's real estate website page.

some of the work out, and enlist the help of their teenage son, Logan, when he's available.

The Colemans started their most recent flip on a ranch-style house in a great location east of Old Mill Park. They started with replacing a lot of the structure that had some damage, and installed new windows, siding, roof and HVAC. They reconfigured the closets in the bedrooms, expanded the

main bath, and changed the front entrance from one door to two. Finally, they painted and installed new flooring, doors and trim.

"We chose the house because it was in a good location and had a lot of good qualities. Everything is on one level, and it had potential," said Diana, adding that there has been a lot of interest in the house just for these reasons.

Diana said over the years, they have lived in some of the homes while updating, sold them and moved on. Their next house to remodel and list for sale is smaller and located near the post office, making it a great location to just walk up to town. Again, they plan to make the house more user friendly by expanding one of the bedrooms, remodeling the bathroom, installing new flooring, painting, and expanding the kitchen, creating a more open concept.

"There is a huge need for housing, and our belief is that if there is good housing available, people will come. The good school system and the community are drawing people. It's a good, solid, caring community," Diana said.

Carson said there is a big need for rentals.

"If we had more people fixing up houses, they would rent quick. There are more people looking at rentals than to buy. Three to four bedrooms could go over really well," she said, adding that homes for sale or rent are only listed on the website with information and permission from the owner. Adding a house to the site is free of charge.

"People who have moved here from somewhere else seem to like the smaller town environment and community. They have commented that Arnold is a community of polite, kind, courteous, and positive minded people," she said. "People with children say they like our school, and some have commented they like the services and amenities we have for convenience and entertainment. They say it seems there is always something going on. They also like the location, and affordability of housing compared to larger communities."

Arnold Businesses Can Request Money for Approach and Curb Repair

Arnold Village Board members passed a resolution to set up a new account for the Motor Vehicle Local Option Sales Tax Fund at their regular meeting held on October 10. This is good news for downtown business owners, as 30 percent of the 1% local sales and use tax on motor vehicles will now be set aside for businesses to request from the AEDC to use for approaches to businesses and curbs.

Treasurer Patty Lamberty said last year, the village received \$12,477.64 from the city sales tax on vehicles. Since the local sales tax was implemented some 10 years ago, the money has been deposited into the Street Fund to help with the annual cost of armor coating the streets.

Approximately \$3,450.00 will now be set aside for businesses.

The decision to set aside the money was made on the advice of Attorney Mike Borders, who communicated that according to the state statute, the village should be able to use the tax for curbs and approaches that are part of a village street that is being fixed, repaired or replaced.

In other business, the board:

- Heard a report from Superintendent Bill Moser that the Nebraska Department of Roads is going to conduct a traffic study on Highway 40, but due to their current work load it will take a few months to gather the data collection and complete the report. Reducing speed limit at the city limits on Highway 40 came at the request of a resident.

- Moser also reported that Heather Furne as been hired as part-time clerical help.

Large Craft Show Planned Oct. 29 in Arnold

Twenty-five vendors have signed up for the October 29 craft show in Arnold, according to organizer Barb Gunther. The Chamber-sponsored event will be held at the community center from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The event will also include a Silent Auction to raise money for Finch Memorial Library's masonry repairs. Food will also be available. The fourth grade class will be setting up a concession stand during the craft show as a fundraiser. There will also be a drawing for three, \$10.00 Chamber bucks.

Gunther said the list of what will be available at the craft show is long, and will include Scentsy, metal art, Tupperware, vintage jewelry, homemade blankets and baby items, wood and sewn items, Premier jewelry, children's educational books, Barnwood Creations, lariat rope, clothing, home decor, Tastefully Simple, personalized home decor and apparel, Thirty-One, homemade soaps, wine racks, coat racks, crochet novelty hats, Pampered Chef, Mary Kay, screen printing, produce, horseshoe art, Jamberry Nails, Dove chocolate, DoTerra oils, door hangers, growth charts, yard games, barnwood pictures and frames, and Rada cutlery.

Homecoming Week

The South Loup Bobcats will be celebrating Homecoming this week. The pep rally will be held at Arnold on October 20, and parents' night, coronation after the football game and the dance will be held at Callaway. The South Loup cheerleaders are organizing all of the activities.

NeSA Tests: APS Students Above Average in State Standard Testing

At last Tuesday's regular school board meeting, Principal Joel Morgan reported that during the teacher's inservice held on September 28, NeSA scores from the 2015-2016 were reviewed, and the results were good.

Grades 3-8 and 11 test in Reading and Mathematics; grades 5, 8 and 11 test in Science and Grades 4, 8 and 11 in Writing.

Test performance level ranges are: 84 and below - Below Standards; 85 to 134 - Meets Standards; and 135-200 - Exceeds Standards.

Results for Grades 5, 8 and 11 were masked due to fewer than 10 students taking the test.

In Grade 3, 13 students took the test. In Reading, the average scale score for Arnold was 144, compared to the state summary of 120. Thirty-eight percent of the students met the standards, and 62 percent exceeded the standards, compared to the 33 percent state average.

In Grade 4 Reading, with 17 students taking the test, Arnold had an average scale score of 130, compared to the states's

123. Forty-one percent of the students met the standards, and 53 percent exceeded, compared to the state's 40 percent.

Grade 6, with 12 students taking the test, didn't fare as well, with the average scale score of 111, compared to the state's 125. The met standards were masked in this class.

Nineteen students took the test in Grade 7, with a high average scale score of 142, compared to the state's 129. Sixty-eight percent of the students exceeded the standards.

Other test area results were:

Grade 3 - Math:
APS Avg. Scale147
State Avg. Scale115
Exceeding Standards77%
State28%

Grade 4 - Math:
APS Avg. Scale117
State Avg. Scale112
Meeting Standards71%
State54%

Grade 6 - Math:
APS Avg. Scale111
State Avg. Scale111
Meeting Standards67%
State46%

Grade 7 - Math:

APS Avg. Scale125
State Avg. Scale108
Meeting Standards53%
Exceeding Standards32%
State47%

Grade 4 - Writing
APS Avg. Scale53
State Avg. Scale43
Meeting Standards47%
State55%
Exceeding Standards41%
State14%

Grade 4 - Reading
APS Avg. Scale130
State Avg. Scale123
Meeting Standards41%
State46%
Exceeding Standards53%
State40%

Results for Grades 5, 8 and 11 were masked due to fewer than 10 students taking the test.

These results help the school set up a school improvement goal, and teachers will be setting MAPS math goals with students. The teachers also submitted how students demonstrated a proficiency in math facts in their classrooms across all content areas.

School Board Planning Kick-off Event for Local Beef Initiative

At the October 11 school board meeting, Superintendent Dr. Dawn Lewis reported on a possible date for a community kick-off event for the local beef initiative. Members of the committee to approve donated animals are: Tony Eggleston, Merle Bierman and Jerry Cool. The committee will meet to establish parameters for accepting donations of beef to serve at lunch. Dr. Lewis will develop an advertisement for *The Sentinel* and will provide a brochure and donation form.

The board moved to accept a bid from Larry's Glass in the amount of \$6,462.00 for a handicap accessible single door with insulated side panels on the west entrance of the school where the landscaping project has been completed. An automatic opener will not be installed at this time.

Members of the board voted to accept the request to negotiate with the Arnold Education Association for the 2018-2019 school year. They also approved the addition of the board president and secretary as authorized signers for all bank accounts, including the activity and hot lunch account, which had previously only required one signature. The motion was at the request of the auditors this year.

Parent/teacher conferences were well attended once again this year with a 83 percent attendance rate in Grades 6-12. More parents signed up for PowerSchool and Schoology accounts that night.

The Nebraska Department of Education has confirmed that Juniors will take the ACT in April 2017. APS is still awaiting details about becoming a test center in Arnold. The school is also looking into utilizing ACT Prep Courses available online.

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
NEBRASKA STATE ACCOUNTABILITY (NeSA)
DISTRICT REPORT OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE
SPRING 2016
GRADE 03

DISTRICT: ARNOLD PUBLIC SCHOOLS (21-0089-000)

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Performance Level Ranges		Reading								
		Average Scale Score 1	Total # of Students	Average Domain Score				% Below the Standards	% Meets the Standards	% Exceeds the Standards
				Vocabulary		Comprehension				
Exceeds Standards	135 - 200			Average	Number Possible	Average	Number Possible			
Meets Standards	85 - 134									
Below Standards	84 and below									
State Summary		120	22,174	9.01	13	20.08	32	16%	51%	33%
District Summary		144	13	11.58	13	24.00	32	*	38%	62%
ARNOLD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (21-0089-002)		144	13	11.58	13	24.00	32	*	38%	62%