

# The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

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CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

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## Village requests second site inspection for flood repair

By Janet Larreau

After months of paperwork and correspondence with FEMA, and working with the village's engineer, Arnold's efforts to recover from the flooding earlier this year are proving to be a challenge. At the September meeting, board members voted to rebid the project titled Flood Repair Improvements 2019, and to open up the bids at the October meeting. Due to correspondence from FEMA that the work specified by the bid documents exceeded their intent, the project has not been rebid.

Village Engineer Tom Werblow was at the meeting and said that he had sent an email to the Primary Program Delivery Manager with FEMA. His correspondence stated that mixed information has been received from FEMA as to what streets are in need of repair and the type and scope of repair that is needed. He suggested a meeting so that everyone, including the designers, are on the same page.

Chairman Glen Bowers said that a letter has been sent to FEMA requesting a second site inspection with the village's engineer, the village superintendent, and himself.

### Old Mill Park Culvert

The culvert at Old Mill Park was also discussed. Werblow presented the Hydrology and Hydraulic Study (H & H Study) and recommended that another 72" round equivalent culvert with headwall walls be added and improve the emergency overflow. If and when another larger flood would come, the road would not wash out. The study will be submitted to FEMA and will be the first step in applying for hazard mitigation.

### Electronic Speed Signs

During her update, AEDC Director continued on page 2.

## Family of Medal of Honor recipient celebrates liberation of Lure, France, at ceremony



Courtesy photo

(From left) Claude and René Alam, who witnessed the town's liberation as children; John and Mary (Schwab) Beshaler of Arnold, Terry Schwab, Susan (Schwab) Bohling, and David Bohling at the Lure, France, battlefield location where Donald Schwab earned the Medal of Honor.

## 2019 marks 75th anniversary of battle

By Janet Larreau

Seventy-five years ago, actions taken by 1st Lt. Donald K. Schwab helped change the course of history for the people of Lure, France. Under direct orders as the Commander of Company E, 3rd Infantry Division, he told his men to "hit the dirt" on a third attempt to destroy a road block. While automatic weapons fire blazed around him, he rushed forward alone and single-handedly took out the German machine gun nest. According to his Medal of Honor citation, Schwab's action "so disorganized hostile infantry resistance that the enemy forces withdrew, abandoning their formi-

dable defensive line."

The opportunity for Schwab's family to tread on the same battleground where this heroic event took place came in September of 2019 when they received an invitation to attend the commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Lure.

"The 75th anniversary of the liberation of Lure from German control during World War II may not be of any significance to most, but if you are a resident of Lure or related to a war hero who was instrumental in their freedom, it means so much," said the Schwab's daughter Mary Beshaler of Arnold, who with her husband John, brother Terry, sister Susan, and Susan's husband attended the commemoration

and celebrated with the people of Lure on September 16. Contact with Alain Guillame, Lure's historian and museum curator, helped make the trip possible.

"In conversation, Dad told John that he would one day like to return to those areas in northern Africa, Italy, Sicily, and France where he fought, but admitted that 'I do a lot of talking,'" said Mary. "We decided to do it both for us and for him because once he got back to American soil, he seemed pretty content just to stay home and appreciate what he had in Hooper, Nebraska. Like most American soldiers at that time, he was ready to marry, settle down, and raise a family."

That he did when he encoun-

tered Maralee Janssen, the love of his life, at a dance. They were married in 1946 and began raising children in 1948. Maralee, also a Hooper High School

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**"It is hard for me to describe the feeling that enveloped me as I stood in the location where Dad would have been when he was 25 years old."**

Mary Beshaler, daughter of Donald K. Schwab

## Celebrating 100 Years of Life

Doris Bowers joins list of Nebraska centenarians



Courtesy photos

Doris Bowers smiles sweetly, as she gets set to blow out 100 glowing candles at an open house held Saturday at the Arnold Community Center. Family, friends and community members all turned out to help her celebrate. "I thought they would never stop coming," said one observer.

Two days before her big 100th birthday celebration at Arnold's community center, Doris Bowers said she was excited, but not as excited as when she had her 80th birthday celebration.

"The girls said they would take me up to go gambling, and they didn't. Now I'm too old to go. I wouldn't want to waste my

money, because I wouldn't be too lucky," the feisty soon-to-be centenarian said.

Doris was born on October 20, 1919, in a sod house west of Arnold to James and Alvina Shields.

When she was 12 years old her father died. Her mother and her eight children were left to fend for themselves. She

credits her longevity to those times and the nutrition her mother provided them.

"In the 30s it was hard times. We didn't have much beef, but we had plenty of pork and vegetables from the garden. We ate a lot of cornbread and beans and rhubarb. It helped us survive. We ate whatever Mom fixed. She could cook about

anything," said Doris. We also had to mind. When you're told to do something, you better be doing it, which I think was really good."

She also contributes reaching this milestone to hardly ever being sick and most importantly, keeping busy.

"I never want to go to a rest home. I stay busy," she said. "I enjoy going outside and can get down on my knees with a lever to pull weeds and plant flowers. I go places and buzz around town with the kids. I like to recall who lived where. Some of the houses have been fixed up really nice."

She also reads some and writes a few letters in the home she has lived in for 72 years.

"I save everything - even down to the kids' shoestrings when they were little," she said.

During the interview, Doris had no problem hearing or immediately responding to the questions. She's still sharp as a tack and her great sense of humor was evident when asked if she wears hearing aids.

She responded with, "I keep my hearing aid in a box, my dentures in a cup, and my glasses in a bag. I'm waiting to get old 'til I use them. I can still see pretty good far away."

She said her memory is still pretty good, but lately, she has found herself forgetting people's names and for her, that's "embarrassing".

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