

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2016

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

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Vets Day Program Nov. 11 at School

The 2016 Veterans Day program will be held Friday, November 11, starting at 10:00 a.m., in the school auditorium. The school, VFW and Legion members would like to invite parents, grandparents, and patrons of the district to attend the program, which includes:

- Post of the Colors by the Honor Guard
- Welcome by Legion Commander
- “The National Anthem” by Arnold School Band
- The Pledge of Allegiance by Kindergarten students
- Song by Kindergarten and First Grade
- Music by School Band
- Song by Second Grade
- Fifth Grade Essays
- Poems by Seventh Grade
- Essays by Middle School students - Eighth Grade
- Presentation of Coloring Contest Awards by Sixth and Seventh Grade
- Introduction of Speaker Bill Williams.
- Retrieve Colors by Honor Guard
- The third and fourth grade will have a Power Point presentation prior to the start of the program and will have articles posted on the Veterans Wall of Fame next to the Fourth Grade room. The veterans honored will be friends or relatives of the Third and Fourth Grade students. Please stop by the Fourth Grade room and read the articles.

Housing Tour is Saturday

The Arnold Chamber-sponsored Housing Tour is set for this Saturday, November 12, with a salad luncheon beginning at noon at the community center. The tour begins at 1:00 p.m., with the following homes on the tour: Gary and Kelli Blevins, Gary and Merri Jo Halstead, and Gary and Margaret Ann Mills. Berni Crow’s school house is also on this year’s tour. Advanced tickets are available at the Arnold Economic Development office, First State Insurance and The Kreative Edge. Tickets will also be sold at the door. For more information, call 308-848-2211.

Foundation Fundraiser is Nov. 19

The annual Arnold Community Foundation Fundraiser Auction will be held on Saturday, November 19, at the Arnold Community Center. The event will begin with a social hour from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The meal will be served at 7:00 p.m., and presentation of philanthropy awards and the auction will start at 8:00 p.m. Please turn to page 2 for more information on how and where to purchase tickets. Auction items received up to Friday, November 4, are listed in this issue.

Election Results

Due to *The Sentinel’s* printing schedule, results of the November 8 General Election will be published in the November 17 issue.

Flint Returns to Civilian Life

Family, Local Vets Led Him to Serve His Country

By Janet Larreau

After several years of military service to our country, U.S. Army veteran and A.H.S. graduate Josh Flint returned home to civilian life last July. He will be among hundreds of thousands of veterans honored on this Veterans Day, November 11, but he thinks others deserve far more recognition than he does.

“I would like everyone to thank all the veterans in our community and around the area - especially the Korea and Vietnam veterans, because I appreciate their sacrifice,” said Josh. “I know that today’s generation of veterans get more than those vets ever did. I do not like how this generation’s vets feel entitled. ‘Look at me. Look what I did.’ Those guys here having coffee downtown, you don’t even know what they did. PTSD wasn’t even a (recognized?) thing at that time, so I really appreciate those men and women.”

Josh graduated from Arnold High in 2007, and joined the Army in November of 2009. He said he wanted to serve because members of his family did their part.

“My Uncle Bobbie, cousins Shane and Susan (Deterding) Hunter, who just retired, all served. It was important to me to do something for the freedoms a lot of people take for granted,” he said. “Another reason was the guys around town, like Gene



2007 A.H.S. graduate Josh Flint joined the Army in 2009, and was deployed to fight terrorism four times during his service to our country. (Courtesy photo)

Tullis, Mike Harvey, Doug Lanham and Fitz Harris. I thought and still don’t think they get the recognition they deserve for their sacrifices, and I feel that our generation doesn’t know what they went through. I guess a little bit of me wanted to give back. They did their part, why can’t my generation do their part?”

Josh began his service at Ft. Benning, Georgia, One Station Unit Training. After graduation, he attended Airborne School. From Airborne, he went to Ft. Bragg, North Carolina, and was assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division, 2nd Brigade, 1st-325. As part of that battalion for four years, he was deployed to Iraq for 10 months, fighting Al-Qaeda and the Iraqi Brotherhood in Sadr City, Baghdad, Fallujah and Ramadi. During his time in the service, he advanced from PFC to Sergeant, and from a rifleman all the way up to a squad leader.

“It was hard to identify who you were fighting or who they claimed allegiance to. All were Jihadist extremist radicals,” he said.

He went on to serve in

South Africa in support of helping the South Africans. The mission was to train, assist and advise them, as they were implementing start-up paratroopers, who were trained to U.S. standards to fight Jihadist extremist radicals.

Starting out, he said living conditions were very good. The servicemen had a room, showers and hot chow. Towards the end, for the last three to four months, conditions were very primitive. They had no showers, were eating MREs and had no electronics or devices.

“To be honest, I thought I handled it a lot better than other people did, but I think there is something to say for the people who come from our background because of our work ethic and our ability to adapt,” he said. “I’m not saying I didn’t have problems or a hard time dealing with things that I saw. I still do.”

Josh said he didn’t think about people “back home” during his deployments. “I was thinking about my brothers around me, the guys on the left and right. That’s all you have over there,” he said.

Josh’s mom, Rhonda



Army veteran Josh Flint with his family, wife Michaela and daughter Charlee. (Courtesy photo)

passed away from cancer on November 3, 2006. After her passing, he was raised by his grandma and grandpa, Jean and the late Bob Flint, in Arnold.

“My grandma and grandpa didn’t know that I joined until two weeks before I left, because I didn’t want grandma to know,” he said.

“The recruiter gave me away. I don’t think they knew what I signed on for, but they knew the war on terror was going on.”

From the time Josh was about seven or eight, his grandpa taught him to shoot, and that early training made a difference during his four

Continued on page 2.

Student Vote Held Before Election Day

Arnold students in Grades 7-12 have been involved in learning about how the government of the United States operates, as well as learning about the candidates in the present election year, under the instruction of Government teacher Rick Peterson.

Middle and high school students begin their education with seventh grade American Civics and advance through two years of American History, as well as Geography and World History before finishing as seniors

with American Government.

Mr. Peterson said in this year’s student mock election, much like on the national scene, many different opinions were held on the two biggest votes on the ballot: the Presidential race and the referendum on the death penalty.

In the end, the vote for the presidency, or on the death penalty referendum were not really that close.

Results of the Arnold student mock election follow:

President and

Vice-President of the United States

| | |
|--|----|
| Donald J. Trump and Michael R. Pence..... | 52 |
| Hillary R. Clinton and Tim Kaine..... | 7 |
| Gary Johnson and Bill Weld..... | 1 |
| Jill Stein and Ajax Baraka..... | 1 |
| <u>District 3 Representative in Congress</u> | |
| Adrian Smith..... | 59 |
| <u>Referendum No. 426</u> | |
| Repeal..... | 40 |
| Retain..... | 22 |

Attorney General Gives Valuable Talk to Students

By Leta Connell

Last Thursday, Nebraska Attorney General Doug Peterson presented an assembly to Arnold students in Grades 6-12. The Attorney General offered to speak to the students after his meeting with school administrators to update them on the status of a lawsuit the school joined in August. This lawsuit, as previously reported, entails schools being denied federal Title IX monies if they refuse to participate in transgender restroom usage.

The assembly began after an introduction from Dr. Dawn Lewis, Superintendent at Arnold Public Schools. Attorney General Peterson began by saying the Attorney General’s office upholds and defends the Constitution and the laws of the State of Nebraska. To help aide in students’ understanding, pocket-sized Constitutions were made available to each student.

He wants students to really understand the Constitution and why it is so important stressing, “Our Constitution keeps order and rule of law, it protects liberties from someone having too much power over your life.”

As Attorney General, he is the chief law enforcement officer for the State of Nebraska. Mr. Peterson has served two years of his four-year term in office. The



Attorney General Doug Peterson speaks to students in Grades 6-12 at Arnold last Thursday, telling them that through the use of technology, they are targets of the biggest marketing schemes in current history, and to be aware. (Leta Connell photo)

complete staff, including 65 lawyers, represents Nebraska in all lawsuits.

The Attorney General then wasted no time in getting to the meat and potatoes of what he feels is one of the biggest issues today: the targeting of our youth. Nebraskans have moved from the cigarette campaigns of 18 years ago to marijuana, prescription drugs and methamphetamines in urban and rural areas across the state. Meth has become the most used drug in Nebraska, made more available by the Colorado marijuana

distributing chains.

“All of you are targets - targets of the biggest marketing schemes in current history. Why, you may ask? It is because you are vulnerable, trusting and thanks to modern technology, easily accessible at any given moment,” he said.

There is more technology in a cell phone than the technology it took to land man on the moon. Technology has created a secret world and it is “GAME ON” to protect all users. The Attorney General’s office regrettably sees cases on a daily basis

how people will use the Internet and phones to do sick things, especially involving youth.

“Wickedness starts with your phone. You are vulnerable and often unsupervised. Only communicate with people you know and avoid bad websites at all costs,” urged Peterson.

Using technology as one way to lure victims, human trafficking has exploded into the second biggest problem our state faces; organized crime ranking at the top of the list. In 2015, a human trafficking task force was ini-

tiated in Nebraska. This is a close network of public and professional people including doctors, police and even teachers who have been trained to recognize the signs that many of us would overlook. Attorney General Peterson prompts parents to get phones and all electronic devices out of the bedroom and into a more public setting within the home. There are predators who want young people and they will pay a premium to get them.

Child abuse and child sexual assault carries the highest priority in the Attorney General’s office. The office puts forth a lot of time and effort into solving and prosecuting these cases.

“The most important thing is to protect those who are vulnerable and that is you,” he told students. “These crimes are not just happening in the urban cities like Omaha; rural Nebraska is also affected.”

Mr. Peterson concluded by saying, “There is a reason why this old guy in a tie is speaking to you; it is to get through to you that you have to make GOOD CHOICES. Times have changed, and you are asked to make choices in a split second that can literally affect the rest of your life.”