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The Arnold Sentinel

Legion and V.F.W. Host Vets Day Program



Kevin Kennedy, who served three tours of duty in Vietnam, speaks to the audience at last Tuesday's Veterans Day program. (Julie Mohr photos)

Vietnam Vet Featured Speaker

The bleachers at Arnold school were filled with students, their families and residents of all ages for the Veterans Day program hosted by American Legion Post 130 and the Veterans of Foreign Wars on November 11. Kindergarten through eighth grade students all had a prepared part in the program, which included recitations, music, essays and a Power Point presentation.

A highlight of the program was when freshman Tatum Cool presented her V.F.W. Patriot's Pen essay, titled "Why I Appreciate America's Veterans," that placed first at the State level and 10th in the Nation in March of 2015. Tatum's essay, which was written while she was an eighth grader, was a very personal and touching tribute to her late great-grandfather, John Nelson. After hearing Tatum's speech, scheduled

speaker Kevin Kennedy said he laid his prepared speech down on the podium and instead, walked around and addressed the crowd from the heart.

"What do you say when a young girl speaks about her great-grandfather and the meaning of freedom?" said Kennedy, 68, a Vietnam vet who served three tours of duty from 1965 to 1967, and was awarded the Purple Heart. "Sometimes when you speak from the heart, it's better than scripts and notes."

He asked the audience to imagine a man or a woman leaving all they have and going to a foreign country and leaving their spouse, family and friends.

"We go off to a foreign land to not only protect their freedom but our freedom," he said.

Kennedy asked everyone to now imagine this same man or woman returning back to the



V.F.W. Commander Gene Tullis presents Tatum Cool a plaque from V.F.W. and Legion Post 130 to honor her for placing 10th in the Nation in last year's Patriot's Pen essay contest. Tullis spoke about working with then-English teacher Mrs. Mills to start student participation in the contest in Arnold and the success students have had in the past.

U.S. after their tour of duty.

"We should all feel an obligation to do everything we can for this person who gave us so much to protect our freedom," he said.

To emphasize the meaning of giving one's life for freedom, Kennedy gave some statistics on the Vietnam War.

"In reality some soldiers go off to war and never get to come back home," he said. "Fifty-eight-thousand, one-hundred and fifty-six soldiers never came back home from Vietnam, and 295,000 never came back from World War II. Of those who died in Vietnam in country, over 17,539 were married, and 2,338 were missing in action. Ninety-percent of the vets that were discharged were honorably discharged. As a society, we need to realize the incredible sacrifices the men and women in our armed forces

have given and continue to give. Over 3.1 million served in Vietnam, and two-thirds have already died. The country is losing about 390 Vietnam vets a day - about ten percent of that generation."

Kennedy said his old unit, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines, lost 85 soldiers in battle.

"I can still remember their faces in time. I was only 17 years old," he said.

His old company commander keeps in touch, and the unit put up a memorial at Quantico Marine Corp Base, Virginia, of the 85 that were lost.

"One of the mothers attended the service. She was in her 90s, and you never expect to outlive your children, let alone a young corpsman who at the time was only 18 years old. These are the kind of things that we as a

Continued on page 2.

Village Awarded NEMA Grant

The Arnold Village Board of Trustees approved a grant agreement with the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) for an emergency backup generator for the community center at their regular meeting held last Monday night. In a separate action, the board authorized Village Superintendent Bill Moser, to sign the agreement and other required documents.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) granted approval for the application. FEMA will release funds to the state in the amount of \$25,135.00. The non-federal match requirement of \$8,379 will be provided through local funding.

AEDC Director's Update

AEDC Director Cheryl Carson said she is looking into the possibility of producing a "Who's Who in Business in Arnold." Copies could not only be distributed to residences as an insert in the newspaper, but copies could also be placed in businesses in Arnold for customers. She said the purpose would be to give more exposure to local businesses. Carson is looking at January to start on the project, working with *The Sentinel*, but will first consider cost, format and the time needed to gather information from business owners.

She also reported that:

- *Nebraska Life* magazine has Arnold's Kegs & Corks listed in events in order to draw more interest from outside areas.

- She is fielding questions from other communities about LB840 and how to make it a success in those communities.

- Larger homes in Arnold that are up for sale are going fast. One put up on the website went in "a snap." She continues to regularly update the website and VisitNebraska.com.

Comments from Floor

Tony Eggleston approached the board about the possibility of the youth wrestling club

Continued on page 2.

One-Act Community Night Set for Friday

Team Takes Home Awards from Gothenburg Festival

Arnold's One-act Team performed "Imperfect Proposal" by Lisa Parry at the 1st Annual Gothenburg Festival on November 14 and earned the Outstanding Comedy (team) and Outstanding Technical Crew awards (sets, lights and sound). Jarret Buchholz and Morgan Eggleston earned All Festival Honors as Outstanding Actors.

Residents will have a chance to see both Arnold's and Callaway's One-Act performance this Friday night, November 20, in the Arnold School gymnasium at the annual "Community Night."

A soup and pie supper to benefit After Prom will be served from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., and the plays will begin at 7:00 p.m.

Arnold students will perform "Imperfect Proposal" by Lisa Parry. Director Debby Moninger said this fast-paced comedy is full of dynamic characters, amusing stage action, and non-stop laughs. Following is a summary of the play and its characters.

Do you know what love is? Audience members will get to contemplate on the question as they watch the Arnold cast members perform "Imperfect Proposal" by Lisa Parry. Ben (Tristan Johnson), a young man in love, has invited his girlfriend to a romantic picnic in the park to pop the question. Spreading out the blanket and food, he rehearses the perfect line. But as soon as Kate (Tatum Cool) arrives, his hopes of happily ever after are dashed as anything that could possibly go wrong does - he says the wrong thing, she misunderstands, they get plowed over by a gang of football players (Brandon Moninger, Sully Lewis, Brenden Rivers)... followed by a parade of other mishaps including the rich socialite Anastasia Fitzgerald (Olivia Furne), the jog-aholic dog-lover (Sadie Christensen), a group of pet protestors (Jasmine Nelson, Toni Oberg, Jennifer Barraza, and Brenden Rivers), the ex-boyfriend (Sully Lewis), and the beautiful Celia (Bobbi Barnes)!



Celia (Bobbi Barnes) takes a selfie with Will (Jarret Buchholz) while Ella (Morgan Eggleston) displays her disapproval, and the Mime (Leighton Bubak) scopes out the situation. Both Eggleston and Buchholz received Outstanding Actor awards at last weekend's Gothenburg One-Act Festival. (Renee Bubak photo)

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A constant stream of wisecracks (and wisdom of what true love is!) comes from a nearby park bench, where a nosey old couple (Morgan Eggleston and Jarret Buchholz) spends the afternoon eavesdropping and commentating while the park entertainment (Ashton Weinman and Leighton Bubak) hysterically interpret the actions of the love-struck. By the end of

the picnic, it's more like a death knell than wedding bells for the young couple's relationship. This fast-paced comedy is full of dynamic characters, amusing stage action, and non-stop laughs.

Callaway will present "The Lost Soul of Captain Composure" by Tim Kochenderter. It's summary follows:

Pirate Captain Jack "Short-

fuse" Composure (Noah Edgington) thinks he's gotten the best of a sassy mermaid (Olivia Paulsen) when she offers him a fortune in exchange for his soul and he gives her an empty canteen instead. But the joke may be on the Captain when his soul turns up in the hands of the dastardly Le Mew (Lafayette Loper) and his easily offended group of French sailors (Natalie G'Schwind, Sami Stowell, Amber Ross). Composure struggles with good (Emma Badgley) and bad (Savannah Weverka). Composure must decide whether to save his treasure and his own motley crew (Dane Rynearson, Marshall Still, Spencer Johnson), or risk his life to keep his soul.

Community Foundation Fundraiser is Saturday

Everyone is reminded that the Arnold Community Foundation Fundraiser is set for Saturday, November 21, at the Arnold Community Center.

The social hour will be held from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., and the meal will be served at 7:00 p.m. Philanthropy Awards will be presented, and the auction will start at 8:00 p.m. Proceeds will help build a community savings account that will benefit many projects in Arnold.

Tickets are available at First State Insurance or from Shane Cool, Becky Dailey, Dean Weinman, Austin Snyder, Cory Peterson, Gary Blevins, Holly Hornung-Remund, Carolyn Bowers or Kris Hagler.