

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

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Students Present Annual Christmas Program

First graders (from left) Trey Fortune, Callan Witthuhn, Rae Hagler and Shane Gibson perform on stage at last week's Christmas program held in the school's auditorium. Family and friends gathered to see performances by all students in grades K-12 under the direction of Chrysanne Bailey. This year's theme was “Songs for the Season,” and some of the fun selections were: “Jingle Bells,” “Snow Pants,” “Mousie in the Snow” and “Joy to the World.” The program also included performances by the high school and 7-8 choirs, solos and the band. More pictures from the program will be in next week's holiday issue. (Leta Connell photo)



After receiving his college education and getting on-the-job experience, Drew Bowers has opened his own motorcycle and ATV shop called Bowers Small Engine Repair. (Sentinel photo)

Bowers Small Engine Repair Is Open for Business

Drew Bowers had a dream one night when he was little, and he's made it come true.

“I dreamed that I had a motorcycle and ATV repair shop, except I was supposed to be in Hawaii,” he said.

After graduating from Arnold High School in 2012, Drew enrolled in the motorcycle, ATV and watercraft program at Southeast Community College in Lincoln—a program that included taking his generals. His plan to get his education and return to Arnold to start a business caught the attention of local scholarship committees while he was a senior in high school. He ended up receiving several, including the

Bob McDowell scholarship.

Out of college, Drew started working for Mike's Motorcycle and ATV Repair in North Platte.

“I learned a lot at Mike's in just over two years; I wanted to get that experience,” he said.

While Drew was working in North Platte, his parents, Duane and Carolyn Bowers, purchased a building in downtown Arnold from Neil Coleman that fit the bill for a repair shop. They insulated and painted the exterior last summer; at the same time, Drew started his business. He has a full line of tools—purchased at a big discount

while in college—and a motorcycle and ATV lift.

“I've probably done 80 invoices mainly over the summer and have had some customers from Stapleton,” he said. “People seem pretty happy that I'm here.”

Bowers Small Engine Repair is open Thursday and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to noon. On the other three days you'll find Drew working at Forrester's Dodge City.

“I'm happy to get the business started. I love Arnold and being close to family,” he said.

Illness Affects December Red Cross Blood Drive

The Arnold December blood drive missed its goal by eight pints of blood due mostly to illness. The goal was 30 pints of blood, and the American Red Cross collected 22 pints. Two donors were unable to donate because they were on antibiotics.

Despite the illnesses, several donors celebrated milestones at this drive: Jake Gilland, four gallons; Pete Koubek, three gallons; Anita Harwager, two gallons; and Rusty Wyckoff, two gallons.

Ten donors and families participated in the Holiday Mail for Heroes card drive for active-duty soldiers, their families and veterans across Nebraska. Amanda Koubek reports that the Red Cross organization was able to

send 80 cards to our service men and women from gracious donors and community members in Arnold, Paxton, Eustis, Farnam and Cozad.

During the holidays, the American Red Cross sees a decline in donations because people are busy and seasonal illnesses increase, but that doesn't mean the patients that need blood get a break; the need for blood remains constant. In fact, every two seconds someone in the United States needs blood. If you are feeling well and healthy, please consider giving blood in another location around the holidays. You can find a full list of drives at redcrossblood.org or by calling Amanda Koubek at 308-660-6709.



Plates and jars of treats—made by Arnold students—were lined up on a table in the school's hallway before last Thursday's Christmas program to raise money for the food pantry. The National Honor Society was in charge of the fundraiser which far exceeded expectations. (Leta Connell photo)

School Puts New Twist on Food Drive

Over \$900.00 Raised for Local Pantry

By Leta Connell

A new twist on the “Spirit of Christmas Food Drive” for the Arnold community proved very successful this season. In the past, the National Honor Society sponsored a food drive where all students and staff were asked to bring items of need to school for donation. With a high need of specific items this year, it was deemed that monetary donations would be more helpful than the traditional food drive. Creative minds joined forces and the K-12 treat raffle was under way with the drawing set to take place after the Christ-

mas music program on December 8.

Still wanting everyone to be involved in the giving process, Arnold Public School staff stepped up to the challenge. Each class baked a treat based on classroom activities. The class and treat list was: kindergarten - reindeer cookies; first grade - chango bars; second grade - Santa's elf cookies, third grade - homemade bread and butter, fourth grade - reindeer fodder, fifth grade - gurgi's crunchings and munchings, sixth grade - DNA Christmas platter, seventh grade - friendship

cookie mix, eighth grade - homemade ice cream, ninth grade - Christmas puppy chow, tenth grade - kolaches, eleventh grade - chemistry cookies, twelfth grade - snickers cupcakes and life skills - homemade cinnamon rolls. Several of the delicious recipes were even included with the raffle prizes.

Preorders were encouraged and tickets were sold for \$1.00 each or seven tickets for \$5.00. The hopeful goal of \$250.00 was blown away as the preorder total and kolache donation by Janet Kalinowski alone was \$688.00.

After the music program a large crowd waited anxiously to hear their name called with the hope of taking home a delicious treat. For

winners who were not in attendance, treats were delivered the following day.

On Friday morning the money was counted for a grand total of \$924.00 raised, with all proceeds going to the food pantry. A big thanks goes out to all who supported the food pantry through the treat raffle fundraiser.

If you would like to personally donate, money can either be put on the food pantry's account at Reed's Food Center, given to Heather Furne (treasurer) or leave your donated items at the Methodist Church with Lori Stutzman's name attached.

Holiday Drawing Winners

Pinnacle Bank held its first Christmas drawing on December 9, with the following winners: Preston Tucker, Nikki Harter, Jody Bailey, Leta Connell, Jamie Neth, Mitch Geiser, Carmen Purcell, Debbie Brosius, Craig Furne and Natalie Cool.

A grand total of \$1,000.00 in Chamber Bucks will be given away in the two scheduled drawings. The next drawing is set for December 16. Be sure to sign up at the bank for your chance to win.

Chamber Drawing
Arnold Chamber held its first drawing for \$25.00 in Chamber Bucks on December 5, with the following winners announced: Debbie Brosius, Bonnie Eastwood,

Tony Miller, Cheri Robbins, Tammy Weinman, Linda Williams, DanDee Wonch and Gail Zoerb.

In order to enter the drawing, simply spend \$10.00 or more at a participating business and you will be given one ticket. Either deposit the signed ticket at the business or drop it off under the Christmas tree in the Chamber Bucks package at Pinnacle Bank. You may enter as many times as you like with each purchase of \$10.00 or more.

Eight winners will be drawn at each of three drawings. The final drawing will be held on Monday, December 19.