

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

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CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

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Start Date Announced for Candidates Filing for Office

Local board members up for reelection

LINCOLN- Secretary of State Robert Evnen announced that incumbents and non-incumbents, running for multi-county district, offices, state, or federal offices, are able to submit their filing documents for Nebraska 2020 elections beginning December 2, 2019. Instructions and filing fees are online at www.sos.ne.gov.

For the primary: February 18, 2020 - Last day for incumbents (any current office holder) to file for office, and March 2, 2020 - is the last day for non-incumbents (new filers) to file for office. The Nebraska primary election is May 12, 2020 and November 3, 2020 is the date of Nebraska's General Election.

Secretary Evnen advised, "Anyone considering a candidacy should check with the Accountability and Disclosure Commission about the forms required to be filed and the rules that should be followed."

Locally, Duane Bowers, Diana Coleman and Eric Nelson's positions on the Arnold School Board will be up for reelection. The positions of Glen Bowers and Aaron Olson will be up for reelection on the Village Board for the November 2020 election.

The official 2020 elections calendar is on the Secretary of State website. For more information, visit sos.nebraska.gov and click on the "Elections" tab or call the Elections Division at 402-471-2555.

APS Seniors Make Vital Contribution to Patient Care

Giving blood is a selfless act. The hour it takes to give the gift of life can mean a lifetime to a patient with a serious medical need. At the first Arnold Public Schools blood drive on Nov. 18, 2019, 36 people came in to give blood, each making a significant impact on the lives of others. Of those 36, four gave a power red donation (counting as two units), three were deferred and two couldn't complete their donation. This resulted in a total collection of 35 units of blood for a goal of 32 units.

There were six first-time blood donors at this drive: Faith Bierman, Carly Gracey, Dawson Hanna-Miles, Jayden Hanna-Miles, Dylan Nelson, and Colby Streit.

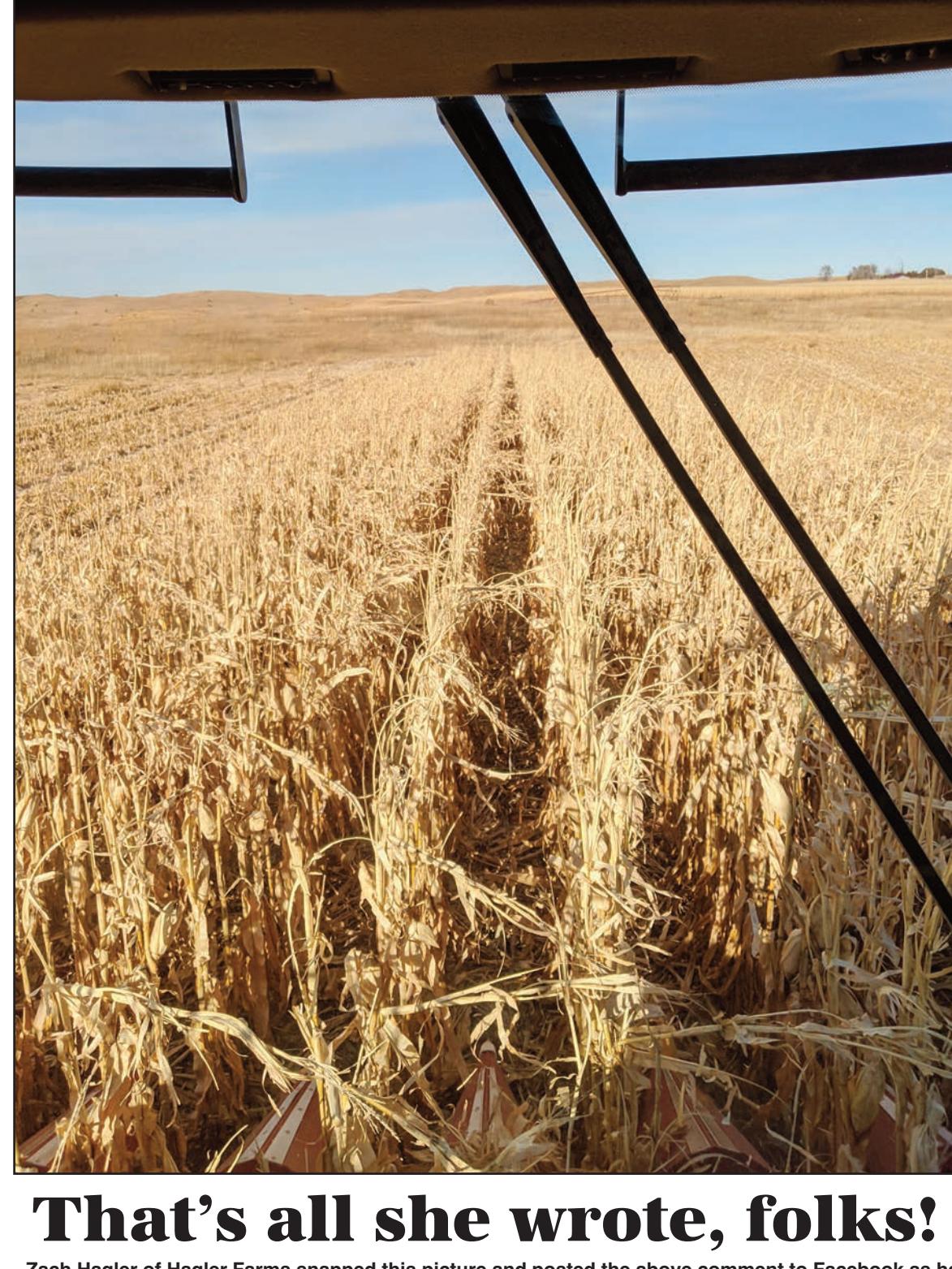
Two donors celebrated milestones: April Tickle, 3 gallons; Bre Anna Smith, 2 gallons.

The American Red Cross is proud to offer learning-in-action opportunities for high school students that will help develop and recognize their leadership and humanitarian spirit. High schools that partner with the Red Cross through this scholarship program receive the satisfaction of knowing that they have helped deliver lifesaving services and blood products to patients in need and can recognize the student leaders who help save lives.

Every day, patients throughout our community and across the country rely on volunteer blood donors when receiving medical care. Cancer patients, trauma victims, organ transplant recipients, premature babies, sickle cell disease patients and others may need blood products.

The APS seniors will host their next blood drive on Jan. 20, 2020, at the Community Center.

To make an appointment or to learn more, download the



That's all she wrote, folks!

Zach Hagler of Hagler Farms snapped this picture and posted the above comment to Facebook as he finished up his corn harvest on November 25 - just a couple of days before snow, ice and high winds moved into the area into Sunday morning.

A bumper crop was reported in 2018, but 2019 was a whole different story. Marginal planting conditions combined with a lack of heat units and wet soils all summer caused reduced yields.

"It was the wettest, slowest paced, most delayed planting season I've ever been a part of," said Zach. "The corn I got in early seemed to do pretty well. Most of what I planted was in marginal conditions. Those conditions, in my opinion, caused un-uniform emergence and reduced stand counts. Last year was a fantastic year for corn yields, so it's hard to compare this year, but I'd say my yields were off as much as 15 to 20 percent in the worst areas."

It is estimated that about 95 percent of harvest was completed in the area before weather conditions changed.

Country Partners Reports Net Income of \$6 Million for Fiscal 2019

Gothenburg, NE - Country Partners Cooperative has completed its year-end audit for the period ending September 30, 2019. Total sales were recorded at \$282 million. Local earnings were approximately \$2.6 million and combined with regional cooperative patronage resulted in the \$6 million of total net income.

The board of directors met on November 19 to arrive at a plan for the distribution of earnings and the patronage rates as a result of the successful year. Patronage checks will be mailed sometime after January 1 as per the normal procedure. Over \$5.8 million in total will be allocated to customers in patronage dividends.

"Thanks to the hard work of the employee group and the support of our Country Partners member owners, we are pleased to report a successful and profitable year," said CEO E. Tod Clark. "2019 has been a challenging year for our state, and for our farmers and ranchers in particular. Managing costs and emphasizing performance in all our business segments will continue to be a top priority, while ensuring that we are meeting the needs of an ever-changing set of customers and helping improve their profitability."

Chairman of the Board Tim Rowe added, "The Board of Directors is very pleased with the company's earnings with the challenges that we all have lived through this past growing season. We have reviewed our financials and company performance and are proud to be able to pay out patronage to our patrons through this challenging year. This board has aggressive goals to payout member equity, to put cash in the hands of our producers in these economically difficult times. Since 2016, Country Partners has allocated over \$10.8 million to

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Young Author Introduces Newly Published Book



Courtesy Photo

Haley Stryker signs a copy of "Cale the Corgi Learns Common Sense" for Debbie Connelly at a signing held at BrewBakers in November.

By Janet Larreau

Haley Stryker of Callaway has dreamed of writing stories since she was 11 years old and has seriously considered writing as a career path since she was 14 - she just never had any idea how to start or what to write about. A high school senior English project turned out to be the starting point, as her new children's book, "Cale the Corgi Learns Common Sense" has been published.

Haley, now 24, said the assignment was to write a short story

with a moral, and illustrate it. As she was trying to come up with ideas, the words, "Don't be dumb, it's just not smart," kept ringing in the back of her head.

"The project required that we illustrate our story, and I cannot draw people - at all. I can, however, sketch out animals and make them look decent enough, so right when we got the project I knew it was going to have animals as the characters. Apart from that, I'm a farm girl, so it only made sense to choose farm animals as I'm

extremely familiar with them," she said.

As Haley wrote, the characters of Cale the Corgi, Hip-Hop Horse, Clarice Cow and Pearl Pig developed. The farm animal friends play a game called Dare. On a cold winter day, Cale and her friends decide to play the game and Cale is the first one dared. She doesn't like the dare she gets and thinks it's a bad idea, but goes through with it anyway, learning a lesson in common sense.

After Haley got the original "book" back, she showed it to her parents, and they encouraged her to show it to other people. She took it to church and family functions.

"Everybody seemed to really enjoy it," she said. "People would ask me if I was going to have the story published, and said that I should because they thought it would make a good children's book. I started wondering if maybe this was how I could get into publishing and become an actual author, so I took everyone's advice and encouragement and went for it."

Haley said that she got extremely lucky when deciding how to publish the book. She wrote "Cale" in 2013, and it was published in 2019. Most of that in-between time was spent on brief and unsuccessful trials of shopping her book around to some publishers and deciding whether or not to self-publish or go a more traditional route. She finally decided to self-publish, but looked one more time on-line and found Christian Faith Publishing. She ordered a



free author's kit from the company, and two days later got a call from one of their agents, explaining their pricing and how they handle rights to properties and advertising tools they offered.

Haley e-mailed the manuscript, which was then sent on to the selection committee in mid-October of 2018. Two weeks later, she got a call informing her that the manuscript has been accepted for publishing.

Haley ended up signing a contract with the company and paid between \$3,000.00 and \$4,000.00 up front. The payment would pay for illustrators, proofreaders and editors, typesetters, book trailer creators, etc. During the process, she reviewed the proof-reading/editing that had been done. She also reviewed every draft that the team of illustrators made during the process, making sure they fit her mind's eye.

The cover design was quickly okayed by Haley when it finally came through.

"I remember looking at the cover for the first time and thinking how adorable and

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