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South Loup River Valley

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The Arnold Sentinel

Chili Cook-off Set for This Saturday

Arnold Chamber will host its annual Chili Cook-off on Saturday, March 14. As of last Thursday, eight teams had entered to vie for several prizes, including first, second and third place chili, People's Choice, Best Decorated Booth and Mr. and Mrs. Congeniality.

Contestants will set up their booths and start cooking their chili at the community center early in the day. Public tasting of contestants' chili and serving of potato and chicken noodle soup will be held from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Mrs. Crow and her fourth graders will also be selling pies as a fundraiser. During the event, the "Men on the Mountain Quartet" will entertain the crowd.

Out-of-town teams signed up so far include:

Terrence Williams of Lincoln will be chief cook of "The In-Laws Outlaw Chili," assisted by Mark Davis and Elizabeth Davis, of Shelton, and Rebekah Williams.

Josh Magill, chief cook for "S & P Ag," will be assisted by brother Jonathan, Dustin Olson and Ned Pelster.

"Keeping it in the Family," sponsored by Jo's Café of Callaway. Chief cook Jo Trumbull, will be assisted by Brittany Trumbull, Kelsey Trumbull, Colleen Reinhardt and Mike Andre.

Local teams include: "Sniper Chili," sponsored by Sandhills Classic Arms, Inc. Chief cook Jeff Bowers, assisted by Debbie Bowers.

"Looking Fine As We Dine," sponsored by Sue's Beauty Shop and Suzy's Pizza. Chief Cook Kent DeLosh, and assisted by Pam Long and Sue DeLosh.

"Homegrown Kids." Chief cook Heather Hagler, and assisted by Melissa Bierman, Liz Bierman and Carma Edwards.

"Smiling Assassins BBQ." Chief cook Jim Daly, and assisted by Brandon Nansel and Brent Kulp.

"Chili Chili Bang Bang." Chief cook Valary Nuzum, and assisted by Amy Nansel and Heidi Kulp.

Future of Festival in Doubt Unless Volunteers are Found

It was decided on March 4 at the regular Chamber meeting that unless there is a chairperson or committee who steps forward, there will not be an Arnold Festival this year.

Last year, Chamber members decided to discontinue the 4th of July festival due to lack of interest. It was then decided to try a Fall Festival, as Arnold had done with great success in the past. Possible dates were looked at in September, but with the full schedule, September did not work.

A date of August 29, 2015, was determined the date of the Fall Festival, contingent on a chairperson or committee. Although school will have started, there is no Husker football on that particular weekend.

"We would hate to lose this festival," said Patty Lamberty, Chamber treasurer.

There are many organizations who use the festival as a money-making opportunity and it would be detrimental to lose it, she said.

If you would like to volunteer to chair the festival event, talk to Chamber officers, Peg Scott, Patty Lamberty, Dena Mills or Kendra Veirs.

If nobody steps forward by the next Chamber meeting, set for April 1, at Triangle Lanes Bowling Alley, the Arnold Festival will be discontinued.

They've a Story to Tell

3rd in a Series on Arnold's
"Young at Heart"
Residents



Margaret Eastburn holds an award from the United States Department of the Treasury for the school year 1968-69 for "Patriotic Service and Support of the U.S. Savings Bond Program." Margaret's involvement with the Savings Bond Program began with the war effort during World War II. (Janet Larreau photo)

By Darlene Rimpley

A girl who asked for a pony as a high school graduation gift, who thinks she is facing certain death in a plane ride, who gets locked in an attic by her husband, and who wins the AK-SAR-BEN Good Neighbor Award - that's nobody but Margaret Eastburn.

The Early Years

Born in York, Nebraska, in 1927, the youngest of 10 children, Margaret was prepared early for her life as a wife, mother and woman for all tasks. Her parents, Con and Sylvia McCarthy, moved the family to Anselmo where Margaret attended a country school until she entered the eighth grade in the Arnold Public School. She recalls her eighth grade teacher, Margaret Aydelotte, and how scared the kids were of her.

After her graduation in 1944 at 16 years of age, Margaret worked in a café for a time in

Broken Bow.

Jim & Margaret

Jim Eastburn was a senior when Margaret was a freshman, and when the United States entered World War II, Jim joined the Air Corps. When he returned at the end of the war, he and Margaret, who by then was back in Arnold working at Marj Corbin's café, started dating and were married in 1946.

The couple took a plane ride in a 240 Cessna airplane that Jim had bought in partnership with several other men. From the airplane, they spotted a small, empty house 17 miles east of Arnold that they really liked. They dealt for that house and had it moved to Arnold on the edge of town in what was then a cornfield, and have lived in it since 1949. Over the years, they have remodeled and built on, and it is now a spacious home. Margaret named some of the friends who helped do the work on the house: Emmett

Stuck in the Attic

There is an attic above the Eastburn garage and home, which is reached by a pull down ladder in the garage. One fall, Margaret was in the attic storing their lawn chairs. Jim decided to go downtown for something, and seeing the ladder to the attic down, he put it back up. When Margaret wanted to come down, she could not reach the ladder and so waited in the attic for Jim to come home. He swore he didn't know she was up there, and that he was only gone for a few minutes, but Margaret believed that he probably went and played cribbage.

Thoms, Slim Sailor, Pop Olin and Jarld Bone. She recalls what great neighbors Sid and Lela Bassett were.

Jim and Margaret were avid campers and were involved in the National Camper and Hiker Association (NCHA), were regional directors and helped plan the national NCHA Convention in Grand Island. Their first camper was a converted 1957 Ford van that was a bread truck. Affectionately known as "the old brown bomber," it was transportation to football games, shuffleboard tournaments and horse races for kids and friends. They also drove their motor home to Texas for several years to spend the winter with friends.

They bought Herb Vogel's tavern in 1954 and began Jim's Bar, where they both worked. They later sold the bar to their daughter, Deb Atkins, and their son, Lee, who later became sole owner. Even though they no longer owned the bar, they both continued working there when needed. Margaret also clerked for Deb and Brad's auction service.

The Eastburns had high school students room with them. One time, Margaret had cooked a roast, and she had

extra, so they gave it to the girls for their noon lunch. When the girls left, they thanked them and asked what kind of meat it was. Joker Jim replied, "Rocky Mountain oysters." One of the girls was immediately sick, and the other two were not pleased.

Always a Willing Volunteer

Margaret was involved in supporting the war effort. She helped prepare food for the North Platte Canteen, which presented servicemen coming through North Platte on the trains with sandwiches, cookies and soft drinks. She remembers people donating their gas ration cards to provide the means to get the ladies and food to North Platte. She went to the school to sell stamps to the school children. After the children had bought \$17.50 worth of stamps (they usually only bought one stamp at a time at the cost of ten cents), they would get a \$25.00 war bond.

Jim and Margaret had five children, and they quickly became involved in children's activities, which expanded over the years. Margaret was a den mother when her sons were in Cub Scouts, and even after Dan had completed Cub Scouts, she

Continued on page 2.

The Plane Ride

Jim took lessons from Clarence Romans so he could pilot a plane, and the partnership gave each owner a schedule when they could fly the plane. One weekend, when it was Jim's turn, he asked Margaret if she would like to go for a ride. She agreed, thinking it would be fun. It was great fun, as they flew over the Arnold area - that is until they were above Devil's Den when Jim decided to do some of his "trick flying." He would turn the plane so they were laying on their side, and then plunge towards the earth, or so Margaret thought. She said she was screaming and saying "Hail Marys," and was really afraid. When they landed and Margaret got out of the plane, "I knelt down and kissed the ground," she said.

"Frozen" Reading Event Packs the House



Sisters Olivia and Eden McCain, from Loomis, bear a striking resemblance to the two princesses in the Disney movie "Frozen."

The Disney movie's "Frozen" princesses, portrayed by Loomis sisters Olivia and Eden McCain, wowed an audience of approximately 170 at the Rialto Theatre on Saturday, March 7. Participants included a birthday party from Ansley, youth from Callaway and Thedford, as well as many local residents, with a wide range of ages participating in the festivities.

The sisters read Disney's "Frozen," stopping to sing "In Summer" and "Let it Go," with a room full of avid fans. After the performance, participants patiently waited in a line that circled the theater for pictures with the princesses by Kevin Neth.

"The crowd loved the experience and a couple were asking



The Rialto Theatre was packed last Saturday with children and parents from several communities, as Loomis sisters Olivia and Eden McCain, portrayed the two princesses in the Disney movie "Frozen." The reading event was brought to the community for Finch Memorial Library by National Honor Society members. (Photos courtesy of Kevin Neth)

when the next reading would be," said NHS sponsor Debby Moninger.

If you missed the princesses or want to see an encore, they will be at the Broken Bow Public Library on Tuesday, March 24, from 5:00 until 6:00.

Jessica Tickle will be putting the pictures taken by Kevin Neth on the Finch Memorial Library website, so parents can locate their children's photos. The website is: <http://finch-memoriallibrary.weebly.com/>

Arnold's "Frozen" Reading Celebration was arranged for the Finch Memorial Library by

members of the National Honor Society, who are participating in the Youth Leadership Custer County. After the NHS students contacted the library to see what service would be needed the most, Rhonda Gilland shared an article she had read about the princesses performing for a Lexington elementary school. NHS students used Facebook to contact the Loomis sisters and organize the event. The Rialto Theatre Board donated the use of the theater.

The NHS students are currently working with Finch Memorial Library, updating the

website, donating books for the summer reading program, and are also designing backdrops for the reading program.

The 2015 theme for the children is, "Every Hero Has a Story," and Mrs. Moninger said watching how the Arnold community works together to fulfill dreams proves this is true.

Jessica Tickle, Carlene Latham and Deanna McDonald will have an exciting month of summer reading activities in June, so look for future reading promotions and the summer reading plans on the website and in *The Arnold Sentinel*.