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CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

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The Arnold Sentinel

Nine Teams Vie for Best Chili



First place prize of Best Chili went to “Smiling Assassins BBQ” team of Jim Daly (left) and Brent Kulp. Not pictured is Brandon Nansel.

The competition was fierce at Saturday’s annual Chili Cook-off. Nine teams set up their booths and added their own secret ingredients in hopes of earning the first place prize. In the end, judges Dave Crow, Gary and Merri Jo Halstead, Zach Hagler and WeiQin Chua, deemed “Smiling Assassins BBQ” chili “the best,” with chief cook Jim Daly and assistants Brent Kulp and Brandon Nansel receiving the prize.

The “Some Like it Hot” team of chief cook Heather Hagler, and assistants Melissa Bierman, Liz Bierman and Carma Edwards received the second place prize, and Best Booth honors. The girls, dressed as firemen, served their booth’s hors d’oeuvres from firemen’s

helmets. The team was sponsored by Homegrown Kids Daycare.

Third place Best Chili went to “Sniper Chili,” sponsored by Sandhills Classic Arms. Chief cook was Jeff Bowers, assisted by Debbie Bowers and Clifton Bowers.

The People’s Choice award went to “Keeping it in the Family Bloody Mary Style,” sponsored by Jo’s Café of Callaway. Chief cook was Jo Trumbull, assisted by Kelsey Trumbull, Colleen Reinhard, Mike Andre and Roger Andre.

Mr. Congeniality honors went to Kent DeLosh and Ms. Congeniality was Jo Trumbull.

Tiff Varney donated a Chicago Cutlery knife set, and all of the contestants in the teams put



The “Some Like it Hot!” team of (from left) Carma Edwards, Liz Bierman, Heather Hagler and Melissa Bierman, captured the prize for second place chili and Best Decorated Booth at Saturday’s Chili Cook-off. The team was sponsored by Homegrown Kids Daycare.

their name in for the drawing. Jeff Bowers was the lucky winner.

A crowd of 150-plus attended the cook-off, sampling contestants’ chili and enjoying potato

and chicken noodle soup. Fourth graders, sporting St. Patrick’s Day green, served pie by the slice as a fundraiser for their class.

The Chamber-sponsored

event ended with entertainment provided by “Men on the Mountain” trio of Irv Jennings, Ed Tullis and Bob Hough.

Please turn to page 8 for more photos of the event.

School Board Accepts Resignation of Teacher, Votes to Fund Technology Needs

With regret, school board members accepted the resignation of kindergarten teacher Kari Buoy at their regular meeting held last Tuesday night. In her formal letter, Ms. Buoy cited family circumstances as her reason for leaving.

After reading the letter of resignation, Principal Dawn Lewis commented that Kari has been a wonderful teacher and did a remarkable job.

The school will start advertising for a new kindergarten teacher after spring break.

Technology Needs

Mrs. Lewis reported that the high school population is about to come up and the school will be short on some MacBook Airs. The processing speed for three instructors needs to be beefed up, and more I Pads are needed for the elementary grades.

Forty-thousands-dollars is sitting in an account from funds received from Mid-Plains Community College distance learning, and the school’s auditor said that money needs to be spent down. The auditor suggested that the funds on purchase of technology would be a wise move since it would not have to come out of the General Fund.

The board approved the purchase of 12 iPads for elementary grades, five MacBook Airs for high school students, four MacBook Pros for instructors, 12 cases and a document camera for Mrs. Crow for a total of \$17,500.00.

Title I Discussion

In non-action items, a government grant that the school applies for each year and the amount of paper work that goes with it for the Title I program was up for discussion. This year’s grant totaled \$14,640.00, but administrators and teachers are wondering if it is worth it. Mrs. Lewis said that some of the students who need some additional help fall into a gray area, and don’t qualify for Title

I because of the grant. She mentioned that it is not connected to the Free and Reduced Lunch program. Some of the money is used to pay Title I salaries.

“It’s a federal grant, and (the government) basically pays the school for teachers doing all of the paperwork,” she said. “If we don’t receive the grant, we wouldn’t have to manipulate the numbers and go through all of the red tape to provide intervention for all of our students.”

Anselmo-Merna schools no longer applies for the grant, and Mrs. Lewis has spoken with administrators there. The amount of money received keeps going steadily down, and more schools may be following suit.

Ashley Meyer spoke about the program and the paperwork involved, and said there are currently 10 kids who qualify for Title I.

Mrs. Lewis said that she was bringing up the idea of not applying for the grant so that board members will have time to think about it. The board will need to commit either way in July or August.

Gym Floor Discussion

Both Arnold and Callaway schools are in the process of changing out their mascots of the Cardinals and the Bears on the gymnasium floors with the new South Loup Bobcat design. Clay Mohr gave board members a print-out of the proposed new design. Using photoshop, the design was superimposed on the gym floor, giving members a good look at what the floor will look like from the stands.

Arnold will be using the modern method of staining the artwork on the floor, which is something colleges and universities have been doing for the past seven to eight years. The artwork, at a cost of about \$11,000.00, should last 20 to 25 years. Superintendent Osmond said Callaway will be painting theirs.

Discussion was held on

whether to use an oil or water based topcoat over the artwork and whether to use UV protection down the road. The school’s contract with a company to do the work, and the amount of money it charges for the graphics and stenciling was also discussed.

“We are capable of doing our own graphics, and companies are not used of schools being able to do that,” said Mr. Mohr.

The buildings and grounds committee will meet on the matter, and Mr. Osmond will check and see if the school can get out of its current contract to free up the decision making

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New AEDC Director Named

At last Monday night’s village board meeting, Arnold Economic Development President Andrew Tickle introduced Cheryl (Weinman) Carson as the new AEDC Director. After the resignation of Sandy Hicks, the AEDC board has been interviewing candidates, and Tickle said Cheryl was definitely the best fit for the position.

“Cheryl is really good on the business and banking side. We’re looking forward to having her on board and a director in the office,” said Tickle.

In his update, Tickle said that a special village election is being planned for sometime in mid-July. At that time, residents

will vote on a new LB840 plan and the 1 percent local sales & use tax. The current plan, and with it the tax, is set to expire in December 2016. Tickle said the new plan will be done by the end of the month.

At the AEDC’s request, the board approved a \$2,000.00 grant to accompany an AEDC loan for expansion of the business to include a second facility. Tickle said the new facility should be ready by next month.

The village board appointed Holly Hornung Remund to the AEDC board to replace Clint

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St. Patty’s Day Fun

Fourth graders Chet Oberg, Silas Cool, Johnathon Lamphear and Devin Peterson ham it up in St. Patty’s Day garb while selling pie by the slice at Saturday night’s chili cook-off. Adults, Joe Cool, WeiQin Chua and Mindy Peterson oversee the fun.