

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

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Sixth grade students are learning to play the guitar with a monetary gift given in memory of Marion Fuller-Nelson to Arnold Public School's music department. Pictured are: (back, l-r) Samantha Wonch, Isaac Tickle, Logan Recoy, Rio Remund, Izaiah Hessler; (3rd row) Dawson Doggett, Delaney Rogers, Gracie Neth, Harmony Borah, Madison Smith; (2nd row) Brendan Streit, Cache Gracey, Bryn Schwarz, Charli Vickers, Tahnna Nokes; (1st row) Alivia Robbins, Trey Connell, Grace Bierman, Macy Atkins. Not pictured: Noah Hunt. (Pepper Werner photo)

The Gift of Music

Music Department Receives \$3,000 in Memory of Marion-Fuller Nelson

By Diana Coleman

The music department at Arnold Public Schools recently received a gift of \$3,000.00, given in memory of long-time music instructor, Marion Fuller-Nelson.

"It would delight my mother to know that the money donated for her memorial was used for the children's music department at Arnold Public Schools," commented Kathy Kral, Marion Fuller-Nelson's daughter. Kathy also said, "This was a great way to honor my mother's memory. The fine arts departments in public schools are often underfunded. It's a perfect way to honor her and her love for music."

The family wanted the music

department at the school to decide how best to use this gift. Ms. Chrysanne Bailey, the current music instructor, said, "I was thrilled when I found out that the family of Marion Fuller-Nelson had designated that her memorial money be given to Arnold Public Schools to benefit the elementary music program. This is a wonderful opportunity to enrich our students beyond the normal budget. My plans for this gift include purchasing additional guitars for the upper elementary and purchasing a set of hand drums and new rhythm instruments for the lower elementary."

Kathy plays the guitar and was extremely pleased that

some of the money was going to be used to purchase guitars.

Growing up in Omaha, Marion's father, William Rapp, worked for the Omaha Livestock Commission Company. Her mother, Lena Rapp, desired that her children be cultured and well rounded. Lena took Marion and her siblings to many performances in Omaha. They attended many concerts, including one given by Sergei Rachmaninov, a famous Russian pianist and composer, and another given by the von Trapp family singers, whose story is portrayed in "The Sound of Music." This sparked the beginning of Marion's love for music. Marion graduated from Omaha Central High School and went

on to attend and graduate Delta Gamma from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln with a degree in music education.

Marion began teaching music right out of college in Arnold. She would continue to teach there for 40 years. Her school music programs were known to be very creative and entertaining. She adapted and wrote her own scripts and songs. She would also have the school children write their own scripts, along with writing the songs to go with them.

Kathy remembers doing this

when she was in second grade.

She also distinctly remembers wanting to write the whole

thing by herself and her mom

getting after her to let the other

kids participate. Marion wanted to make sure that every student had a part and was an important part of the production, whether it be writing a line, helping with a song or performing in the program. She was always encouraging and positive towards her students.

Marion's favorite part of teaching was working with the young elementary students. She enjoyed their enthusiasm and willingness to learn. She encouraged them to have fun, because she believed that music was a very important learning tool and you could learn a lot from music. Her heart for young children was apparent when she stepped in and provided music for the preschool students after she had retired from teaching.

Before Marion retired, she started taking classes toward achieving her master's degree. She retired at the age of 65 and graduated from Kearney State College with her master's degree when she was 66.

Kathy said music wasn't contained just within the walls of the school for Marion.

"It was central to who she was. It was her core. Music wasn't just a job to her, it was an integral part of who she was. She would often go into her home after gardening or working outside and sit down at her piano and play beautiful pieces of music such as 'Clair De Lune,' 'Moonlight Sonata' or something by Tchaikovsky," said Kathy.

Christmas in Marion's home brought a time filled with music. Every Christmas, before

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Portion of Estate Funds Will Go to Cemetery Project

At the April 9 Village Board meeting, Gary Blevins, representing the Arnold Community Foundation, gave an update on the cemetery project. He said that the two rail white vinyl fence is done and will be picked up in the near future. The Arnold Community Foundation will pay the bill from T & T Tree Removal for \$4,450.00. Shane Cool will remove the rest of the trees, and Joe Cool will grind the stumps out. Tombstones are also being straightened out. Board members voted to authorize up to \$13,000.00 from the Edna B. Peterson Estate to the Arnold Cemetery Improvement Project to help pay for the vinyl fence. Board Chairman Glen Bowers said at the meeting that according to the will, part of the money can be used for maintaining the cemetery, in addition to maintaining and upgrading its fire and rescue department and for any other services or benefits which the Village has been providing to its residents and those people of the surrounding area. The total bequeathed to the village from the estate is \$100,000.00.

City Park Fundraiser, Grand Opening Set For This Saturday

A reminder that Sandhills Motors will be holding a grand opening in their newly renovated showroom on Main Street from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., this Saturday, April 28. Lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The Arnold Economic Development Corporation will be hosting a fundraiser at the city park starting at 6:00 p.m., with a potluck supper. This event is being held to raise money for city park improvements.

More information on the two events can be found in advertisements inside this issue.



A skilled worker fills cracks with mortar on the library's exterior during the tuckpointing process. Below shows the finished product and the newly caulked steps. (Jessica Tickle photo)

Finch Memorial Library will be standing strong for decades to come, after a \$30,000 tuckpointing project was completed last week.

Workers tuckpointed the entire exterior of the building, including the chimney, and caulked all the windows and cracks in the steps leading up to the building.

"(The workers) knocked it out in a week," said library board member Rose Bierman, de-

scribing the guys from Carr Tuck Pointing out of Iowa as a fun bunch of guys. "One was from Bosnia and others were from Canada. They all had accents. We had quite the eclectic bunch of workers, and they were hard workers."

Bierman said the process was fun for library board members, as they got to choose color options for the spray chemical applied to color the mortar.

Money for the project was raised through fundraisers and donations. Fundraising was started last spring, and the library had the money needed by fall. Then, it was wait and see as the company scheduled the project in.

"We are lucky the bricks didn't fall out. You could clearly see far into the cracks where the mortar was missing. It was a needed project to preserve the building," said Rose.

You can submit your favorite springtime photo to: arnoldsentinel@gpcom.net with the subject line "Photo Contest." The winner will have their photo featured in the May 3 edition.

Submissions Due Now for Photo Contest

Sentinel readers are reminded that the deadline to submit photos for the May Day Photo Contest are due by noon on Friday, April 27.

You can submit your favorite springtime photo to: arnoldsentinel@gpcom.net with the subject line "Photo Contest." The winner will have their photo featured in the May 3 edition.