

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2019

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

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Volunteers Spruce Up the Town

Although on the chilly side, the weather cooperated for Monday's annual clean up day, with volunteers from the school, Rotary, Legion, and the community picking up trash, pruning, raking, weeding, mulching, and hauling away branches at some 35 locations on both city and residential properties. The list was long, and most any request was granted, including taking off storm windows and putting up screens. (Above) AEDC Director Cheryl Carson oversees a group of students, as they remove the playground border in preparation to enlarge the area to include the merry-go-round. Mulch, which wasn't expected until after Monday, arrived just in time for the kids to help spread it during clean-up day. "It was a big surprise," said Carson. "I thought we would have to hire it done later." (Right) Tiff Varney organized the clean up of landscaping at the community center. Tiff and his late wife, Barb, originally planned and landscaped around the Center in memory of their late son "Moose," and have overseen its care ever since. Chamber served a noon meal, and the Village provided water for the hungry and thirsty crew.

Photos/Debbie Connolly



Chestnutt Arson Case Bound Over to District Court

Jane Chestnutt, former owner of Jim's Bar in Arnold, appeared in Custer County Court on April 25 for a preliminary hearing, facing three counts for a fire started at Jim's Bar on March 27, 2018.

She was bound over to district court on all three counts, with bond continued. The arraignment in district court has been scheduled for June 13, 2019, at 9:30 a.m.

She has been charged with the following:

Count 1: 2nd Degree Arson, a Class 3 Felony.

Count 2: Criminal Mischief, a Class 4 Felony.

Count 3: Burning to Defraud Insurer, a Class 4 Felony.

She is represented by attorney Stephen Potter.

Court documents say that the fire was started with a lighter and whiskey in the kitchen, and caused extensive damage to the interior of the building.

Upcoming Events

As the school year winds down, several events are scheduled:

Honors and Senior Night will be held Monday, May 6, at 7:00 p.m.

The K-5 Spring Music Program is set for Tuesday, May 7, at 7:00 p.m.

Graduation is Saturday, May 11, at 2:00 p.m.

Elementary Field Day is scheduled for Monday, May 13.

Special Program Brings Civil War Era to Life

**PRESERVING
Civil War Battlefields
Providing Civil War
EDUCATION**



Courtesy photo

Civil War educator Don Balyeat presented a program to several classes at APS last Wednesday, bringing artifacts and periodic costumes, and telling true stories about the war with PowerPoint. Balyeat, a member of the Civil War Trust, travels all over the Midwest free of charge to present the programs.

By Janet Larreau

Arnold Public School students had the rare opportunity to dress up in replica costumes, touch and hold artifacts and hear actual stories from the Civil War at a special program presented last Wednesday. The speaker, Don Balyeat, from Sturgis, South Dakota, brought the program to the school.

Second grade teacher Mr. Phelps, who experienced the presentations in South Dakota, lined up the speaker's visit to this area of Nebraska.

"Don is a member of the Civil War Trust. Their goal is to save Civil War battle fields, and they have saved over 50,000 acres since they started. They've expanded into saving Revolutionary War battle fields, too," said Mr. Phelps.

While not a teacher in the traditional sense of the word, edu-

cator Balyeat travels throughout the Midwest to share his passion for the Civil War with students in several states. With a hands-on approach to teaching, Mr. Balyeat uses personal experience to connect with students and show them the value of historical education. In addition to his teaching career, Mr. Balyeat is a Civil War Trust Color Bearer member and a member of the Honor Guard Legacy Giving Society. In the past 8 years, he has given his presentation to 15,000 students - all free of charge.

Balyeat presented separate, one hour programs that included a PowerPoint to 4th and 5th grades combined, sixth, eighth, ninth and tenth grades. Only 4th, 5th and 6th graders were allowed to dress up in periodic costumes and take pictures with the actual artifacts.

since the costumes are made to fit that age group.

"I feel it's important to explain the role of the women and children during the war, especially the southern women and children," said Balyeat in a website interview. Since most of the war was fought in the south, it was not unusual for a mother and her children to find themselves in the middle of a battle that would turn their homes into field hospitals."

Mr. Phelps added that Civil War drummer boys were maybe 10 years old and nurses were 8 to 9 years old.

Artifacts that Balyeat brought included an 1860 Infield Muzzleloader, Confederate cavalry sword, bugle, pipe and flute, Confederate and Union canteens, bullets, musket balls, 12



Courtesy photo

Students in 4th and 5th grades had the opportunity to have individual photos taken in periodic Civil War costumes holding artifacts. Here, 5th grader Eli Rogers portrays a drummer boy.



Dressed as a nurse, 4th grader Gracee Downing holds an actual Civil War pitcher found at what is believed was a campsite.

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