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# The Arnold Sentinel

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

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## Back Into the Swing of Things New T-Ball Program Draws 40 Kids

With a lower population of kids in recent years, Arnold's Old Mill Park's ball diamond hasn't seen much action. With the kid population now growing again, the field is back in action.

The Arnold Little League T-Ball organization was started this year by Duane Gibson, Fallon Gibson, Terence Schacher and Shavonne Schacher.

"As parents of this young age group, we didn't want to be traveling out of town," said Shavonne Schacher. "We got to talking about how there are a lot of kids in town, and it shouldn't be too hard to get two teams formed so they could play each other. Our goal was two teams. We now have four teams with 40 kids. We were beyond amazed at how much interest we had."

The season started off with four practices at the end of May. The kids played every Monday in June, starting the first game at 6:00 p.m., and the second game at 7:00 p.m. Each team had three innings during the game.

Looking down over Old Mill Park during the month of June, the area was packed with kids, their families and supporters.

"We have had so many parents, grandparents and community members volunteer their time to make it possible to keep practices and games organized," said Shavonne. "Also, the Village Board has been so supportive in getting the baseball diamond in playing condition again."

Looking into next year, organizers are planning to get both T-Ball and Coach Pitch teams going. Coach Pitch will be for kids that will be too old for T-Ball next year. The group is also looking into some grants that are available to help renovate the building that is used for both storage and a concession



Green and Orange Team members shake hands after their game. Good sportsmanship has been strongly emphasized in the T-Ball program. (Courtesy photo)

stand.

Shavonne said there were a lot of people and businesses that made it possible to get all new gear that was needed, such as helmets, bats, balls, tees and team shirts. Those sponsors are: An anonymous person(s), Arnold Chamber, Cardinal Booster Club, First State Insurance, Bailey Transportation, Weinman Farms, Touch of Grace Massage, Nails for Starz, Pinnacle Bank, Sennett, Duncan & Jenkins PC, Carroll Street Designs, Flowers by Shavonne,

Forrester's Dodge City, Country Partners Cooperative, Reed's Food Center and Gene's Dis & Dat.

T-Ball will wind down next Monday night, with the final games of the season being played.

"The kids have done such a fantastic job at learning the fundamentals of the game, learning team work and having fun," said Shavonne, who added that everyone is looking forward to the program growing next summer.

## Village Agrees to Help With School Project

Arnold School Board members Eric Nelson and Tony Eggleston, and principal Joel Morgan attended last week's Village Board meeting to discuss the school's landscaping project. Nelson, who handed out photos of the plan, said the school plans to back up parking on the west side of the school and build a retaining wall, which will look better and get cars out of the street. The board was asked to consider relocating the current fire hydrant away from the project area, and to consider working with the school to cover the cost of street improvements from the edge of the sidewalk to the part of the street the village maintains.

Village engineer Tom Werblow was there to make recommendations on what type of products to use, and gave an estimation of the cost, which would be minimal. Village treasurer Patty Lamberty said there is money in the budget if the board chose to approve the project.

In the end, the board approved both moving the fire hydrant to the west side of the street, and covering the cost of applying crushed concrete and armor coating from the sidewalk to where the street is maintained. It was agreed the village will be billed separately for the work, which has yet to be contracted.

### Grant Approved

At AEDC Director Cheryl Carson's request, board members considered and approved a \$500.00 grant to the Rialto Theatre for roof repairs. Carson said the AEDC Board has already approved a loan to help keep the building in sound condition, and the grant would provide additional funds for the repairs.

### Pool Heater

The swimming pool's heater

has broken down, and board members considered bids for a new heater. Discussion was held on the cost, how much the village's insurance policy will cover, which is not known yet, and lead time in receiving the heater. It was mentioned that Superintendent Moser will install the heater when it arrives, and if something goes wrong during installation, the pool would have to be emptied and filled again. With swimming lessons coming up, this could be a problem.

Moser said the heater is eventually shut off in the hot months due to the pool heating up, and there have been no verbal complaints so far.

The motion was made to purchase a new heater contingent on lead time and approval from the state, but failed for a lack of a second. The matter was tabled until the July meeting when the board can consider how much insurance will cover.

### Picnic Tables

At last month's meeting, the need for more picnic tables at the Arnold Recreation Area was brought up. Treasurer Lamberty clarified that picnic tables can be purchased (as a donation) by residents through the village, as the cost is budgeted for. Moser will pick out one or two styles for residents to look at, focusing on weight and durability. If any resident is interested in purchasing a table, they can contact the village office.

### In other business the board:

- Held a public hearing regarding the application of The Arnold Exchange, L.L.C., for a Class C Retail Liquor License. No comments were heard. After the hearing was closed, Resolution 2016-5 recommending the issuance of a liquor license was approved

- Was informed that the Custer County Unit of the Salvation Army donated \$500.00 to help with the cost of swimming lessons. Unanimously approved reducing the swimming lessons fee from \$20.00 per person to \$15.00 per person for lessons.

- Passed Ordinance No. 433 to impose a 1% sales and use tax within the corporate limits of the village on or after January 1, 2017, as voted on by village residents. The current 1% sales and use tax expires on December 13, 2016.

- Authorized Chairman Glen Bowers to sign the provider agreement with the State of Nebraska, Department of Health and Human Services for the Nebraska Low Income Energy Assistance Program.

- Considered and approved a yearly contribution to the village employees' Health Savings Account in the amount of \$3,000.00 starting in January 2017.

- Heard the following updates from Arnold Economic Development Director Cheryl Carson:

Carson gave a report on Lt. Governor Foley's visit to Arnold for a ribbon cutting ceremony at Echo Pelster's new Thrivent Financial office. She also reported on the Lt. Governor's tour of School House Graphic Products that same day. She said he will return in July or August for more ribbon cuttings.

Continued on page 2.

## Old Tire Collection in Arnold

For a limited time, old tires are now being accepted at a tire collection container located at Arnold's recycling center.

Tires must be free of rims, and no other items will be accepted in the container.

The Village of Stapleton received a grant for the Tire Amnesty Program, and has brought the container to Arnold to benefit our residents.

If you have questions please, contact Arnold Village Superintendent Bill Moser.

## School Board Hears Report on Summer Projects

The Board of Education met on June 14, at 8:00 p.m., in the Elementary Resource Room. All members were present.

Joe Bob Atkins was on hand with good news about the district insurance policy. A decrease in the rates will allow the district to increase coverage to a more comfortable level if a total loss is experienced. The board voted to approve the insurance policy with Arnold Insurance Agency for the 2016-17 school year.

The board conducted the sec-

ond required evaluation of Superintendent Lewis, during which constructive and positive comments and remarks were offered.

Other items on the agenda included opening sealed bids for the sale of a seven-year-old 17" MacBook laptop, accepted bid of \$300.00, and a 1999 Dodge Intrepid for a high bid of \$1,300.00. The board also voted unanimously to again utilize the service of Tom Neidhardt's firm for the district audit for \$4,800.00, and approved hot

breakfast and lunch prices for the coming school year. Based on the calculations provided by hot lunch program, no increase will be made to any lunch prices this year. An additional item on the agenda was tabled until next month.

Board member Eric Nelson, who represented the school at the Village Board meeting on Monday night, reported on the Village's willingness to work with the school district to bring the street up to meet sidewalk, part of the impending land-

scaping project, and to move the hydrant to a different location. The project will begin in late June. Also discussed as part of the Superintendent report was that all the new heat pump AC units have been installed in grades K-5 classrooms, and will be hooked up soon. The units in the gym will be next. New carpet has been installed in the high school hallway, and the stairs will be treaded soon. Dr. Lewis also re-

Continued on page 2.



(From left) Tyler Johnson, Colbi Smith, Jamie Halstead, Dave Halstead, Josh Flint and Austin Snyder happily look over their pin prizes won at the Teammates golf tournament at the Arnold course. (Courtesy photo)

## Teammates Host Successful Tournament

The Arnold Chapter of the Teammates Mentoring Program hosted their Third Annual Golf Tournament Fundraiser on May 28 at the Arnold Golf Course. Seventeen teams from across the state competed for cash and pin prizes. This year's tournament

was played in a two-person scramble format.

Donations from several area businesses helped to provide lunch and prizes to make for an enjoyable day for all.

Winners were divided into three "flights" and are as follows:

Championship Flight: 1st place, Bierman/Leach team (68); 2nd place, Hauser/Pelster team (70).

First Flight: 1st place, Cool/Blevins team (79), 2nd place, Ross Clifton team (81).

Second Flight: 1st place, Eggleston/Eggleston team (85);

2nd place, Snyder/Flint team (86).

Funds raised go to support operating costs of Arnold's thriving chapter of the Teammates mentoring Program. For more information or to become a mentor, contact Jessica Fletcher at 308-520-9971.