

# The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

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CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

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## History on display at AEDC office

By Diana Coleman

“Knowing that many people, strangers to this locality, will be interested in Arnold and vicinity, we took this opportunity to compile what we trust will prove an interesting writeup of a town and country of which until now has been little known far from home.” These words were the Publisher’s Announcement in *The Arnold Sentinel* dated Thursday, June 13, 1912. Publisher H.J. Bedford could possibly be considered Arnold’s first economic development director.

This particular publication was printed and distributed for the purpose of marketing Arnold. The railroad had only made it as far as Callaway at that time, so Mr. Bedford put forth a lot of effort and took somewhat of a gamble, with the prospect that the railroad would make it to Arnold. He promoted it as a desirable place to move to. It includes “sketches” or information on businesses, services and some of the families that lived in the area at that time.

This original newspaper was discovered by residents of Arnold while sorting through some of their belongings. Cheryl Carson was thrilled with this newly found treasure. She immediately went to work making copies of all of the pages, framing them and hanging them up on the walls of the AEDC office. Cheryl commented, “It is such an interesting document, and so relevant to today. It is first-hand accounts of Arnold’s first residents.”



Photo/Diana Coleman

Cheryl Carson explains the significance of the R.E. Allen family’s role in the beginning of the community of Arnold at the Arnold Economic Development Office meeting room.

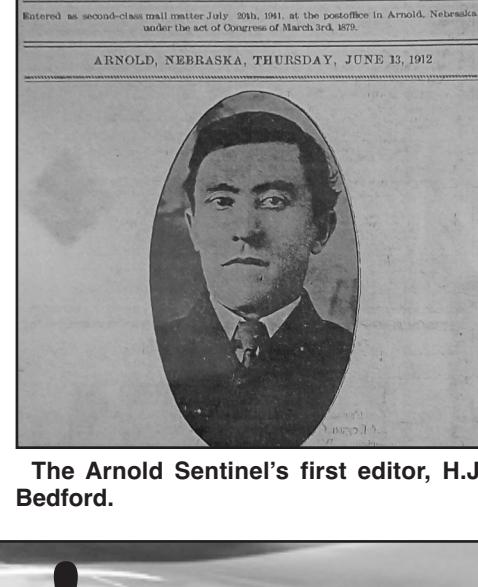
to today. It is first-hand accounts of Arnold’s first residents.”

John Finch, Ben Hardin, William H. Ray, J.W. Collins, R.E. Allen and Dr. B.E. Robbins, Arnold’s first physician, are a few of the people included in this publication. There is one sketch that was written by the resident himself, instead of Mr. Bedford writing about him.

As with all newspapers, there are advertisements of the local businesses and services as well. Cheryl is planning on creating

“wall groupings” of the business advertisements paired with the family that owned the business. She hopes to make it easier and more interesting by making the connections with the different families and the roles they played in the early formation of Arnold.

Cheryl would love to see Arnold have a museum someday. She loves history and old things and believes that Arnold has a lot of share. In the meantime, she welcomes and encourages everyone to stop by the AEDC office and take a look at this wonderful newspaper that is full of important and interesting information on the history of Arnold. If the AEDC door is unlocked, come on in and get a glimpse of what life was like in Arnold 106 years ago. You should find it an “interesting write up of a town and country.”



The Arnold Sentinel’s first editor, H.J. Bedford.

## Happy 4th of July!

## Cyclist from Germany passes through Arnold raising awareness for rare childhood diseases

By Pepper Werner  
Contributing Writer

Cycling for children with rare diseases has become the mission of the German visitor to Arnold on Tuesday. Jörg Richter, Munich, Germany, passed through Arnold last week on his destination to Connecticut. He started his trip on April 14, in San Francisco, and hopes to complete it in the northeast by mid-September. The path is winding, full of surprises, kind Americans and the occasional detour.

The first question was how in the world did Jörg end up in Arnold, Nebraska? He’s not a believer of chance or coincidence and it started with a forest fire in Colorado. After being picked up in a ditch with his bicycle and belongings, Jörg was returned to Durango, Colorado, to rethink his route. The highway was closed in the mountains due to an enormous fire, and he needed to make a change. The ironic thing is, Jörg is a former firefighter in Germany and he realized the danger that he was in. Flexibility is the name of the game when traveling across the United States on a bicycle with no escort car or other cyclists.

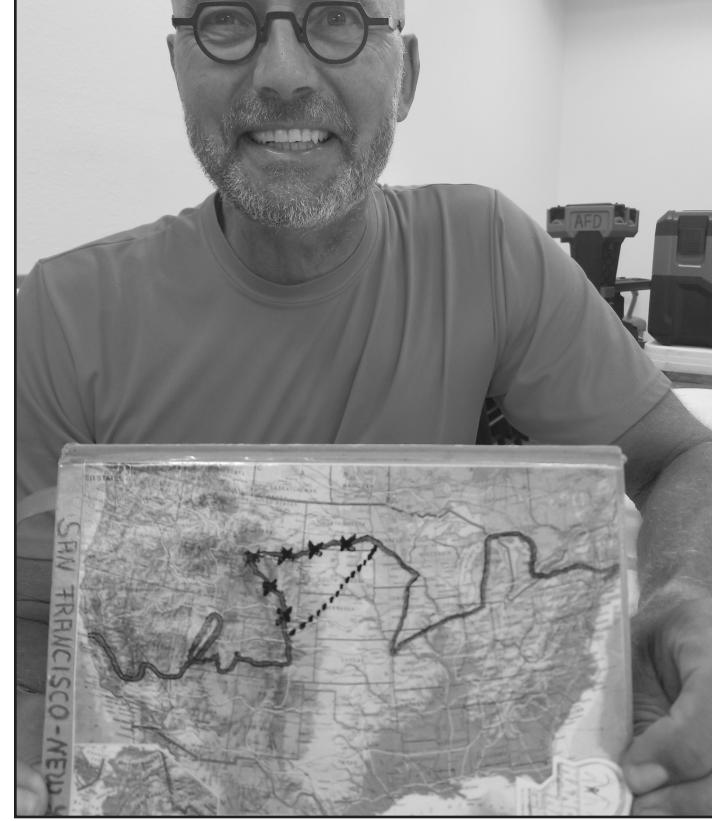
Following is a first-hand interview with this amazing visitor to Arnold:

*How did your idea begin to ride across America?*

“When I was a young boy, my grandmother gave me a book about a guy that took two years to cycle around the world. I knew I wanted to do something like that someday. This trip isn’t my first cycling trip. Four years ago, I had three friends die within a short amount of time. My son convinced me that it was time to do something on my bucket list. Three years ago, I cycled from Seattle to New York. Two years ago, I took ‘The Loneliest Road,’ the N-50. And last year rode from Munich to Madrid, Spain,” stated Jörg.

*What made you decide to choose and support Care-For-Rare Foundation?*

“With the passing of my friends, I realized that time is fleeting, and I needed to make a difference in the lives of others. I had been given so many privileges in life and it was my turn to share with those that hadn’t shared my experiences. Of course, that led me to children. My first experience with a child that was wheelchair bound was life-changing. We first met, within



Photo/Pepper Werner

Jörg Richter holds the route-altered map of his cycling trip from San Francisco to Connecticut. A forest fire in Colorado forced a change of plans that soon included Arnold and other towns in Nebraska.

two minutes she was in my lap, within five minutes she was asleep on my chest. I will remember that forever”, stated a choked-up Jörg.

“There are over 13,000 foundations in Germany and I chose Care-For-Rare Foundation, one that researches rare diseases in children. I ride to raise awareness and to bring some happiness to the children and families at the hospitals I visit,” he

said. “These are truly the orphans of medicine. Research is so expensive and, for example, if there are only 25 children in the world with a particular disease, there isn’t the financial support to find a cure. They are hospitalized, made as comfortable as possible for their short lives and often perish while waiting for a cure. I know it sounds cruel, and it is. I want to put a stop to this and raise awareness that every child’s life matters and if the money is put toward researching the rare diseases, then that information can be used for the more common issues. They are worth the investment.”

**“I ride to raise awareness and to bring some happiness to the children and families at the hospitals I visit.”**

- Jörg Richter  
Munich, Germany

Tell me about your mascot Beary and the bag around his neck.

“Each child gets a teddy bear from the foundation in hopes of bringing a smile,” he said. “The Foundation provides those to the hospitals and I think they are appreciated. My bear is very special. With my travels, I have been given a few unique gifts. The necklace that I wear is from a Brother in Firefighting. His daughter succumbed to a rare disease and the medallion is a guardian angel. He told me how much he appreciated what I was doing on my mission and said,

‘You need this more than I do now on your trip to keep you safe.’ I wear it with honor,” he explained.

Jörg went on, “The bag around Beary’s neck is really special to me also. It’s from a family here

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