



Serving the
South Loup River Valley

The Arnold Sentinel

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

(USPS 032480)

THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 2015

VOLUME 98, NUMBER 50



Honored A.H.S. Graduates

John Nelson (pictured above) and Verla Strasburg May (pictured right) take the microphone to introduce themselves to the crowd of A.H.S. alumni who gathered for the annual banquet and program. John, Verla and Ploma Weinman Geiser celebrated their 70-year class reunion at the school. The remaining honored classes are pictured inside this issue.



May Moisture Slows Planting

Total moisture as of May 31 for the year is at 5.87 inches, compared to last year's 5.46. This year's May total was 4.75 inches of timely moisture, coming with several different storms. After a slow winter of receiving very little moisture and no moisture in March, welcome rains began to fall in April, with a very wet May, compared to last year's May, when only 1.79 inches fell. Last year, June saw 9.85 inches, so time

will tell to see if the wet trend will continue.

Steady rains falling through the month made planting difficult with cooler temperatures and late frosts plaguing the area.

As of May 24, planted corn across the state was at 92 percent, near 96 percent for last year and the five-year average. Emerged was at 73 percent, near the 70 last year, but ahead of 67 average. Soybeans planted

was at 59 percent, behind 85 last year and 73 average.

Emergence was at 22 percent, behind 38 last year and 31 average. Sorghum planted was at 50 percent, near 53 last year and ahead of 41 average.

With the dry winter, pasture for the summer was becoming questionable before the rains came. Pasture and range conditions are rated at 4 percent very poor, 8 poor, 29 fair, 53 good and 6 excellent.

City-Wide Garage Sale is This Saturday

Bargain shoppers from surrounding towns will be pulling into Arnold with pickups and trailers this Saturday, June 6, for the annual Chamber-sponsored City-Wide Garage Sale. Seventeen locations will be on the map, with some sales listed as multi-family.

Maps are inserted in this issue for local residents and are also available online and in businesses the week of the garage sales. Go to www.arnoldne.org for online access.

The Goodwill Donation Trailer will return to town, and will be set up on the south side of the city park from Friday, June 5, to Thursday, June 11.

Donations of clothing and household items that are in

good condition, and all personal computers, printers, monitors and computer accessories can be placed inside the trailer. Tax donation slips will be available at the trailer. Due to lack of space, the truck will not accept televisions, furniture or large appliances.

Revenue earned through the sale of donations at Goodwill retail stores help support programs for persons who have disabilities or barriers to employment. Goodwill's mission is to assist these individuals in achieving independence in the community, including providing job training and job placement.

Items can also be taken to the St. Agnes Thrift Center.

Village, Rural Residents See Rise in Valuations

Most Arnold Village residents did a double take when opening up their 2015 Notice of Property Valuation mailed out last week from the county assessors office.

The average increase from prior year 2014 to current 2015 was 15 percent, said Custer County Assessor Connie Braithwaite. Some reported their valuation on homes and buildings going up as much as 37 percent.

The assessor said that by state statute, the office has to reevaluate property once every six years, and is required to be as close to 100 percent of market value as possible. This was the six year cycle for the Arnold Village and the rural area surrounding it.

The market is set by sales using a three-year history. Homes and buildings are evaluated on square footage, age, condition, style and improvements. Braithwaite said Arnold has seen a lot of home sales and some new construction and improvements, which contributes to the increased market values.

Ag land valuations, which are

required to be at 75 percent of market value, are re-evaluated every year. This year ag land valuations took a bit hit, going up 30 percent.

Residents also questioned why the deadline to protest the valuations was June 1 - giving most only Monday to obtain the form and submit it to the assessor's office for review by the supervisors. The assessor said the June 1 deadline was an error, and residents do have until June 30 to submit a protest.

Tarzan is Coming to Town

Disney characters have discovered the amazing town of Arnold, Nebraska. First Anna and Elsa visit from Arendelle, now Tarzan and his friends are coming from Western Africa. Tarzan and friends will come to the Arnold Community Center on Thursday, June 18 from 11:00 until 12:00.

Continued on page 2.

Dance Conservatory Students Give "Spot On" Performance



The Elite Dance Conservatory Company of Lydia Connell, Olivia Furne, Kacee Dvorak, Tatum Cool and Kenna Rogers do a ballet arabesque position to "I'll See You Again" - to all those who have gone to be with the Lord. (Courtesy photo) (Below) Olivia Furne, who will be a senior at Arnold High School next year, has begun teaching at the conservatory. (Lana Cool photo)

An estimated 300 supporters of the performing arts turned out on Sunday to enjoy the fourth spring recital of the Elite Dance Conservatory of Arnold. Twenty-nine students performed on stage in the school's auditorium, giving what some said was a "spot on performance."

"You could really see how the students progressed from last year," said one Arnold resident who attends annually. "I can't believe a town of 600 had this over-the-top performance."

Students in all age groups made several costume changes during the hour-and-a-half recital, performing dance rou-

tines to ballet, tap, jazz and lyrical.

"I couldn't be more proud of all of your children," said the conservatory's dance instructor, Eileen Bowman.

Eileen congratulated 4th year student Olivia Furne on her first year of teaching the baby class and choreographing and

performing her own dance this year, which she described as an outstanding piece of work. Olivia also steps in and takes

over classes when needed.

Eileen also thanked Kenna Rogers for assisting with the 6-8 year old class this year.



In costume as angels, (from left) Stella Lewis, Reagan Cool, Charli Vickers and Macy Atkins tap dance to "Heaven Hop."

