

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

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Photo/Debbie Connely

The Nebraska Rod & Custom Association's 2019 Tour brought over 400 cars to Arnold for a designated stop on Saturday. Cars rolled into town in the morning, surrounding the community center and filling The Exchange's neighboring parking lot, creating quite a show of special interest vehicles for about an hour and a half.

NRCA's Stop In Arnold Brings Over 1,000 People To Town

By Janet Larreau

It took a lot of preparation and planning, but Arnold successfully hosted a designated stop on the Nebraska Rod & Custom Association's 2019 Tour last Saturday morning. Over 400 special interest cars - some with one passenger and others with several - began arriving in town at about 8:45 a.m., filling the community center and The Exchange's parking lots. Inside the community center, they were treated to Krispy Kreme donuts and drinks for a free-will donation, and were found all over town doing business before leaving in stages at 10:00 a.m.

AEDC Director Cheryl Carson worked with NRCA Coordinator Lin Hoskins and other members months in advance to make sure Arnold was ready for the tour's stop. Carson was given permission by the village

board to close off roads so that cars could be funneled in. She also created a map of town with the services offered that was given to tour participants before arriving in town, and gave a heads-up to gas stations in town to be prepared.

Arnold also promoted itself. Chamber president and secretary/treasurer, Sal Hilderbrant and Margie McDowell, dressed in poodle skirts and greeted each car that arrived, handing out a flyer to advertise the car show in Arnold this September that will be held at the Arnold Recreation Area.

The 27th annual NRCA tour of Nebraska driving event was a 600 mile adventure that went near 30 towns and villages. The route changes each year, as the NRCA showcases the special attractions of Nebraska to its members. Nearly 1,000 people participated in the 2019 two-day event. The tour is limited to

400 vehicles, and entries reached the maximum number last March. The estimated value of the vehicles members were driving was \$6.0 million.

Saturday's tour started in Kearney and vehicles took the scenic route to Callaway, on to Arnold and north to Dunning, circling back to Kearney. Only a morning and noon stop were scheduled each day, so Arnold was very fortunate to be one of the designated stops.

The goal of the 1,790 members of the NRCA is to protect the rights of special interest vehicle owners who enjoy driving them on the streets and highways of Nebraska.

Over \$2,000 Raised

Carson said it wasn't a one-man show. The NRCA's stop was combined with a fundraiser for a new merry-go-round for the city park. Word was spread to Arnold residents to purchase Krispy Kreme

donuts by the dozen or more as part of the fundraiser, and coordination was needed to manage how many donuts to order for the drivers and their passengers. Heather Hagler was the organizer, and picked up the donuts in Omaha at a special price for fundraisers. She also gathered everything needed for the beverages to serve tour participants - all purchased at Reed's Food Center in Arnold.

National Honor and Junior Honor Society members Kenna Rogers, Anna Tullis, William

Moninger, Kacee Dvorak, Jadeyn Bubak, and Delaney Rogers helped set up tables, kept drink containers full, and rotated boxes of donuts on the serving table. They also helped with tear down and clean up. The Village donated the use of the community center since it was a fundraiser.

Heather reported that all totaled, \$2,394.00 was raised for the merry-go-round on Saturday morning through free-will donations from tour participants and orders from residents.



Photo/Debbie Connely

Allowing NRCA to make a designated stop in Arnold was good for business owners in town - especially Nansel's Best Service, where one tour participant said he waited in line 25 minutes for a tank of gas as the line stretched down Highway 92. The line was equally as long at Country Partners' pumps east of town.



Photo/Jessica Tickle

Long-time Arnold School bookkeeper Karen Jacobson, who will retire at the end of June, was presented a plaque by the Alumni Association and received a standing ovation at the 2019 A.H.S. Alumni Program.

After 52 Years, School Bookkeeper Will Retire

By Janet Larreau

The year was 1967. Some 450 students were enrolled at Arnold Public Schools, Mr. Alvin Story was superintendent, and 24-year-old Karen Jacobson entered the office to start a career as bookkeeper that would span 52 years. From pencil and paper to computers, and from a large student population to small, Karen has seen it all. She will retire at the end of June, ending this very long and rewarding chapter in her life.

Karen has been the definition of reliable. Unless school was cancelled, "neither snow, nor rain, nor heat, nor gloom of night" kept her from driving the three blocks to take care of business, watch over the school, the staff, the taxpayers, and the kids.

Her duties have been many, including paying the bills, run-

ning the payroll, and taking care of I.R.S. business. She also helped with the budget, which has grown with the times. The school's budget in 1967-1968 was \$251,266.00; for 2018-2019 it is \$3,186,922.19.

"There are changes almost every day. It makes me wonder what more could change," said Karen.

Karen has served under too many staff members to count, eight superintendents, seven principals, and several boards. Staff members the year she started were: Fred Blummer, Mrs. Erma Brown, Mrs. Mary Tryon, Albert Fuller, Lynn Sutherland, Bill Miller, Richard Pendleton, Roland Swanson, Tom Clements, Jim Osborn, and Mrs. Florence Danekas.

"The seniors were Brad Atkins and that bunch," said Karen. With her trademark grin, she added, "I know which

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80 Year Grad

With daughter-in-law Pam Smith and daughter Trudy, and other family members seated beside her, alumnus Mildred Bailey Smith (center) had plenty of family support, as she celebrated 80 years since graduating from Arnold High School at the annual A.H.S. Alumni Banquet and Program on May 25. Mildred was the only representative of the Class of 1939 present, with three still living. The remaining honored classes are featured inside this issue.

Photo/Jessica Tickle