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South Loup River Valley

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Bike Rally Grows As Event Returns For 4th Year

Word is getting out about the annual Devil's Den Bike Rally in Arnold. Held the second weekend in July, this year's event drew 111 entrants.

"We had several locals that were not able to go on the run this year, yet we still had a strong amount of registrations. That means word is getting out to farther parts of the state," said motorcycle rally treasurer Heather Hagler.

The day's main event - the Poker Run - was won by Andre Voss with a Full House. Julie Wells placed second with a Flush and Bill Demars placed third with a Straight Ace High. The scenic run started at Keane's Suzy's Pizza or Jim's Bar in Arnold, and went on to Furbar at Anselmo, Sylvester's at Broken Bow, Big Jim's at Oconto and Hanger 22 at Callaway. The final card was dealt at the Arnold Community Center.

Contest winners were: Loudest Pipes - Brent Kulp; Best Custom Bike - Clay Weinman; Best



A winding road stretches ahead, as one of 111 motorcycles takes off on the 4th Annual Devil's Den Bike Rally Poker Run on Saturday. (Courtesy photo)

Old School Bike - Zach Hagler; and Best Overall Bike - Brad Patterson.

A dunk tank manned by the Heartland Hellcats roller derby team, a visit by the Midwest MedAir helicopter, a silent auction, and four bands also pro-

vided entertainment throughout the day.

By day's end, the AC/DC tribute band, "Shoot to Thrill," drew the largest crowd, playing until after midnight.

Each year, the Devil's Den Rally makes charitable dona-

tions to Autism Awareness, the TeamMates program and Out of the Darkness, for suicide prevention. In 2014, over \$3,000.00 was raised for charities and local organizations that donate their time at the rally. The event also helps the town's economy, as bikers and people joining them are seen in local businesses throughout the weekend. Hagler said money is also spent locally for supplies and prizes. A final amount raised for this year's event was not available by press time.

Hagler said the people who work and organize the rally throughout the year are the Devil's Den Rally Board consisting of: President Mike Nelson, vice-president Berni Crow, treasurer Heather Hagler, and members Kendra Nelson, Zach Hagler, Dave Crow, Tim Turley, Brent Kulp, Heidi Kulp, Tammy Weinman, Darren Weinman, Scott Remund and Holly Hor-

nung-Remund.

Other volunteers include the South Loup Bobcat cheerleaders, After Prom, Arnold Golf Association, Arnold Volunteer Fire Department, Liz Bierman, Melissa Bierman, Melissa Millard, Chris Marshall, the Out of the Darkness team, Carma Edwards, Jessica Coons, Hannah Powell, Shannon Olson, Aubrey Patton, Liz Brown, Randy Bailar, Jake Gilland, KJ Myer, Travis Kussman, the Heartland Hellcats Roller Derby team, Jasmine Nelson, Dylan Nelson, Dylan Brown, Blake Brown, Gail Nelson and others.

River Battle Set For July 18

Canoes, kayaks and tubes will be racing down the South Loup River this Saturday in the 5th Annual Arnold River Battle. Categories include adult and youth, and entries are still open. The event is held at Hidden Valley Campground and includes a cook-out after the race that is open to the public.

Entry details and more information are in an advertisement on page 4 of this issue.

Next Blood Drive July 20

The American Red Cross and the Arnold community will hold a blood drive on Monday, July 20, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., at the Arnold Community Center.

During the summer months of June, July and August, on average about two fewer donors schedule an appointment to give blood at each Red Cross blood drive then what patients need. This can add up to more than 100,000 fewer donations during the summer.

Every day this summer is a chance to give hope to patients in need. The American Red Cross urges eligible donors to choose their day to give hope by donating blood.

In a spring survey of Red Cross blood donors, nearly 90 percent plan to take a vacation this summer, potentially making them less available to donate blood.

Though summer is one of the most challenging times of year to collect enough blood to meet the needs of hospital patients, the need for blood is constant.

Patients don't get a summer holiday or vacation from needing blood and platelets. Every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs a blood transfusion.

Each day the Red Cross must collect about 15,000 blood donations to serve patients at approximately 2,600 hospitals nationwide.

To schedule an appointment to donate in Arnold, please call Shirley Bassett at 848-5356 or Amanda Koubek at 660-6709. Walk-ins are welcome and needed!



A member of the Heartland Hellcats roller derby team is set to get dunked, as a youngster takes aim. Founded in 2012, the group of athletes support good causes and accepted the invitation to be part of this year's Devil's Den Bike Rally. (Courtesy photo)



The Midwest MedAir team of Albert (left) and Heather (right), with pilot Neal (not pictured), landed by the Arnold Fire Department at about 3:00 p.m., on Saturday, drawing bike rally participants and residents to tour and learn more about the helicopter, and memberships available for air ambulance services. (Janet Larreau photo)

Auction Find Appraised at Antique Road Show

Hilderbrants, of Arnold, have paintings appraised

Originally launched in Britain in 1979, and a familiar name in most American households since its American debut in 1997, Antiques Roadshow features local antiques owners who bring in items to be appraised by experts. Provenance, history and value on the items are discussed on the television series.

In April of 2015, Antiques Roadshow announced one of their 2015 Summer tour stops would be Omaha, Nebraska. Arnold residents Dave and Sally Hilderbrant were watching an episode of Antiques Roadshow when the announcement was made.

The roadshow announced that antique owners could sign up for tickets free of charge prior to April 7 and a random drawing would be held and tickets would be given to 5,000 lucky people.

"I had lost all hope of going," said Sally. "Then one day, out of nowhere, the tickets showed up in the mail."

Hilderbrants knew exactly what they were going to have appraised at the roadshow.

Several years ago, they had purchased a box of 12 paintings for \$2.00 at an auction in Stapleton. Of those 12 paintings, two were from the same artist and seemed to be originals.

The Hilderbrants set out for



Dave Hilderbrant displays three of the paintings that were appraised at the recent Antique Roadshow at Omaha. The paintings, which were found to be original works of art, were purchased for \$2.00 at a local auction some years ago. (Courtesy photo)

their Antique Roadshow adventure on June 27, at 8:00 a.m. After going through a series of stations, they and their

seascape artwork were directed to the correct appraiser.

The appraiser confirmed that the paintings were real and the

artist was Cesar Buenaventura, of the Filipino nationality. The paintings were dated from the 1970s. Each one was valued at

\$800.00 to \$1,200.00.

"For that price, the paintings returned home and will stay on our walls for us to enjoy," Sally commented.

Of interest, Buenaventura (1919-1983) was known for his impressionistic landscapes. He was born in Torzo, Tondo, and his canvases generally conveyed a quiet, serene, and tranquil impression. He won first prize at the 1950 National Art contest held every five years at the FEU. In 1955, was chosen one of the country's Top Ten Artist; received an ASA Artist of the Phil award of the Phil award, 1956; was first prize winner at the Open Art Exhibit in Luneta in 1957, and work was chosen Outstanding Landscape of the Year by the Academy of Filipino Artist.

A third painting, by a different artist, was appraised and estimated at \$50.00.

Unfortunately, the Hilderbrants will not be featured on an episode of Antique Roadshow.

"When your item is being appraised, if it is chosen as a significant one for the television show, you are taken to a different location for a second appraisal that is filmed," Sally said. "We were not chosen to go to the second location."

Part of the Summer Tour 2015, the Omaha location saw approximately 10,000 unearthed treasures that were looked at by 70 appraisers. Episodes will begin in January of 2016 during the Roadshow's 20th anniversary, with three separate episodes created for each location.