



Serving the  
South Loup River Valley

# The Arnold Sentinel

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

(USPS 032480)

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By Janet Larreau

**F**or the past 14 years, Nebraska Farmhouse Antiques & Coffee Shop has become a staple of the Arnold community - an inviting place packed with fun and interesting items from the past, and a comfortable spot to gather around the big table and enjoy a specialty coffee or a smoothie, and homemade desserts. The business, owned by Kim Beshaler, drew returning customers from all over the state of Nebraska, Colorado, Iowa and South Dakota, who would put Highway 92 on their trail so they could stop by.

Everyone - young and old alike - was always enthusiastically welcomed by Kim and the gals she employed to keep the place up and going.

Sadly, Kim's last day of business was August 13.

Kim started her antique business in the Main Street building in May of 2002, selling mainly antiques. About seven years ago, she closed the store for about three weeks while a kitchen was built. The back of the building then became an official coffee shop, where people could pull up a bar stool and order from the coffee shop's full menu. When the market for antiques slacked off, she added modern home decor and ramped up her jewelry sales. The store also hosted wine tastings, Silver Stone Jewelry trunk shows and classes, and book signings. Friday lunches were also a hit, drawing people from out of town.

Several weeks ago, Kim made the announcement that she would be closing the store, and the town and those on social media from all walks of life and locations expressed sadness and opposition to her plan of selling all of the contents of the store at auction sometime in September.

Kim said she made the very



The original postcard photo of T.L. Jones Mercantile Company, established in 1914, was blown up and framed by Kim Beshaler, whose antique store has been housed in the same building for the past 14 years. (Courtesy photo)

## Farmhouse Antiques Owner Plans Auction

### Community Saddened by Close of Main Street Business

hard decision mainly because the building, which she rents and is now for sale, is in need of repair and some TLC. She said at this point in her life, with aging parents to care for and more free time needed with her own large family, she wasn't willing to purchase the building.

"It wouldn't be wise to keep putting money into a building

that I don't own," she said. "People have been coming out of the woodwork offering to help if I would just keep the store open. In August, SORC drivers were so alarmed they offered to help with financing if I would keep it open. It's part of their memories of the town. I had to be really firm. It's time for someone else to step in and have fun. I'm more than ready

to step aside." Kim said she isn't just walking away. She has been working with the Arnold Economic Development Corporation to find someone to buy and revive the building and get retail or any type of business back on Main Street. There has been some interest shown, but nothing definite.

After the auction is held, it

will be the first time in the town's history that the historic building has been empty. It was built in 1914 to house T.L. Jones general store. In 1925, when Jones bought out interest in the building, he became sole owner of the T.L. Jones Mercantile Company. Jones closed his business in the 1940s. Over the decades, the building housed hardware and retail stores.

As premiums, T.L. Jones gave away small crockery containers with that lettering, highly prized now by collectors. Kim said some of these items from the town's history will be on the auction set for Sunday, September 18, with Atkins Auction Service selling the contents.

*Note: Historic information for this story was taken from One Hundred Years on the South Loup by Norene Hall Mills.*

## Ribbon Cuttings Set for Friday

A reminder that the Arnold Economic Development Ribbon cuttings will be hosted on Friday, September 2. Three businesses will be honored that day, with Lt Gov. Mike Foley again coming to help the community celebrate, as he always does.

Ribbon cuttings, in order, follow: Arnold Insurance Agency, Agri Affiliates, The Arnold Exchange.

The group will gather on site at the first business around 8:55 a.m., and begin at 9:00 a.m. sharp with a tour of the facility. The first ribbon cutting ceremony will be at 9:15 at Arnold Insurance. Cuttings will end at 11:00 a.m..

The conclusion of the event will include lunch with the business owners, delegate group, and Lt. Gov. Mike Foley.

## Student Population Up at APS/In District

At the start of this year's school year, Principal Joel Morgan reports that current enrollment is 157 students in Grades K-12. That is up from 143 students during the 2015-2016 school year. The number of kids is almost even in the elementary and middle/high schools, with 79 kids in Grades K-5 and 78 in Grades 6-12. There are 45 boys and 34 girls in K-5 and 40 boys and 38 girls in Grades 6-12.

According to the school district's census report, the number of kids of all ages keeps climbing, with 295 reported this year. That is up from 275 in 2015 and 255 in 2014, and the highest number recorded in a decade.

Following are total numbers from the 2016 census:

### AGE 5-20

#### AGE 5

Girls ..... 8  
Boys ..... 10  
Total ..... 18

#### AGE 6

Girls ..... 8  
Boys ..... 9  
Total ..... 17

#### AGE 7

Girls ..... 12  
Boys ..... 9  
Total ..... 21

#### AGE 8

Girls ..... 5  
Boys ..... 5  
Total ..... 10

#### AGE 9

Girls ..... 5  
Boys ..... 4  
Total ..... 9

#### AGE 10

Girls ..... 12  
Boys ..... 12  
Total ..... 24

#### AGE 11

Girls ..... 5  
Boys ..... 5  
Total ..... 8

#### AGE 12

Girls ..... 7  
Boys ..... 8  
Total ..... 15

#### AGE 13

Girls ..... 10  
Boys ..... 6  
Total ..... 16

#### AGE 14



In their classroom, visual boards will help this year's kindergartners learn the days of the week, the months of the year, and how to tell time. Kindergartners pictured are: (back row, l-r) Hudson Vickers, Kale Kulhanek, Donavon Larsen, Jade Hunt, Jacob Myers, Jet Morgan, Kora Dailey; (front, l-r) Claire Kulp, Jose Melendez, Ethan Jarmin, Dwayne Barraza, Ryker Atkins, Emanuel Williams. (Kendra Veirs photo)

Boys ..... 5  
Total ..... 11

#### AGE 20

Boys ..... 6  
Total ..... 9

#### TOTAL 5-20

Boys ..... 10  
Total ..... 17

#### AGE 4

Boys ..... 11  
Total ..... 19

#### TOTAL 0-4

Boys ..... 10  
Total ..... 74

#### BY COUNTY (5-18)

Boys ..... 36  
Total ..... 80

#### LOGAN

Boys ..... 38  
Total ..... 20

#### LINCOLN

Boys ..... 33  
Total ..... 8

#### CUSTER

Boys ..... 85  
Total ..... 173

#### BY COUNTY (5-18)

For the week ending August 28, temperatures averaged two to four degrees below normal. Corn dough was 95 percent, ahead of 89 last year and near the five-year average of 92. Dented was 61 percent, ahead of 53 last year and 56 average. Soybeans setting pods was 96 percent, near 95 last year and equal to average. Dropping leaves was 8 percent, near 9 last year and 4 average. Winter wheat planted was 1 percent, equal to average. Alfalfa fourth cutting was 37 percent, ahead of 27 last year and well ahead of 17 average.

## Early

## Deadline for

## Sept. 8 Issue

A reminder that the September 8 issue will be finished and e-mailed for publication by Wednesday, August 31, so that *Sentinel* staff can take some time off over the Labor Day holiday.

An early deadline notice was published in the last two issues.

Anything submitted after August 31 will be published in the September 15 issue, including coverage of this week's football and volleyball games.

## Weather Summary

Kendra Veirs  
Cooperative Weather Observer  
WEATHER STATION  
LOCATED AT MILLS SHOP,  
ACROSS FROM  
ALL POINTS CO-OP

DATE	H	L	M
16	84	57	0
17	86	60	0
18	84	57	0
19	90	55	0
20	70	52	0
21	73	42	0
22	81	41	0
23	88	57	0
24	87	55	0
25	75	51	0
26	74	51	0
27	73	46	0
28	80	50	0
29	84	61	0

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