

Custer County Foundation Assists Flood Victims

BROKEN BOW - The Custer County Foundation announced last week that its 2019 fund assisted 146 households and awarded \$139,485.00 in flood relief efforts.

In addition to the donations received for the flood fund, CCF provided a \$9,000.00 grant to the fund to cover administrative fees and to fund grant requests when the flood fund was depleted. CCF would like to thank Central Nebraska Community Action Partnership for working side by side with the Foundation to assist flood victims. The Foundation started collecting donations on March 15 and all funds were distributed by September 1. Donations were received from 22 towns throughout Nebraska and 23 states, ranging from California to New York and Texas to Idaho. The flood relief efforts would not have been possible without all the generous donations from businesses and individuals.

Following are the Custer County communities and the amount received:

Anselmo.....	\$17,484.00
Ansley.....	7,000.00
Arcadia-CC.....	3,944.55
Arnold.....	3,000.00
Berwyn.....	2,915.94
Broken Bow.....	36,798.54
Callaway.....	17,022.24
Comstock.....	1,000.00
Mason City.....	5,000.00
Merna.....	12,716.06
Oconto.....	12,590.57
Sargent.....	19,012.61
Westerville.....	1,000.00
Services funded were:	
Gravel.....	67,503.03
Clean up of residence.....	22,236.88
Barb Wire/Fence Post.....	21,108.85
Flooring.....	7,658.08
Dirt.....	4,551.81
Hay.....	4,500.00
Veterinarian Care.....	3,398.80
Well Repair.....	3,000.00
Livestock Feed.....	2,719.68
Displacement/Hotel.....	1,807.38
Water Heater.....	1,000.00

OCC Packing Season Begins

Operation Christmas Child shoe box packing season officially began last week.

Now is a great time to be checking out the end-of-summer clearance sales to see what great buys you can find. As you're out shopping please keep your eyes open for discount school supplies, toys, summer clothes and shoes.

“It takes a mountain of stuff to fill lots of boxes,” said organizer Melody Jennings.

Last year Arnold shipped 806 shoe box gifts filled with basic school supplies, hygiene items, toys and a Beanie Baby. Extra things are also added to make the boxes nicer. Watch next week's paper for more details and the packing party date.

Yard Sale for OCC

This Friday and Saturday Arnold churches are having a yard sale in conjunction with Junk Jaunt, the location will be at 103 E. 4th Avenue, at Betty Yeargain's residence. All proceeds from this event will go toward the shipping costs for getting Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes to children in remote places around the world.

You may contribute to the items sold by bringing them to the site Friday morning or bring them to The Baptist Church before Friday. Please price your own items and know that any unsold items will go to the Salvation Army in North Platte.

Donations can be made for this project through one of the local churches or directly to the Arnold Ministerial Association.



Courtesy photo Deputy Casey Edelman, a 2009 graduate of Arnold High, says he is happy to be back in familiar territory, working for the Custer County Sheriff's office.

A.H.S. grad is on duty

Casey Edelman joins Custer County Sheriff's Department

By Janet Larreau

If you see a Custer County police vehicle cruising the streets of Arnold, you might do a double take at who's behind the wheel. The deputy on call is none other than 2009 A.H.S. graduate Casey Edelman.

After all these years, Casey still has the same personality and wit he was known for when he roamed the halls of Arnold High.

“I would have to say I was probably the best student Arnold Public Schools has ever churned out to this day. Especially if we count getting in trouble in class and late homework assignments as positives,” he said. “I still do love History though (thanks Mr. P), and Speech and all sports were a blast. You never think while you're there you're going to miss it, but you do, that's for sure. If you ever think homework is bad, try bills.”

After graduating, Casey at-

tended the University of Nebraska at Kearney for two years where he majored in History and participated in the Reserve Officer Training Program (ROTC) that he joined through the National Guard.

“I had a blast doing both; unfortunately, Uncle Sam had some other plans for me, and I was deployed to Afghanistan in 2011 for a year. I can safely say if you get the chance to visit Afghanistan, skip it. Take the next flight to anywhere else. I did learn a LOT while deployed though, so I definitely don't regret it, and I've made friendships through that experience that will last a lifetime,” he said.

While living in Kearney after deployment, Deputy Edelman had the unique opportunity to work full time for the National Guard on a FBI led Counter Narcotics Task Force in Nebraska. He describes the job as some of the most fun and fulfilling work he's ever done. After that point, he was hooked

and knew he wanted to work in law enforcement for sure.

By the time the deputy position opened in Custer County, the full time Guard job had been suspended due to funding - as he noted so many Guard jobs often are.

At that time he was working as the security supervisor at Richard Young Behavioral Health in Kearney.

“I was contacted by Sergeant Gibbons of the sheriff's office and asked if I would like a change of scenery, and I believe you can still see the trail of fire I left behind me to get here,” he said with a laugh. “I kid, though the folks at Richard Young are a great group of really underappreciated hard workers, and I hope someday mental health is addressed more seriously in our nation's health care system.”

Deputy Edelman started working for the Custer County Sheriff's office in March, and hit the ground running, as it were, with a great group of

guys. Knowing both Deputy Kociemba and Sergeant Gibbons through the Guard for a long time made the process of coming in seem seamless.

“I'll be lurking around Arnold always when you least expect it,” he said. “Have you guys ever noticed you've never seen Batman and I in the same place at the same time? Weird, right?”

Custer County's newest deputy said he's honestly super happy to be back in the area. He has purchased a house in Broken Bow and is undertaking being a homeowner with his girlfriend Chelsae Smidt, and he says it's been an adventure.

“The Academy flew by, as did my 10 year high school reunion. It's just been a whirlwind. I'm glad to see Arnold hasn't changed too much. You love coming back to the familiar, and I'm looking forward to making everyone brake check on the highway. You know, just in case,” he said.



Photo/Debbie Connelly

There's still work to be done

The building for the new check-in station at the Arnold Recreation Area was delivered in September, but there's still work to be done before it's ready to be used by campers. Located at the Y, the quaint, metal and wood structure has a window on each side and a door on the back. Yet to be done is work to enclose the bottom, installing electrical service, and adding protective barriers, a payment box and signage. The station will centralize the check-in process, as well as observance of park rules and layout of the park. Visitors will also be able to gather some information about services available in Arnold. AEDC Director Cheryl Carson said that an added advantage will be when events are held at the ARA, the building can also serve as an easily accessible registration point. Part of the funding for this project came from a grant from the Custer County Tourism Visitors Committee, which comes from the Custer County Lodging Tax.

Homecoming Week Starts Monday

Arnold and Callaway students are gearing up for Homecoming week September 30 through October 4, and have the schedule ready to go.

The week will start with the following Dress-Up Days: Monday - Favorite TV/Movie Character; Tuesday - Favorite Holiday; Wednesday - Color War; Thursday - Pajama Day; Friday - Bobcat Blue (K-12).

The pep rally will be held Wednesday, October 2, at Hidden Valley Campground at 7:00 p.m.

Homecoming coronation will be following Friday night's football game at Arnold on October 4 The dance will follow.

Weather Summary

NWS Cooperative Weather Observer Eric Brast				
DATE	HI	LOW	MT	
October				
15	87	51	0	
16	87	55	0	
17	87	66	0	
18	87	56	0	
19	78	55	0	
20	85	55	0	
21	82	59	0	
22	80	49	.10	
23	73	46	0	
The dewpoint was 49 on the 15th, 58 on the 16th, 63 on the 17th, and 45 on the 18th.				