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Fundraising Begins for Finch Library Close to \$30,000 Needed for Exterior Repairs



Out of town Junk Jaunters look over the selection of books for sale, Friday at the Arnold Community Center. Library board member Rose Bierman said the Junk Jaunt book sale kicked off fundraising for exterior repairs for the library. "I happened to visit with the woman to the left. She bought one full box of books, keeping others in mind in her selections, and donates some of them to prisons. Her husband said she is one book shy of having her own library," said Bierman. (Kendra Veirs photo)

Since it was erected in 1924, Finch Memorial Library has had many years of exposure to the elements, changing the exterior of the building masonry. There are large cracks in the construction joints, movement cracks in the masonry, and other multiple areas of concern that need caulked, including the stone steps that lead to the entrance. In the years to come, those same elements will continue to impact the condition of the building. A proposal presented to the library board by Karr Tuckpointing puts the cost of the exterior repairs at \$27,350.00.

With very little money to operate on, let alone pay for major repairs, the library board, its director Marcy Lucas and AEDC director Cheryl Carson have

started fundraising and applying for available grants in the hope of getting the project started by April of next year.

"The quote from Karr Tuckpointing is only good until June of 2017, so we need to raise all of the money by then if we can," said board member Rose Bierman.

The library was certified in the National Register of Historic Places on July 1, 2015. Bierman said that certification opens up one grant that is available, and the board is applying for other grants and approaching local organizations. Most grants need matching funds though, so fundraisers will be needed in the coming months, showing support from the community.

During last weekend's Junk

Jaunt, the sale of books, donated by Rick and Kim Beshaler and the Catholic Ladies, brought in \$222.00 for the repair fund. Future fundraisers include a Silent Auction during the October 29 Craft Show at the community center, and a baked goods sale during Christmas Around Town. Bierman said they are seeking items for the silent auction, and anyone who would like to donate can contact the library or a board member, including herself, Cindy Tullis, Lana Pearman, Bev Engleman, Betty Larson or Pat Parks-Nelson. Donations can also be mailed to the library at PO Box 247, Arnold NE 69120.

Overview

In grant applications, the board points out that the li-

brary needs tuckpointing not only to preserve the integrity of the building itself, but to also keep the condition of the inside well maintained for future patrons and generations to come.

Patrons, averaging 220 a month, not only have access to a wealth of knowledge from the books the library holds, it also gives patrons access to the Internet, books on tape, DVDs, audiobooks, interlibrary loans, magazines, cake pans and sewing patterns. The library also provides service to get books and materials to those who are unable to come to the library. The library also hosts story hours, which addresses the very youngest patrons of the community. The building is also utilized by a non-denominational youth group for their weekly meeting.

The building is almost reaching its centennial year, and needs the repair to keep its long standing impact on the community for many more generations.

A.H.S. Alumna Leaves Library \$10,000

Last summer, the library received \$10,000.00 from the Margaret Powers Trust. Powers, who was a 1937 graduate of Arnold High School, kept up with news of the Arnold community - and the library - from her home in Spokane, Washington through *The Arnold Sentinel*.

"We had just been talking about the library needing help, and within two weeks we received the phone call from (Powers') attorney. The package with the will followed in the mail," said Bierman.

Bierman emphasized that the library board is hoping to keep Powers' generous gift as a financial cushion for the library, and not for the tuckpointing project.

"The library is funded by the Arnold Township. We get \$18,000.00 a year, and that covers expenses. It's basically all it covers. They've been down to \$500.00 in the checkbook, not knowing how they would pay wages. So the board is thinking that if the furnace goes out, or we have electrical, sewer, or any kind of problems, this donation can be used as an out of pocket emergency fund - something the library desperately needs," she said.

Junk Jaunt Draws Hundreds to Arnold

Well over 300 people stopped at the Arnold Community Center on Friday and Saturday of last week to look over garage sale items offered by nine vendors located there. Three vendors were set up at their residences.

Betty Yeargain, who organized the Arnold locations for the Junk Jaunt through Nebraska, said the number of people coming through was very good on Friday, and turned into a steady flow on Saturday. People registered from Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas, South Dakota, Wyoming, Iowa and even Texas.

"We had lots of people from North Platte on Saturday, and from surrounding towns both days. We encouraged everyone to register, but not all did, so we don't know exactly how many came through and where they were from," said Yeargain.

The Nebraska Junk Jaunt is a 300-mile continuous yard sale in central Nebraska. Last year, this fun event drew 20,000 people from 34 states and 79 of 93 Nebraska counties.

"Pink Out" Planned for October 3 Volleyball Game

Team Helping to Raise Awareness for Breast Cancer

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and for the second year, the South Loup volleyball team will be getting their Pink Out for the October 3 game against Sutherland at Arnold.

Head volleyball coach Randi Atkins said this is the second year that the team will Pink Out for breast cancer, and once again, they will be playing with a pink volleyball.

"The girls asked the year before if we could do it, but it didn't work out," said Atkins. "(Breast cancer survivor) Becky Dailey offered to pay for the t-shirts last year, and so we went for it. There were a lot of tears, when pink volleyballs were passed out in the crowd to anyone who they knew was dealing with cancer or had in the past. The girls said, 'We've got to do this every year.'"

All fans attending the game are encouraged to Pink Out also.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month is an annual campaign to increase awareness of the disease. While most people are aware of breast cancer, many forget to take the steps to have a plan to detect the disease in its early stages and encourage others to do the same.

Breast cancer is the second most common cause of death from cancer in women in the United States, after lung cancer. However, since 1989, the number of women who have died of breast cancer has steadily decreased thanks to early detection and treatment improvements. In women younger than 50, there has been a decrease of 3.2% per year from 2007 to 2011 in white women and a decrease of 2.4% per year in black women. In women age 50 and older, the decrease has been 1.8% per year for white women and 1.1% per year for black women. Currently, there are about 3 million women living with breast cancer in the United States with breast cancer.

More women are diagnosed with breast cancer than any other cancer. This year, an estimated 246,660 women in the

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Hazardous!

Volunteers pour old paint into a drum at Saturday's household hazardous waste collection near the city street shop. Several volunteers, including Arnold Village employees, worked together quickly to dispose of all types of hazardous waste, including yard and garden chemicals, pesticides, herbicides, used oil, household products and cleaning chemicals, Mercury and batteries, dropped off by both town and rural residents. Computers and monitors were also accepted. The Lexington Area Solid Waste Agency, the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality's Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Grants Program and dedicated local volunteers brought the free service to Arnold and several surrounding communities during the three-day collection. (Janet Larreau photo)