

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2020

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

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Notable Quote

“When I was a boy and I would see scary things on the news, my mother would say to me, ‘Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.’”

- Mister Rogers

Custer County Foundation Scholarship Awards Ceremony Cancelled

Given the updates on COVID-19, the Custer County Foundation is cancelling the scholarship awards ceremony. The Custer County Foundation will announce the scholarship recipients via a Facebook live event on Sunday, March 29th at 2:00 pm. We hope you will tune in from the safety of your home. We are excited to announce the recipients.

In an effort to do our part with social distancing, the Custer County Foundation staff will continue to be in the office; however, we ask that business be conducted via phone or e-mail. Please call the office if an appointment is needed, 308-872-2232 or custerfoundation@msn.com.

CC County Treasurer's Office Announces Available Service Options Due to Closing

Amid ongoing concerns in the State of Nebraska and Custer County about COVID-19, the Custer County Courthouse will be closed indefinitely to public foot traffic beginning Thursday, March 19, 2020, at 5 p.m. On April 18, 2020 the situation will be reviewed whether to open at that time. This is subject to change at any time. Office staff will be working with constituents by phone, online and through the mail throughout the entire time.

The Custer County Treasurer's Office wants to make the public aware of the alternative services to meet our constituents' needs. We understand the need to limit their social interactions to maintain public health.

Please refer to the options below to complete your business.

- Real estate and personal property taxes:
- Pay online through <https://custer.gworks.com>. Debit, credit and e-check are the available options of payments.
- Pay through the mail with your payment coupons by check, money order or cashier's check.
- If taxes are on a tax sale certificate, please contact our office for assistance.
- Call our office to obtain the amount due if you don't have a statement. Pay by debit, credit, e-check, check, money order or cashier's check.
- Financial institutions, title and escrow companies-contact the office for assistance with paying taxes.
- Motor vehicle and boat renewals:
- Mail in renewal notices or without a title inspections-call the office. We will work with you to get the steps completed and receive payment by mail or telephone.
- Please allow extra time to

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Photo/Leta Connell

The Class of 2020 (back, l-r, Hunter Weinman, Landry Smith, Jace Connell, Dawson Hanna, Dylan Nelson, Grant Jones; and front, Kenna Rogers, Hailey Myers, Lorraine Wonch and Addison Starr, who is an early graduate) were making the best of bad times last Wednesday, as they went through the normal ritual of what could be their last day of school - about a semester early due to COVID-19.

Making The Most of It

Seniors give themselves a send-off before school shuts its doors

The Class of 2020 gave themselves an early send-off on March 18, as the doors were about to close at APS due to COVID-19. The nine seniors went through all of the normal last-day rituals of taking group photos and parading through town in different makes and models of vehicles, horns honking, smiling and waving.

Senior mom Leta Connell put it best with this post on Facebook: “Well, when your

childhood begins with the 9/11 tragedy and ends with the coronavirus pandemic, you just have to roll with the punches and make the most of it!”

The senior send-off was all “just in case.” The weeks to come are filled with uncertainty for this group. Will the doors to the school open back up so that they can participate in what over 100 years of A.H.S. graduates have enjoyed in the past? Most importantly, walk-

ing across the stage in caps and gowns to receive their diplomas.

School board members will consider possibly reopening the school on Monday, April 6, after reevaluating the situation on April 2, but the seniors aren't getting their hopes up.

“When I think about it in general, it's a really eerie feeling,” said senior Jace Connell. “It's sad and it's devastating that our class will miss out on prom,

sports, awards. (Things) that everyone else has got to do. We know (the school) will do everything in their power to do all of those things, but when it comes down to it, it's not in their power to make those decisions. We know what's being done and what is being put in place is for the greater good, so it's hard to be totally upset that this is happening.”

A.H.S. Grad Makes Donation to Community

No one knows what the coming weeks or maybe months will bring in light of COVID-19. A.H.S. graduate Brent Winfield, owner of Aurora Meat Block, is making sure the residents of Arnold are taken care of. He recently donated 160 lbs. of frozen chicken legs and 60 lbs. of ground pork to the Arnold

Food Pantry.

“I studied history in college, and knowing history, these things come around and can get serious. It's our job to take care of those people who can't help themselves.”

Brent first spoke with a couple of churches in the Aurora area, and they weren't inter-

ested in the donation. He then contacted Arnold history teacher Rick Peterson to get his input on who to contact in Arnold. After a couple of phone calls, the Baptist Church pastor, Irv Jennings, and his wife Melody were most receptive to the idea. Pastor Irv drove to Aurora and picked up the dona-

tion. In addition, both the Baptist and Tallin churches purchased an additional 40 lb. cases of solid block chicken in bulk at Brent's cost.

“I give a lot of credit to the Tallin and Baptist churches for buying more. They took all I had. It's a lot of labor to separate it and then distribute. They certainly did their part,” said Brent. “Just because you can take care of yourself, doesn't mean others can; like the folks at Riverview. I hope it eases that stress. If it's not needed, then the community can use it down the road for future events and fundraisers,” he said.

Treasury and IRS Issue Guidelines on Deferring Tax Payments Due to COVID-19 Outbreak

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Following President Donald J. Trump's emergency declaration pursuant to the Stafford Act, the U.S. Treasury Department and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) today issued guidance allowing all individual and other non-corporate tax filers to defer up to \$1 million of federal income tax (including self-employment tax) payments due on April 15, 2020, until July 15, 2020, without penalties or interest. The guidance also allows corporate taxpayers a similar deferral of up to \$10 million of federal income tax payments that would be due on

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Arnold Vet Presented Quilt of Valor

Arnold's Veteran's Building was the location on Sunday, March 15th, 2020, for the Quilt of Valor presentation to Gene Tullis. Gene Edward Tullis is a Vietnam Veteran who served in the US Army from 1969 to 1971.

The beautiful red, white, and blue, stars and stripes quilt, was constructed and presented by Em Jorgenson of Callaway, representing the Quilts of Valor Foundation. The accompanying certificate states, “The Quilts of Valor Foundation wishes to recognize you for your service to our nation. We consider it a privilege to honor you. Though we may never know the extent of your sacrifices and service to protect and defend the United States of America, as an expression of our gratitude we award you this quilt of Valor.”

The mission of the Quilts of Valor Foundation is to cover service members and veterans touched by war with comforting and healing Quilts of Valor.

Since its beginning in 2003, the Quilts of Valor Foundation has awarded almost 250,000 quilts in all 50 states.

For more information, visit govf.org



Courtesy photo

Arnold Vietnam veteran Gene Tullis (center) was presented the Quilt of Honor and a certificate on March 15, with his family present, including sons Edward and Charles and granddaughters Ivy and Anna Tullis.