

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

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Bailey Schwarz Is Key In Historical Sign Project



Courtesy photo

With a historical sign story in production on the computer, School House Graphic Products summer employee Bailey Schwarz is surrounded by her 'historical sign' work that she is working on for Berni Crow's Rotary project.

Berni Crow has been passionate about putting together a historical sign project like the one she saw in Bennington, Nebraska, several years ago. Since she needed a non-profit organization sponsor in order to apply for grants, she suggested the idea to the Arnold Rotary, in which she is a member. At that time, it didn't draw much interest, so she dropped it. Two or three years later, she pro-

posed the project again. This time... with photos.

"I guess that's what it took... to see what the final result might look like," she said.

Arnold Rotary decided to support the project. Her research in how to get the project off the ground led to a conversation with the owner of a B&B in Bennington. At the time their signs were being put together, he was the local historian and

project manager. The first step was to fund the project. In 2018, she applied for and received two grants, for a total of \$2,500.00 - \$500.00 from the Custer County Foundation and \$2,000.00 from Custer County Tourism. And her project was underway.

"Little did I know, that I would spend so much time trying to find vintage photos and researching the history for

each story. I estimate that it takes at least two to three days to complete each sign," said Berni.

You have probably seen some of the historical signs finally being placed around the village of Arnold. Sixteen have been completed at the time of this writing, but not all of them are posted on the buildings yet. The first three were placed in 2018, and after taking time out from the historical sign project to retire from teaching, she's finally back in business in 2020.

The historical sign project has gotten a big boost from School House Graphics, with Clay and Julie Mohr at the helm.

"I don't know what I'd do without Bailey Schwarz!" said Berni. "She'll be an expert at 'reading my mind' when it's all said and done. She has no idea how much I appreciate her," said Berni.

The school based business School House Graphic Products, with Bailey in charge of the sign project, has been the production agent since the very beginning. Once Bailey gets Berni's written article that uses several different resources and is edited at least 10 times, she then puts it all together on computer, placing the text, titles and photos with captions, into the areas Berni suggest on the sign. Next, Bailey sends the "draft" to Berni for approval. At that time, Berni reads it again to check for errors and make any suggestions that she sees on photo placement, etc.

"As it turns out, I'm the one who makes all the mistakes," said Berni.

Finally, Berni gives Bailey the go-ahead to put her design on the sign material. The numerous steps may take two or three e-mail passes, before it's all said and done.

"I couldn't ask for a better partner. I'm also thankful for the technology we have. She and I can communicate without spending a penny on gas," said Berni.

Bailey began working at SHGP (School House Graphic Products) when she was a sophomore during the school year and this coming school year, she'll be a senior at Arnold. The summer of 2020 is Bailey's first summer working at SHGP. Bailey shared that one of her first projects of her junior year was her "favorite project." That project required her to design a logo for a church.

Bailey said, "The project took a long time because it had to be original. There are so many projects that I like to do because when you see them done, you have this sense of accomplishment that you made that sign or that decal. I think this whole job is a unique experience. Before this job, I had mowed with my family, so this is my first 'real' job. I am working and communicating with customers and my fellow employees, instead of my family. I have also learned a lot of new skills while being here. I have learned to use many designing tools, machines, and application techniques. This job has also helped me to grow my communication skills and learn how to work with other people."

"From my viewpoint as Bailey's partner, Bailey will be an excellent candidate for any future job she chooses to do. She's been a terrific comrade on this Historical Sign Project. I just hope I/we get all the signs completed before Bailey heads off to college!" said Berni.

Lending a Helping Hand

NHS/JHS students start on community service projects

There really is no individual, business or organization that the COVID-19 pandemic hasn't affected since mid-March. Take Arnold's National Honor Society and Junior Honor Society, for example. Each year, these two organizations rely on serving at the A.H.S. Alumni Banquet and SORC to raise money for their projects. With the school closed down and tighter than normal funds, Senior NHS members were looking for a project. Kacee Dvorak suggested finding out about adding plants by the new Arnold Recreation Area sign.

When NHS checked with the AEDC, they found out that the funds and plans for planters were already in place, but workers were needed. It worked out perfectly for the NHS senior project. "We were getting ready to install evergreen beds in front of the new Arnold Recreation

Area sign at the entrance to the park and at the new check-in station at the ARA. Since I already had the grant money for the project, no money was required," said AEDC Director Cheryl Carson.

Kacee and Jayden Bubak attended the city council meeting on June 8 in case there were any questions about the project.

After that project was developed, Carson suggested that help was also needed with some projects that usually get done during community cleanup day, which was cancelled this year due to the pandemic. To spread out the service, organization sponsor Debby Moninger proposed that the JHS work on the maintenance projects and the NHS on the recreation projects.

With Principal Joel Morgan's permission, both organizations

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Courtesy photo



The Arnold Recreation Area check-in station is now complete with new landscaping. Grant money was used for the project.

NHS students Kylee Lehmkuhler and Reagan Cool help AEDC Director Cheryl Carson get the soil ready to plant evergreen trees in the newly installed block retaining wall at the Arnold Recreation Area check-in station. The senior NHS project of helping at the ARA was organized by Kacee Dvorak and Jadeyn Bubak.