

# The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

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CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

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## Historical Marker Placed at BrewBakers



BrewBakers owner Jodi Carlson stands beside a new historical marker that has been placed on her recently renovated building. This is the fourth marker that has been completed for the Rotary project by Berni Crow. A total of 40-plus signs for Arnold buildings are planned in order to complete the project.

A new historical marker has been placed at the BrewBakers building. Rotary Club project manager Berni Crow said she wrote the grants in 2017 and it has been a struggle finding photos and information for the markers. She encourages people to send her facts and photos if they have a “story to tell” about any Arnold building or house. She will be doing the oldest buildings first and the ones that she has the best information for. Currently, she has 10 stories written and #11 is in the draft phase.

“I may not be able to complete the original 40-plus signs unless people start getting vintage photos and information to me,” she said. “I have been very fortunate that several locals have let me borrow their materials and photos for a few hours. I scan them and return them on the same day.”

The BrewBakers marker reads as follows:

**T.L. Jones Mercantile” –  
1914**

**BrewBakers Coffee House  
& Gifts – 2016**

T.L. (Tucker Lon) Jones came to Arnold on March 13, 1912 to manage a general merchandise

store that Duckett and Maddox (Custer Hotel site) had rented to Omar Helton and Thomas Roberts. Wanting his store to be ready when the trains came, Jones took two wagons loaded with merchandise (pulled by four horses each) from Callaway to Arnold early in the morning. It took him until late at night to make the 23 mile trip. Perhaps the first store that sat on this site was Charlie Long’s tiny drug store. In 1914, Helton and Roberts began building the brick store for T.L. Jones, and completed it that same year. Jones moved across the street to his new store. The new store featured such large plate glass windows that it was called the “Daylight Store” when it opened in 1914. He bought out his partners in 1925 and became the sole owner of “T. L. Jones Mercantile Co.” Tucker gave away small crockery containers as premiums with his store lettering on them. (These are now highly prized by collectors.) The “Big Fire” in December of 1927 not only destroyed the Duckett Maddox building across the street, but it also did hundreds of dollars of damage to stores

on the west side of the street including the huge windows of the T.L. Jones store. After Jones quit selling clothing in 1928, he carried only grocery stock. Also, at that time, he divided his store into two places of business. In the 1940’s, Jones along with three other older businesses, closed their stores. Jones died in 1944 and his wife died in 1955. The Brummetts kept the Jones’ Grocery store open until 1942. Clarence Cunningham, who had recently moved his Gamble store to the south space of the T.L. Jones building, took out the partition enabling him to use the entire building. Clarence had come from Fullerton, NE in 1937 and bought out Robert Jackson’s

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## Coverage of A.H.S. Graduation Set for Next Week’s Issue

A.H.S. commencement exercises were held on Monday, June 1, at 7:00 p.m.. Due to The Sentinel’s deadline and printing schedule, coverage of graduation will be in next week’s issue.

## National Guard Test Results from Burwell Event

### More testings scheduled in basin

Burwell, NE – Loup Basin Public Health Department (LBPHD) worked in collaboration with Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Nebraska’s National Guard, Region 26 Emergency Management and Burwell EMS/Fire Department to conduct a mass testing event on Tuesday, May 26, 2020. The testing was held at the Burwell Fire Hall. The event was open to the public and 94 participants were tested. From the testing event, no positive individuals were identified.

The National Guard testing results bring the district’s total to 85 COVID-19 cases within the district as of Friday, May 29, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. The breakdown by county is as follows:

- Howard – 41
- Custer – 36
- Valley – 3
- Sherman – 3
- Greeley – 2

There have been 1,541 negative COVID-19 tests received from commercial and public health laboratories, an increase of 358 from the last week. Two additional deaths were reported from individuals who had tested positive with COVID-19, bringing the district’s total to 8 (Custer – 4, Howard – 4).

Loup Basin Public Health Department has been notified of five additional free testing opportunities within the district in the coming week. Test Nebraska will be hosting events June 1 & 2 in Broken Bow, June 3 in Burwell, and June 6 & 7 in St. Paul. To be tested during one of these events, participants must visit testnebraska.com and complete the assessment and qualify for testing. If you qualify you will

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Photo/Debbie Connelly

## Library Installs New HVAC System With CCF Grant

Pictured above is Cloudfire Services owner Adam Wonch installing a new HVAC system at Finch Memorial Library. The library received a grant in the amount of \$4,500.00 from the Custer County Foundation to assist with the installation costs.

## Julesburg or Bust!



Ruth and LV “Cook” Conner enjoyed watching their own personal parade on May 24th before moving to Julesburg, Colorado. Cook, who was a business owner and helped the town progress as a village board member, and Ruth, who was a long-time teacher, made Arnold their home for 65 years.

## Arnold couple receives big send-off

How many people can say they have had a parade organized just for them? Ruth and LV “Cook” Conner can. On Sunday, May 24, the couple watched from the porch of their well kept home, as a

honk and wave style parade

passed by. Organized by Diane Conner, the parade provided a way for residents to maintain social distancing and say farewell to a couple that has made Arnold their home for 65

years.

Approximately 50 vehicles in

cluded “little people” on their

own motorized cars and bikes.

Legion and V.F.W. started the

parade, honoring Cook as the

oldest living World War II vet-



Legion and V.F.W. members brought a military vehicle to the parade to honor Cook, who was the oldest living World War II veteran living in Arnold.

eran still living in Arnold, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of “The National Anthem.” As the vehicles drove by, organizer Diane Conner - dressed for the part as a clown - introduced drivers to Cook and Ruth so the couple

could give an individual wave

and share memories with each

one. The Smith, Conner,

Lehmkuhler and Mills families

recognized Cook’s long-time co-

ownership of Arnold’s Central

Implement dealership by driving John Deere tractors and the village’s rural tanker also went by.

“My folks were so surprised that so many people took the time to come by. They both felt humbled and honored,” said their daughter, Marcia Hill, who has been caring for her parents since the first of April.

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