

Happy Thanksgiving

There is always something for which to be thankful.

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2020

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

(USPS 032480)

SINGLE COPY: 75 CENTS

VOLUME 104, NUMBER 24



Courtesy photo

Thankful for time in the classroom

With Thanksgiving just around the corner, Arnold fourth graders were working on their Indian Corn project in art class last week. The kids used oil pastels and focused on layering and blending colors. The finished pieces turned out beautiful, under the direction of art instructor Katie Berglund. As the saying goes above our masthead, there's always something to be thankful for. Both teachers and parents are happy that students made it through the quarter and are still able to study and work in the classroom.

One-Act Team Places 2nd at Conference

The cast and crew of “Elephant’s Graveyard” brought home the runner-up plaque from the MNAC East One Act Competition held in Callaway on Tuesday, November 17th. Competition was tough as Callaway won first, edging out Arnold by only a couple of points.

“Callaway and Arnold have a history of going back and forth in the MNAC competition. I believe this is the third year straight that South Loup has swept the team and all acting awards,” said Lana Cool, direc-

tor.

Reagan Cool, who plays “Trainer” in this dark story was named “Best Actress” by the panel of judges.

“Our team gave a stunning performance,” said Lana Cool. “They work together so well. The energy is fantastic and they have created a truly beautiful retelling of a true episode in history. I am just so proud of this cast and crew.”

“Elephant’s Graveyard” will compete at District Competition in Ansley at 9:00 a.m. on December 2.

Custer County Foundation Gala & Auction Moves Online

Due to COVID 19 restrictions and our concern for the wellbeing and safety of our guests, our Annual Gala & Auction will be held as an online event. The Custer County Foundation Gala & Auction “Reimagined” will allow patrons to bid on auction items from the safety of their home. Online bidding will open on December 8, 2020 and conclude at 7:00 pm on December 12, 2020. You may begin viewing auction items on December 1. We encourage participants to register and start making their wish lists before the auction begins. The website to view and bid on items is

www.ccfauction.asimobile.net.

This online auction software is very user friendly and should be easy to navigate. We are excited to offer a fun new twist and hope to see an increase in participation. An online event makes the Gala & Auction truly open to everyone to enjoy! Remember anyone can bid.

As you know, our Gala & Auction is the main source of funding for the Foundation’s grant program and non-traditional scholarships. Both these programs have a positive and lasting impact throughout Custer County and it is imperative

See Foundation, Page 5

St. Agnes Church Receives Historical Marker



Courtesy photo

(From left) Tonya Welch, Mary Beshaler, Sue Beshaler, Father Thomas Gudipalli, Lee Eastburn and John Beshaler gather around the new historical marker placed on St. Agnes Church.

Historical markers continue to be placed on buildings in Arnold. A project of Arnold Rotary, Berni Crow has compiled the information for the signs. This week we feature St. Agnes Catholic Church. The marker reads as follows:

St. Agnes Catholic Church-1914

John Faherty Sr. was one of several who arrived in the Arnold territory in 1884. Realizing the need for a Catholic Church, he pushed for a church until finally in 1892, the first mass was held in the home of Pat and Dr. Elsie Logan (Pete

Hagler Residence). Father Daly from Dale Valley (between Merna and Anselmo) was the first celebrant. Logan, Mackley, McKenna, and Murray families, were also some of the first families behind the push for a church. Finally, in 1900, services began to be held regularly in the homes of members. Father Mosier, from Dale conducted these services. He would then continue on to Gandy by horse and buggy to deliver services there. When the Maddox and Duckett building (Custer Hotel corner) was completed in 1912, masses were held on the second floor Opera House. Father Muenster-

man, a priest at the Kearney Normal School, asked students Tom and John Faherty about their home church. When they informed him that there was no church, he decided to see to it that one was built! By 1913, Fr. Muensterman, and locals John Knott, J.P. Lawless, and John Faherty, had raised enough money to build the frame church (still in use today). Stapleton’s first resident priest, Fr. Fernandez, conducted the first mass in the new church, using a carpenter’s bench for an altar. Regular services weren’t going to be held in the church until travel conditions improved. (Mem-

bers in the community were responsible for heating the church. They’d rustle up cobs and coal and get there early enough to get the fire going, then carry out the ashes after mass. Some mornings, while praying, you could see your breath in the sunlight.) Resident Fathers from Stapleton were also in charge of services in Gandy and Arnold. Priests following Fernandez included: Kaupmann, Hermes, Gasser, Keil, Maron, Haner, Kenny, Moynihan, Miles, Nally, Pelster, and Nepl. Fr. Kenny served the longest, from 1923 to 1943. In the earlier years, priests traveled from various towns such

as North Platte, St. Libory, Grand Island, and Dale. St. Agnes Catholic Church was also served by several Dominican sisters. Parish members honored in the Parish Directories include: Helen Halouska-longest serving member (1980s), Mae Prendergast-organist for 34 years, Tom Faherty followed by Cecil Gunther-caring for the church for many years. During the years of Fr. Nepl’s service, the church was enlarged by 75 feet, a full basement was added, and seating capacity tripled. The church was incorporated May 23, 1952. In the years following incorporation, many improvements were made to the church. (Mass was held above the Light Plant in the Fireman’s Hall while construction was taking place). Priests who have served since incorporation include, Frs. James McSweeney, Stephen Deaver, John Schlaf, Robert Rooney, John Dennett, Hugh Spanel, James Heitoff, Reginald Urban, James Hunt, James Novakowski, Neal Nollette, Todd Philipsen, Antony Thekkekara, and Thomas Gudipalli. Under Fr. Novakowski’s leadership, some improvements made during 1999-2000 included: addition of a parish hall, rearranged seating, addition of stained glass windows, an outdoor statue of their patron saint, St. Agnes, a picture of the last rosary, wooden cross, and a new Pascal Candle holder. With the new parish hall added to the church, it allowed members to utilize the basement for the St. Agnes Thrift Store that opened in 2004, and continues to serve many people to this day.

(Some information for the markers was taken from the book “One Hundred Years on the South Loup” by Norene Hall Mills. Written and prepared by Berni Crow 5/21/2020)