

# The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2021

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

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Amber Tatman photo

Firemen from Arnold and Stapleton work together to support a wall in the aftermath of a house fire northwest of Arnold last Thursday, April 1.

## Fire Destroys Home Near Arnold

The community of Arnold ral-

lied together on April 1 to pro-

vide assistance to the family of

Ryan and Cindy Tullis, after

their newer country home

burned to the ground.

At 1:30 p.m., fire departments

from Arnold, Stapleton, Call-

away, and Merna were called to

the scene of the house fire lo-

cated in the Arnold Fire District

northwest of town. With the

area already on fire alert, and

with south, southeast winds

blowing at 15 miles per hour,

firemen were on the scene

until 7:00 p.m., extinguishing

and monitoring for outbreaks

that could have led to a grass

fire. Country Partners helped

fight the fire by hauling water.

Everything was destroyed, in-

cluding all of the dwellings and

vehicles.

At the time the fire broke out,

only Cindy was at home. She es-

caped with no injuries.

With the family losing all of

their possessions, drop-off

points at Grazers and Mills

Hardware were immediately

set up to receive donations of

clothing and most anything a

family needs, such as toiletries.

A fund has also been set up for

the family at Pinnacle Bank.

The cause of the fire is still

under investigation by the

State Fire Marshal's office.

## State Confirms Presence of Three COVID-19 Variants

After weeks of decline fol-

lowed by a steady plateau, coro-

navirus cases are rising again

in the United States. In Ne-

braska, the Centers for Disease

Control (CDC) reports that

newly reported cases are steady

but rose 9% for the week of

March 16-29. The seven-day

rolling average of daily new

cases in Nebraska has risen

over the past two weeks from

230 new cases per day on

March 13 to 291 new cases per

day this past Saturday.

To date, a total of 162,560 Ne-

braskans testing positive for

COVID-19 have recovered. The

total number of COVID-19-re-

lated deaths reported in Ne-

braska is 2,180. COVID-19

hospitalizations increased

slightly.

The state has confirmed the

presence of three COVID-19

variant strains: the B.1.1.7 vari-

ant that was originally identi-

fied in the United Kingdom, the

B.1.429 variant that first sur-

faced in California, and the P1

variant from Brazil. A total of

103 of these variants of con-

cern have been identified in

the state. To date, 70 cases of

the B.1.1.7 COVID-19 variant,

31 cases of the B1.429 variant,

and 2 of the P1 variant have

been identified in Nebraska. All

available vaccines, Pfizer, Mod-

erna and the new Johnson &

Johnson/Janssen Pharmaceuti-

cals vaccine, appear to be effec-

tive against these variants.

Although caution is required

because of many the many un-

knowns surrounding the new

variant strains, vaccines re-

main the greatest hope for re-

turning to normal.

As of Monday, April 5, the en-  
tire state will move to Phase 2B,  
which includes all Nebraskans age  
16-49. This does not mean  
that every health district will  
immediately be able to vacci-  
nate any adult. Some local  
health departments may  
choose to begin Phase 2B by  
prioritizing according to age  
within the phase (for example,  
by starting with only those per-  
sons 40 years of age and older).

Currently most health dis-  
tricts are in Phase 2A, which al-  
lows those Nebraskans aged 50  
and older to be vaccinated. Up  
to 10% of the weekly allocation  
will be allotted for high-risk  
medical conditions.

## Duet Acting Team Selected as “Best of the Best”

Two weeks after winning  
Class D2 State Championship  
medals in Duet Acting, senior  
Landyn Cole and junior Reagan  
Cool learned they had been se-  
lected as the “Best of the Best”  
in the state - not just the best in  
Class D-2, but the best duet in  
all six classes.

Judges at state speech took the  
ratings sheets and comments  
from each speech, in each class,  
to determine the overall best  
speech winners from classes A,  
B, C1, C2, D2, and D2.

The girls didn't even know  
such an award existed.

## Sign Up Now for Clean-Up Day

Residents are encouraged to  
sign up for clean-up day sched-  
uled for April 19. Volunteers  
from Arnold Rotary, Arnold  
Chamber, Arnold Public  
School, American Legion and  
village personnel will be going  
down the list to make Arnold  
shine.

To have your name placed on  
the list, call Patty Lamberty at  
848-2228 (cell 308-520-4495) or  
Becky Dailey at 848-2522.

Legion members will be avail-  
able to pick up almost any type  
of metal. Call Mike Harvey at  
308-530-1065 to schedule a pick  
up.

The entire month of April has  
been designated as community  
clean up month. A roll off con-  
tainer has been placed at the  
village street shop for your con-  
venience when cleaning up  
your property. There is no  
charge for village residents to  
use the container during April.  
Not accepted in the container  
will be tires, construction rub-  
ble, appliances, batteries, com-  
puters and household  
hazardous waste.

A rain date of April 26 has  
been scheduled in case of in-  
clement weather.

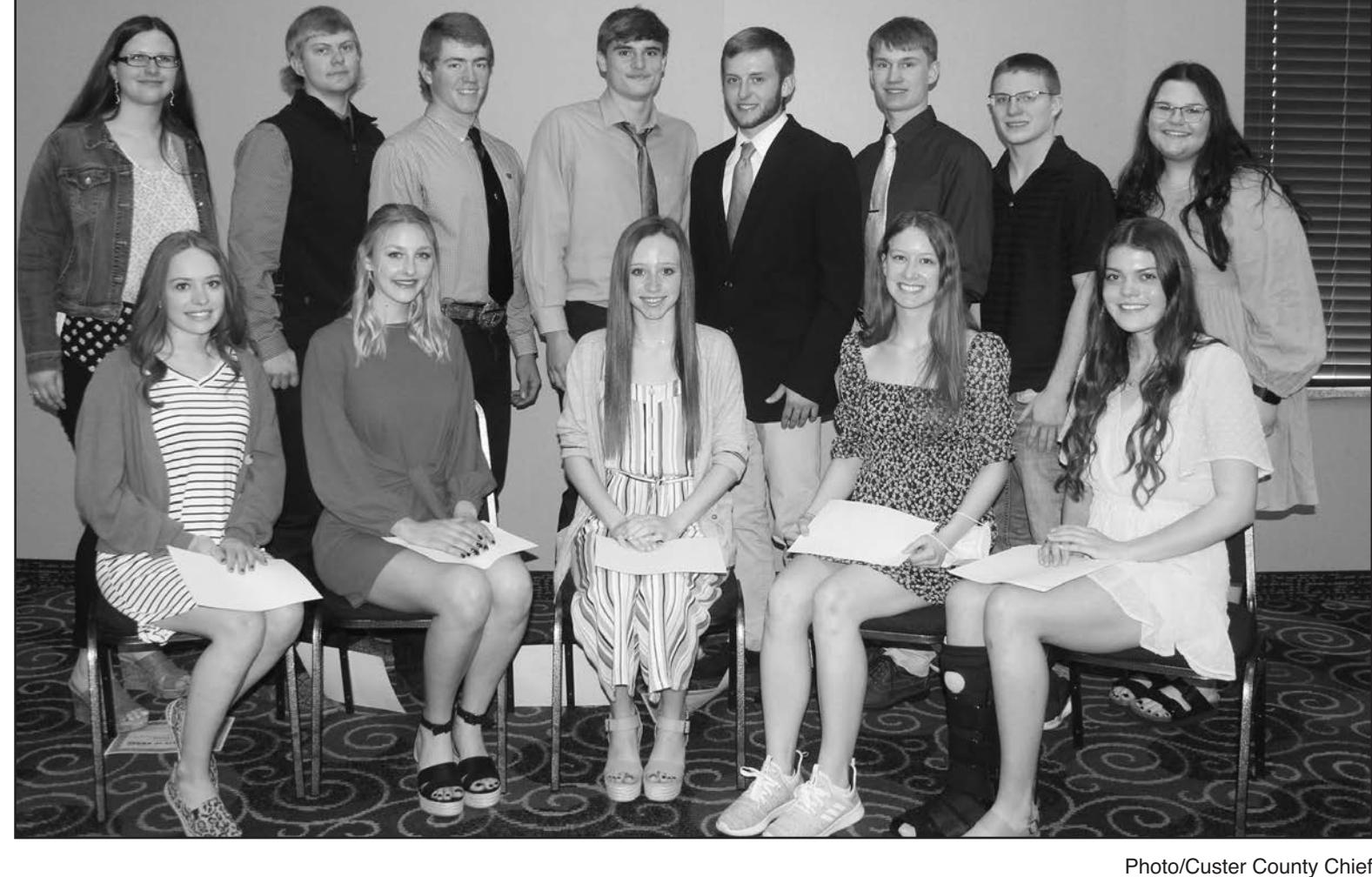
## Custer County Foundation Awards Scholarships at Ceremony

Several Arnold  
students awarded  
scholarships

The Custer County Foundation  
held their annual Scholar-  
ship Award Ceremony on  
Sunday, March 28, at the One  
Box Convention Center in Broken  
Bow.

Alicia Hermsmeyer, Board  
Member and President of the  
Custer County Foundation,  
conducted the welcome to the  
estimated 350 people in atten-  
dance. Alicia also introduced  
our guest speaker, Levi French,  
who grew up in Broken Bow  
and graduated from Broken  
Bow High School. Levi attended  
Texas A & M University where  
he competed his Bachelor's de-  
gree in Mechanical Engineering.  
Levi currently lives in  
Broken Bow, Nebraska and  
works as a mechanical engineer  
at Sargent Pipe.

Levi shared his story with the  
guests in attendance. He men-  
tioned how difficult classes  
were and he had a real eye-  
opening experience after he re-  
ceived his first exam grade. He  
started asking for help, made a  
conscience effort to stay fo-  
cused, kept a good friend  
group, worked hard, and set up  
a way to manage his time effec-  
tively, and classes started to be-  
come easier and he began



Photo/Custer County Chief

Custer County Foundation scholarship recipients from Arnold and Callaway High Schools are, front row, from left: Kylene Lehmkhler, Arnold; Landyn Cole, Arnold; Kacee Dvorak, Arnold; Calyn Laible, Callaway; and Jadeyn Bubak, Arnold. Back row: Cecilia Wonch, Arnold; Reagan Ross, Callaway; Dalton Kunkee, Callaway; Drew Vickers, Arnold; Sam Cool, Arnold; Eli Taylor, Arnold; Carson Mason, Callaway; and Macy Rynearson, Callaway.