

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

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CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

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Town’s Construction and Demolition Site Will Last for Decades to Come

Village board members hear update at February 14 meeting

In a report given by Elliott Nickel from T.C. Engineering, Village Board members learned that the construction and demolition site, located north of town will last many years into the future. The update was given at the Board’s regular meeting held on February 14. The proposed modification plans for the C&D site includes closing Cell No. 2 the near future. Cell No. 1 will be done in two phases. It is estimated that Phase 1 Cell No. 1 will last an estimated 28 years. Phase 2 Cell No. 1 is estimated to last 80 years, and Phase 3 Cell No. 3 will last 25 years. All will be done on the land that the Village already owns. The plans will be submitted to the Nebraska Department of Environmental and Energy for their approval.

AEDC Director’s Update

Cheryl Carson reported that Liam Atchison and Diana Coleman are new members on the Arnold Economic Development Corporation Board. Other members include: Vicki Ambler, Brent Garrison, Karen Horst, and Andrew Tickle.

Carson said she is currently pursuing an application for recognition as a Leadership Certified Community – a program sponsored and administered by the Nebraska Department of Economic Development. The designation of

LCC is reserved for communities that document strong community development efforts. Each applicant community is evaluated on program standards related to their community’s collaborative efforts, including strategic planning, community planning and zoning, business and technology and business resources.

The project will be done in conjunction with the 2022 CDBG/Comprehensive Plan Update. She is currently working on a survey which will be later be released to the community via Survey Monkey, as well as in written form.

“We are looking forward to the community’s input and re-

sponses,” she said.

Grant Approved

Carson informed Board members that the AEDC recommends at \$2,000.00 grant be issued to Touch of Grace that will accompany a loan from the AEDC’s revolving loan fund – a loan that will be used for business expansion. Members voted to issue a check for the grant from the fund as recommended.

Proposed Rotary Projects

Irv Jennings was at the meeting, asking for the Board’s consideration on two proposed Rotary projects. The first project to consider was a 6’ PVC in-

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Hot Rodder Plunges Town Into Darkness

The whole town experienced a sudden blackout for about six hours last Sunday night, as Village employees and Custer County Public Power scrambled to restore electricity.

Village Superintendent Doug De Laune said the cause of the blackout was a hit-and-run hot rodder who snapped a pole in half on Court Street. The driver came around the corner onto Court Street from the west, barely missed the stopped sign, and hit the pole. Some residents reported hearing the

screaching of tires, followed by a loud boom.

DeLaune said the power went from phase to neutral and threw the fuses at the sub station east of town on Highway 92. Setting a new pole took most of the time because of the type of pole it was.

Residents were without power from about 7:10 p.m. to 1:10 a.m. “We wish we could have got it on sooner,” he said.

The Custer County Sheriff’s office is investigating the incident.

Eggleston Named President/Broker of Agri Affiliates

Tony Eggleston of Arnold has been named Company President and Broker for Agri Affiliates, Inc. Tony started with the company in 2007, providing appraisals and real estate services. As the next generation, he is only the third President/Broker in the company’s history. Established in 1985, Agri Affiliates, Inc. provides property management, appraisals, and real estate sales.

Tony will lead a team providing all types of real estate services throughout Nebraska and into the surrounding states of South Dakota, Wyoming, Colorado, Kansas, and Iowa. The company has also gone into Missouri.

As broker, Tony will oversee the company’s three corporate offices that are fully staffed in Kearney, North Platte, and Hastings, and branch offices in Arnold and McCook. As president, he will oversee all of Agri Affiliates’ appraisers, farm managers and real estate sales persons, who are all independent contractors.

Tony said that with his new position, he has backed off on some of the appraisals that he has done, but with the hiring of additional appraisers, the volume of appraisal work will be higher than it has been in the past.

“It’s an honor to be president/broker of Agri Affiliates,



Tony Eggleston

as I am only the third person to hold that position in the company’s history,” said Tony. “We’re looking to grow our company with some new individuals, while still maintaining our high level of service. These are key points of my call to service.”

Agri Affiliates provides property management, appraisals, and real estate sales.

Tony and his wife Krista live north of Arnold in Northwest Custer County, where they raised their three children. He is an active member of the Arnold community, serving on the school board for several years, and is currently serving on the Arnold Township board.

Sale Barn Remembered With Historical Marker



Courtesy photo

Two of Arnold’s most well-known auctioneers, Larry Moran and Brad Atkins, are pictured beside the new historical marker placed at the former location of the Arnold Sale Barn.

Rotary project coordinator Berni Crow has placed a historical marker at the former location of the Arnold Sale Barn. The marker (with a photo) reads as follows:

Livestock & Property Sales (1900s) ~ Arnold Auction Company (1933)

The photo above shows M. J. (Johnny) Robison’s Feed and Livery barn under construction in 1911. Needing it for his own use, it wasn’t until around the late 1920’s, early 30s that his barn became the place where most sales took place. (John Robison Sr. was Arnold’s own “Johnny Appleseed”, having ordered trees from Illinois, he planted them wherever he thought they’d grow.) M. J.

(Johnny) Robison, son of John Robison Sr. built his Feed & Livery Barn with cottonwood lumber from his farm which was located northwest of Arnold on the Robert Aydelotte place. (The house can still be seen just north of Rich and Jane Horning’s house.) A variety of buildings were used for sales in the early years, but Johnny Robison’s barn stood the test of time for 92 years, being torn down in 2003. Around 1909, William Judkins’ livery barn had often been used for community sales prior to the completion of Robison’s building. At that time, Ed Lindell was the auctioneer. Later in the early 1920s, Lindell began to use the barn in the back of his residence for sales. Other auctioneers in those early days

included Thomas Cahill from Kansas (1914), Floyd Martin (graduate of Auctioneering School) and Ben Mills (1920). Joe Savidge from Callaway started having sales in the Robison Feed Barn with help from Earl Lobb an Arnold farmer. These auctioneers were kept busy with many sales (livestock and property) including a week in March of 1923 when there were five farm sales. It’s interesting to note that a team sold for \$250 at one of those sales. Charlie McGuire came on the scene in the late 1920s as the main auctioneer in Arnold. Regular sales were held in the pens and lots behind R. E. Allen’s home (McGuire’s father-in-law), and later, as stated above, Robison’s barn became the place where

most of the sales took place. The ARNOLD AUCTION COMPANY was formed circa 1933. After purchasing Robison’s barn, new owners Charlie McGuire, Vic Wall, and Oscar Maroney installed weighing scales and holding pens around the sale barn. Charlie’s son Bill helped with the sales. They held their first sale on September 6, 1933. Livestock sold that day included 24 hogs, 12 horses and mules, and 39 head of cattle. Folks who served as clerks at various times for the new Auction Company included Robert Harris, Clarence Mills, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Tubbs, and Lloyd Beltz. Lela McCandless opened a lunchroom inside the barn, and a few years later Alvina (Shields) Lewis took over and ran it for twenty-two years.

Clarence Mills purchased Maroney’s interest after Oscar died in a car accident. In 1936, when McGuire left the Auction Company, Dwain Williams from Broken Bow became the auctioneer until Joe McClure took over. McClure, from Callaway, who had been the ringman, bought McGuire’s interest and then became the auctioneer. Vic Wall’s interest was bought out by McClure and Mills in 1944 and they added Bill Hagler as a third partner. Through the succeeding years, Lester Keyser, Carl Rogers, Tony Salud (Burwell), T. C. Jensen (Minden) who leased to Harlan Jensen, Don Warner, Charlie Brown, Bob McDowell and Mynor Smith, Larry Moran, Brad Atkins, Rich Horning, and Ken Hoerle were other owners and/or auctioneers of the Arnold Sales Company. In 1934 (Dirty Thirties) local farmers were forced to sell their cattle totaling 34,925 animals; (31,678) of those were hogs. The sale of horses increased dramatically due to changes in farming methods: 1934 (695), 1935 (744), 1945 (136), and 1946 (52). The price of hogs sold ranged from \$2 per head to \$65 per head. A team of mules sold for \$326 in 1935, with the top horse ringing in at \$145. Cattle brought a top price of \$7.50 per hundred pounds. The record price for a Percheron mare, in a private sale that year, was \$175. A total of 444 head of three-year-old

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Community Vision Meeting Set for March 1

The Arnold Community Foundation Fund (ACFF) will host a Community Vision meeting to plan for our future on March 1 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., at the community center.

Jana Jensen of the Nebraska Community Foundation will be the moderator. Anyone who loves Arnold and wants to see a healthy community for years to come is encouraged to attend.

Refreshments will be provided, and there will be a \$1,000.00 Chamber Bucks giveaway to individuals and business owners just for attending.