

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

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Photo/Debbie Connelly

Community Combines Forces for Annual Clean-up Day

Legion members, students, and a crew from the Village all came together last Monday morning to take down a shed at a private residence as part of Community Clean-up Day. During the day, junior high and high school students, teachers, and adult volunteers were cleaning up and landscaping at several public locations, including a long stretch of the rail-road-right away, the tennis court on North Carroll Street, the horseshoe pits at Old Mill Park, the cemetery, Arnold Recreation Area, the football field, Devil’s Den Look-out, the community center, Koubek Gardens, and Finch Library. Several private residences were also on the list. Legion members were part of the clean-up effort, collecting iron, aluminum and metal, and Village crews were taking trash away from curbsides. Chamber did their part by serving lunch to the many volunteers. The two roll-off containers, located by the Village shop, have been filled and taken away several times during the month, as residents were welcome to dispose of old furniture and other items free of charge. The annual clean-up was started by Arnold Rotary and is a success each year in making Arnold shine.

Senior N.H.S. Students Complete Project

Purchase soft serve ice cream machine for shack

Each year, the National Honor Society seniors choose a project as a culminating NHS goal. They choose the project by brainstorming community and school wants and needs similar to the session that the Arnold Community Foundation held with the public in March. After they choose the project, they must make a plan to accomplish it by the end of the year. The plan often includes fundraising, researching feasibility, seeking permission, physical labor, implementing the plan, and evaluating the success.

This year the seniors made the decision to purchase a soft serve ice cream machine for the shack. They started with some research to evaluate other schools that had ice cream machines and pricing the machine, contacting Callaway, Broken Bow, and Burwell schools for feedback on their machines. After those interviews, they knew they wanted a Vevor countertop commercial machine that used 1200-watt power so the machine was portable and no new wiring was necessary.

The next step was proposing the idea to Superintendent Joel Morgan. The students created a document that had the key points of the machine and various ways the machine could be used.

“The proposal session was extremely interesting because Mr. Morgan brought up some concerns that the students hadn’t considered,” said NHS sponsor Debby Moninger. “One of the major concerns was a plan for using the machine effectively. Rather than just donating the machine to the shack, Mr. Morgan suggested that the Honor Society members man the machine at home events and place it near the shack rather than being in it to ensure the lines moved quickly. The seniors walked away from the meeting realizing implementing an idea



Photo/Debbie Connelly

National Honor Society members Charli Vickers and Bryn Schwarz were perfecting their training on the new soft serve ice cream machine at the school last Friday. The lucky duck taste-testers were the 3rd and 4th grade students who had just “survived” the grueling NSCAS testing.

often involves more than just purchasing an item.”

Members then surveyed upcoming NHS groups to get feedback on volunteering to man the machine at Arnold home events. The underclassmen were excited for the opportunity to serve ice cream at home games. As a result, this track season was used as a soft opening to determine the best plan for organizing shifts.

Students organized a variety of fundraisers to purchase the \$2,000.00 machine, including serving at the A.H.S. Alumni Banquet, serving drivers and holding a car wash during SORC, and a “break the rule” day at school. The juniors, sophomores, and freshmen usually help with the fundraiser and often start getting ideas about their own senior project as they go.

After its purchase, students began training on the use and cleanup of the machine by making ice cream cones for classes as a “surviving testing treat.” Everyone learned a lot through the training, and the students who had ice cream cones really enjoyed them. Ice cream was served at the South Loup track meet, and it went well. There are three more track meets scheduled, giving students more chances to test shifts and run the machine.

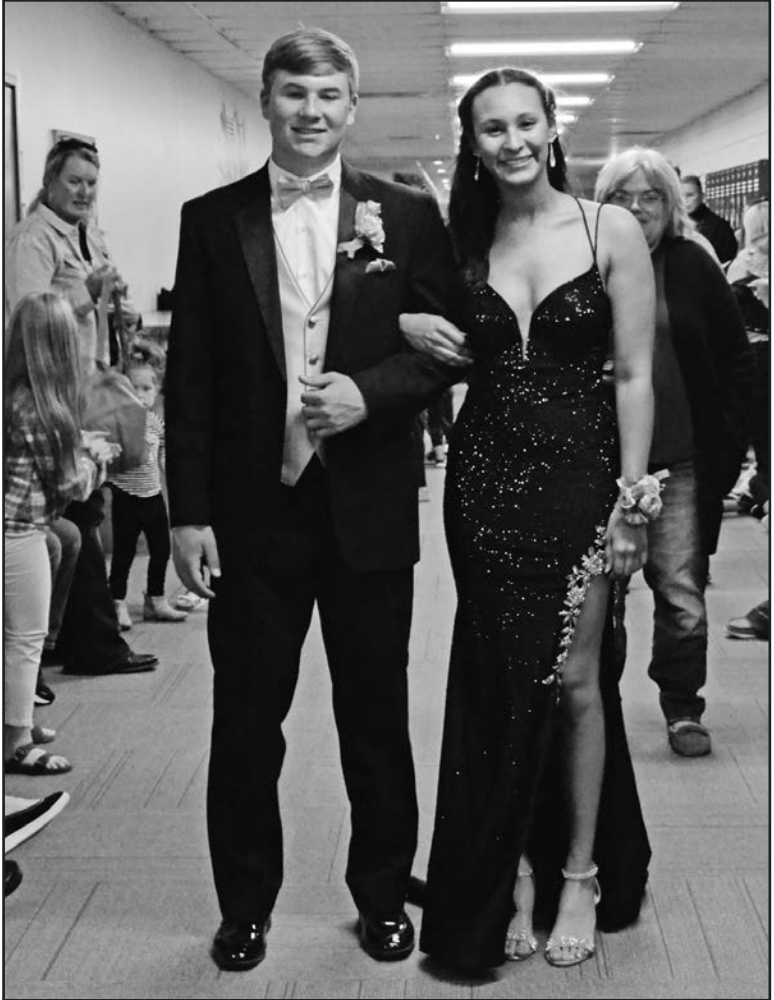
Previous senior projects include working with Rotary members on purchasing the hydration station that refills water bottles, donating classroom libraries to new teachers, working with the AEDC and Village to install a brick wall and plants in the state park, painting at the golf course,

bringing the Frozen sisters to kick off Finch Memorial Library’s summer reading program, donating to the playground at the city park, and many more. Juniors will be meeting on May 3rd and 5th to determine next year’s senior project.

“The senior project really allows students to see the whole process of making a positive impact on the school and community. Arnold’s Rotary Club, Chamber, and AEDC are fantastic groups that contribute to an active community, and the NHS senior project is a chance for members to get a first-hand look at how projects are chosen and researching the impact of those projects. There have been times that we had to reevaluate our proposed plan after learning how it impacts others or modify plans to fit our community needs and talents, but learning the process of getting input and permission truly develops our student leaders,” said Mrs. Moninger.

In reflection, many students feel they are leaving a legacy for others through these projects. Carly Gracey emphasized, “The senior class and National Honor Society was wanting to donate our money to something APS could use for many years to come. The whole process was a great learning experience, and we are all very happy to have this resource to use for school events.”

Shayla Tickle said when the class first decided on bringing an ice cream machine to APS, she didn’t really think it would happen, but after a lot of research, planning, and conversation, it became a reality.



Diamonds & Gold

Students enjoy night of dining and dancing

Last Saturday, students were shining up their cars and putting on their finest to get ready for the biggest night of the year - Prom.

As has become tradition, Arnold and Callaway juniors and seniors and their dates joined together to enjoy an evening of dining and dancing. Held at Callaway Schools this year, the theme was “Diamonds & Gold.”

Senior parents planned the annual After Prom Party, where students received matching t-shirts, played multiple fun games, and won prizes into the wee hours of the morning.

Pictured above are Lance Jones (junior) and Shayla Tickle (senior), and to the left is Jordan Downing (senior), during the Grand March.
- Photos by Jessica Tickle