

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

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New Medical Clinic Will Be Built In Arnold

Legion sells property, calls it a “win-win” for community



Photo/Debbie Connelly

American Legion Sgt. at Arms Mike Harvey and Callaway District Hospital & Medical Clinics Chief Executive Officer Brett Eggleston (seated) officially signed papers to sell Legion property to the hospital for the construction of a new medical clinic in Arnold last week. Witnessing the signing were (back, l-r) Legion Vice-President Jeff Preston, Arnold Economic Development Corporation Director Cheryl Carson, and Legion Adjutant Charles Foran.

By Janet Larreau

On the morning of May 6, Callaway District Hospital & Medical Clinics Chief Executive Officer Brett Eggleston and American Legion Post 130 Sgt. at Arms Mike Harvey met at the Legion Hall to sign papers that sealed the deal on a location for a new medical clinic to be built in Arnold.

Over the last year, Eggleston and members of the hospital board have been evaluating several options for the Arnold Clinic. After completing an architectural evaluation of the existing building, they quickly understood that it would be more cost effective and efficient to build a new structure rather than renovate and expand the current building.

“Building codes have changed drastically since the clinic was first opened, meaning that significant structural changes would have to be made to make the building more accessible and meet the needs of our patients. We feel we have an opportunity to grow the practice

and expand services if we have the right space to do so,” he said.

Medical facilities have unique requirements for infrastructure. Selecting the right property was very important to ensure that the hospital would be able to manage the cost of the project and maintain easy access to the building. Discussion was held on a number of possible locations, but ultimately it was decided that the Legion property made the most sense in terms of location and access to utilities.

“As with many smaller communities, commercial properties are limited. We are very thankful that the Legion was willing to help us make the clinic project become a reality,” said Eggleston.

Preliminary plans are to build an approximate 4,000 to 5,000 square foot building, with the main entrance to the west. Plans also include three to four exam rooms. Now that a property has been secured, the next several weeks will be spent engaging the hospital’s architect and staff to refine the overall design.

“One of the driving forces of our decision to build a new clinic was to incorporate limited X-ray services. This will allow us to expand the types of appointments that we are able to schedule in Arnold and help patients avoid trips to the hospital for follow-up X-rays after their appointment,” said Eggleston.

Currently, there are internal discussions regarding the possibility of adding retail pharmacy space to the new clinic building.

“While a decision has not been made, we understand that the addition of a pharmacy to the project adds a number of benefits for the clinic, as well as our patients,” said Eggleston. “Similar to the addition of X-ray services, a retail pharmacy would save patients’ travel to another community to access their prescription medications. We will continue to explore the options for a pharmacy as we finalize the building plans and review project costs.”

Construction timelines will be dependent on approval of final drawings and availability of construction materials. The

hospital expects to be able to start work sometime this fall. The goal for completion of the clinic is Spring 2023; however, availability of supplies may affect this timeline.

Callaway District Hospital Board members include: Mary Ross, Board Chair; Greg Johnson, Vice Chair; Zach Meyer, Secretary/Treasurer; Mark Kimball, Trustee; and Jim Jenkins, Trustee.

“The hospital board has been very supportive of the clinic project. They understand the need to maintain healthcare services in the community. After reviewing the struggles with the current building, it was a unanimous decision to move forward with the project,” said Eggleston. “The old clinic building will be offered for sale. We hope that the building can be used for further business development within the community.”

The Legion property that was sold goes from the alley from

the west of the Legion building over to North Broadway Street.

Mike Harvey commented that all of the Legion members consider the sale of the property a win-win for the community.

“The hospital was having a difficult time finding a place to build the clinic. We’re a community service organization and we felt that it was a good thing for the community,” he said. All the Legion members that we talked to would prefer that the clinic stay and not take it out of town. (Most) all of our members are older and you have to go to the doctor more. The new clinic will help the hospital to keep up with technology. It would be another reason for people to move in because we have health services right here. I’m really excited to see the equipment come in to start (the clinic). It will be exciting to watch it go up.”

109th Annual Arnold High School Commencement

Saturday, May 14, 2022 - 2:00 p.m.

Arnold High School

Class Flower: White Rose

Class Colors: Royal Blue & Silver

Class Song: “Burn This City”

Motto: “Dirt roads raised us and highways will take us.”

Class Sponsors: Joel Morgan - Ashley Nansel

Class Officers: President - Faith Bierman

Vice President - Carly Gracey

Secretary/Treasurer - Colbi Smith

Class Roll:

Faith Elizabeth Bierman - Reagan Marjorie Cool

Jordan Lee Downing - RayLee Renee Downing

Carly Kay Gracey - Jayden Ann Marie Hanna-Miles

Jacob Cole Halstead - Colbi Dee Smith

Shayla Yvonne Tickle

Escorts: Devin Peterson - Silas Cool

Processional.....Ms. Kallie Bush

Welcome.....Mr. Joel Morgan

Salutatory Introduction.....Mr. Joel Morgan

Valedictory Introduction.....Mr. Joel Morgan

Scholastic Awards.....Ms. Ashley Nansel

Presentation of Class.....Mr. Joel Morgan

Presentation of Diplomas.....Mr. Joel Morgan

Duane Bowers - Shane Cool

Sentinel Places 2nd In Nebraska Press Better Newspaper Contest

First, second and third place winners in the Nebraska Press 2022 Better Newspaper Print Contest were announced Saturday night, April 30, at the Awards Banquet held at the Crown Plaza in Kearney.

The Arnold Sentinel placed 2nd in the Single Feature Story category in Division A. The story, titled “1950 A.H.S. Grad Keeps on Trucking” was written by Janet Larreau in May of 2021. The subject was Dave Sheets, who was still trucking at the age of 89, and was one of the oldest over-the-road truck drivers in the nation.

The judge commented: “I’d like to spend a little time with Dave Sheets and get to know him. He seems like quite a character. There’s just something about this story I really enjoyed - the storytelling, the man, the trip through time, the fact that younger truck drivers can learn a lot from him.”

More than 2,400 separate entries were judged by members of the New York Press Association.



Courtesy photo

(From left) Bobbie Smith, Penny Crow Allen, Brad Nansel, and Pastor Lana Day are pictured by the new historical marker that has been placed at the Methodist Church. (Interesting note: All three congregation members in the photo represent families who have been long-standing Methodists going back many years in the history of the church).

Historical Marker Placed at Methodist Church

Historical markers continue to be placed on buildings in Arnold by Rotary project coordinator Berni Crow. The latest tells the story of Methodist Church. The marker reads as follows:

Methodist Church - 1885

In a county newspaper dated May 1885, a reporter wrote, “A colony of Lincolniters has arrived here and filed on all the tillable land and some we hear that is not tillable.” This group

of folks that came in from Lancaster County were Methodist friends. The Mills caravan consisted of four covered wagons, a hayrack carrying camping equipment, and feed for a small herd of cows. Other families in

this “colony” besides the Mills Caravan, included Houghton, Needham, English, and Conant. They camped near Allen’s store following their two-week journey. While the men spent See Historical Marker, Page 2