

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

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CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

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Photo/Debbie Connelly

(From left) Finch Memorial Library Board member Rose Bierman, Director Marcy Lucas, and volunteer Jessica Tickle, display examples of roof tiles that are identical to the original tiles placed on the building 98 years ago. The library is currently holding a fundraiser to help replace the tiles.

Finch Library Begins Fundraiser to Replace Roof's Clay Tiles

Purchasing a tile can help roofing project.

Finch Memorial Library is starting a fundraiser to help replace the green clay tiles that are original to the almost 100 year old roof. Board member Rose Bierman said that some of the tiles are broken and some are just cracked. In addition, the underlayment needs replaced, which has resulted in some water damage to the interior of the building. Workers who specialize in tile roofs will be in the area soon.

In phase 1 of the project, the tile all needs carefully removed and stored and installation of an odd lot of Heritage shingles roof system will follow. The tiles that actually need replaced

will be ordered from the same company in Ohio that manufactured the original roof tiles for the library 98 years ago.

In Phase 2, the Heritage shingles will be removed and the underlayment, edge metal, valley metal, cedar lumber along the eaves, hip and ridge details will be installed. The final step will be connecting the new tiles.

Ryan Tullis of Weathercraft Roofing is in charge of the project.

The library board has set a goal of raising \$14,270.00 for the tiles. Anyone interested in donating can purchase one tile for \$15.00. Donations can be

made in memory of a loved one and a plaque will be made to list those memorials.

Director Marcy Lucas, who came up with the idea of purchasing a tile as a fundraiser, said it is a way for people to take ownership of the building, which was included on the National Register of Historic Places in July of 2015 under the category of Late 19th and 20th Century Classical Revivals/Classical Revival/Neo-Classical Revival.

For more information, call the library at 848-2219 or mail donations to: PO Box 247, Arnold, NE 69120.

Cost of Fireworks Display Goes Up 200 Percent

Donations needed to put on 4th of July Display

Gunther Fireworks owner Barb Gunther, who orders the public 4th of July display for Arnold, said last week that fireworks have gone up through the roof in the last couple of years, and help will be needed from the community to pay for the display.

In past years, a donation from the Sandhills Open Road Challenge had pretty much covered the cost, but this year's display will far exceed that amount.

Barb, who spends hours watching videos of fireworks to put together the entire show, said she recently received the new 2022 wholesale pricing from Hot Rocket Fireworks, saying that this year, at each point along the supply chain, the costs have continued to rise. Although the cost to manufacture the product has increased some, the main issue is that the freight cost from China has increased by over 200 percent in two years. The cost of the freight alone, to get a container of fireworks from China to the USA, is now relatively the same or higher than the cost of all the fireworks in the container

(a container of fireworks holds on average about 1,000 cases). This is all very frustrating for the wholesalers here in the U.S.A. because there is little that can be done to lower the freight cost.

At least 95 percent of Hot Rocket Fireworks are made in China, and they continue to add fees and surcharges for products that leave their ports. Lack of dockworkers, truck drivers and of course rising fuel costs here in the U.S.A. have also contributed to the issue.

Barb, who is passionate about fireworks and also orders them for the Callaway community's display, said her order has to be placed by May 5, and the bill will arrive in June. She is hoping, with the community's help, those costs will not have to come out of her own pocket.

A donation can have been set up at Pinnacle Bank, or interested donors can call the bank at 848-2266 to make a transfer into the fireworks account. Barb can also be contacted directly at 308-636-6068.

CC Volunteer Fire Depart. Assistant Fund Donation Deadline May 6

(Custer County, NE) Custer County has been experiencing many devastating grass fires, putting a toll on all the volunteer fire departments in the county. The Custer County Foundation is seeking monetary donations to assist all Custer County Fire Departments. All donations received by the Foundation will be distributed back, 100%, split equally between all the fire departments in the county. The Custer County Foundation matched the first \$10,000 in donations by using funds made available through the Yanagida Challenge Match. The total raised so far is \$47,000, including the matching funds. The deadline to make a donation is

May 6th. After May 6th the funds will be distributed to ten Custer County Fire Departments.

Please make your donations payable to Custer County Foundation and note "Fire Assistance Fund" in the memo line. You can either mail donations to PO Box 304 Broken Bow, NE 68822, or make donations online by going to CusterCountyFoundation.org and select the "Click Here to Make a Donation to CC Fire Departments" button on the home page.

The Custer County Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit, tax exempt organization that was created in 1991 to promote charitable giving for the good of the communities of Custer County. The steady growth of the Foundation is driven by donors' generosity, and the ideas and beliefs that the Custer County Foundation can make a difference in the lives of the people who live and work in Custer County. The Foundation exists because of people who have a desire to give back to the community where they lived, prospered, worked, and played.

Much Needed Rain Falls

After extremely dry conditions and high winds persisted for most of April, relief finally came to the area starting last Friday, when rain came pouring down, continuing into Saturday. Rain fell again beginning Sunday night, turning to snow on Monday, with a total of around 4 inches reported from local residents' rain gauges since Friday. More rain was forecasted for this week, and everyone is looking forward to seeing the hills and pastures green up.

School Events

As the 2021/2022 school year winds down, there are several upcoming events to report.

The annual South Loup Sports Banquet will be held Friday, May 6, at Arnold High School beginning at 6:00 p.m. There will be a potluck again this year.

Honors Night/Senior Night is set for Monday, May 9, at the school.

Elementary Field Day will be held Friday, May 13.

Commencement is scheduled for Saturday, May 14, at 2:00 p.m., in the school auditorium.

The last day of school will be Wednesday, May 18. Elementary students will receive their awards at 10:00 a.m.

Elementary Spring Concert Packs the House

Students perform music through decades of 60s through 2010



Photo/Jessica Tickle

Fifth graders (from left) Jacob Myers and Braxton Cozad (playing flutes) and Kora Dailey (on clarinet) focus on their music at the April 26 Elementary Spring Program. The 16 members of the band were part of the program titled "Music Through the Decades," performing "First Flight" and "Rolling Along." Relatives and friends packed the gymnasium's bleachers and seats to watch the 87 K-5th graders perform some great music, including "Sugar, Sugar," "Stand By Me," "Crocodile Rock," "Here Comes the Sun," "Footloose," "Africa," "Cotton Eyed Joe," and "Life is a Highway," among many others. Director Miss Kallie Bush included descriptive notes of the artists and the songs for the crowd to follow along with. Arnold pre-schoolers made a brief appearance on stage.