

# The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 2022

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

(USPS 032480)

SINGLE COPY: 75 CENTS

VOLUME 106, NUMBER 1



Sitting patiently on North Carroll Street last Tuesday, Peyton Recoy points the way to the community center, where Bike Ride Across Nebraska (BRAN) participants could find a good meal. Many riders were heard commenting on “the little girl with the sign.”



Photos/Debbie Connelly

At the community center, BRAN riders move on down the food line to the homemade dessert section served by Rialto Theatre volunteers Cindy Urbanovsky and Berni Crow.

## BRAN Riders Welcomed to Town

Three Arnold organizations stepped up to the plate to serve Bike Ride Across Nebraska participants last Tuesday, as they cycled down the scenic Arnold-Dunning road and into town for a brief stop before heading to Callaway for an overnight stay. North at the Y, St. Agnes women served muffins, cookies, brownies and drinks. At the community center, 157 meals were served. The After Prom committee served sloppy joes, pasta salads, and chips for \$8.00 a meal, and the Rialto Theatre provided dessert for \$2.00. Mary Becker, who was involved with the Rialto Theatre dessert fundraiser, said a lot of riders relaxed in the community center for a couple of hours, and complimented the facility. “It was a really nice group of people from everywhere. Two sisters were from Arkansas, and we talked to people from Wisconsin. A brother and sister had electric bicycles. They were very colorful. We talked about their bikes, and they had lots of stories. We enjoyed it,” she said.

## Village Historical Marker - Part IV: Water, Fire Protection

This week, *The Sentinel* continues the Village Historical Marker series with Part IV - the history of water and fire protection.

### - WATER -

Another important aspect for the young village to deal with was water for its residents. (In the early days, it was common for businesses to have their own well and outhouse.) An engineer from Holdrege arrived in 1914 to survey the possibility of using river water, but the idea was quickly abandoned due to the outbreak of typhoid fever in other areas. (In those days, it was thought that river water caused typhoid). Two wells were put down in 1916 behind the small brick town-

hall building, and the water tower was erected in 1917 at the north edge of town. (During WWII, the water tower had “ARNOLD” painted on it allowing war planes flying over to see it.) The 1916 wells were used until 1938. Arnold also had three nice brick water fountains located in front of the two banks with another placed on Finch Drug corner. Shoppers complained of being squirted by children, and the last fountain was removed in 1954. A new well was then placed behind the grade school while another well was placed behind the light plant in 1958. The new well and its motor were enclosed by a brick addition to the small townhall, with

enough extra floor space for two jail cells. The village hadn’t needed jail cells up to that time, because fines were usually imposed on offenders by the Justice of the Peace. However, the jail cells remained until 1968, when the newly completed town hall included a jail cell. (When Callaway and Stapleton voted to reopen saloons in 1913, an angry editorial was produced by Editor Bedford stating that, “Arnold would have to build a jail to hold the drunks that these towns would dump on Arnold.” A Callaway editor responded saying, “A man would certainly have to be drunk to go to Arnold.”)

### - COMMUNITY FIRE DEPARTMENT -

The Village of Arnold is very fortunate to have a fine volunteer fire department. On May 20, in 1947, a firetruck that had been on order for a year, was finally delivered to the village. It had a ford chassis with a Mercury motor and contained a 300-gallon tank that could spray two streams of water at a time, in addition to having two

See Village Marker, Page 2

## Baseball Season Opens at Old Mill Park

### Updates being made to ball diamond

Fifty-five Arnold kids put on their baseball caps and grabbed their gloves to take on a traveling Mullen team last Thursday night, June 9, at Old Mill Park. Games started early for Arnold kids only, with the non-traveling t-ball team of the Colorado Rockies vs. the t-ball traveling team of the LA Dodgers.

Next up for Arnold was the coach pitch traveling team of the St. Louis Cardinals, followed by the baseball traveling team of the Boston Red Sox.

It was their first game of the season, as the first game, scheduled for June 6 at Thedford, was postponed due to bad weather. (See upcoming schedule on page 6.)

T-ballers consist of Pre-K through 1st grade; coach pitch, 2nd and 3rd grade; and baseball, 4th through 6th grades. Their team coordinated caps (and t-shirts that are coming soon) have been paid for by local business sponsors.

With so much interest in the soccer and baseball programs, organizer Justin Strasburg said

several updates are planned for Old Mill Park, and some have already been done. Village crews hauled in new sand for the diamond, Scott McDowell moved it with his equipment, and Strasburg did the hand raking. The dugouts have been painted red and blue.

Next will be re-siding and working on the shack to get it back in order, and constructing bathrooms.

The updates came after Strasburg approached the Village board, saying that the park has to be in good condition if it’s going to be used more. Board members agreed to pay for materials for the shack and bathrooms if volunteer labor is used.

## Pool Opening Goes Smoothly

Since the Arnold Pool opened on June 1st, manager Shavonne Schacher said she has seen a night and day difference from last year’s rough start.

“Everything has gone really well. There was no prep to the pool because of painting last year, and we have given the bathrooms a fresh coat of paint. However, it was the coldest opening day since I’ve been manager, and that’s been four years,” she said.

Last week was the first week of swimming lessons, and with generous donations of a flat \$500.00 from the Salvation Army, and \$5.00 for each child from The Exchange, those who signed up may have only paid \$10.00 for a whole week of lessons. A lot of kids have been coming from out of town, including the towns of Stapleton, Thedford, Dunning, Merna, and Gothenburg, and that says a lot about Arnold’s pool and its lifeguards. A total of 58 signed up for the first week.

“This has been a huge year for swimming lessons for me, because I had some kiddos complete the whole lesson pro-

See Pool Opening, Page 6



Photos/Jessica Tickle

Bases were loaded on June 9 at the Arnold ball field, when Declan Teahon, age 9, hit a double into the left field for the Coach Pitch team of the St. Louis Cardinals.



It was a close call, but Klara Baldwin was safe on 1st base in the Coach Pitch game against Mullen on June 9.