

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 2022

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

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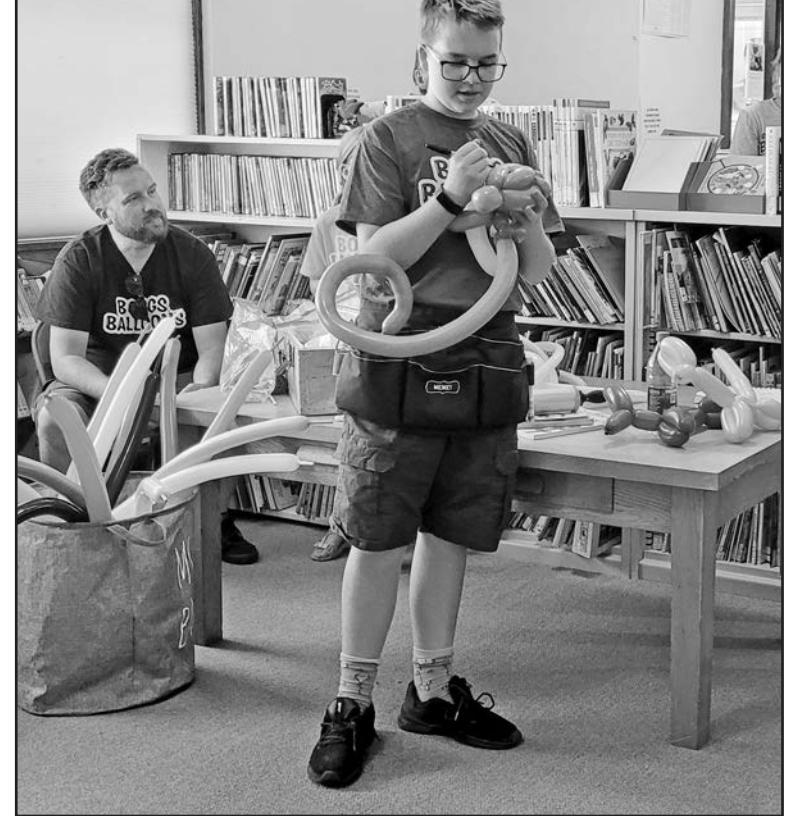
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“Oceans of Possibilities” Theme of Summer Reading Program



Photo/Jessica Tickle

Bexley DeLosh's eyes light up, as she receives a blue twisted balloon bunny at a special Summer Reading Program held on June 14. Balloon twistologist Ethan Boggs asked the kids if they liked ice cream. With excitement, they replied "Yes!" He then revealed he would not be making an ice cream cone, but a Blue Bunny!



Photo/Debbie Connelly

Twistologist Ethan Boggs draws a face on a monkey with a banana that he formed during last Tuesday's Summer Reading Program. Traveling to Arnold from his home in Seward with his parents and sister, Ethan started twisting at the young age of 10, and now an 8th grader, performs at many events.

Young Balloon Twistologist Entertains Kids at Finch Library

Kids attending the June 14th Summer Reading Program were in for a real treat, as Balloon Twistologist Ethan Boggs entertained them for the full hour. Ethan, who is an eighth grader from Seward, Nebraska, has a laid back style and fun personality that put all the kids at ease while he twisted some interesting and colorful cre-

ations.

As he formed the balloon animals or objects, he quizzed the kids to help them figure out what he was making. There were many wild and off the wall guesses in order to win. Once there was a correct answer, he gave some interesting facts and engaged the kids. Jael Logsdon won the

flamingo by winning the flamingo pose balancing contest, and knowing the answer to why they are such a vibrant pink (it's what they eat - shrimp!)

Sometimes, Ethan would ask the kids who received an animal to name it. Brock Samuelson, who received a turtle bracelet or watch, named his

Snappers.

In the end, all the children received a balloon.

Ethan's interest in twisting came at the young age of 10, when he found a balloon-twisting book at the public library and taught himself how to make balloon animals using the instructions in the book. Each year he added more designs to his repertoire and he

can now make a wide variety of creations. He has experience twisting balloons for libraries, churches, birthday parties and other events. His parents and his sister accompanied him to Finch Memorial Library.

Many children are inspired by his presentation to learn how to twist.

School Plans to Move Ahead With Construction of Greenhouse

At the June 14th regular school board meeting, Superintendent Joel Morgan gave an update on a new program that will provide hands-on plant-based learning for the students. A greenhouse will be constructed on the northeast corner of the playground on a cement pad that already has water and electricity available.

The funding opportunity came with a donation from the Arnold Community Foundation Fund, and a grant from the Nebraska Community Foundation Youth Engagement program that matches up to \$7,500.00.

At next month's meeting, the board will review options to move forward with what will

be called Schoolhouse Gardens & Greenhouse.

In other business, board members approved a 2022-2023 classified staff wage increase of 2.5%, for those who have health insurance, and a 3.5% hourly increase for all others.

Nebraska's Employment Reaches New High

Receipts exceed forecast

state history, at 1.9 percent.

LINCOLN – Today, the Bureau of Labor Statistics released Nebraska's May employment data. Nebraska's employment set another record high of 1,042,762. This is the 11th straight month of record employment in the state. Additionally, Nebraska's unemployment rate remains the lowest in the nation, and in

"Nebraskans have an unmatched work ethic, which is reflected in our nation-leading labor numbers," said Gov. Ricketts. "My administration is committed to making it easy to do business in Nebraska, and communities throughout the state have done great work to attract investment. We're seeing the fruits of these efforts with impressive growth in the Good Life. Our strong momentum will enable us to build on the historic tax relief of 2022 with even more tax cuts in 2023."

Nebraska's Employment Statistics for May 2022 (Preliminary)

Unemployment Rate: 1.9%
#1 in the nation
Lowest unemployment in the nation's history

Lowest unemployment rate in Nebraska's history

Labor Force Participation: 70.0%

#1 in the nation

Employment-to-Population Ratio: 68.7%

#1 in the nation

Fireworks Donations

Barb Gunther of Gunther Fireworks said last week that the donation can placed at the bank to help with the cost of the public fireworks has not gone over very well. She would like to notify residents ahead of time that someone will be walking around with a donation can the night of the fireworks at Old Mill Park to help cover the cost of this year's show. If there is leftover money, it will be used for next year.



Courtesy photo

Petting Zoo Brings Hands-On Fun

Leron Bierman, with children Waylon and Rosilyn, introduce a baby lamb named Bean to Betty McKain and her visiting daughter, Mary Dymond, on June 14, when Callaway Good Life hosted a petting zoo for all of the residents to enjoy. Leron and her husband Merle and family brought sheep and a goat, Adalei Tullis brought a puppy, and Laurie Delaune provided two kittens. In addition, Isaiah and Avelynn Ortez brought a bearded dragon for a little variety. Nine children from the Homegrown Kids Daycare also joined in to color pictures for the residents and to enjoy the animals.

Callaway Good Life would love to have volunteers back to see their residents. Please contact activities at 308-836-2267 and ask for LeAnn Kenner, activity director.