

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

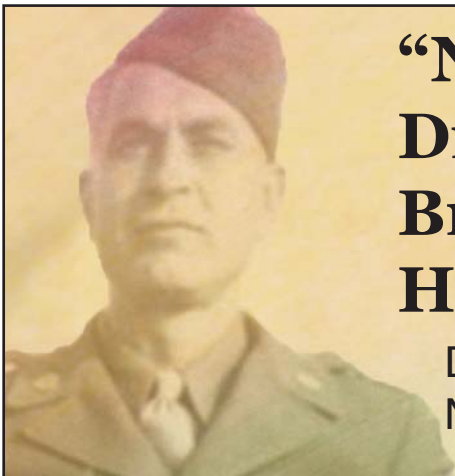
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2025

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

(USPS 032480)

SINGLE COPY: 75 CENTS

VOLUME 109, NUMBER 22



“Not Too Far Distant” Will Bring Veteran History to Life

Drama will be presented
Nov. 10 at Arnold School

Arnold, NE – Veterans’ history will no longer be a distant memory to the Arnold community; the youngest to the oldest will be treated to a vivid recollection and a deep appreciation of our dedicated local heroes during a two-day event.

“Not Too Far Distant” performs on Monday, November 10th, at 6:00 p.m. at Arnold Public Schools and will be presented by William A Layton American Legion Post 130 and Auxiliary, Dean K. Leach Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6157, Arnold Area Historical Society, Arnold Public Schools, and Arnold Community Foundation.

“It is an honor for Arnold to host this special Veterans Day program. The event is a joint effort of many local organizations and groups. What a great way to share our veterans’ sacrifice and contributions with the community, our students, and fellow veterans,” said Holly Tullis, one of many assisting with organizing the event.

In addition to a full performance of the play, the Blixt Foundation staff and local veterans will be hosting an open house prior to and following the Monday night performance. Local historical military memorabilia will

also be on display during the two-day event. The visiting artists will also have the chance to meet with students throughout the school day to build a better understanding between youth and local veterans.

The new work by Lincoln playwright and speaker for the Veterans Day program on November 11th, Becky Boesen, looks forward to sharing her passion and appreciation locally. “It’s almost unbelievable that anyone could be hardened to the point of doing the brutal things they did,” said Boesen, speaking of the atrocities committed in the holocaust. A young man from Nebraska is sent to war, carrying with him the hopes of the free world. What Staff Sergeant Clarence Williams encounters are challenges that change his humanity forever. History touches the present when a new generation takes a journey through time to experience World War II alongside Clarence himself. Centered around his

personal letters home, we learn that sometimes what seems so far away is much closer than we think. Filled with hope and heart, “Not Too Far Distant” honors the experience of the American soldier and reminds us that we all have the power — and the responsibility — to help create a brighter future.

Vets Day Program Starts at 9:30 a.m.

The November 11 Veterans Day Program will start at 9:30 a.m., at the school. The program will feature two special guests: speaker Becky Boesen and Ian Zabel, a NTFD and Sergeant in the Army reserves, who with support, will introduce the students to the Rainbow Division featured in the play “Not Too Far Distant” and teach them the marching chant inspired by the song “There’s a Rainbow in the Army.”

Everyone is encouraged to attend both the Monday night play and the Veterans Day program.

Housing Tour Held on Saturday

Chamber’s salad luncheon and housing tour was held on Saturday, with over 100 women purchasing a ticket. Look for photos and a report on the event in next week’s issue.

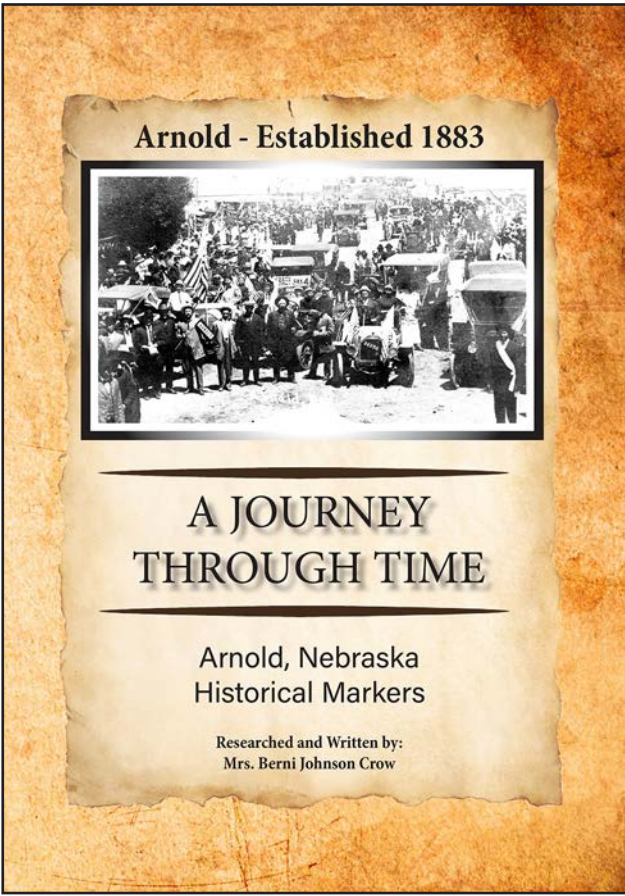
Protecting a Legacy

Rotary compiles historical markers into hardcover book

By Janet Larreau

Arnold resident Berni Crow has been building many legacies in her life through her family, her years as a teacher, and through her love of history. One of those important legacies is the Arnold Historical Marker project, which she undertook as a Rotary member while teaching and in her retirement years. Berni researched the history of 36 buildings in town and the Rotary organization, working with Schoolhouse Graphics to create the markers. Over the past few months, Rotary has taken on the project of compiling the information and photos from the markers into a book titled *A Journey Through Time – Arnold, Nebraska Historical Markers*. Rotarian Mary Becker worked with Nicole Badgley and The Arnold Sentinel in laying out and editing the book, which has now gone to press and is available for pre-order.

Rotarians took on the project to pay tribute to Berni’s research and to protect her legacy. Physical markers can deteriorate or be moved, and compiling the inscriptions into a bound volume ensures the stories they tell are protected for future generations. The book also becomes a centralized resource. Rather than traveling to scattered locations, readers can access local or regional history from the single, organized volume. A book can also reach people who may not be able to visit a



Text and photos from Arnold’s historical markers have been compiled into a 112-page, hard-cover book that is now available to pre-order. The book, titled “A Journey Through Time - Arnold, Nebraska Historical Markers,” is a project of Arnold Rotary to protect the research and writings of Berni Crow.

marker’s physical location.

The hardbound, 112 page book has been designed with a color cover featuring a historical photo of when the railroad came to town. The design was a collaboration between Cheryl Carson at the AEDC office, the Sentinel staff, and Rotary.

A Journey Through Time can be pre-ordered for \$45.00 a copy by stopping at First State Insurance or calling 308-848-2522. If or-

dering from out of town, please call the number for additional shipping charges. Publishing of the book has been limited to 150 copies, and delivery is expected by the first of December, just in time for Christmas. Proceeds from the sale of the book will go to Rotary’s community service projects.

Food Pantry Sees Increase In Demand

Help is available for those in need



Lee and DanDee Wonch, who oversee the Arnold Food Pantry, are seeking donations - both monetary and through items - as demand increases.

By Sentinel staff

Lee and DanDee Wonch, who oversee the Arnold Food Pantry, reported last week that demand for pantry items increased during the month of October, with twice as many people coming in. At the end of October, SNAP recipients learned that they would not receive November benefits as scheduled due to the federal govern-

ment shutdown, with payments delayed until the government reopens.

The Wonches see the need for items growing due to inflation, regardless of the current government shut-down.

The food pantry opens once a month on the first Saturday from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and is located east of the Co-op. The next opening is December 6, but assistance is available throughout the

month if the need arises by contacting Lee, DanDee, or any pastor in the community.

“Those that are currently using the resources have been thankful, and say the current system that is in place works for them,” said Lee.

Each individual/family receives a certificate that they can take to Reed’s Food Center that allows them to purchase milk, meat, bread, eggs, and



Heather Furne was filling up a cart for the food pantry at Reed’s Food Center last week, using monetary donations and point donations.

- Debbie Connelly photos

frozen juice. The pantry is stocked through monetary and item donations. There is also an account set up at Reed’s for people to donate money and even points.

“The biggest need is monetary donations, as the bank account is pretty low at the moment. The food pantry doesn’t get any government assistance, which does make it easier to run,” said DanDee.

Heather Furne, the Ministerial Association treasurer, uses the monetary donations to shop at Reed’s for the pantry needs. The Wonches said that Heather does a good job of selecting items for the pantry, knowing

the needs of regular recipients. Using donated points, she is able to purchase items at a discount, or sometimes for free.

Items accepted for the pantry are: non-perishable staples such as peanut butter, pasta, and canned goods (vegetables, fruits, and proteins like chicken or tuna). Other highly useful donations include rice, whole-grain cereals, and beans. Single servings and snacks are highly suggested. Beyond food, consider donating personal hygiene products and household essentials like toilet paper, soap and laundry detergent. Frozen meat is accepted, as well. Please double check your donation for

the expiration date, and there is no need for corn, green beans, or hand sanitizer as there is a large stockpile of those items.

Item donations can be dropped off at A-Z Ventures (Oakbrook Physical Therapy and Touch of Grace Massage Therapy), at local churches, or by contacting Lee at 308-636-6268 or DanDee at 308-636-6939. The pantry serves people in the Arnold, Stapleton, and surrounding areas. Lee said it’s not always easy for people to ask for assistance, but if you, or someone you know of, is in need, please do not hesitate to contact the Wonches or a pastor at any time.