

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

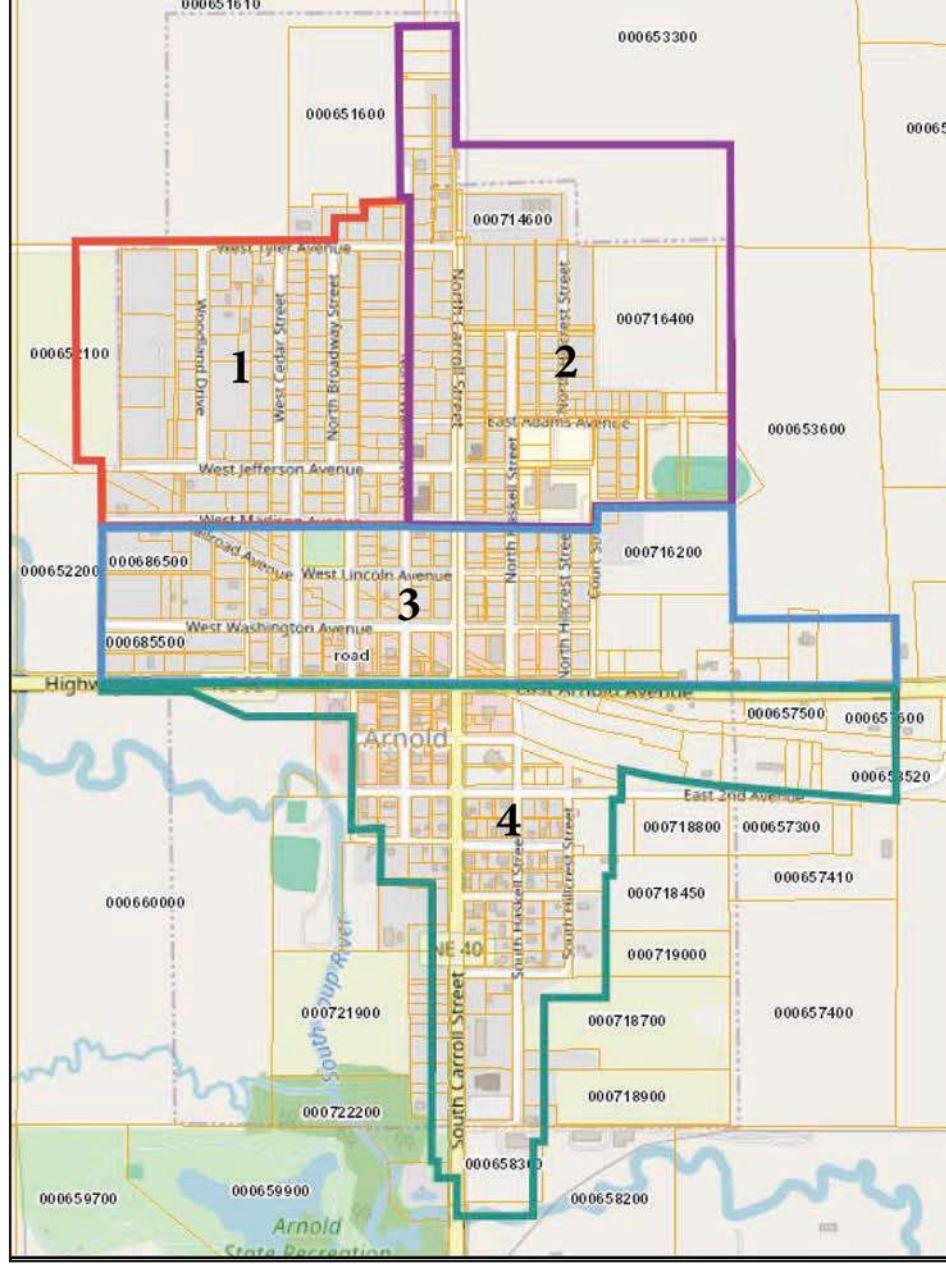
THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2026

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

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The map above shows the four sections that have been laid out for the four-year abatement program. The Village Board has selected section 4 for the 2026 abatement season.

Donations Total Exceeds \$1,000 In Passport Program

The Arnold Passport 2025 Holiday Edition shop-at-home program was held December 3 through January 6. Shoppers picked up their passport at various locations and received a stamp for either a purchase or a charitable donation chosen by the location. Well over \$1,000.00 was collected in donations at the following businesses: Oakbrook Physical Therapy (Arnold Food Pantry), \$320.00 in cash, plus food items; Pinnacle Bank (Good News Club), \$360.00; First State Insurance (Arnold Cemetery), \$205.00; A-1 Auto (Finch Library), \$110.00 matched, \$220.00; The Arnold Sentinel (Rialto Theatre), \$180.00; Echo Financial (TeamMates), \$55.00. Passport winners were

drawn on Friday, January 16, with the following receiving Chamber Bucks in the six categories: Zero stamp entry - Norma Walker - \$10.00; 5-8 stamps - Tammy Weinman - \$125.00; 9-12 stamps - Kristi Dvorak - \$175.00; 13-17 stamps Mary Becker - \$250.00; 18-21 stamps -

Carol Watson - \$300.00. The Arnold Passport program is sponsored by the Arnold Economic Development Corporation using LB840 funds. This was the second year the program was held during the holiday season to encourage shopping at home.

Engineering Plans Received for Sidewalk Project

Arnold Economic Development Director Cheryl Carson reported on the downtown sidewalk project at the Village Board's regular meeting. She said the first draft of engineering plans for Phase 1 of the sidewalk project were received and reviewed on

owners in the 100 South Block of Walnut Street will be contacted to meet individually before the end of January. Discussion during the meetings will cover the plans and scope of work for their individual location and cost, as well as any changes.



Mini Bobcat Cheerleaders Take the Floor

Forty-eight mini Bobcat cheerleaders in grades preK-6 from Arnold and Callaway signed up for the South Loup cheerleader mini cheer camp this season, performing a routine and cheers at the half-time of boys' varsity basketball games in Callaway and Arnold. This year's camp dance routine theme was Disney's Zombies. Held in Callaway this year, the camp is a fundraiser for the South Loup cheerleaders and takes place annually during basketball season. With the sign-up, the girls receive a t-shirt and a snack.

- Ronda McFate photo

Village's Nuisance Abatement Application Approved by WCNDD

Section 4 selected for 2026 program

At their January 12 meeting, Arnold Village Board members learned that the application to West Central Nebraska Development District (WCNDD) to administer the Nuisance Abatement Program had been received and approved. Members reviewed and discussed the map from WCNDD (pictured, left). The four year abatement process is divided into four sections, and members were asked to select Section 1, 2, 3, or 4 for the 2026 Nuisance Season. After discussion, members voted to select Section 4.

Village Awarded Scrap Tire Collection Grant

Village Clerk Patricia Lamberty informed board members that the Village was awarded a \$26,487.00 grant from the Nebraska Department of Water, Energy, and Environment (DWEE) for a scrap tire collection. Board members approved the application and signing of the agreement.

Consideration of Proposed Zoning Amendments

The Board held two public hearings to consider proposed amendments to Ordinance No. 483, the zoning regulation of the Village. After the hearings were closed, members voted to change the 1200 square feet minimum living/livable floor area to 900 square feet for the Residential District.

Comments from the Floor

Rich Hornung said that he has a granddaughter coming back to Arnold to open a beauty parlor. He indicated that they would like to develop the land north of the red building on the 200 block of South Walnut. It will require electricity, water, and sewer, and he wanted to check on zoning. AEDC Director Cheryl Carson said that a beauty parlor is permitted in the Central Business District.

Comments from Gun Range

Joe Bob Atkins of Arnold Insurance Agency presented an insurance package for general liability and property coverage on the gun range noting that the liability is for the Village only and does not cover the gun club. Cheryl Carson said that the gun club will not have enough revenue to purchase a

general liability policy, so it will disband. The range will be opened back up to the public on March 1. Board members voted to purchase the package policy for the range.

Comments from Village Superintendent

Eric Holmberg reported on the following projects that have been completed, including installing new windows at the street shop and putting up a new steel pole at the community center to replace the one that a truck with an oversized load hit.



Josh Magill (left) and Tony Hall of Oakbrook Physical Therapy kneel by the donations collected for the Arnold Food Pantry at their location during the Arnold Passport 2025 Holiday Edition promotion sponsored by the AEDC. Oakbrook was one of several locations that accepted charitable donations for a passport stamp.

- Debbie Connelly photo

Cool Appointed to Fill School Board Vacancy

Three candidates for an open vacancy on the Arnold School Board were interviewed at a special meeting held on January 12.

Shane Cool was appointed to fill the three-year vacancy. Cool was administered the oath of office at the Board's re-organizational meeting held on the 13th. Officers elected were: Duane Bowers, president; Joe Cool, vice-president; Justin

Strasburg, secretary; and Jen Dalrymple, treasurer. Committees were appointed at that time.

At the regular meeting that followed, the Board approved Weathercraft Roofings bid for roof repair over the elementary and gym. The roofs will be replaced this summer. Joel Morgan's contract as superintendent was also approved.

School Will Serve Senior Meals M-F

Arnold Schools Superintendent Joel Morgan gave school board members an update on the senior meals program at their regular meeting held last week. The school originally contracted for Mondays only, but with changes that have happened since that time, the school will now serve senior meals

Mondays through Fridays, with meals served at the Legion Hall.

“I think the location will help with accessibility and flexibility with serving times,” said Mr. Morgan, who added that they are hoping to be up and going by this week.