

# The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 2026

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

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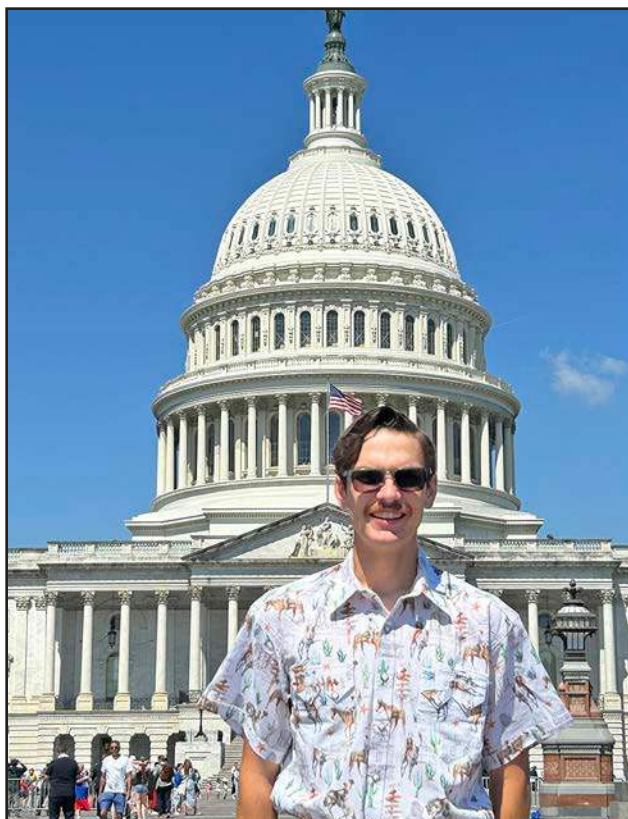
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## Eli Rogers To Represent Nebraska In National Leadership Group

Eli Rogers of Dunning, and a 2026 graduate of A.H.S., has been selected to represent Nebraska on the Youth Leadership Council (YLC) of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA). Rogers will attend the YLC Conference Basecamp Training, July 20-24, 2026, in Washington, D.C. The conference agenda includes speech presentation skills, grassroots advocacy and a competition for the position of NRECA's National Youth Spokesperson in 2026-2027. Further, Rogers and students from 42 other states will attend a team-building workshop and develop legislative skills by taking part in a role-playing game that simulates the first term of a Member of Congress. “I am honored to be selected,” said Eli, who rep-

resented Custer Public Power District, located in Broken Bow. “We are preparing ourselves for the future with peers from all over the country, thanks to Custer Public Power District, the Nebraska Rural Electric Association (NREA) and NRECA. We will expand our knowledge of the American political system and develop our leadership skills.”

Rogers' rural electric experience began in July of 2025 when he attended the NREA Youth Energy Leadership Camp in Cozad, Neb. In June, Eli was one of over 1,400 high school students sponsored by their local rural electric systems from across rural America and 26 students from rural Nebraska to participate in Youth Tour. The Nebraska Rural Electric Association then selected Eli to serve on the YLC to represent



Eli Rogers will have the honor of representing Nebraska on the Youth Leadership Council (YLC) of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Nebraska and attend the Basecamp Conference in Washington, D.C.

The conference will provide a broader understanding of the rural electric industry and the cooperative business model. Another major objective for the student is to write and present a dynamic speech which is part of the selection process for the National Youth Spokesperson who will address the nationwide electric co-op at the NRECA Annual Meeting in 2027 in San Diego, California.

All members of the YLC, including Eli, will participate in the 2027 NRECA Annual Meeting. They will help the NRECA staff and meeting delegates at the national meeting and take part in a variety of educational activities that will prepare them for future endeavors in the ru-

ral electric industry, government organizations, or community service.

NRECA is the national service organization representing the nation's more than 900 private, consumer-owned electric cooperatives and rural public power districts, which provide electric service to 38 million people in 47 states. The Nebraska Rural Electric Association is the statewide service organizations representing 35 rural electric systems that provide electric service to consumers in most of the rural areas and many of the small towns in the great State of Nebraska. Together, the more than 1,100 dedicated employees of our member-systems serve approximately 289,000 meters across more than 96,000 miles of line.

## Abatement, Grant, Discussed at Board Meeting

At their regular board meeting held on June 8, Village board members voted to authorize abatement and expenditure of funds pertaining to seven properties in Section 4. The vote came at the recommendation of Edward Dunn of the West Central Nebraska Development District (WCNDD), who serves as the Village's nuisance officer. These seven property owners had received courtesy notices and were given time to clean up their properties, but had not complied

within the specified time-frame.

Dunn said this means that the property owner(s) will have another approximately 30 days to rectify the identified nuisance violations before WCNDD issues the five day Statutory Notice and place the same notice in the Newspaper of Record. Five days after the publication in the Newspaper of Record has elapsed, WCNDD can serve the property owner notice of Certified Motion to abate either in-person, posted

on the door of address, or posted on the property, and actual abatement (removal) of all nuisance violations can begin.

“Based on the next review, scheduled for early July, WCNDD will seek out our abatement contractor to put together an estimate of costs of the properties that are perceived to be going to the full distance and will ultimately need abatement,” said Dunn. “At this point, there are a couple of small sheds that are on individual properties that

we will be recommending to demo, but no primary residences; therefore, no structural abatement will be sought.”

In addition, properties that had received an administrative extension by the WCNDD office still had remaining nuisance violations and therefore were declared a nuisance by resolution. Two properties that had been previously declared a nuisance by resolution were cleared and therefor the nuisance designation was rescinded by resolution.

### Greener Towns Program

At the meeting, Mary Becker was given permission to apply for a grant through the Greener Towns Program. The grant provides plants, resources, and education to help Nebraska communities improve and protect their green spaces. If awarded, the grant will be used to revitalize Koubek Gardens. Becker also said that she had spoken with Peter Koubek, who is supportive. Discussion followed on the lease

agreement with Peter Koubek for Koubek Gardens. Village Clerk Patricia Lamberty said that the lease agreement needs to be updated, explaining that, under the current agreement, the Village is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the gardens, including the sidewalks. These responsibilities will be reflected in the updated lease agreement.

### Comments From The Floor

See BOARD MEETING, Page 2.

## Family, Fun, and Fastballs Arnold Little League finishes up regular season

T-Ball - Coach Pitch - Baseball. From learning the basics to competing, some 45 kids making up Arnold's little league had a great 2026 season. The teams competed in the Sandhills Baseball League, comprised of Arnold, Anselmo-Merna, Mullen, Stapleton, and Thedford. The first games were played on May 26th, and the Arnold league finished up the regular season June 15 at Old Mill Park, when Thedford came to town. The first round of tournament play was June 22nd at Stapleton.

The Arnold Little League is already looking ahead to next spring. The program aims to build on this year's incredible momentum, continuing to foster a deep love for the game and strong community bonds. League leadership extends a heartfelt thank you to all the local players, families, and tireless volunteers who dedicated their summer to making the program a pillar of community pride.

Turn to page 4 for team photos.

- Jessica Tickle photos



Arnold's littlest slugger, Jayden Deines, takes the stage for t-ball.



Safe! Jude Carlson beats the throw in a tight play in coach pitch action.



Uriah Schweitzer brings the heat from the pitchers mound against Thedford, June 15th, at Old Mill Park.