

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 2026

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

(USPS 032480)

SINGLE COPY: 75 CENTS

VOLUME 110, NUMBER 12

Village Board Accepts Bid for Sidewalk Project

Project now set in motion after ten years of planning

Bid tabulations for the Arnold Sidewalk improvement Project were presented to the Arnold Village Board at a special meeting held on August 18. Village Engineer Tom Werblow and Professional Engineer Bernie Stratker presented the bids from five companies for 4-inch reinforced concrete sidewalk; Alternate 1, 6-inch unreinforced concrete; and Alternate 2, 6-inch reinforced concrete.

Werblow recommended that the project be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder and said that the Village could choose its preference regarding the concrete sidewalk thickness and reinforcement.

After hearing comments from the several business owners who were at the meeting, the Board accepted the bid from low responsible bidder Paulsen, Inc. for Alternate No. 2, 6-inch reinforced concrete in the amount of \$215,258.00 and authorized the chairman to execute the contract. The second lowest bid of \$218,707.27 was submitted by a new Arnold business, Greeley Concrete.

The contract includes replacing all of the sidewalks and curbs on South Walnut Street, ending at Arnold Ave. on the north and 1st street on the south edge. The project will be done in two phases: Phase

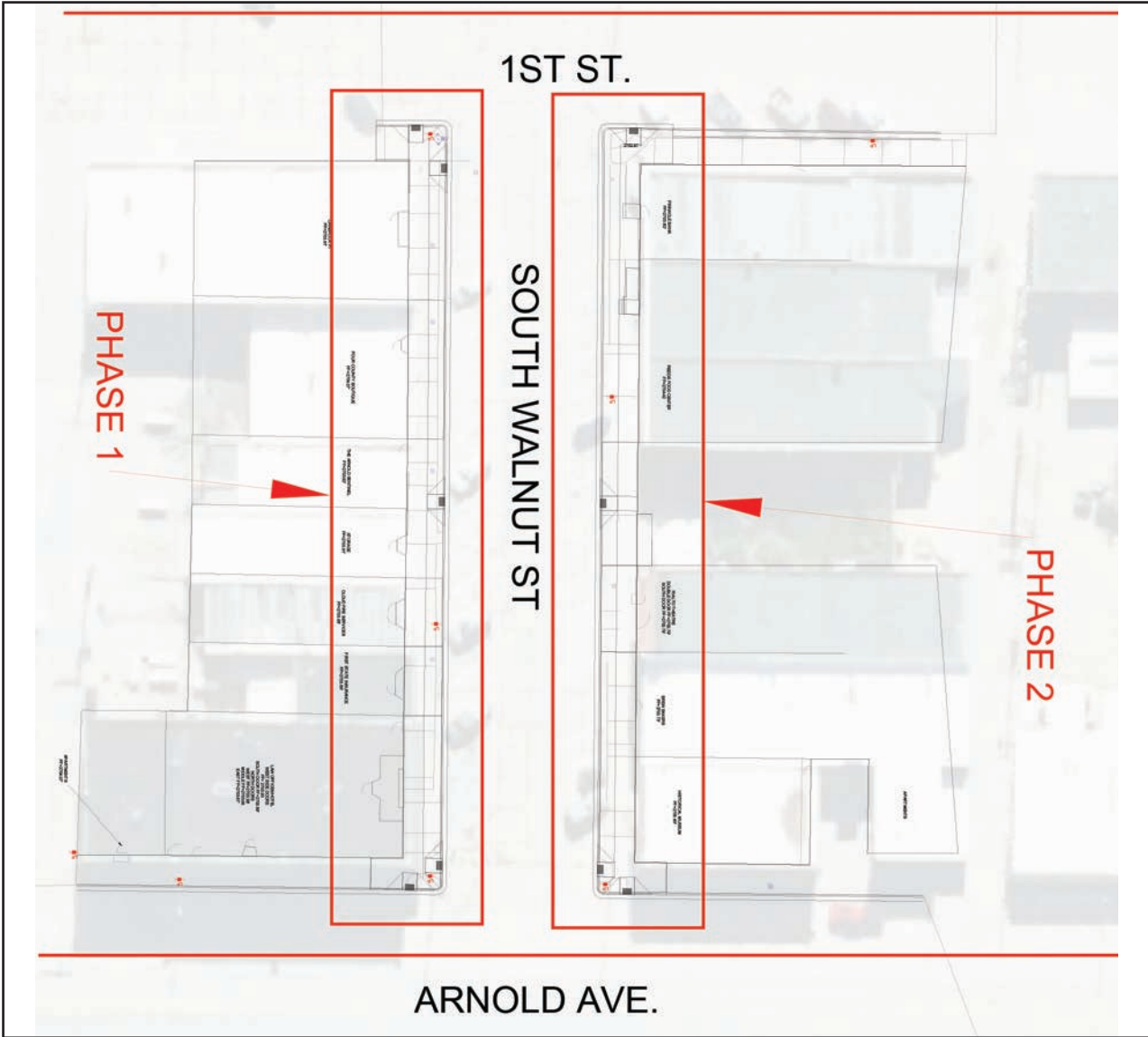
1 will improve sidewalks and curbs on the east side of the street, and Phase 2 will cover the west side.

The contract sets a deadline of May 15, 2027, to finish the project, although if weather conditions so dictate, the company will work with the Village's engineer on an extension of that deadline.

Carson said that once the project is completed, visually, all sidewalks and curbs will be the same and there will no longer be a “death step” from the curb to the sidewalk. Two ramps will be poured at the bank and grocery store and handicap parking will be more defined. Parking space striping will be standard and accurate according to Arnold zoning regulations.

This will be one of the largest improvements in infrastructure of the downtown the Village has seen in decades. Improving the cracked sidewalks and broken down curbs in the downtown area has been one of the Arnold Economic Development Corporation board's goals for over a decade.

“This sidewalk improvement project has been something in the planning since I began my position in 2015,” said Carson. “The AEDC board has known, discussed and planned for this project for a long time. It was also understood that it would



Shown above is a rendering of Arnold's 2025 Sidewalk Renovation project, showing phase 1 and 2 of the plan that will replace all sidewalks, curbs and gutters on South Walnut Street.

take significant funding support to accomplish it. Applying for grants can require 1:1 match funding and don't consider sidewalks as a standalone

project and still require investment from the business owner. There is so much in fine print that can quickly eliminate an option. Determining how

to save, plan and best approach this project has taken time. Going this route seemed the easiest way to achieve the goal and still provide financial support to the businesses, without the middleman.”

At the time Carson came into the position, there was \$58,950.97 in the Economic Development Fund. While always keeping other economic development projects at the forefront, Carson began saving funds for the sidewalk project.

Some ten years later, the ED Fund now has a balance of \$347,235.23. All of that amount is not earmarked for the sidewalk project, as the fund needs a healthy balance for regular office expenses and other economic

development projects, including business loans and grants. With enough money saved, the 2025 plan went into motion, with both LB840 funds and the business owner sharing the cost. Carson said many conversations took place with individual business owners regarding the plan and the shared cost since the process began and conversations will continue as the project moves forward.

Carson explained that the project has two parts: the sidewalk itself and the curb and gutter/pan. A hypothetical breakdown of one single business location follows:

See **SIDEWALK PROJECT**, Page 2.

Tragic Accident Takes Life of Arnold Teen

The community was saddened last week, when it learned that Arnold teen Riata Remund had lost her life in a two-vehicle accident. The accident occurred on Sunday afternoon, August 16, near Arcadia.

Remund, a 2025 graduate of A.H.S., and the daughter of Holly and the late Scott Remund, had graduated from cosmetology school with a dream of moving back to Arnold.

She had just recently purchased the Kreative Edge Salon with plans to also create a boutique in the building.

Remund was an organ donor, and through social media, many friends signed up to be a donor in her honor.

Services for Remund were held Wednesday, August 26, at the Arnold Community Center.

The complete obituary is on page 8.

AVFD, Red Cross Offering Free Smoke Detector Installation

The Arnold Volunteer Fire Department, in partnership with the American Red Cross, is offering a free smoke detector installation. Fire department members will install the smoke detectors August 30 at 3:00 p.m. The AVFD and Red Cross urges everyone to make sure they are protected. To sign up call or text April at 308-529-1354.

End of an Era: Historic Gravel Bin Dismantled



Kim Beshaler captured a picture of Beshaler Gravel's dump bin before it was dismantled on August 10.



Crews get ready to remove the A-frame from the Beshaler Gravel pit site.

The last piece of a 90 year old Arnold business was dismantled on August 10. Located just southeast of town, Beshaler Gravel's mammoth iron dump bin disappeared from sight, as a crew from Paulsen, Inc. took it down.

The history of Beshaler Gravel goes way back to the 1930s, when people started building roads. These new roads were sloppy and gravel was needed. Ferdinand Beshaler started the project of creating a gravel pit using a horse-pulled dredge and wagon for hauling. In the 50's and 60's Bud Beshaler and Kenneth Mc-

Dowell were partners in the operation.

Bud's son, Rick, who still lives on the place, helped throughout his high school years, and took over in 1974. He retired in 2015, and the days of pumping gravel were over.

During his over 40 years of owning the company, Rick submitted bids on township and county roads in Custer County and to the west of town, and did both the pumping and trucking. Eventually, he hired Phil Lucas, who stayed for 20 years. Rick's sons also helped pump as they got older.

Several names of men who helped over the years come up when talking about Beshaler Gravel. Gene Gracey trucked and hauled gravel, and Kent DeLosh, Kendall McDowell and Blake Bierman pumped gravel.

“We sold the trucks and movable parts and put the dump bin on an online auction. Paulsen's got it,” said Rick's wife Kim. “They got some of the pieces to use at their gravel pits, and called a week ago and dismantled the bin. It was a bittersweet day.”