The Arnold Sentinel

"Serving the South Loup River Valley"

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2026

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120 (USPS 032480) SINGLE COPY: 75 CENTS VOLUME 110, NUMBER 22



The Ultimate Halloween Playground

Main Street was packed last Thursday night with 22 trunks lined up for Chamber's Annual Halloween Trunk or Treat. An estimated 300 kids and adults had a good time discovering what each trunk had to offer, including treats, games, and prizes.

(Above) First place winner in the Trunk or Treat contest was Danielle Lamb of The Highlander. Dressed as The Crazy Cat Lady, she invited kids to dig through a baby swimming pool full of cat litter to find a treat.

(Right) The Arnold Sentinel's investigative journalism department created a unique experience where participants viewed Halloween pictures from the Sentinel files dating back to the 1950s to help crack a cold case. The real challenge for today's kids, however, was simply figuring out how to answer an old-style phone. When the phone rang, they had to puzzle over how to pick up the receiver; if they succeeded, they heard spooky messages from beyond.

Please turn to page 2 to read a full list of trunk participants.



Annual Veterans Day Program

Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2026
10:00 a.m.

Posting of Colors.....Honor Guard
National Anthem.....7th-12th Band
Welcome.....Don Olson
Pledge of Allegiance.....Kindergarten
Song.....1st Grade
Veteran Letters.....4th Grade
Veterans Acrostic Poem.....2nd Grade
Song of the Unsung Hero.....7th-12th Choir
Flag Folding.....6th Grade
Essays by 8th Grade.....Mrs. Badgley
Introduction of the Speaker.....Don Olson
Speaker.....Tanya Storer
Retrieve Colors.....Honor Guard

The American Legion and VFW welcome you to the annual Veterans Day program at Arnold Public Schools. The school, VFW, and American Legion invite parents, grandparents, and patrons of the district to attend this program.

Third grade students have created a veterans' slideshow which will play continuously throughout the program.

Mrs. Berglund and her K-12 art students have created patriotic themed art work that is displayed in the gym. The 7-12 art project is a collaborative piece. Please take time to view all of the projects.

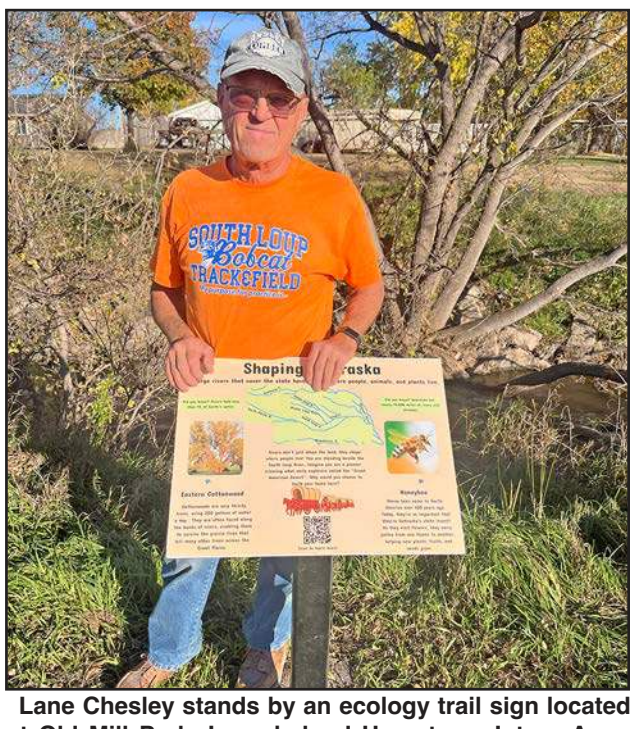
Housing Tour Is Saturday

Saturday, November 7, will be a busy time in the community of Arnold, as Chamber will host its Fall Housing Tour. Four homes and rural cabins will be featured. Ticket holders will enjoy a salad luncheon at the Arnold Community Center starting at 12:00 p.m. The tour follows at 1:00 p.m.

Tour locations include: Dalton and Sarah Greeley, Steve and Jeanette Graff, Evan and Kelsey Beshaler, Shawn and Brandi Corbin, and Neil and Diana Coleman's cabins.

Advanced ticket sales will end tomorrow, November 6, but will be available at the door the day of the event for $30.00. Tickets must be presented to enter the event.

Intern's Ecology Trail Is Ready to Explore



Lane Chesley stands by an ecology trail sign located at Old Mill Park. Lane helped Hometown Intern Anna Tullis with her project by contacting people and helping design the frames that hold the signs, on top of fully installing them. - Courtesy photo

Fall is a great time to get out and explore. Through her recently completed project, Arnold Community Foundation Fund Hometown Intern Anna Tullis has provided families with a fun way to explore Arnold and connect with the unique nature of the area through a set of signs targeted toward children. It's called the Arnold Ecology Trail Project.

When Anna started her internship with the ACFF last spring, her champions told her to find some sort of passion project that she could work on throughout the summer.

"I started thinking about what I am passionate about – science and the environment – and my favorite places in Arnold, which started at the lake/recreation area. From there the two ideas merged. I debated on the best way to share the information before settling on signs and deciding it should be a set so that people would be encouraged to explore multiple locations," said Anna, who is now back at college.

Each sign explores a different aspect of our environment through diagrams, descriptions, images, and companion websites to go beyond what the signs have room for. The signs and vocabulary are kid-focused, as are areas of the interactive websites.

The sign locations and their descriptions follow:

1. The Nebraska Prairie – Arnold Recreation Area

Discover what makes the Nebraska Sandhills and the mixed-grass prairie unique. Understand how the Arnold Recreation Area lake is naturally filled.

2. Putting Water to Work – Judkins Hill

Agriculture is the heart of our community in so many ways. Discover how the unique landscape of central Nebraska and innovative farming practices enable local farms to thrive.

3. Shaping Nebraska – Old Mill Park

The thousands of miles of rivers that stretch across Nebraska shape where both people and animals live.

4. Our Role – Arnold City Park

Now that we've learned about many of the area's unique features, we can see how we are part of this ecosystem and how we can help care for the natural landscape.

5. Guided by the Stars – Arnold Recreation Area

A look into the nighttime environment and how rural areas uniquely support the night sky and the species that depend on it.

Funding for the project was provided through a 1-1 matching grant with the Nebraska Foundation Fund. NCFF provided half of the necessary budget, while the Arnold Community Foundation Fund matched to contribute the additional funds.

Anna, along with Gracie Neth, served as Nebraska Community Foundation Hometown Interns last summer to work on community development with the local affiliated fund.



Local Organizations Support Sidewalk Project

Shelley Smith, representing the Arnold Community Foundation Fund, and Becky Dailey, representing the Sandhills Open Road Challenge, presented big checks to Arnold Economic Development Director Cheryl Carson last Thursday to assist businesses with their cost of the sidewalk project. The ACFF donated $20,000.00 and SORC donated $5,000.00, for a total of $25,000.00. Carson said LB840 funds paid for half of each businesses' cost of installing the sidewalks, and the businesses paid the other half out of pocket. "They all had a choice of whether or not to participate, and they all chose to," she said. "They need to be appreciated and recognized for putting money into this project for the safety and betterment of the community. We also need to thank the Foundation and SORC for their contribution to the community in supporting this project. We appreciate that we were able to get it done quickly so that we can have our fall and winter events downtown this year."

The $25,000.00 donated by the Foundation and SORC will be distributed proportionally to each business based on their yardage.

- Debbie Connelly photo