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KENDRA VEIRS PHOTO

Digging Out After Christmas

Pictured above is just one of the drifts that snow plows broke through on Saturday, December 26, after the Christmas blizzard - a blizzard many will remember. Although the area only saw a little over three inches of snow, the extreme northerly winds made huge snow drifts. This snow drift measured above 12 feet. The wind continued to blow and this county road on Garfield Table was impassable a few hours after the snowplow came by. This snowstorm was the fifth snowstorm of the season.

Blizzard warnings were issued for much of the state from Wednesday through Sunday, with Christmas right in the middle on Friday. This put a damper in many people's holiday plans, as roads were closed and very dangerous. The storm was originally predicted to be much worse - up to 15 inches, and reports show that you didn't have to be very far east of Arnold before the accumulation of snow was much worse, along with bigger drifts.



Hornung Receives Nebraska's Community College Association's Governor's Award

Jane Hornung, a member of the Mid-Plains Community College Board of Governors, recently received the Nebraska Community College Association's 2009 Governor's Award. She was recognized during ceremonies conducted during the Nebraska Community College Association's Legislative Summit held earlier this month in Lincoln.

In his presentation, MPCC President Dr. Michael Chippis stated, "Ms. Hornung is an outstanding Board member, is supportive of Nebraska's Community Colleges, and is a well respected member of our rural communities. We are pleased that Jane is the recipient of the 2009-2010 Governor's Award from the Nebraska Community College Association."

Ms. Hornung was born at Arnold, Nebraska, and was raised on a ranch four miles west of Arnold. She earned her Bachelor's Degree in Family and Consumer Education from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln in 1967. She spent the next 26 years teaching, mostly in the Arnold area.

She then spent three years serving as the Director of the School-to-Work Partnership. The following four years were spent as Superintendent of Schools for Paxton Consolidated Schools. Her educational achievements continued when she earned a Master's Degree and EdS Degree in Educational Administration from the University of Nebraska-Kearney.

In 1985, Ms. Hornung was appointed to fill a vacancy on the MPCC Board of Governors. She has since been re-elected six times while running unopposed each election. Since 2004, Ms. Hornung has served on the Board of Directors for



COURTESY PHOTO

Dr. Michael Chippis, President of Mid-Plains Community College, presents MPCC Board of Governor's member Jane Hornung with the Nebraska Community College Association's 2009 Governor's Award.

the Nebraska Community College Association and recently completed her term as chair. She also served on the NCCA Board from 1993-1995. She was the first female member of Rotary International in District 563 and has served as the President of the Arnold Club and the District Vocational Service Chair in 1992. She served on the Arnold Village Board from 1983-1984, as a 4-H Leader in Custer County from 1983-

1985, and participated in the Nebraska Community Development Block Grant. She believes these experiences have helped her as an ongoing contributor to MPCC.

In her early years on the Board, Ms. Hornung's input was instrumental in the development of delivery systems and techniques designed to serve rural needs, such as a Mobile Metals Lab, a Slow Scan system of delayed videos that preceded the current

Distance Learning system, Dual Enrollment courses at area high schools, a satellite nursing program, farm and ranch management programs and a small business assistance center. More recently, she has assisted in the development of the Union Pacific Railroad's training offerings at the college, online courses, satellite campuses, assessment center offerings and in expanding and improving MPCC's Distance Learning programs.

Ms. Hornung also served as a Board representative in the more than two-year process in the selection, purchase and implementation of the college's first integrated business and student services computer software. Additionally, she has been active in encouraging innovative educational partnerships with business and industry, such as deepening training partnerships with Valmont in McCook and the Union Pacific Railroad in North Platte.

Ms. Hornung served on the Instructional and Student Services Committee from 1985-1986; was the Chair of the Instructional and Student Services Committee from 1988-2006; and served on the Campus Development Committee in 1986 and 1990. Some of the projects she has been involved in include the renovation of McCook Community College's Tipton Hall, True Hall gymnasium, Walsh-Brady Hall, McMillen Hall and Brooks Residential Hall, as well as renovation of the McDonald-Belton Welcome Center, construction of the Diesel Shop and the 144-bed Residence Hall Complex at North Platte Community College.

In 2002, Ms. Hornung was among the MPCC Board members who voted to formally

identify McCook Community College and North Platte Community College as "Divisions of Mid-Plains Community College." This action helped to promote a "one-college" concept between the campuses, which ultimately led to greater unification and communication amongst college administration, faculty, and students. During her tenure on the board she also helped in the process of relocating the MPCC Area administration offices from a remote downtown location to the college campuses and facilitated the sale of the old office building.

Ms. Hornung's vision and actions have been at the forefront in the development of distance learning education in the MPCC Area and thus allow for quality educational opportunities to the over 20,000 square mile service area. She was highly supportive of the MPCC's vision of growth and expansion when the college established extended campuses in Broken Bow and Ogallala in 2000; when the Valentine Extended Campus was created in 2002; and when the Imperial Extended Campus became MPCC's fourth outreach location in 2005. All four extended campuses offer a localized Associate of Arts degree program, as well as academic transfer, technical, community service and business and industry training in their respective communities.

She supported the creation of the state's first Practical Nursing program, taught via satellite to Valentine and McCook - communities that are more than 200 miles apart and who desperately need health care professionals in their areas, and her dedication and leadership were instru-

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2009... The Year In Review

This week, and continuing next week, *The Sentinel* takes a look back at what - and who - made the news in 2009.

ARNOLD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

The AEDC created a new Web site that reflects the changing times and the changing community of Arnold. The new site replaced an outdated site.

In March, the Arnold Village Board of Trustees gave approval to the AEDC to apply for a \$50,000.00 USDA Rural Development Rural Business Enterprise Grant. They were awarded the grant in August.

On April 1, the AEDC moved into their new renovated office at 109 N Walnut, the former Logan County Co-op building. A \$30,700.00 grant from the USDA Rural Development and \$26,502.00 from the Corporation allowed for the purchase, remodel and furnishing of the building.

WIND ENERGY

An informational meeting was held on August 13 on the potential Arnold has for a wind farm. Wind Energy Consulting and Contracting (WECC) and AEDC held the presentation.

At a special meeting on September 9, the village board voted unanimously to have WECC complete a Regional Economic Impact Analysis and Wind Resource Map, using LB 840, local sales tax funds, in the amount of \$53,000.00.

The study was completed in November and will be released in January of 2010.

FEMA PROJECT

After rains washed away parts of Upper Powell Canyon Road, FEMA will spend \$70,000.00 to repair and make

the road sustainable and eliminate the 75 foot deep and 150 long wash-out that keeps taking out the road.

LIBRARY GRANT

Thanks to the Libri Foundation and the Friends of the Library, Finch Memorial Library purchased 86 new children's books valued at \$1,413.50.

RIALTO THEATRE

New ceiling fans for the Rialto Theatre were made possible in 2009 in part from a \$1,000.00 matching grant from the Custer County Foundation.

A large, original, 12'x40" painting by Tom Talbot went on display at the Rialto in May, featuring pioneers on the land.

After releasing a survey and finding out that residents want to see first-run movies, the Rialto's goal is to buy a projector and screen. In December, the Rialto released a goal of \$20,000.00, with \$5,778.00 already raised for the fund.

FUND RAISERS

Kim Beshaler, Dru Magill and three of the bachelors featured in the 2009 Hotties of the Heartland calendar, Jason Doty, Dustin Olson and Evan Beshaler, set up a booth at Kearney's Hilltop Mall to sell calendars. This was after the group appeared on NTV's "The Good Life" morning show. Proceeds went to the restoration of the Rialto Theatre.

In early February, the Kearney-based band, Treo, performed at the Rialto Theatre. All ticket sales and CD sales were donated to the

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