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Rescue Squads Receive Air Care Training

An Air Care helicopter landing in a field on the west edge of Arnold drew a lot of attention last week. Rescue personnel were standing by on the highway, with lights flashing on their emergency vehicles.

Residents soon learned there was no cause for concern.

Rescue personnel from nine area departments, including Arnold, Callaway, Broken Bow, Oconto, Merna, Stapleton, Ansley, Anselmo and Berwyn were taking part in a training hosted by the Custer County Mutual Aid.

Air Care flight nurses gave the local fire departments information on when it is appropriate to call for air care, what information air care needs before they get to the scene, and scene safety when the helicopter arrives.

"Most of the calls air care responds to are to area hospitals to transport patients to another hospital, but 10 to 15 percent of their calls are to the scene," said Arnold EMT Tammy Weinman.

Weinman also said the air care personnel were very accommodating to let Rotarians, Arnold students and local residents come to watch the landing and get up close to look at the helicopter.

"So many people got a chance to see the helicopter, listen to the flight nurses and pilot talk about their jobs and ask questions," she said.

(Pictured, right) Colbi Smith gives the "thumbs up" at the chance to see inside an Air Care helicopter, while Arnold rescue personnel Tom Dennis, Nancy Cool and Robbi Smith look on.

(Below) Custer County Mutual Aid rescue personnel pose for a picture by the helicopter.



TAMMY WEINMAN PHOTOS



Callaway and Arnold Will Coop

May Share Superintendent

By Janet Larreau

If you are old enough to remember "Friday night games," you're old enough to remember the fierce rivalry between the Arnold Cardinals and the Callaway Bears.

Oh, "The Times They Are A-Changin'."

Beginning with the 2010-2011 school year, the two schools will cast off their former colors and mascots and form an alliance to take on new rivals.

Callaway school board members made the decision to enter into a two-year agreement to coop all sports programs with Arnold at their board meeting, held Monday night, October 12. Six days earlier, Arnold School Board members also voted unanimously to coop with Callaway.

The two schools already have one foot in the door, as all junior high sports, high school golf and wrestling have been cooped to date.

Callaway's decision didn't come as a surprise, after the two boards met to discuss a coop in September. Both schools have falling student population numbers and are in relative close proximity. Still, it was a relief to many.

"It went as most people thought it would - it was positive. They understand that times are changing, and you have to change with the times," said Arnold Superintendent Bob Brown.

Callaway Superintendent Pat Osmond wasn't surprised, either.

"We had a public input meeting, and there wasn't a lot of severe opposition to (the coop)," he said. "This is much more than the schools. There is the necessity to keep the towns viable. We can do some things together to, hopefully, keep each other healthy."

Callaway activities director Jarod Rush, Osmond and board members Keri Schneringer and Tom Kennedy, Jr., will serve on a committee with Arnold activities director and principal Mike Harvey and board members Duane Bowers and Gary Blevins to work out the many details of the coop and bring their recommendations back to their respective boards. The committee plans to gain insight from other schools that have already gone through the cooping process.

Superintendent Sharing

The subject of sharing a superintendent between the two schools was also brought up at Callaway's meeting.

Osmond said, overall, the idea of sharing a superintendent is palatable to both boards. It would help not only the sports coop, but communication between the schools and the distance learning program.

Superintendent Brown thinks it would be a good fit. Osmond has had experience as a shared superintendent when he served in that capacity at Callaway and Stapleton.

"(Pat Osmond) has done it before, and he's a known commodity," said Brown.

Osmond said he will most likely interview with the Arnold School Board, and after that, both boards will make their decision.

Halloween Parade

Businesses that would like to take part in the Halloween parade, Saturday, October 31, are asked to contact Tammy Weinman at 308-530-3111.

Volunteers Needed for Haunting of Park

Arnold volunteers are planning a frightening tour through the Arnold Recreation Area this Halloween, where vampires, werewolves, swamp people and zombies will take up residence for one night only. Groups will be taken on a guided tour of the park from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

But first, and foremost, these volunteers need help, whether it be helping to set up, or por-

traying a creature of the night. Volunteers need to be high school age or older.

The committee will be meeting on October 25 at 5:00 p.m., at Zach and Heather Hagler's. Chairperson Barb Gunther said the group will need many more people to help, or they won't be able to put on the event.

Call Barb at 848-2489 if you are willing to volunteer.

H1N1 Hits Arnold School

Arnold Public Schools reported on Monday that about 25 percent of the student population in Grades K-12 was absent due to the H1N1 influenza. Superintendent Robert Brown said there were no plans to close the school due to the flu epidemic.

"(The health department) has changed the standard operating procedure and does not recommend closing school, unless there is a lack of teachers," he said. "We only

have one staff member gone."

As of Monday, the Arnold Medical Clinic had not confirmed a case of H1N1 in a patient, but the Callaway Clinic has. Most people are staying home and treating their symptoms - something the clinics are highly encouraging everyone to do.

Brown said it isn't unusual to have a large number of students absent during a regular flu season, but this variety is coming much earlier.

Village Board Considers Designating Emergency Snow Route

By Kendra Veirs

Adopting a designated emergency snow route for downtown Arnold and a designated animal control center were among agenda items at the Arnold Village Board of Trustees' regular board meeting on Monday, October 12.

After village board discussion on a subject that came up last winter, the Village of Arnold will now have a designated emergency snow route for the business district.

When a storm is approaching, all vehicles on the emergency route will need to be moved so that plows can clean and snow can be removed for regular business the following day.

"(With the automobiles moved) we will be able to have the main business district clean for daytime traffic," Village Superintendent Scott Winfield said.

Board members asked about the procedure for moving the vehicles. Winfield said since they would be asked to not park there overnight, most of downtown traffic would be eliminated. Coleman apartments would have a designated place to park, off of the main streets, and other businesses would be given notification to move sitting vehicles.

"Some towns use radio announcements, but this is Arnold," Winfield said. "We know who lives in Coleman apartments and what businesses have automobiles outside. We will develop a calling

list and when the emergency snow route goes into effect, we will make the calls."

A resolution, including exact street names for the designated emergency snow route, will be on the agenda at the November meeting.

Under a new state mandate, Arnold has to have a designated state approved animal control center for stray and abandoned animals. The village board voted unanimously to enter into an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with the North Platte Animal Shelter.

Under the agreement, there is no cost unless it is used. If used, the cost is \$85.00 per animal and the shelter will keep the animal for five days.

Winfield stated this is the most inexpensive way to comply with the mandate. The Village of Arnold hardly ever uses this, maybe one or two animals per year, and last year there were none.

One board member said using it should be a last resort. Animals can not be taken to the Arnold Animal Clinic because it is not state approved. Being state approved can be expensive, and has many requirements, including specific kennel sizes, and weighing and measuring each animal as it comes in.

In other business, board member Aaron Olson received a letter from senator Deb Fischer saying that paperwork is in the works for the Village

of Arnold to officially own the former Arnold State Park. Specific ownership details will be presented in the bill from Fischer. The board will review the bill before it is presented to the Nebraska Legislature.

Winfield reported 205 camping spots were registered for the summer season. After keeping track of mowing hours, fuel and other expenses, the village is not losing money by maintaining the park.

"The park is doing what we want. It is bringing people to town," Winfield stated.

Local businesses reported an increase in some areas of business, as a result of more campers coming to the area.

Nebraska Game and Parks will stock all the fish and help remove badly located trees. They have also agreed to help with new tree placement. This is all at no cost to the village, as long as it stays open to the public.

Discussion began last January on the old barbershop property, located at 111 W. Arnold Ave. The board will vote on what to do with the property at their regular December meeting.

If the village can obtain a clear title, then the property could be put up for auction. LB 840 funds can not be used to clear the property because of liens on it. The property previously sold on a sheriff's auction, where an investment company purchased it. The investment company is non-

negotiable and offers a buy-out price.

Normally, when a piece of property is bought, it is filed in Nebraska, but an investment company does not have to file, and no one else can own it because it was sold on the sheriff's sale.

The building can not be condemned, torn down and the bill sent to the investment company, as they do not own it (since they did not file).

"It is an unfortunate loop hole in the state," Winfield said.

Businesses Encouraged to Attend November Meeting

In other business, local businesses are encouraged to attend the next regular village board meeting, as a problem has risen because of extra piles of snow created from businesses. Businesses are cleaning off their lots and sidewalks and piling the snow in the streets.

Winfield asked where the snow removal funds should be designated. "Snow removal is very expensive," he said.

Discussion was held on if all businesses should have their piles removed or if no piles for businesses should be removed. For businesses who want piles removed, should there be a fee or should all businesses be charged a flat rate for snow removal? The question, "Do businesses need to contract with private individuals for snow removal?" was also asked.

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