



Serving the
South Loup River Valley

The Arnold Sentinel

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

(USPS 032480)

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4th of July Blow-Out Starts Friday

Chamber will host its annual 4th of July community celebration beginning on Friday, and ending four days later with a fireworks display at Old Mill Park.

On July 1, area children are invited to participate in the Kiddie Parade at Koubek Gardens at 5:00 p.m. A free kids' movie, "How to Train Your Dragon," will be shown at the Rialto Theatre at 5:30 p.m. At 7:00 p.m., the National Honor Society will host an ice cream social at Koubek Gardens. The movie "Pirates of the Caribbean IV" will be showing at the Rialto at 8:00 p.m. The movie is sponsored by Chamber, but regular admission prices apply.

Saturday's Events

The Ministerial Association Breakfast will kick-off Saturday's events. Serving will be from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., at the St. Agnes Catholic Church. Free-will donations will be accepted.

The 2nd annual Arnold Firecracker Fun Run/Walk will start at 8:00 a.m., at the Arnold Recreation Area. The event is for everyone, and participants can choose to run or walk. Entry forms can be found in last week's issue of *The Sentinel* and can be dropped off at Classic Coyotee. Entry time is 7:20 a.m. to 7:55 a.m., when entries close. For race information, call 208-661-



Fireworks are on tap for the 4th of July, this year sponsored in full by the Sandhills Open Road Challenge. The above photo of fireworks exploding above Old Mill Park was taken in 2009 by Garald Horst. His photos, and other photos taken by residents, can be found in the Arnold Web site's gallery of photos.

2428 or 308-848-2846.

"That Small Town Feeling" will be the theme of the parade. Line-up will be at 9:30 a.m., and the parade will begin at 10:30 a.m. To see the parade route, please turn to page 2. Early registration is encouraged by contacting Dena Mills at 848-2515 or 848-3253.

The American Legion Auxiliary will be serving a chicken noodle dinner at the

Legion Hall immediately after the parade.

All ages can compete in Paintball from 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., at Old Mill Park. The National Honor Society will organize the popular Turtle Races at 1:30 p.m., at the city park. Game booths will be open at the city park from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., and Miniature Golf and the Fun Jump Obstacle Course will be open from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00

p.m. Everyone is encouraged to sign up a team to compete in the Red Neck Olympics, which will start at 3:00 p.m. Music by "Triple P" will start at 5:30 p.m.

The Chamber-sponsored barbecue will be served from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., at the city park. Free-will donations will be accepted. Entertainment follows at 7:30 p.m.

"Pirates of the Caribbean IV" will have its second showing of the weekend at 8:00 p.m.

Sunday's Events

A Punt, Pass and Kick Contest will start off Sunday's list of activities. The contest will start at 2:00 p.m., at the city park.

The Rialto's third showing of "Pirates of the Caribbean IV" will start at 3:00 p.m.

A 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament is scheduled for 3:30 p.m., at the community center, and a Horseshoe Tournament will start at 4:00 p.m., at Old Mill Park.

Church in the Park at 7:00 p.m., at the city park, will close out the day.

July 4

A fireworks display will begin at dusk at Old Mill Park. The Sandhills Open Road Challenge generously donated \$1,500.00 for this year's display. Music will be provided by Westbrook Audio, and the display will be set off by Gunther's Fireworks.

Blevins Qualifies for Nationals

Arnold High's Kali Blevins is headed to the 63rd Annual National High School Finals Rodeo in Gillette, Wyoming, July 17 through the 23rd. Blevins will compete in Barrel Racing at Nationals, after placing third at the Nebraska High School Rodeo Finals held last weekend at Hastings.

At the state finals, Blevins competed in both barrels and poles and had hoped to qualify in both events. She ended short in Pole Bending at eighth place, but in the barrels she was determined to take it all the way.

Blevins was only six points behind the leader, and was going for first, when her horse fell with her.

"She was going for it, and it was slick. The horse totally sprawled out and threw her six feet away," said her mom, Kelli.

On Sunday, Kali said she was a little sore, but is looking forward to competing at Gillette this month.

"It will be a lot of fun," she said.

Concerns Grow As Flooding Continues

Loup Basin Public Health Department would like to share information about potential problems from the floodwaters in our area. Concerns include an increase in mosquitoes and insects, mold growth, personal injuries and water safety.

Mosquitos/West Nile:

Prevent mosquito bites by wearing long pants, socks and long-sleeved shirts, and by using insect repellents that contain DEET, IR5355 or Picaridin. Placing mosquito dunks in standing water will prevent the hatching of more mosquitoes.

Mold:

Clean up as soon as possible and prevent mold growth. Clean and dry out the building quickly (within 24 to 48 hours). Open doors and windows and use fans to dry out the building. To prevent mold growth, clean wet items and surfaces with detergent and water. To remove mold growth, wear rubber gloves, open windows and doors and clean with a bleach solution of one cup of bleach in one gallon of water. Throw away porous items (for example, carpet and upholstered furniture) that cannot be dried quickly. Fix any leaks in roofs, walls or plumbing.

Personal Health:

Follow all warnings about water on roadways and flooding in streams. Do not drive vehicles or heavy equipment through water.

Treat wounds. Clean out all open wounds and cuts with soap and clean water. Apply an antibiotic ointment. Contact a doctor to find out whether more treatment is needed (such as a tetanus shot). If a wound gets red, swells or drains, seek immediate medical attention.

Water Safety:

Flood conditions pose a serious threat to the quality of water supplies. Flooded private water wells need to be tested for bacteria and perhaps disinfected after flood waters recede. Water from such wells should be considered NOT SAFE FOR DRINKING until proven otherwise by a certified laboratory. Signs of possible contamination may include cloudiness or a change in taste or smell.

Floodwater can become contaminated with fecal material from overflowing sewage systems and agricultural and industrial by-products.

Halsey Post Office Under Review for Closing

A notice has been received that the Halsey Post Office is under review for alternate delivery, which means closing.

The Halsey office is the viable center of the small community that is the gateway to the Halsey National Forest, as well as the location of the State 4-H Camp; both utilize the Post Office daily. The town has many elderly residents who will find its closing a great hardship.

Sandhills Public Elementary, located at Halsey, services part

of five counties. The motel, and eating establishment would all be greatly impacted by the closing of the post office.

The post office is clean and in excellent condition. Area residents are being urged to attend an informative meeting on Wednesday, June 29, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., at the Halsey auditorium.

The meeting is hosted by the United States Postal Service to get public input on the possible closing of the post office. Representatives from the

USPS will be present to answer questions, as well as ask questions regarding the need of the office in Halsey. Past USPS employees, representatives of local media and possibly representatives from Ben Nelson, Adrian Smith and Deb Fischer's offices, will be present to give their input on the need to keep a local post office for the well being of the rural area it services around Halsey, as well as the impact it would have on the town itself.

A petition is being circulated.

For more information on how to sign the petition, please contact Colleen Higgins at 308-533-2237.

Arnold Voice-Over Commercial Will Begin Airing

A series of voice-over commercials promoting the community of Arnold and the school will begin airing on KNOP-TV on July 1. The Arnold Economic Development Corporation (AEDC) is sponsoring 56 spots throughout the month. Several of the spots will hit the 10:00 p.m. news. Much of the filming was done at the Arnold School, promoting its outstanding programs and teachers.

Visits to Arnold Web Site Steadily Increase

In an article published in *The Sentinel* last week, it was reported that the Arnold Web site received 870 hits in May. The actual number reported was over 8,700 hits - up 50 percent from the same time last year.

"We get probably 275 visitors a day on average," said Kristi Dvorak, who manages the site. "That 8,700 visitors resulted in over 26,700 pages views within the Web site. The numbers have been steadily increasing since the site was launched."

AEDC Director Heidi Kulp reported at the June Village Board meeting that the most hits are being received by the Home Page, *Arnold Sentinel*, business and real estate, in that order.

Sales and Use Tax Update

Village Clerk Patricia Lamberty reports that receipts from the 1 percent City Sales and Use Tax were \$4,861.31 for the month of April. Sales tax on Motor vehicles totaled \$993.97. Receipts from the sales and use tax are used for economic development purposes. Motor vehicle receipts are used for street improvements.

Compared to last year at this time, receipts are down by \$2,527.50. The clerk said, still, sales numbers are good for 2011.



COURTESY PHOTO

Clay Mohr (right) receives the Nebraska Industrial Technology Education "Program of the Year" Award from NITEA president Butch Lehmkuhler, at a state-wide conference held at Kearney.

Mohr Receives Outstanding Career Education Program Award

Arnold Public School Industrial Technology instructor Clay Mohr was among teachers receiving distinguished awards at the Nebraska Career Education Conference held in June, at Kearney.

Mohr was the recipient of the 2011 Nebraska Industrial Technology Education (NITEA) Program of the Year award for School House Graphic Products (SHGP) and a conglomeration of other pro-

grams he offers to Arnold students.

Butch Lehmkuhler, current president of NITEA, said Mohr was singled out for several reasons.

"(Clay) has obviously total engagement by his students," he said. "They have bought into it, and they invest in it. His program has withstood the test of time. It's valid to the students, the community and its patrons. He operates in a small school and exposes his

students in a variety of disciplines, focusing on where their career interests lie."

All vocational career disciplines come together at the NITEA meeting, including Voc Ag, FCLA and FCA. The awards presented at the state-wide conference recognize the outstanding achievements of career education programs that help students achieve their academic and career goals