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Arnold Community Foundation Fund Established Fund Advisory Committee Unveils Plan for Future Growth at Rotary Pancake Feed



Committee member Holly Hornung Remund speaks about the new Arnold Community Foundation at the Rotary Pancake Feed.

By Janet Larreau

"If you love your community, treat it as a child you love, and give back."

This was the message given out to residents on February 17, as the newly-formed Arnold Community Foundation Fund (ACFF) Advisory Committee unveiled plans to begin raising money for the future revitalization and growth of Arnold.

The presentation was made to a good crowd attending the annual Rotary Pancake Feed by committee member Holly Hornung Remund and Jana Jensen, who is the director of community fund development for the Nebraska Community

Foundation in Western Nebraska. Others serving on the volunteer fund committee include: Shane Cool, Dean Weinman, Mary Becker, Edwin Johnson, Peg Scott, Ken Wehrman, Bobbie Smith and Carolyn Watkins.

Jensen said the formation of a community foundation is critical in Nebraska, as a massive transfer of wealth is occurring right now and will continue for the next 50 years, from the World War II generation and next, the Baby Boomers.

Jensen said the Nebraska Community Foundation has conducted a transfer of wealth study for every county in Nebraska. From the year 2000 to 2050, the estimated wealth transfer in Nebraska will equal \$258 billion dollars. In Custer County, the estimated transfer will be 41.6 billion, with the peak transfer happening now through 2015.

"It's happening and happening rapidly," said Jensen. "A portion of that wealth is going out of the state of Nebraska. If we can capture just a small part of that wealth, it could make a real difference to our communities."

Remund said the goal of the Arnold Community Foundation Fund Advisory Committee is to raise \$1 million dollars by 2016 and \$100,000 in the first year, through donations and endowments.

"Because you here in Arnold

have your own community foundation, we're going to raise it and invest it in the community," Remund said.

She gave examples of four area communities that have benefitted from having a community foundation of their own. One example she gave was Curtis, where a former resident donated \$1 million dollars to the Curtis foundation to build a new community center. The self-made millionaire had not been back to his "hometown" since he was 18, and he still continues to give.

Valley County in Ord affiliated with the Nebraska Community Foundation in 1999 and already has a 1.6 million dollar endowment. There have been grants to this county of over \$50,000 each year since 2000.

Burwell became a NCF affiliate in 1996 and has 1.8 million in their fund. In Burwell, one donor gives \$9,000.00 a year, every year, for high school scholarships.

Thedford was affiliated in 2004, and has a current endowment of \$162,000, and has been granted over \$25,000 over six years. There are also three confirmed Planned Gifts.

During the night it was mentioned that people can give to their community foundation in a variety of ways, including donating proceeds from a load of grain or cattle on sale. Donors can also identify

where they want the money to go in the community.

"I get to help people who want to give back to their community, and I'm here to tell you it is happening all over the state," said Jensen.

The volunteer Fund Advisory Committee will work actively to increase charitable giving and will award grants to worthwhile organizations that are addressing the emerging needs and future opportunities in the Arnold community.

The Arnold Community Foundation Fund will enhance the quality of life and help create new opportunities in the Arnold area by:

- Supporting and strengthening local nonprofit organizations.
- Providing innovative ways for donors to benefit their community.
- Identifying needs and making grants in the Arnold community.
- Participating in partnerships with other community groups.

For more information on the Arnold Community Foundation Fund, you can reach a Fund Advisory Committee member or contact:

Arnold Community
Foundation Fund
PO Box 376

Arnold NE 69120

www.arnoldcommunityfoundationfund.org
or Secretary Holly Hornung

Remund at 605-350-0064,
holly@frontierpartners.net

Editor's Note: When the
Nebraska Community

Foundation was founded in
1993, there were only a hand-
ful of community foundations
in the state. Today, NCF is
helping over 105 communities
build permanent endowments

through grassroots philan-
thropy. The NCF is a decen-
tralized system. Decisions on
grant-making are made at the
local level. NCF's role is to pro-
vide guidance to assure that

grant-making meets legal
requirements and that it is
strategic to the future of the
community.



JANA JENSEN PHOTOS

The newly-formed Arnold Community Foundation Fund Advisory Committee and Nebraska Community Foundation representative Jana Jensen gave a PowerPoint presentation to the crowd attending the annual Rotary Pancake Feed.