

City of

P.O. Box 437



Arnolds Park, IA 51331

October 11, 2023

Dear Sir or Madam,

The Abbie Gardner Sharp story is an important part of the not only the history of Arnolds Park; but also, the entire lakes area.

What began as a normal day on April 5, 2019 quickly changed when a phone call from an unknown caller led Seth Boyes down a road that he was not anticipating when the day began; someone needed help returning an item stolen many years before from the Gardner cabin. Mr. Boyes proceeded to unselfishly use his time to go in any number of different directions all in an effort to help this unknown caller right the wrong committed by family members 70 years ago.

The persistence shown by Mr. Boyes and the countless hours of research, phone calls, documentation, emails, travel, etc. all played a major part in the return of Gardner family property to its rightful home. Final acceptance by the Iowa State Historical Society resulted in the return of the beaded leather pipe bag to the Abbie Gardner Sharp Cabin, as well as, a five-part series that kept area residents captivated week after week while waiting for the next installment of the story.

Thank you for your consideration of Seth Boyes and the Dickinson County News for the Harrison "Skip" Weber Investigative Reporting and the Community Leadership awards.

Sincerely,
City of Arnolds Park

Matt Richter
Mayor Pro-tem