

# The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

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CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

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## PawSome Hotel - Marsupials or Pets?



Sal Hilderbrant of Sal's Dog Grooming and PawSome Hotel, along with Bogie, show the new granite slab sign. (Pepper Werner Photo)

## Focus On Your Hometown Businesses Sal's Dog Grooming

Second in a monthly series on what businesses and services the community of Arnold has to offer.

By Pepper Werner

As business increases, there is a need for expansion. Change is good and stressful at the same time. Just ask Sal Hilderbrant.

July 7, 2015, construction on the new “hotel” began. Scottie McDowell started with the ground work, Dave and Sal prepped for the foundation, and C&S Concrete in North Platte did the pouring. PawSome Hotel was underway. With funding from a loan and an AEDC grant, the 20 dog/cat facility was made possible.

Sal and Dave Hilderbrant started their dog grooming and boarding facility in 2010. Their first “dog house” was made possible with an AEDC grant. Sal saw the need for a boarding facility since there wasn’t anything available in the area at

the time. She quickly admits that her living comes from grooming, where she averages six dogs per day. The maximum that she will undertake in a day is 10.

PawSome Hotel is a 30' x 60' enclosed tin building that has been available for boarding since November 2016. Frank Hauser erected the stick-built building and attached the exterior tin.

Sal is comfortable with 14 animals at a time, but would accommodate 20 if there were multiple pets from the same home. She will not mix families.

The front third of the building is separated off for the cats and smaller dogs. It is a room with a concrete floor, stainless steel cleaning area (from Jim's

Bar) with hot and cold water (installed by Adam Wonch of Cloudfire Services) and heater from the former *Arnold Sentinel* office.

The east two-thirds of the building houses the larger dogs. There is plastic on the walls 4-feet high (installed by Randel Construction) that can be easily cleaned, with drywall above that is fully insulated.

Sal stated, “Even with the cold weather last winter, the back part of the building never dropped below 45 degrees, even without heat.”

After a lot of planning and consideration, Sal was able to secure an LB840 grant for \$2,000.00, an LB840 loan for \$5,000.00, and an AEDC private loan for \$5,000.00. Sal credits her AEDC grant for financing the plumbing and the lighting in the hotel.

She also said, “The grant allowed me to expand to keep the animals in a climate-controlled environment - no more scooping snow before work, there are

small to larger kennels, happier pets and clients and the dogs seem to appreciate the windows. It doesn't feel like such a dungeon.”

Hilderbrant decided against adding dog doors to the new building. She wanted to avoid letting the dirt and bugs into the facility. The dogs are either IN or OUT. They are walked twice per day and seem happy with the arrangement.

All of the business grooming

is still completed in the original building. Her materials and supplies, along with the washing and drying facilities, are located there. It makes sense to keep the two services separate.

There are still a few items on Sal's wish list: enclose the plumbing below the sinks, add a restroom and stain the concrete floor. She used a product from her sister, Connie Hernandez in Kansas City, called Seal Green - Re-Use Concrete Sealing Specialists Products.

The water just beads up and runs to the drain. The Kennel

Cleaner Concentrate on floors

eliminates pet odors. Both of

these products speed up the cleaning process tremendously.

The busy season for the PawSome Hotel and Sal's Dog Grooming is typically the summertime and December. However, this year things picked up in August and haven't let up.

Sal averages 30-40 dogs per month with the longest resident staying over 30 days.

With the addition of the new building, Sal also erected kennels that she purchased from a veterinarian in Stapleton several years ago. This allowed for a 10' x 20' outdoor run for the dogs. It will accommodate a maximum of 14 dogs and Sal refuses to overbook.

When using the boarding facilities, Sal requires paperwork

to verify the animal's shots and the ability to 'seek and treat' if something should happen. She takes great pride in the care

that she provides for the animals and makes sure that they are given top-notch care.

There is also a new sign in front of the business - a large granite slab from Georgia that School House Graphics lettered for her. It brings laughs with the new name of PawSome Hotel. Hilderbrant tells the story of getting several telephone calls prior to the solar eclipse asking for room availability. Many of the callers assumed it was just a pet-friendly facility. Sal had to explain that it was for pets only - no people!

She got a chuckle when she told them that it was a 10' x 10' room, they would have to sleep on a concrete floor, open walls to the next room and use the great outdoors for a bathroom. If another dog came, the people would be out.

Sal's Dog Grooming and PawSome Hotel can be found at 308-539-2179.

## Deadline for CCF Grant Applications Fast Approaching

(Custer County, NE) The deadline to submit grant applications to the Custer County Foundation is October 31, 2017.

The goal of the Custer County Foundation is to improve the quality of life in the Custer County area by supporting the needs of the communities.

Any nonprofit organization that falls under the guidelines of the Foundation's grant policy can apply for a grant from the Foundation. Funds are usually granted in the areas of civic, culture, health, education, environment and social services.

Grant applications are accepted throughout the year and will be considered at the end of two closing dates. The next deadline coming up is October 31.

Applications may be downloaded from the Custer County Foundation website: [www.custercountyfoundation.org](http://www.custercountyfoundation.org), then click on the Grants heading. Or stop by the Foundation office located at 403 South 9th Avenue in Broken Bow (the former Security State Bank building).

Applications may be dropped off at the Foundation office during regular office hours, which are Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. or sent via the U.S. mail. Applications need to be postmarked by October 31, 2017.

To contact the Foundation, call 308-872-2232 or email [custerfoundation@msn.com](mailto:custerfoundation@msn.com).

## Historical Marker Placed at Nazarene Church



Pastor Dynette Oberg stands beside a new historical marker that has been placed at the Arnold Church of the Nazarene. This is the second marker that has been completed for the Rotary project by Berni Crow, and there are over 40 markers yet to be completed. Vintage photos of Arnold buildings are being sought for the project.

A new historical marker has been placed at the Arnold Church of the Nazarene. The Arnold Rotary Club project, managed by Berni Crow, is just in the beginning phases,

with this being only the second marker completed.

Over 40 of these signs will be placed on or near Arnold buildings in future

months, with a photo and description of the building's history.

Crow said she is really desperate for vintage photos of Arnold buildings for these markers and is reaching out to *The Sentinel*'s readers to provide any photos that anyone might be in possession of. The photo she is in need of most at the present time is of the Rialto Theatre. She added that she will be working on the stories that she has photos for first.

The Nazarene church's marker reads as follows:

The Arnold Church of the Nazarene started as a tabernacle meeting held by Reverend Theodore Ludwig. The establishment of the church received much opposition. The Arnold citizens were not in favor of having a holiness church, they wanted a more liberal church with different views on sanctification in their community, but the church founders pushed on. On August 1st, 1920, the church was organized and included 25 members. On September 1st, 1920, Vollie Schofield, along with his wife Anna, started their ministry in the town of Arnold. The Church faced many problems due to the opposition in town. One of these problems was that they had no place to hold services. They rented the Rex Theater, but

then it was closed to their use after only one month. After this setback, the church members met in their homes until November, when they were able to rent the blacksmith's shop for services. As time passed, the prejudice feelings faded. Then in June of 1921, the Rex Theater was put up for sale and the church purchased the building along with 200 opera chairs. On May 8th, 1927, a tornado that took down many buildings in Arnold also took down the Church. The church was rebuilt, in its original location, using as much of the salvageable lumber as they could. In November of 1927, the General Superintendent of the Church of the Nazarene, J.B. Chapman, dedicated the building. The 1927 building is still in use today. Sometime between 1948 and 1951, a choir loft was added to the south end of the building and an entryway was added to the northeast corner, replacing the bell tower that leaked. The church still holds regular services and recently changed its name to Last Call Ministries, while continuing its affiliation with the Church of the Nazarene.

For more information how to submit vintage photos, call Berni Crow at 308-520-1102.