

# The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2021

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

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## Notable Quote

“A free press is the unsleeping guardian of every other right that free men prize; it is the most dangerous foe of tyranny.”

- Winston Churchill



Reed’s Food Center employee Kendra Nelson gives the grocery store’s new flooring a quick dry mopping on Thursday of last week. According to all who work there, cleaning the new floors with only soap and water takes a fraction of the time that it used to.

## Halloween Events Will be Held Friday at Koubek Gardens

There will be a lot of action in downtown Arnold on Friday, October 29, as Chamber hosts a Kids’ Halloween Costume Contest & Scavenger Hunt at Koubek Gardens. Activities will start at 10:30 a.m., and continue until noon.

The costume contest will include several age groups and there will be goodie bags.

A fun scavenger hunt is planned, as well as the traditional parade through downtown businesses, where treats will be handed out.

Everyone is welcome to bring a trunk for “Trunk or Treat” on Main Street. A prize will be awarded for the best decorated trunk.

For more information, contact organizers Kendra Veirs at 308-530-6943, Katie Weinman at 308-760-7547, or Rose Bierman, 308-870-5300.

## Reed’s Food Center makes major update with new flooring

Reed’s Food Center has made an update to the store that is making customers smile as they walk in. Owner John Reed had some 3,800 square feet of Armstrong laminate installed over the worn-out flooring - a process that took some time in accomplishing.

John said he started thinking about installing the flooring about 5 or 6 years ago. About that time, Affiliated Foods was bought out and everything was put on hold. The project was stalled again 2 1/2 years ago, when the store’s check-out system had to be updated. Add to

that, 13 doors of new freezers were installed in February.

“If you fall behind, you get behind the times. Without updates, you can’t do digital coupons - it’s just a lot of things,” said John.

John purchased Reed’s Food Center on September 9, 1979.

He said this will be his eighth and final remodel over those years.

The community appreciates all of the updates John has made over the years as he continues to provide this vital service to Arnold.

## History of Fisher Building Documented With Historical Marker



Four County Boutique owners Makenna Johnson and Tammy Weinman stand by the historical marker placed on their building on Main Street.

Arnold Rotary Historical Marker project coordinator Berni Crow has placed a marker at the former location of what was known as the Fisher building. The marker - which tells the story of the building’s history - reads as follows:

**Fisher Building - 1890**  
What had begun as a small office for Dr. Willis Anderson in the 1890s, eventually came to be known as the Fisher Building throughout several additions and remodels. Dr. Anderson’s stay in Arnold was short lived and following his departure, the Silas Allen fam-

ily (Richard Eliada Allen’s parents) moved in and lived in it for several years. After moving off his homestead, Hiram Black purchased the building, added the second story and remodeled the original structure. The Fisher Building had a series of businesses located in different areas of the structure, often housing businesses simultaneously. It wasn’t unusual for the owners of those businesses to also reside in the section of the building that they worked in. In 1907, Postmaster Ernestine Black ran the Post Office in the same section of the building where she resided. Mrs. Black also operated Blacks Shoe Shop

in the front of the Fisher Building from 1911-1917. In 1914, Dr. Dunn arrived in Arnold, taking up residence in the back room of the building, where he also had his office. Mr. & Mrs. Dale Shaw purchased the building from the Black’s in 1918, and proceeded to open Shaw’s Barbershop in a room unused by Dr. Dunn. The Shaws moved in to the doctor’s old quarters after Dunn moved across the street to the Worrell Building (Reed’s Food Center). Later on, Shaw sold the building to Charlie Fisher; perhaps that’s when it first began to be called the “Fisher Building”. Soon it was home and business to another

family, the Comers when they came to town in 1926. Andrew (Andy) had first worked with Luther Ristine in the Northside Barber Shop, then in 1926 Comers bought Clarence Walker’s Model Barber Shop which was located in the former Mrs. Black’s Shoe Shop. The Fisher Building was north of the L.P. Rose/Spargo store, which had been built in 1916. The Comers had their living space on the 2nd floor of the Fisher Building and Clara (Fussy) Comer started her first beauty shop in Walker’s Model Barber Shop. After the December fire of 1927, the Ernestine Black shoe store was the

only frame building left on the east side of the street still occupied by Comers living quarters and Comers Barber and Beauty Shop. C.P. Empfield directed construction of several stores to fill the gap between the Fisher Building (Comers) and Economy Department Store (Custer). Sinclair Lucas’ Drug store, W.R. Stewart’s Real Estate office, Dewey Dunaway’s Bakery, Clarence Marrs’ Barber Shop, Gertrude Chamber’s Rose Shop, and the Arnold Sentinel, were built under Empfield’s direction. After October of 1938, Charlie Fisher sold his building to Henry Vieth who had it moved just north of where the Veterinary Clinic is now. A Callaway man, Joe Savidge did the moving and foundations were being poured for a new brick building (present structure) before the debris from the old building was even cleared. Since that time, several businesses have occupied this brick building, Darlene (Hagler) Rimpley shared memories of a Dime Store owned and managed by Hazel Holub called H. & H. Variety Store. Hazel ran her store for nine years until marrying John Priess in 1947. Darlene remembers buying her school pencils and paper at the H&H store. Holub sold to Robert Slattery who taught at Arnold School. Mrs. Virgie Slattery and the children Helen, Charles, and Kathleen kept the “ten-cent” store open until 1955 and then sold to Bob and Donna Staab, who kept it open for only two years (1955-’57). The building was empty for a few years until Dee and Peggy Croghan opened their Sundry Shop running it for three years before selling to Pat (Hagler) Gale, circa 1973. Pat purchased Croghan’s sundry items and moved into her new store, the Main Street Shoppe. Pat had opened the store just before

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