A New Animal Business in the Region: In Your Home & On Your Farm

Fertile, MN - From Newfolden, MN, Karen A. Busch started her deep love of animals at a young age with a cat, a dog, and a horse. However, with a D in 9th grade Algebra, Karen steered away from vet school to English Education degrees (BS MS) from Bemidji State.

A year and a half ago, Karen ended her teaching career of 25 years to care for her elderly parents in Mentor, MN. Karen developed her idea into her business through 2 workshops at Northland Community College in Thief River Falls, MN and weekly meetings with retired business owners through the national SCORE program in Grand Forks, ND.



At its core, Karen's business Paws Hoofs Claws provides in-home visits for small animals. With her recent clients, she visits for an hour at breakfast and an hour at supper for vacations or an hour at lunch for the work day. Karen provides basic care and exercise, like playing fetch, walking, running, and snuggling.

For large animals, Karen provides help with seasonal animal work and daily animal chores for farmers in need of her assistance. For both of the branches of her business, Karen has an orientation for each client, so she can meet the animals and their humans. Karen and the animal owners will dis-



cuss the work order and the contract, and they'll find common ground.

With her business, the clients will receive text photos of their animals during her visits, so they can relax on a vacation or at work or in the hospital. With text photos, a few of my clients shared, "They are having fun," "I finally don't have to worry," "They look so happy," and "I'm so happy that you do both, dogs and horses."

Karen plans to turn to the colleges and universities in the region (NCC, NTC, UND, BSU, UMC) to get additional help because the students' schedules are more flexible with their classes and their other part time jobs, and they'd enjoy the escape with animals. At UMC, the programs of Animal Science and Pre-Vet will bring more college students who also have a passion for animals. Karen plans to research each employee with references, professors, and criminal background checks. If someone has a passion for animals and wants a fun part time job, please call, text, or email me, so we can discuss the opportunities.

My type of business hasn't been available in the region, so pet owners have decided to ask a neighbor or friend to help them; however, Paws Hoofs Claws is a great choice because at the beginning of Karen's local business, she already has 5 repeat customers, who are completely satisfied with the quality of care and the price.

If you are ready to book a day, a weekend, or a week, you can contact Karen in a few ways: call or text at # 218 464-2154, or email at karen@pawshoofsclaws.com, or website at www.pawshoofsclaws.com, or Facebook.

Karen and her small business Paws Hoofs Claws will love your animals, like her own animals.