



Taken from the columns of area newspapers.

Cozad student makes impact through dance

COZAD—A dance student with many accolades, Jordyn Worrell of Cozad, serves as a role model in the state for young dancers. Worrell's impact through dance in her school and community is why she is the Nebraskans for the Arts' Student Spotlight in the Arts award winner. She began dancing at three years old and has worked hard over the past 15 years participating in dance classes and cheer and dance competitions. She won dance solo contests and has been part of three State Cheer Champions at Cozad and was selected the Hixson-Lied College of Fine and Performing Arts' Nebraska Young Artist Award winner for dance. She now attends the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and remains a role model to others.—reported in the Tri-City Trib.

'A dream come true' for Bow Public Library

BROKEN BOW—"A dream come true" are words Broken Bow Library Director Joan Birnie used to describe the feeling when the Broken Bow City Council approved a resolution to put the library's renovation and expansion project out for bid. The project has been 10 years in the

making, and has so far netted funds of \$1,745,000 towards what is looking like a \$2 million project. The foundation is committed to raising the remainder of the funding themselves with a time table of starting construction as early as March of 2017 with a completion targeted for late December 2017. The new build will add over 3,000 square feet to the existing library. Contents of the library will be moved to another site and be fully functional during construction.—reported in the Custer County Chief.

1900's Moon buggy has personal connection

OGALLALA—Wendell and Ramona Upright of Ogallala are working to restore a Moon buggy, which was made in the early 1900s. The uprights brought the buggy home from Oklahoma, and have had it since October and are completing a restoration in their garage. Ramona's maiden name, Moon, the same last name as brothers John and Joseph Moon, who created the Moon Buggy Co. and later the Moon Motor Car Co. The brothers also are credited with designing the once popular covered buggy, known as the Moon buggy. Ramona is the great-great cousin of the Moon brothers. The couple are taking the restoration one step at a time, and though they do not know when they will be finished, there are plans it will be in an upcoming parade.—reported in the Keith County News.

Curtis native promotes Huskers' Bowl game

CURTIS—Shawn Welch, a 2012 Medicine Valley graduate and son of Brad and Lori Welch of Curtis, is doing an internship at Belmont College in Nashville, TN, and helping to promote the Nissan Music City Bowl when the Nebraska Cornhuskers met the Tennessee Volunteers on Dec. 30. Welch moved to Nashville just this August after his graduation from Nebraska Wesleyan with a degree in sports management and business administration. He read an article in Forbes magazine discussing the sports management program and located to Nashville. He stated how being from Nebraska has made him a big player on the Belmont staff setting things up for game week. His major responsibilities prior to the game have been setting up events throughout the week including the welcome party, the coach's luncheon, the Battle of the

Marching Bands and more. He is hoping the entire experience is enjoyed by everyone attending.—reported in the Frontier County Enterprise.

Rotary Book Buddy allows adults and kids to interact

ARNOLD—Arnold second grade teacher Mrs. Melva Geiser welcomes Rotarians into her class each year to read books with her students. She stated the project, Rotary Book Buddy, is one of her favorite activities throughout the year. It is also rewarding to listen to the connections made by story text of both student and adult and the barriers between them vanish during the reading experience. There is an advantage of the Rotarians helping the children understand the many roles our adult community members have. The students heard pieces of the visitors' lives such as a role in a movie, experiences in Vietnam, broken bones, farm accidents and more. Each student is presented a book assigned by an Arnold Rotarian, and members in turn enjoyed reading the personally written thank you letters the students presented to them.—reported in the Arnold Sentinel.

Flock of swans found hanging out in corn fields

CALLAWAY—It appeared at first glance that a flock of snow geese have settled into feed on a corn field bordering the Arnold River and Lower Powell Canyon roads west of Callaway. Closer examination revealed they were not geese at all but Trumpeter swans wintering for a time to fatten on fallen corn kernels. According to an area resident, the swans have been wintering in the field for the last three years. Though not particularly skittish around humans, they would rather be left alone. Immature birds have brown and grey coloration that turns all white when they mature. With the South Loup River and some other ponds also nearby, the birds have ready access to food and water in the area.—reported in the Callaway Courier.