



Taken from the news columns of area newspapers.

Cozad luminaria display 30 years old

COZAD—For the past 30 years, families living on Gatewood, McCormick and Owens Drives in Cozad have been presenting their luminaria display for the community. With over 1,500 luminaries set out in the neighborhood, this year's event was scheduled for Dec. 19. The public was encouraged to drive or walk through the neighborhood and enjoy the beautiful and simplistic display. Luminaria lighting is of Spanish origin used to light the way for the Christ Child.—reported in the Tri-City Trib.

Falcon visits Bow pre-school as show-tell

BROKEN BOW—The School Garden in Broken Bow had a very special guest recently, a bird of prey. A three-year-old Peregrine Falcon, pride a joy of Michael Garcia, a falconer from Chicago, was the guest star. Garcia tries to come to Nebraska every year to allow his birds to soar, to fly and to hunt. The bird he brought to the preschool is named Budaka, meaning queen warrior, and made quite an impressive “show and tell” for the students as well as a unique learning experience.—reported in the Custer County Chief.

Suspect who fired at officers faces charges

OGALLALA—Charges of attempted first-degree murder were filed recently in Keith County Court against a Colorado man who allegedly shot at law officers on Dec. 7 after leading a high-speed pursuit on county roads southwest of Ogallala. No arraignment date had been set for the 39-year-old man as he continues to recover in a Scottsbluff hospital after officers returned fire during the incident.—reported in the Keith County News.

Mobile PET/CT scans now offered at hospital

CURTIS—On Dec. 13, the community hospital began to offer PET/CT scans through an affiliation with Shared Medical Services, Inc. The unique imaging procedure is used to diagnose and monitor the stage of certain types of diseases while complementing the existing imaging modalities Community Hospital already offers. The PET/CT services were to be made available by a mobile unit at the hospital every other Monday, eliminating the need for local patients to travel far distances for state-of-the-art technology.—reported in the Frontier County Enterprise.

SORC cars exhibited at Air & Space Museum

ARNOLD—The Strategic Air & Space Museum will be hosting a 10-day exhibit featuring the Sandhills Open Road Challenge (SORC) beginning Feb. 5-12. Four local SORC veterans will have their cars on display beneath the world's fastest airplane, the SR-71 Blackbird. Tour guides will be on hand telling the story of SORC racing in Nebraska and highlight videos will be displayed on two flat screen Kiosks as well as the open road race and one-mile shoot-out being shown at the museum's theatre.—reported in the Arnold Sentinel.

Village of Callaway to buy methane power

CALLAWAY—The Village of Callaway is standing in line to buy electricity generated by methane. The idea, pitched by utility superintendent Lynn Longmore, includes a radical new generating plant powered by siphoned landfill methane near Des Moines, IA, who are getting ready to go on-line late next year. The methane is recovered through a series of long, perforated pipe buried in the landfill, then the gas is burned in special engines that turn the generators. The cost is expected to be about 6¢/per kilowatt hour, a penny more than wind-generated power, and substantially higher than coal.—reported in the Callaway Courier.