

## Area News Digest

Written by Gothenburg Times  
Thursday, 21 July 2011 17:31 -

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Taken from the news columns of area newspapers.

### Excessive heat fails to dampen Cozad festival

COZAD—Although temperatures soared, enthusiasm for the Annual Cozad Band, Brews and BBQ's was not dampened. The day long show opened with a Rock, Roll & Run and finished with The Rude Band playing its closing number about 1 a.m. Attention was focused upon a craft show, the Triple "B" Car Show, kid's activities, a talent show and the Haymaker Open Golf Tournament. Other activities included entertainment, ladies poker run, a martial arts demonstration and barbecue food booths.—reported in the Tri-City Trib.

### NCTA offers youth

#### a Horticulture Day

CURTIS—A youth horticulture day was held at Curtis recently in the NCTA greenhouse. Two NCTA Horticulture faculty members taught the workshop where the youth caught and identified insects, dissected flowers and given the opportunity to build a terrarium. Youth from two counties participated in the day of instruction to learn more about horticulture.—reported in the Frontier County Enterprise.

### New Rope and Rescue Squad organizes

OGALLALA—Representatives of Paxton's three local grain-handling facilities presented checks totaling over \$16,800 to the Paxton Volunteer Fire and Rescue Squad, contributions that will be

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used to start and support a new Rope and Rescue Squad. Each of the three companies were responsible for sharing in one-third of the start-up costs for the newly organized squad. Department members had been dreaming of organizing the Rope and Rescue Squad for the past three or four years and are eager to begin the project.—reported in the Keith County News.

### Newspaper combats theft by removing racks

BROKEN BOW—Publishers of the Custer County Chief newspaper had announced that the single copy sales of their newspaper would no longer be available from coin racks due to theft problems. After stocking coin racks with papers, the racks would be empty in the mornings with only a few quarters in the machine which has caused the necessary move to the inside of local retail stores. Additional outlets have been added for customer convenience, however, the coin racks are being removed. The thefts seemed to have started with the launch of the television show, “Extreme Couponing” and those wanting to receive extra coupons from newspapers, as also observed by other local newspaper offices as well.—reported in the Custer County Chief.

### Dream comes true

#### for young musician

ARNOLD—A dream recently came true for a young North Platte resident when he was invited on stage to play harmonica with an Arkansas band at the 18th Annual South Loup River Blues Festival. Jim Burke, now 22, attended his first festival at Arnold’s Old Mill Park at the age of 16 and has since never missed an event. Burke, who moonlights as a musician, was given the opportunity by one of the band members who he refers to as his “hero,” guitarist and vocalist Jason Davis. Burke was thankful for the chance to play after overcoming a case of stage nerves.—reported in the Arnold Sentinel.

### EMS units surprise long-time doctor

CALLAWAY—A delegation of fire and rescue personnel from Arnold, Oconto and Callaway surprised Dr. Ron Sheppard at a recent Callaway Hospital District Board meeting when he was

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presented the Nebraska EMS Association Medical Director of the Year Award. Sheppard, long-time Callaway doctor, was humbled and dumbfounded with the recognition. He has served as medical director for the Emergency Medical Services of all three units for a number of years, and has been instrumental in overseeing protocols.—reported in the Callaway Courier.