



Taken from the news columns of area newspapers.

Lexington student takes top honors

COZAD—A Lexington High School student has taken top honors in the state for the annual Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizens program. Recognized as both the local and state Good Citizens Award winner was Olivia O’Meara, daughter of Robert and Kristi O’Meara of Lexington. O’Meara was selected on the basis of an essay, completion of a written exam and resume with this year’s essay topic, “Our American Heritage and Our Responsibility for Preserving It: Describe the Freedoms and Responsibilities of a Good Citizen.”—reported in the Tri-City Trib.

Quilters to stitch along through Nebraska

OGALLALA—Julie Peterson has been rolling out the welcome mat at Silver Thimble Sewing Center in anticipation of the 300 to 350 quilters she anticipates will visit her shop during the 10-day period from April 19-29. The quilters have been participating in the 14th annual Shop Hop with this year’s theme as “Quotable Quilts Cover Nebraska.” Thirty-eight quilt shops from across the state are participating in the event. Quilters purchase a bag which includes items to help them visit each shop and win prizes. Approximately 1,700 people are expected to travel to all or some of the participating quilt shops.—reported in the Keith County News.

Eustis-Farnam FFA wins 3 state titles

CURTIS—Eustis Farnam FFA Chapter competed at the Nebraska State FFA convention in March where the the chapter won state championships in agronomy judging, meats judging and junior high agricultural Quiz Bowl, and also competed in junior livestock judging. In addition, five

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seniors were recognized with state degrees, the highest degree the state FFA can bestow on one of its members. To earn the degree, a student must work in excess of 1,500 hours or earn \$3,000, or productively invest \$3,000 as part of a supervised agriculture experience program.—reported in the Frontier County Enterprise.

Local kindergartner is third runner-up in pageant

ARNOLD—Madison Smith, six-year-old daughter of Dave and Tami Smith of Arnold, and a kindergartner at Stapleton Public Schools, was third runner-up overall in the National American Miss Pageant held in March at the Coco Keys Ramada Inn Hotel. She received second runner-up in the casual wear modeling competition, and was selected as a state finalist in the princess division, which included ages 4-6. Madison's grandparents are Craig and Pam Smith and Don Olson, all of Arnold, and Mildred Smith of Arnold is her great-grandmother.—reported in the Arnold Sentinel.

Two rollover accidents injure one on area roads

CALLAWAY—Two recent auto accidents on Custer County roads injured one. Oconto Fire and Rescue was called for a one-vehicle rollover accident on April 15 where the driver of a 2005 Ford pickup was eastbound on Highway 40, lost control of the vehicle due to water and hail on the road, and slid into the south ditch tipping onto its side. No injuries were reported to the lone occupant with an estimated \$8,000 damage to the pickup. Another rollover accident five miles northeast of Callaway on the Callaway Road on April 12 injured the driver, the lone occupant. The driver was westbound in a 2001 Ford Ranger, went off on the shoulder, over-corrected and rolled once into the north ditch. The driver was ejected and transported to Callaway District Hospital, and later transferred to Kearney with unknown injuries.—reported in the Callaway Courier.

Severe weekend storms sweep area

BROKEN BOW—Central Nebraska dodged the proverbial "bullet" this past weekend, and perhaps no one is more aware of that than the Dale Zoerb family of rural Litchfield. The family had just arrived home from church Sunday morning, at about 11:30, when a severe storm hit their farm. It was raining and hailing at the time, when all of a sudden the winds became so

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strong and loud that the family decided to head to the basement. It lasted only a few seconds, but when it was over the machine shed had been reduced to a pile of rubble, and debris littered the entire property. Pieces of tin and lumber from the machine shed were on top of and, in some cases, through other buildings on the property. Debris was found as far as a quarter of a mile up the road from the farm.—reported in the Custer County Chief.