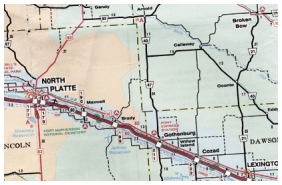

Taken from news columns of area newspapers.

Keys to Jim's Bar given to new owner, Brewer

ARNOLD—Jim's Bar owner Lee Eastburn served his last day as a barkeeper on Saturday, April 28, handing the keys over to new owner Cash Brewer. The Eastburn name and their moniker, "Jim's Bar," has long been associated with the bar business in Arnold. Lee's parents, Jim and Margaret Eastburn, named the bar and were owners from 1954 to 1980. They sold the business to Rich Hornung, and in February of 1986, the bar reverted back into the hands of the Eastburns. Lee, his sister Deb and her husband Brad ran the bar together for about four years, and Lee took sole ownership in 1990. "They (Deb and Brad) were smart and left," said Les. "My dad always said, "Whatever you do, don't be there as long as I was.' I've been here 26 years and four months—four months longer than he was."—reported in the Tri-City Trib.

Postal carriers unite to stamp out hunger

COZAD—City and rural postal carriers will join a nationwide project to 'Stamp Out Hunger' Saturday, May 12th. Cozad will be among the offices collecting food. Donations in Cozad will stock the shelves at the Emergency Food Pantry. Residents are asked to place food donations near their mail receptacles early on Saturday. Carriers will pick up the food during their regular mail rounds. Donors are asked not to leave items in glass containers or perishable foods. Items most needed include canned soups, cereals, canned meats, pastas, canned fruits and vegetables. The event, which originated in 1994, has become the largest single day food drive in American history with postal carriers participating nationwide.—reported in the Tri-City Trib.

Bow man opens museum dedicated to creation

BROKEN BOW—Steve Sommer has a passion for challenging the theory of evolution—enough so that he is working tirelessly on a very special museum dedicated to that challenge. The Bone Yard Creation Museum is set to open some time this summer. Steve is shooting for mid to late June, but that is still up in the air. When completed, however, the museum will be quite the attraction. The museum and its counterpart, The Book Pile, is located along west Highway 2 in Broken Bow. “It (the museum) contrasts creative science with evolution—such things as how the earth originated and how you interpret fossils, with two totally different points of view,” Sommer explains. “Evolution says “big bang” around 13 billion years ago, while creationism is a direct interpretation of the Bible, which is in terms of thousands of years.”

—reported in the Custer County Chief.

Ogallala tackles topic of awning colors, styles

OGALLALA—Colorful individual awnings or a continuous overhang linking downtown businesses. A new color scheme or any color scheme. Matching facades or individual looks. On Tuesday, more than 45 people, many of them owners of downtown businesses, gathered in the Prairie Theatre for an update on the downtown revitalization project for which the city was recently awarded a $350,000 grant. The goal of the meeting, according to Ogallala/Keith County Chamber of Commerce Director Brenda Ketcham, was to get business owners’ input into what they would like to see the downtown area look like. Revitalization Committee member Drew Krab gave a brief history of the Community Development Block Grant, issued through the Nebraska Department of Economic Development, and the process Ogallala officials underwent in securing the grant.—reported in the Keith County News.

Hanson’s $5 scratch earns him $50,000

CALLAWAY — Randy Hanson of Callaway won $50,000 playing the $5 Scratch game Chocolate from the Nebraska Lottery. Hanson purchased his winning ticket at The Bear Pad, 302 Grand Avenue in Callaway. Scratching the ticket, he revealed matching numbers with a corresponding prize of $50,000. There were three $50,000 top prizes in Chocolate. Hanson was the third person to claim a top prize in the game. While claiming his prize on April 13, Hanson told Nebraska Lottery officials that he wasn’t sure he had won the top prize at first after he scratched off the ticket. “I looked at it, and looked again, and then I asked them to scan it,” he said. Hanson plans to purchase a new vehicle and buy some new appliances with his winnings.—reported in the Callaway Courier.