



**Taken from the news columns of area newspapers.**

### Residents urged to sign up for Code Red

**COZAD**—With severe weather season already started, Dawson County Emergency Management Director Brian Woldt urged county residents to sign up for Code Red alerts through a link on the county website. The service has been available for almost five years, said Woldt, and it is easy to sign up through the Dawson County website. “Go to [www.dawsoncone.net](http://www.dawsoncone.net) and click on the Code Red link and then just type in the requested information,” he said. County residents can sign up for three kinds of alerts through the link: 1. Emergency notifications; 2. General notifications; and 3. Severe weather warnings. Woldt noted residents can register both their home and cell phone numbers and when complete they will be called anytime day or night in the event of a severe weather warning within the county. If they aren’t at home a message will be left on their answering machine or voice mail on their cell phone.—reported in the Tri-City Trib.

### School groundbreaking exciting to K-2 students

**BROKEN BOW**—The kindergarten, first and second grade students at North Park School in Broken Bow gathered outside for an important ceremony May 10, though for awhile many of them may have not been quite sure what they were there for. So in true elementary educator fashion, Principal Kim Jonas took time at the beginning of the festivities to explain to the youngsters just what a “ground breaking” is. As she carefully described the process of removing the playground equipment, erecting a new fence and eventually building a new school, the students cheered. “We have been watching all of these things happen, and we are here today to get started on this project. Isn’t that exciting?” Jonas asked. In one loud unified cheer, the students yelled “YEAH!” Many adults also attended the ground breaking of the elementary school project last Thursday, including parents, members of the Broken Bow PTA and Broken Bow school board members.—reported in the Custer County Chief.

### 1-to-1 iPad program approved at Ogallala

**OGALLALA**—Ogallala High School students will be utilizing the latest in technology to enhance their learning after the Ogallala Public Schools Board of Education approved the implementation of a 1:1 iPad program during its Monday meeting. The board approved a 1:1 iPad program and the bid of \$268,332 from Apple for the purchase of 350 iPads. Ogallala Superintendent Carl Dietz said the purchase price would be paid during a two-year period. “This is a very positive step forward for our school district,” Dietz said. Curriculum director Nancy Armstrong said the Technology Committee met last week to discuss the pros and cons of an iPads program. Armstrong said 10 High School teachers have been using iPads in their classrooms, acknowledging that some of the curricular applications are there and some are getting there.—reported in the Keith County News.

### Frontier Co. election turnout dips below 28%

**CURTIS**—Voter turnout was low for the 2012 Frontier County Primary Election held Tuesday, May 15. “Turnout was 27.14%, but we didn’t expect it to be very high because there were no local races” said Darla Walther, Frontier County Election Commissioner. Walther went on to say “we’re usually up closer to 50%, so this is half of what we normally get. Frontier County is usually higher than the state.” At the state level, voter turnout was 25.85%. There are 1,890 registered voters in Frontier County. The total number of ballots cast was 513 with 439 (85.58%) voting Republican and 74 (14.42%) voting Democratic. There were no Libertarian or non-partisan ballots cast.—reported in the Frontier County Enterprise.

### Arnold rates high with sportsmen

**ARNOLD**—Outdoorlife.com has named the town of Arnold as one of the “Best Towns for Sportsmen” in its annual online feature. Arnold placed #30 out of the 35 towns selected for 2012. The editors write, “(These) are the 35 towns in the U.S. where we would live right now, based solely on the outdoor opportunities there. Some boast bass and deer, others elk and trout or ducks and redfish. Regardless, each of these towns is an outdoor mecca in its own right, and from sea to shining sea, they offer the best hunting and fishing in America.” In the brief description of Arnold, they write, “...Tiny Arnold is home to more whitetails and mule deer than people. That game-rich environment has fostered a hunter-friendly culture in this north central Nebraska town.”—reported in the Arnold Sentinel.

### **Cheerleaders make a comeback at South Loup**

**CALLAWAY** —A change of heart may bring back the cheer squad to South Loup sports. Callaway Board of Education voted 3-2 Monday evening to reinstate and officially sanction the cheerleader program which was discontinued last year. If the Arnold Board of Education did the same Tuesday, the program will be fully reinstated for the start of the new school year in August. Board members Curtis Stallbaumer and Duane Kimball voted “no” on the motion while Mary Ridder, Doug G’Schwind and Dean Haidle voted “Yes.” Keri Schneringer was absent and not voting. Tammy Winman of Arnold has led the charge to bring back cheerleading and will become the squad’s paid sponsor, under the supervision of school officials and following written guidelines. This, assuming Arnold voted for the recommendation at its meeting Tuesday evening.—reported in the Callaway Courier.