

## Area News Digest

Written by Gothenburg Times  
Friday, 28 September 2012 13:29 -

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Taken from the news columns of area newspapers.

### Christner family are honored railroaders

**COZAD**—The Wilma and Vernon Christner family of Cozad will be honored as the 2012 Railroad Family of the Year at a ceremony at the National Smithsonian Caboose Banquet on Sept. 30, at the Cozad High School. The Christner family has a long and dedicated service to the railroad industry. Family members to be recognized include nephews and cousins as well as grandfathers. Frank Mellott who worked on the railroad in the 1890s will also be honored. Currently, three sons have railroad careers totaling over 89 years. In addition to the railroad notables, veterans who have served our country will also be honored and members of the Dawson County Youth Choir will provide patriotic music.—reported in the Tri-City Trib.

### Nebraska Diplomats recognize Broken Bow

**BROKEN BOW**—Broken Bow recently received top honors from the Nebraska Diplomats, the non-governmental arm of the Nebraska Department of Economic Development, as Governor Dave Heineman and Nebraska Diplomat President Jeffrey Scherer presented Broken Bow Mayor Cecil Burt with one of two Community of the Year awards. The community of Wisner was also so honored. It is a tremendous honor, reflected Custer Economic Development President Melissa Garcia, and an amazing validation of what the people of Broken Bow have worked so hard on for the past several years.—reported in the Custer County Chief.

### \$3,000 grant pays for science club activities

**OGALLALA**—The Ogallala High School Science Club received a \$3,000 grant from DuPont Pioneer and its representative, account manager Lance Kuenning of Ogallala, to help with

science-based extra curricular opportunities. The club, which was organized last year, participated in only two competitions during its initial year and took eight people to the Science Olympiad at Kearney and 14 to state competition at Lincoln. Club members are planning to participate in about seven competitions this year, and money from the grant will help fund those activities.—reported in the Keith County News.

### Church celebrates 125th anniversary

**CURTIS**—The town of Eustis is elated to be celebrating the 125th anniversary and honoring the past of St. John’s Lutheran Church. St. John’s has been a landmark in this region of the state, a beacon of hope for all who enter its hallowed halls. Over a century has passed since the first place of worship was constructed serving many families through marriage ceremonies, baptisms, communions and more. The first pastor was Pastor Gustav Schulz who served from 1891 to 1896, and there have been 17 since.—reported in the Frontier County Enterprise.

### Volunteer of the Year makes movies possible

**ARNOLD**—The Rialto Theatre and Arnold Rotary recently joined forces to honor Jake Gilland as the “Volunteer of the Year.” Gilland was recognized for all he does to make the movies happen in Arnold. He receives the movies in the mail each week, downloads it to a server using a provided code, and after verifying the correct movie and that the sound and all is running smoothly, he then builds the trailers into a timeline and also creates the advertising. It’s estimated that from July 2010 to present, he has donated over 1,222 hours to the theater—deserving of praise.—reported in the Arnold Sentinel.

### Women breaking through the fire line

**CALLAWAY**—With fire fighting and fire departments having been mostly a man’s world, Callaway and Oconto women have been breaking the fire barrier and becoming an integral member as EMTs and firefighters. The Callaway Volunteer Fire Department currently boasts five select female members. The women report having similar reasons for joining as the men do such as giving back to the community, helping others and even enjoying the adrenalin rush. While most of the male members of CVFD have welcomed and accepted their female counterparts, there has been some resistance—that’s changing, too.—reported in the Callaway

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