



Taken from the news columns of area newspapers.

### Lex man arraigned on second-degree murder

**COZAD**—Twenty-one year-old Navor Millan of Lexington was arraigned Dec. 30 on a charge of second-degree murder and use of a deadly weapon in the stabbing death of 21 year-old Douglas Matzar, also of Lexington. The stabbing took place in Lexington in the early morning hours at a residence in the 300 block of High Street. Judge Jeff Wightman determined that no bond would be set at this time. Navor’s preliminary hearing was set for Jan. 6. Twenty-six year-old David Martinez and 20 year-old Gregory Franco were each being charged with third degree assault in the incident as well.—reported in the Tri-City Trib.

### Students raise \$12,000 for SD storm victims

**BROKEN BOW**—Anselmo-Merna Public Schools social studies teacher Cierra Anderson was so moved by the devastating effects of a severe winter storm on our neighbors in South Dakota that she wanted to help. She encouraged her students to get on board, and together the school raised more than \$12,000, designating the funds to specific ranchers hardest hit by the storm. Each class in grades 7-12 selected a family to donate their share of the fundraiser money. Students worked together on the project, planning and organizing which led to lessons learned on working towards a goal and compassion.—reported in the Custer County Chief.

### **Bird count once again tops 100 species**

**OGALLALA**—For the fourth consecutive year, the annual Lake McConaughy Christmas Bird Count surpassed 100 species identified. Although off the record count of 111, the 23rd annual count, which took place Dec. 28, identified 101 species, marking the ninth time that at least 100 species have been recorded. There was a total of 66,900 individual birds recorded, and while there were some notable finds, many resident birds seemed scarce this year including just one American crow. The most unusual find for the year was a yellow-rumped warbler—reported in the Keith County News.

### **Flu vaccines offered free to eligible children**

**CURTIS**—The Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department (SWNPHD) have been available on a monthly basis at Curtis offering health clinics with vaccines. The latest, in cooperation with Medicine Valley Schools, offered flu shots. SWNPHD was recently chosen to receive 100 free flu shots through the AmeriCares program and offered them free through their clinic for children 18 years old and younger who are uninsured or under-insured.—reported in the Frontier County Enterprise.

### **14-year-old makes history on buffalo hunt**

**ARNOLD**—Avery Atkins, 14-year-old Arnold girl, made history on the Ted Turner Ranch when her father, Joe Bob, took her buffalo hunting for a Christmas present. The ranch encompasses 120,000 acres with 36 sections, located 35 miles north and 26 miles west of Mullen. Atkins made history that day by shooting a 1,600 pound buffalo with a .308, the first buffalo shot with that caliber of rifle in the 16-year history of the ranch.—reported in the Arnold Sentinel.

## **Young motocross racer growing trophy wall**

**CALLAWAY**—Callaway first-grader Bo Brennan, 7, took third overall in the recent 4 to 6 year-old peewee division of the Nebraska Cornhusker Motocross Association. He raced in 10 of the 16 sanctioned races in his first year of competition. The son of Aaron and Kate Brennan of Callaway, began racing with a Honda motorcycle and has moved up to a Cobra 50. The family travels to tracks around the state where he is growing a collection of trophies at his young age.—reported in the Callaway Courier.