

## Area News Digest

Written by Gothenburg Times

Friday, 29 January 2010 14:34 - Last Updated Friday, 29 January 2010 14:36

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

### **Gov. Heineman makes education tour**

COZAD—Nebraska Gov. Dave Heineman was to visit Cozad Jan. 22 with a tour of education planned. Heineman was to first tour the Cozad Public School facilities, then visit with alternative education students, Educational Service Unit No. 10 staff, Head Start staff, parent focus group members and representatives of the Board of Education as well as Superintendent John Grinds. Other stops were to include the Early Education Center, kindergarten classrooms, Cozad Elementary, the middle and high school complex and the wellness center.—reported in the Tri-City Trib.

### **Exotic birds lost in Bow family house fire**

BROKEN BOW—An early morning fire Jan. 18 left a Broken Bow family homeless when their home and all belongings went up in smoke. Thankfully, no one was hurt. They had smoke detectors installed, and they worked. Kathy Stabb and children escaped within moments of the alarm while her husband, Kim, was already at work. Lost in the blaze were 21 exotic birds as the Stabb's home served as a rescue station for a number of different exotic bird organizations. According to fire officials, the intensity of the heat and fast-moving fire has made it impossible to determine the cause of the blaze.—reported in the Custer County Chief.

### **Possible site for new school studied**

OGALLALA—Since a new school and remodel bond failed, Ogallala school board members have been brainstorming the next move and are in the process of developing a complete plan to present to the public in hopes of support. Officials have now pinned down a new site for the

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school in the North Business Park directly across the highway from Ogallala Community Hospital. Officials will spend the next three months gathering information and public input and make decisions based on the district's facility needs.—reported in the Keith County News.

### **Arnold/Callaway merger results in many changes**

ARNOLD—The merge of Arnold and Callaway school athletics has resulted in the South Loup Bobcats (SLB), with royal blue, black and silver as their colors. Much remains to be done with the merger including deciding on an illustration, uniforms and more. Arnold/Callaway will be moving from D1-9 to D1-10 in football beginning next fall. The new district groupings, released by the Nebraska School Activities Association, will mean more travel to distant locations including Crawford, Garden County, Hemingford, Maxwell and Sandhills/Thedford. The full schedule is to be released to activity directors on Feb. 6 and officials will then be hired.—reported in the Arnold Sentinel.

### **NCTA to forfeit five games due to alcohol**

CURTIS—The University of Nebraska-Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture (NCTA) men's and women's basketball teams will forfeit five games—three men's and two women's games—due to confirmed reports involving team member alcohol violations during a recent road trip. The incident took place while the team was traveling to South Dakota in December. "Athletes are student ambassadors and this type of conduct is unacceptable," said NCTA associate dean Richard Mestas.—reported in the Frontier County Enterprise.

### **Oldest building in Callaway comes down**

CALLAWAY—One of the oldest buildings in Callaway recently came down. The former home of the late Ira and Jo Pitkin next to Morgan Park was demolished. The home was part of the old Milling and Manufacturing Co. built around 1912 after the electric power plant was built. The building was knocked down and local firefighters burned the pile as a training exercise. The property was sold to Mack and Carol Deveraux whose plans for the lot are not yet decided.—reported in the Callaway Courier.