



Taken from the columns of area newspapers.

### Cozad's Wilkins at home on the runway

COZAD—Dreaming of walking the runway since she was a little girl has become a reality for Aaliyah Wilkins of Cozad. Wilkins has been a regular participant in Omaha Fashion Week since the spring of 2014. Between shows and throughout the year, she concentrates on her walk and fine tuning her craft along with staying in contact with designers. The current level of success that Wilkins has achieved is just the tip of the iceberg in her potential and future goals. She plans on continuing to model and expand her horizons with contacts in New York, Paris and Milan.—reported in the Tri-City Trib.

### Bow commemorates 10th anniversary of fire

BROKEN BOW—It was 10 years ago, April 1, 2007, when fire destroyed the historic Dierks building on the south side of Highway 2, where five businesses lost their homes. The Girl and Boy Scouts commemorated the anniversary by sponsoring an event in honor of Broken Bow's rebuilding and growth since the fire, "Rising from the Ashes." Activities included a flag retirement ceremony, a music video which featured Broken Bow businesses, s'mores and a dance party. With the construction of the new Arrow East Hotel and the Veterans Memorial, the old Dierks block has, as the event commemorated, risen from the ashes.—reported in the Custer County Chief.

### Investigation continues of stabbing death

OGALLALA—Ogallala resident John Fratis, 25, died Tuesday, March 28, at the Ogallala Community Hospital as a result of injuries he suffered from stab wounds. The initial call sent emergency personnel to a residence at the 900 block of Spruce St. As the investigation is ongoing, two suspects were arrested in connection to the stabbing, Raylynn Garcia, 28, and Larry Derrera, 32, on charges of child abuse and accessory to murder. Authorities were still searching for a third individual connected to the situation, who also lived at the same residence. The Nebraska State Patrol is leading the investigation with assistance by the Ogallala Police Department.—reported in the Keith County News.

### Aggie shooting team begins spring with wins

CURTIS—Aggie students started their spring break by winning third place for the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture at a collegiate shooting sports contest in Kansas. The NCTA team took third overall at the Post Rock Sporting Challenge hosted by Fort Hays State University and also won third place team in several categories. Shawn Barger of Wahoo led the men's team in points and Rilee VanDonge of Holton led the Aggie women's team. In addition, the team also won third in five-stand sporting clay, sporting clay and international sporting clay.—reported in the Frontier County Enterprise.

### Arnold icon goes up in flames for good cause

ARNOLD—Fourteen Arnold volunteer firemen and EMTs received valuable training recently as the old west grain elevator on the east side of town was burned to the ground in a controlled burn. The firemen worked in groups, wearing protective gear to crawl inside of the smoke-filled

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interior, and ran the pumper truck to control the fire from spreading or damaging nearby buildings on the F&F Elevator site. Several of the newer firemen had never fought a structural fire and this was a perfect exercise as the 70-foot elevator went up in flames. Although valuable training was experienced, the landscape of the town has changed. The elevator had a long history beginning in 1912 when trains came to town.—reported in the Arnold Sentinel.

### Citizen surveys begin comprehensive plan

CALLAWAY—Residents of Callaway will be receiving a survey with their utility bills as part of the start of a long process to update the village's comprehensive plan and address its housing development needs. A large part of the surveys will be to gather information for community and residential development needs as well as gauging possible barriers to affordable housing efforts. An important component of the new comprehensive plan will be a Land Use Plan, that will identify areas both within the village and village's planning jurisdiction for future growth and redevelopment activities.—reported in the Callaway Courier