

## Area News Digest

Written by Gothenburg Times  
Friday, 21 May 2010 19:29 -

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

### **Rialto building has public safety concerns**

COZAD—Structural condition of the former Rialto Theatre in Cozad is creating safety concerns for the Board of Public Health and other municipal officials. Health Board officials held a public meeting recently and agreed that the condition of the facility “must be remedied at once by the removal of signage which overhangs on the public sidewalk in front of the building.” An inspection also showed the building roof has been damaged extensively and the interior contains a major amount of mold. Demolition of the building appears probable, but that causes concern of possible asbestos inside the structure and adjoining wall next to the museum.—reported in the Tri-City Trib.

### **Citizens pitch in to spring clean their town**

BROKEN BOW—The citizens of Comstock are proud of their parks and community. That pride was evident in the number of people who turned out to help clean up and spruce up the town May 1. Forty-two people in the tiny Custer County community pitched in to clean up leaves, pick up limbs and spread new mulch in flower beds. The cleaning also included adding fresh paint to benches and fences around town. Citizens pitch in to help clean up the town as the small community attracts visitors from all over with the Dowse Sod House, the manicured flower garden, large city park and the 4th of July blow-out.—reported in the Custer County Chief.

### **Man’s suicide bullet hits trooper in shoulder**

OGALLALA—A Nebraska State Trooper is recovering at home after being shot in the shoulder during a recent traffic stop. Trooper Kevin Horst, 42, of Ogallala was injured when 68-year-old

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Durward R. Ulfers of North Platte put a gun to his own head and pulled the trigger. The bullet, which killed Ulfers, struck Horst in the shoulder. Officer Horst had stopped the vehicle east of Ogallala after reports of a suspected drunk driver behind the wheel. When the driver was stopped he produced the gun and shot himself in the head. The bullet continued and hit the officer in the upper left portion of his shoulder. Officer Horst was transported to the hospital where he underwent surgery. He has since been released and is recovering.—reported in the Keith County News.

### **NCTA breaks ground for education center**

CURTIS—Officials from the University of Nebraska, University of Nebraska Foundation, Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture and the City of Curtis took part in a recent ground-breaking ceremony for the new \$9.7 million Education Center on the NCTA Campus in Curtis. The new Education Center will be built on the baseball field east of the student union with construction to begin in the first part of July. The building should be completed by the fall of 2011 and will house the horticulture and agronomy programs.—reported in the Frontier County Enterprise.

### **Grades combined at Arnold Public Schools**

ARNOLD—The Arnold School Board recently voted unanimously to combine the kindergarten and first grade classes. The vote to combine the two classes came after the board's earlier decision to absorb the second grade teaching position left vacant by an early retirement. Board members also voted unanimously to include sixth grade in the junior high creating a 6-8 middle school. The change was made possible because of a change in Rule 10 to allow teachers in APS that have a 7-12 endorsement to teach sixth grade in a content area.—reported in the Arnold Sentinel.

### **Donations benefit center and therapy**

CALLAWAY—Residents at Good Samaritan Center at Callaway were the recent beneficiaries of a brand new 46-inch flat screen television and a Wii video game system in big part due to generous donations by local citizens and businesses. The video game system will be utilized as part of the center's activity and therapy services.—reported in the Callaway Courier.

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