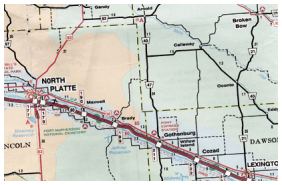

Taken from news columns of area newspapers.

Lex school board eases grad requirements

COZAD—Lexington Public Schools will reduce its graduation requirements to level the playing field when being compared to other schools and to ensure that more students will graduate, according to Principal Kyle Hoehner. Board members approved the reduction in credit hours, effective immediately, at their recent meeting. In making the request to reduce requirements by 30 credits, total credits would go from 250 to 220 and still remain above the state mandate of at least 200 credits.—reported in the Tri-City Trib.

DUI case of Bow man delayed once again

BROKEN BOW—A case pending for nearly two years was once again delayed when a 56-year-old Broken Bow man was scheduled for sentencing on a charge of fourth offense Driving Under the Influence, in district court. Prior to the proceedings, a Breathalyzer test was performed on the defendant who blew a .23. Because state statues do not permit the sentencing of an individual who is under the influence, the judge was forced to once again delay sentencing.—reported in the Custer County Chief.

Public transportation to/from lake a reality

OGALLALA—Plans to create a public transportation system between Lake McConaughy and Ogallala are well underway, according to Ogallala Economic Development Coordinator Travis Haggard. Officials are hoping that the service could be offered for the three major holiday weekends as well as the weekend of Kites and Castles. Logistics are still being worked out with utilizing the city’s two public transit vehicles. The new service is being planned for advertising by

April.—reported in the Keith County News.

NCTA reaches overseas with care packages

CURTIS—U.S. military service members will receive care packages from students at the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture (NCTA) thanks to a new grant from the Mid-Nebraska Community Foundation. The student senate has been awarded $1,000 to send the care packages to Frontier and Lincoln County service men and women currently stationed overseas. Packages will also include letters from local elementary school children.—reported in the Frontier County Enterprise.

New business donates materials/labor to Rialto

ARNOLD—The Rialto Theatre recently received new gutters and downspouts thanks to the owners of one of Arnold's newest businesses. RainAway Seamless Gutter Systems, owned by Clint and Dawn Lewis, donated all gutters, materials and labor as a service to the Rialto and the community of Arnold. The Lewis' started their business in 2004 and moved to Arnold last summer when Clint was hired to teach sixth grade, and his wife was hired as principal at Arnold Public School.—reported in the Arnold Sentinel.

Home-school parents denied sports request

CALLAWAY—A request from Arnold area residents to allow their home-schooled children to participate in junior high sports programs offered by Arnold and Callaway, under the name South Loup, was turned down in a 4-1 vote of the District 180 Board of Education. Although rules do not exist for junior high as does for senior high school programs, reasons for the denial vote included academic, regulations, accountability and insurance coverage.—reported in the Callaway Courier.