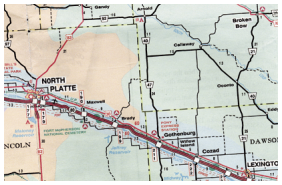

Taken from the news columns of area newspapers.

Task Force operation leads to 14 drug arrests

COZAD—A joint operation involving members of the Cooperative Operation for Drug Enforcement (CODE) Drug Task Force, led to the arrest of 14 individuals for distribution of a controlled substance or aiding and abetting distribution of a controlled substance. The controlled substances purchased and seized during the investigation, which began September of 2011, included cocaine, methamphetamine, marijuana and pharmaceutical substances. CODE Task Force included departments from Lexington, North Platte, Broken Bow, Cozad, the counties of Dawson, Custer and Red Willow as well as the Nebraska State Patrol, sheriff's office and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Drug Enforcement Administration and Homeland Security.—reported in the Tri-City Trib.

Chili cook off nets $4,000 for school campaign

BROKEN BOW—A successful chili cook off recently capped a fruitful month of fundraising for the Little Feet, Big Dreams capital campaign for Broken Bow Schools. The chili cook off, organized by members of the Broken Bow Booster Club, raised nearly $4,000 for the program. Competitors were encouraged to market their chili and use unique strategies to solicit votes from people during the season's first high school basketball games. Little Feet, Big Dreams campaign has objectives to raise money to complete the gym and provide playground equipment as well as renovate the middle school auditorium.—reported in the Custer County Chief.

Round land-mark building gone

OGALLALA—After months of preparation and weeks of hard work, the Plaza Inn building has been razed. All that remains are piles of rubble that, within a week or so, will also be gone. The round building had been a longtime landmark in the city since the early 1940s, located on Highway 30, which first opened as the Welsh Motor Court. The building had set empty for seven years before Community Redevelopment Authority officials purchased the motel and demolished the round structure. The property will be cleaned, seeded and marketed.—reported in the Keith County News.

Assessor has new Internet website

CURTIS—Frontier County residents have new tools available to them as Regina Andrijeski, Frontier County assessor, and the Frontier County Board of Commissioners, announced that Frontier County property information was now available to the public, 24/7, in a new enhanced mapping format on the Internet at http://frontier.gisworkshop.com, through a partnership with GIS Workshop, Inc. Visitors to the user-friendly mapping site will now find county property information at their fingertips through a property search tool.—reported in the Frontier County Enterprise.

Pies in the face to support food pantry

ARNOLD—As a way to show the school's support for the community, secondary teacher Jeff Cole and elementary teacher Ashley Meyer will be receiving a pie in the face to support the local food pantry. The pies will be thrown at the end of Chamber's Christmas Around Town soup supper that thanks the community for its support. The opportunity to actually pitch the pie will be auctioned off with those proceeds also going to the food pantry.—reported in the Arnold Sentinel.

Mother and son escape serious injury in rollover

CALLAWAY—What could have been a tragic accident resulted only in a totaled car recently, with some bumps and bruises for the occupants. Marcia Keeney and her son, Brayden, of Callaway were headed to Broken Bow in a 2006 Ford sedan when Keeney lost control on gravel spread on the first curve of Democrat Hill, flipping the vehicle end-over-end. Keeney stated she hit loose gravel laid down by the county after a recent snow, pulling her into the left lane while

going around the curve and up the hill. She over-corrected and went nose-down into the south ditch flipping once. The vehicle ended up on its roof. Keeney was wearing proper restraints and her son was properly in his car seat, which according to Callaway Police Officer Phelps, likely saved lives.—reported in the Callaway Courier.