

## Area News Digest

Written by Gothenburg Times  
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Taken from the news columns of area newspapers.

### Lex school considers grade-level centers

**COZAD**—Lexington Public Schools is considering changing from neighborhood-based elementary schools to grade-level attendance centers. According to the proposal Sandoz Elementary would be the site for all of the district's kindergarten and first grade students, Morton Elementary would have second and third grade students and Pershing Elementary would have fourth and fifth grade students. The Bryan Elementary, site of the dual language program, would remain unchanged. Although details of a reconfiguration plan would need more input, school officials agree this needs to be a community decision.—reported in the Tri-City Trib.

### New fairgrounds manager appointed

**BROKEN BOW**—There is a new face at the Custer County Fairgrounds, albeit a familiar one to the area. Toby Kinderknecht officially began his duties as Custer County Fairgrounds manager on Monday, March 18. Kinderknecht will be taking over for previous fairground manager Leon Meyer who announced his retirement in January. While Kinderknecht has never actually lived in Broken Bow, he was a regular at the horse track in 1980 working first as an assistant horse trainer and then head trainer.—reported in the Custer County Chief.

### Revitalization project grows in scope

**OGALLALA**—The Downtown Revitalization Project, which is more than three years in the making, has grown in scope and, while hoped to be completed in time for this year's Ogallala Indian Summer Rendezvous, may be completed after the annual mid-September city celebration. Committee members are in the final stages of completing a grant application for additional funding for the project. The Downtown Revitalization project includes resurfacing and a pedestrian pathway as well as a proposed downtown pavilion.—reported in the Keith County News.

### **Chili Cook-off welcomes surprise guest, 13 teams**

**ARNOLD**—Over 250 people recently packed into the Arnold Community Center to attend the annual Chamber-sponsored Chili Cook-off. The crowd was surprised with an unexpected appearance of Edward Mukusha who walked in the door playing bagpipes, entertaining contestants and members of the public. Mukusha, who had played for an event in Theford that day, heard about the cook-off and stopped in Arnold on his way back to Lincoln. Thirteen teams competed in the cook-off with first place going to "Big Bucks Chili," sponsored by the Arnold Funeral Home.—reported in the Arnold Sentinel.

### **Local hospital jumping into digital data stream**

**CALLAWAY**—Callaway District Hospital and Medical Clinics (CDH) administration and staff have been working to install and activate a new information web that will lead towards digitizing medical records and storing them where they can be accessed wherever needed. The CDH is utilizing a federal grant to buy and implement a complex integrated information system that will involve just about any staff with a need to access or modify medical records and other data. The goal of digitized records is to make them accessible by medical providers anywhere in the world such as if a patient was vacationing in a foreign land and developed a medical problem, the information would be readily available.—reported in the Callaway Courier.