

Taken from the news columns of area newspapers.

### **Local couple earn title at Antique Extravaganza**

**COZAD**—The avid collectors and enthusiasts came from far and wide to Lexington this past Labor Day weekend to attend the 27th annual Antiques and Crafts Extravaganza at the Dawson County Fairgrounds. Many eager participants got a sneak peak on Friday with others waiting their turn on Saturday and Sunday to view the items on display from over 180 vendors that reached as far away as five states. Earning the award for the “Best Crafts” on display were Alvin and Doris Blumahnourst of Cozad.—reported in the Tri-City Trib.

### **Sequestration cuts impact local Head Start**

**BROKEN BOW**—As this school year gets underway, there is one group of students who is seeing a reduction in services, and it happens to be the youngest. On March 1, budget sequestration went into effect, forcing across-the-board cuts in several federal spending categories. For Head Start, that translated into a 5.27 percent budget cut to individual grants across the nation. The cut meant 25 Head Start slots were lost. Twenty of those slots are in Columbus while the other five slots are in Broken Bow. Also affected are parents due to cuts in the program’s transportation.—reported in the Custer County Chief.

### **Large holiday crowds visit Lake McConaughy**

**OGALLALA**—If Lake McConaughy Park Superintendent Colby Johnson could have picked the conditions for a holiday weekend, he’d have selected the past Labor Day weekend at perfect. One hundred degrees and sunny made it perfect for a weekend at the lake. Thousands of people agreed as visitation at the state’s largest recreation area was recorded at 105,038 for the four-day holiday total, an increase from last year’s 89,025.—reported in the Keith County

News.

### **City of Curtis updates generators to code**

**CURTIS**—The City of Curtis has recently made some improvements to the generators that are used by the city for emergencies and non-emergencies. The existing mufflers and the catalytic converters were replaced to be in code with a new law passed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The upgrades will take most of the pollutants out of admission and also silence the generators.—reported in the Frontier County Enterprise.

### **History brought back to life one mural at a time**

**ARNOLD**—Another city mural has been brought back to life on a building owned by Nansel's Best Service. Ralph Nansel, who contracted with mural artist Deb Dohrmann to do the work, commented that he liked how the restored mural looked on Hotel Custer and had thought about doing the same on the building located on Highway 92. Added to both restored murals was their established dates in order to document the history of the buildings.—reported in the Arnold Sentinel.

### **Committee cuts string of Callaway Kite Flight**

**CALLAWAY**—Whoever missed the recent Callaway Kite Flight has now missed it for good. The group of area volunteers headed up by Gayle Pitkin decided the 23rd year was enough. Pitkin cited a lack of community support and young people to help with the event saying this was the last year. Kite Flight began as an idea conceived by the late Connie May in 1990 as a means to attract tourism to the area and was backed by the Chamber of Commerce. Over the years, the event attracted thousands from around the country and the world over Labor Day weekend. It even gained national recognition in USA Today as one of the 10 best places in the nation to fly a kite. After chamber members divested ownership a few years back, it had since been run by a group of volunteers, who decided it was time to call it quits.—reported in the Callaway Courier.

## **Area News Digest**

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