



Taken from the news columns of area newspapers.

### Cozad looking to recruit new physician

**COZAD**—Cozad Community Health Systems will be losing a family practice physician as Dr. Kate Boos will be stepping down with Jan. 17 being her final day. Dr. Boos started her tenure in Cozad in September of 2008, and has been a mainstay in the medical profession in Cozad for the past five years. Boos and her family will be moving to Kearney, and is grateful for the five years serving the Cozad community. Currently, there are four physicians and one nurse practitioner that are practicing at Cozad, with recruiting efforts moving forward to bring more medical professionals to the community.—reported in the Tri-City Trib.

### More Custer County riders are buckling up

**BROKEN BOW**—A recent seat belt observation completed in four locations in Custer County showed 54-percent of residents were wearing a seat belt, a phenomenal increase in use when compared to seeing only 46-percent restrained one year ago in the fall of 2012. The observations are part of an evaluation completed for Custer County Campaign Buckle-Up, a three-year project that began in October of 2012. The campaign is sponsored by Central Nebraska Community Services and funded by the Nebraska Office of Highway Safety. The county's injuries and fatalities have decreased, according to official data, which is in part due to the education of the project.—reported in the Custer County Chief.

### Student's brochure is featured on website

**OGALLALA**—A brochure created by three Ogallala Middle School sixth-grade students will be used to help attract people to Keith County. In a partnership between the Ogallala Middle School and the Ogallala/Keith County Chamber of Commerce, students in geography classes created brochures promoting the area, which then were voted on with the winning brochure to be posted on the Chamber of Commerce's website. The winning brochure was created by Marcus Wolfe, Elizabeth Christensen and Jayden Gonzalez, and features local businesses, the Prairie View School expansion project and Lake McConaughy.—reported in the Keith County News.

### **NCTA named Top 10 vet tech college in U.S.**

**CURTIS**—The veterinary technology program at the University of Nebraska-Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture (NCTA) in Curtis was recently named a Top 10 large animal vet tech program in the United States. Students in the vet tech program at NCTA are able to find a number of opportunities to increase their large animal experience and understanding including by working with animals located in a horse barn and a cattle facility at the school. Contributing to the ranking is NCTA's two-year technical program, campus renovations, clinic and classrooms, and a skilled, well-trained instructional staff.—reported in the Frontier County Enterprise.

### **Christmas child gift boxes get new goal**

**ARNOLD**—The community of Arnold has been a part of sending boxes overseas through Operation Christmas Child (OCC) for several years now, but this year, the bar was raised with an astounding 442 boxes already taken to a collection point and more are expected. The project began in 1993 and over 100 million boys and girls in 130 countries have received shoe box gifts filled with items such as school supplies, hygiene items, flashlights, clothes and toys as well. Community members have also contributed to the shipping costs and are planning the project

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again next year with an even bigger number.—reported in the Arnold Sentinel.

### Five decades of service is honored

**CALLAWAY**—Callaway Volunteer Fire & Rescue members recently honored Larry Franssen for 50 years of membership with the department doing both fire and rescue work over the five decades. Volunteers hosted a surprise dinner for Franssen and presented him with a special plaque of a fireman's axe. Franssen joined in 1968 when the department had just one truck and an International. He recalled that the first ambulance in 1972 had a top speed of just 50 mph. Only he and Larry Mowrey remain from that original crew.—reported in the Callaway Courier.