

Recruitment of three doctors during shortage tops 2013 news

Written by Elizabeth Barrett

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With the recruitment of three physicians, including a family practice physician, Gothenburg is no longer part of the shortage gripping the rest of the country.

Even before Gothenburg Memorial Hospital had recruited the doctors in November, CEO Mick Brant said finding family practitioners would be difficult since most don't want to practice in rural communities.

A family practitioner and obstetrician/gynecologist will begin full-time practices this week with an orthopaedic surgeon coming in February.

Sadly, Gothenburg is no longer a hub for livestock sales.

A 77-year-old auction barn, owned by Gothenburg Livestock, burned to the ground in March. The owners later decided to move the business to Broken Bow.

Timely rains and a cool spring helped fields and pastures recover somewhat from a lingering drought and prices of farm and pasture ground continued on the upswing.

The first-ever Pony Express BBQ Challenge kicked off in April, boosting tourism in town to another level.

Gothenburg also received kudos as one of America's Best Small Cities and a third-place finish as the best city in the state in which to raise a family.

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The Platte River roared out of its banks in September because of run-off from heavy rain and flooding in Colorado.

Homes and businesses, like the KOA Campground in Gothenburg, near the river were underwater for several weeks.

MAJOR STORIES IN 2013

- Gothenburg listed among America's Best Small Cities for 2013
- Gothenburg Livestock sale barn destroyed by fire
- Gothenburg Memorial Hospital receives \$200,000 low interest loan to help install an electronic records system
- First-ever Pony Express Barbecue a success with 48 team entered
- Hilltop Estates launches new electronic medical record database
- Community supports \$80,000 drive by Sun Theatre to pay for new theatre seats and other improvements
- Redevelopment Authority Spec Home Development Program draws interest from local contractors
- Underground water problems causes headaches for homeowners and city crew
- Longtime Gothenburg family physician moves to Lincoln to be closer to family
- Three doctors, including a family physician, recruited by Gothenburg Memorial Hospital.