



WEATHERIZING THE HOME — Gladys Owens shows Bonnie Henderson some of the supplies they have to help cut down on the heat bill. *Herald staff photo by Linda Schneider*

Tips for keeping heating cost down through the winter

By Linda Schneider
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With fall already here and winter on the way, it is time to think about weatherizing ye old homestead.

Here are some great weatherizing tips from Bird City's Clerk, Jana Diers. Ms. Diers says, "While everyone is thinking about windows and doors, there are some hidden culprits that can go unnoticed and can lead to those unwanted, unexpected expenses."

Ms. Diers said, "One of the most overlooked threat is the underground sprinklers. Checking for leaks, draining the lines and repairing them before turning them off can prevent pipes from freezing and cracking."

Another threat that can be remedied is by simply inspecting

the basement for cracked or broken water pipes. And for homes that still have water barrels, take a few moments to see if the insulation has shifted. If it has, repack with Styrofoam packing peanuts or newspapers. If the water line from the meter to the house breaks due to freezing, the tenant is responsible for repairs.

Last, but not least, are the windows and doors. The winterizing of the basics is almost a "gimme." Weather stripping around the doors and windows are a must to keep those high utility cost down, and if the budget permits, repairing of those broken and cracked windows; even the ones in the attic and basement. If the funds are just not there, Ms. Diers suggests a window covering that can

be applied and shrunk to fit any window with a blow dryer. This can be bought at the local hardware store and is called "Frost King" and comes in two sizes: 42 inches by 62 inches and 62 inches by 210 inches, and pricing starts at \$3.49.

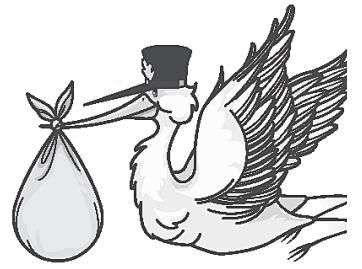
And here is another cost saving tip, some of those overhead ceiling fans can actually heat the house! If the fan has a reverse switch, turn it on, this will cause the fan to rotate clockwise and pull the heat upward towards the ceiling and distribute the heat through out the room. The bottom line is that if these few simple preventive procedures are taken, the cost of winterizing is well worth the effort considering the ever rising cost of utilities.

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Book Review

Book review from St. Francis Public Library

The Burnt House
By Faye Kellerman

At 8:15 in the morning, a small commuter plane carrying forty-seven passengers crashes into an apartment building in Granada Hills, California. Shock waves ripple through Los Angeles, as L.A.P.D. Lieutenant Peter Decker works overtime to calm rampant fears of a 9/11-type terror attack. But a grisly mystery lives inside the plane's charred and twisted wreckage; the unidentified bodies of four extra travelers. And there is no sign of an airline employee who was supposedly on the catastrophic flight.

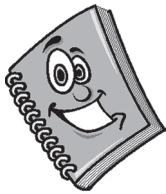
Decker and his wife, Rina, have personal reasons of being profoundly shaken by the

tragedy, since the "accident" occurred frighteningly close to their daughter Hannah's school. Luckily, their child and her schoolmates escaped unscathed. But the fate of the unaccounted-for flight attendant—twenty-eight-year-old Roseanne Dresden—remains a question mark more than a month after the horrific event, when the young woman's irate stepfather calls, insisting that she was never onboard the doomed plane. Instead, he claims, she was most likely murdered by her abusive, unfaithful husband. But why, then, was Roseanne's name included on the passenger list?

Under intense pressure from the department to come up with answers, Decker launches an investigation that carries him down a path of tragic history,

dangerous secrets, and deadly lies - and leads him to the corpse of a three-decades-missing murder victim. And as the jagged pieces slowly fall into place, a frightening picture begins to form; a mind-searing portrait of unimaginable evil that will challenge Decker's and Rina's own beliefs about guilt and innocence and justice.

Combining relentless suspense with intense, multilayered human drama, *The Burnt House* us Faye Kellerman at her mesmerizing best.



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2007 CITY OF ST FRANCIS BUDGET

	2006 BALANCE	EXPENDITURES	RECEIPTS	2007 BALANCE
CASH	\$100.00			\$100.00
PETTY CASH	\$1,000.00			\$1,000.00
FIRST NATIONAL BANK	\$31,357.17		\$1,612.10	\$32,969.27
FIRST NATIONAL BANK COLLECTIONS	\$95,705.79		\$9,611.16	\$105,316.95
FIRST NATIONAL BANK BANDSHELL	\$54,848.07		\$2,574.50	\$57,422.57
BANKWEST	\$290,332.21	\$3,016,893.01	\$2,976,325.19	\$249,764.39
BANKWEST	\$6,000.00			\$6,000.00
CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT	\$617,000.00			\$617,000.00
TOTAL	\$1,096,343.24			\$1,069,573.18
GENERAL	\$118,670.87	\$802,033.07	\$915,517.30	\$232,155.10
LIBRARY	\$0.00	\$31,508.02	\$32,578.11	\$1,070.09
BANDSHELL	\$54,848.07	\$0.00	\$2,574.50	\$57,422.57
SPECIAL HIGHWAY	\$29,841.90	\$60,420.00	\$40,231.13	\$9,653.03
SPECIAL PARKS	\$2,866.23	\$705.23	\$362.30	\$2,523.30
REFUSE	\$24,754.55	\$138,554.50	\$129,888.22	\$18,086.27
SALES TAX	\$3,215.98	\$42,034.13	\$42,050.37	\$3,232.22
WATER USE FEE	\$374.58	\$4,217.13	\$4,360.02	\$517.47
TENANT DEPOSIT	\$52,752.07	\$12,125.00	\$15,400.00	\$56,027.07
UTILITIES	\$308,097.04	\$1,586,214.29	\$1,530,052.84	\$251,935.59
TRANSIENT GUEST TAX	\$4,926.66	\$3,226.29	\$4,826.40	\$6,526.77
NOW ACCOUNTS	\$17,245.49	\$18,933.94	\$20,223.81	\$18,535.36
EQUIPMENT RESERVE	\$64,703.19	\$15,900.00	\$1,136.04	\$49,939.23
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT	\$343,578.38	\$155,776.83	\$116,076.37	\$303,877.92
SEWER	\$70,462.23	\$150,677.01	\$140,280.00	\$60,065.22
THEATER	\$6.00	\$13,477.80	\$13,477.77	\$5.97
HOUSING AUTHORITY	\$0.00	\$23.71	\$23.71	\$0.00
TOTALS	\$1,096,343.24	\$3,035,826.95	\$3,009,056.89	\$1,069,573.18

I, JENNIFER HOFFMAN, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE STATEMENT IS CORRECT.

SIGNED, Jennifer Hoff CITY TREASURER, CITY OF ST. FRANCIS, STATE OF KANSAS, CHEYENNE COUNTY. BE IT HEREBY REMEMBERED THAT ON THE 21st DAY OF January, 2008 BEFORE ME, A NOTARY PUBLIC IN AND FOR THE ABOVE MENTIONED STATE AND COUNTY, CAMP JENNIFER HOFFMAN, TREASURER OF THE CITY OF ST. FRANCIS, KS, WHO IS PERSONALLY KNOWN TO BE THE SAME PERSON WHO EXECUTED THE ABOVE INSTRUMENT OF WRITING THEREFORE IN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE SAME, I HEREBY SET MY SEAL.

Karen Krien
NOTARY PUBLIC

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: 1/23/10

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