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Fire pushes residents out

By Karen Krien

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About 1:30 on Tuesday afternoon, smoke was evident at the Good Samaritan Village in St. Francis. The staff called 911 and began moving residents out of the building. Within 15 minutes, all residents were safely out.

Workers had been putting insulation in the attic of the facility and it was suspected that there might have been something that went wrong but there are no confirming reports.

The fire apparently started in the attic of the facility toward the east end and spread through the attic and down the walls.

Firemen, emergency medical technicians and law officers were on the scene almost immediately. Residents had been moved to the north and west sides of the building. One of the staff remarked that it was a nice day so they could be moved outside.

At one point, the wind changed direction and residents on the north side were moved to the east end. It was a community effort as people ar-

rived to help move the residents and records, and gather needed supplies.

Ambulances from around the area arrived to help move residents. The St. Francis Indian bus was used as a vehicle to move people who were able to walk and climb the steps.

The high school gym was opened up and residents were moved in. Doctors and nurses arrived to help the Village staff with any medical problems, to take vitals and reassure residents that they were going to be OK.

The school staff and students showed up with water and snacks. The students were talking to residents, others were helping load and unload equipment while others were running errands as needed.

Many of the residents were able to be moved to nursing homes in Goodland, Atwood, Wray, Benkelman and Sharon Springs. Others were able to go home with relatives until a place could be found for them.

At the time the paper went to press, details on the fire and damage to the facility were unknown.



FIRE AT GOOD SAMARITAN VILLAGE — Above the Firemen cut holes in the roof and work to get the fire under control Tuesday afternoon. Left, Sherri Hilt and Karen Moberly help Calvin Raile safely outside during the evacuation of the residents.

Herald staff photos by Casey McCormick



County theater needs donations

The Cheyenne Theater Board has announced that a fund-raising drive with a goal of \$25,000 to install digital cinema has started.

Digital cinema is being adopted by many theaters because it provides several advantages including a clearer picture, lower operating costs and the ability to show 3D movies. Because it uses a computer hard drive to store the movie instead of 35mm film, digital is much easier for movie production companies to create and ship. So instead of shipping a 70-pound multi-parcel film, it will be a 1-pound hard drive.

Then, there is no labor involved in splicing, mounting and threading the film. When the movie is over, it is shipped back with less freight. In

the course of a year, there is a savings of around \$2,000 in shipping.

So far, both versions of movies are being shipped. However, the board fears that if the theater does not transition to digital, there may come a day when 35mm versions are no longer available, and that they would be unable to show those movies.

The cost of digital cinema will be \$75,000 to \$100,000. The city of St. Francis has budgeted \$12,500 per year for five years. With a successful fund drive, the board hopes to raise enough money to purchase the equipment.

Complete details are on the new theater website: <http://cheyenneheater.com>. Donations may be directed to the city office.

Voting booth open

The general election will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 2, but people can do their voting early at the clerk's office in the courthouse.

The advanced voting booth opened on Monday. Terry Miller, election officer, said, on Tuesday, there were 17 voters using the booth and Deb Lindsten, deputy, had mailed out 70 ballots.

It looks like people are wanting to vote and vote early, said Mr. Miller.

There are some problems with the computer, Mr. Miller said, but the old, standard way of voting is being used.

On Nov. 2, people living in the townships Wano I, Wano II, Orlando, Jaqua, Cleveland Run, Calhoun and Benkelman will vote at Peace Lutheran Church in St. Francis. Those residents living in the Bird City township will vote at the American Legion hall in Bird City.

Helpful website
Tom Keller, St. Francis, reported that there is a website where people can learn about the candidates and where he or she stands.

The site is www.voteeasy.org. Type in the zip code and all the information comes up for that area.



TIPPING THEIR HATS — Bailey Workman, Amanda Neitzel, Taiya Hicks, Jordyn Faulkender, McKenna Poling, and Haideigh Hilt, practice for the show.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Students to present music program

The St. Francis grade school music classes will present their fall music program at 7 p.m. on Tuesday in the grade school gym. The 18 kindergarten students will The front, under the direction

of Jean Ann Confer, will feature the music students in kindergarten, first, second and third grades. The 18 kindergarten students will present "Welcome to Mother Goose

Land." The first, second and third grade students will be performing a "Fall Folk Song Festival."

A wide variety of songs and entertainment will be presented.

There will be an all-school dress rehearsal at 10:15 a.m. on Tuesday. Everyone is welcome to attend. The program will last approximately 1 hour.