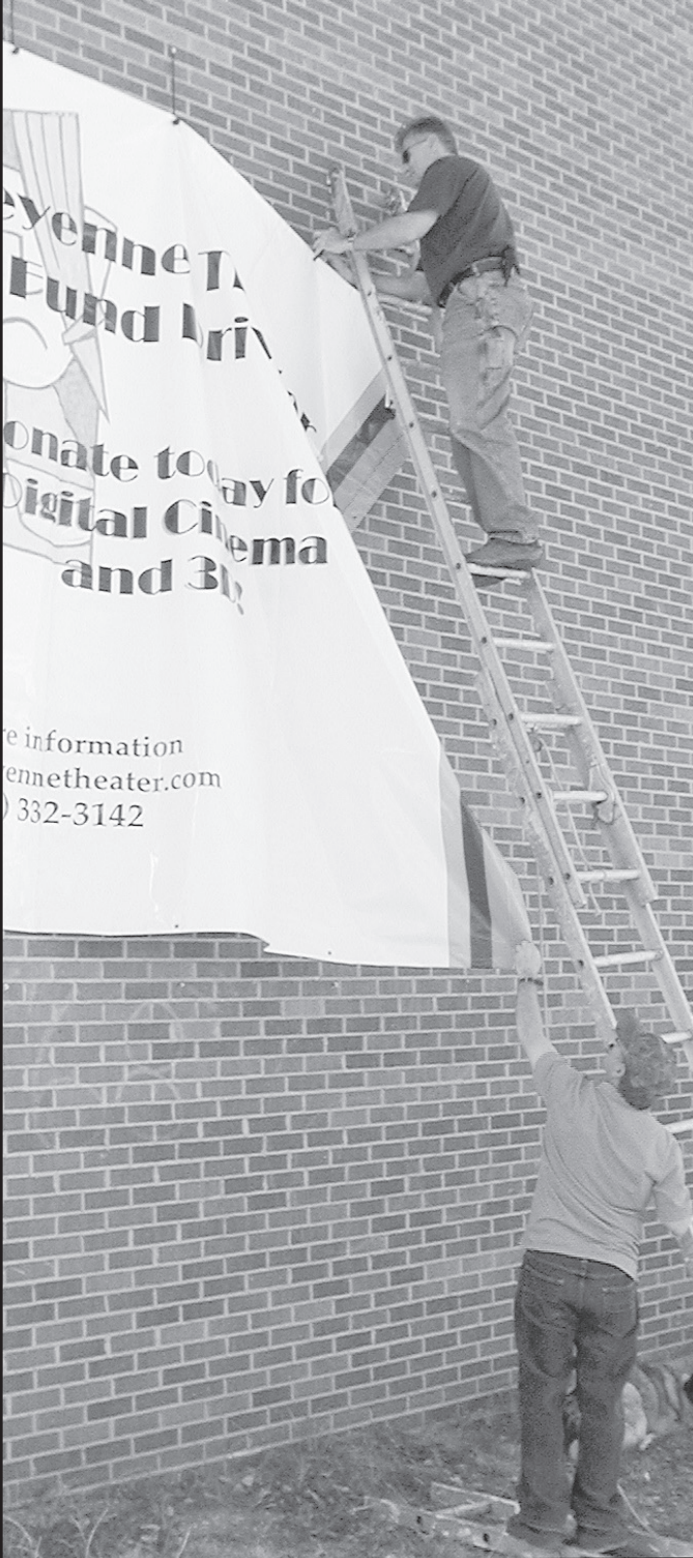


HONORING VETERANS were the St. Francis Elementary fourth, fifth and sixth grade music students. They are under the direction of Jean Ann Confer.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

## Banner goes up



ROBERT GRACE, on the ladder, hangs the banner announcing the need for money to purchase digital cinema equipment. As of Tuesday, \$4,100 in donations had come in. Those wanting to donate should go to the website, [www.cheyennetheater.com](http://www.cheyennetheater.com). Helping put up the banner is Ron Schlittenhardt.

Herald staff photo by Casey McCo

## Winter's on it's way

After an extremely warm fall, the weather forecasters are predicting winter weather for Veterans Day on Thursday. The chance of snow is 50 percent with the numbers tapering off to 30 percent that night.

Last year, this area had already had it's first snow storm. With pheasant season opening

on Saturday. Many hunters are hoping for more snow.

Date	High	Low
Nov. 2	70	31
Nov. 3	63	29
Nov. 4	56	19
Nov. 5	70	19
Nov. 6	83	31
Nov. 7	77	32
Nov. 8	77	32

## Forum gives little information

By Karen Krien

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Between 320 to 350 county residents attended the Wednesday meeting to show their support for rebuilding the Good Samaritan Village nursing home and to find out some of the details. Unfortunately, the cause of the fire had not been determined and insurance adjusters and fire marshals had not met so few facts were actually known.

The middle section of the nursing home facility caught fire on Oct. 19. It was a warm fall day and 49 residents were quickly moved out of the facility with not one being injured. The residents were moved to area nursing homes including a number of the Good Samaritan Society-leased homes.

Kevin Berens, member of the Village advisory board, headed the meeting. Representing the Good Samaritan Society were Randy Fitzgerald, Good Samaritan Society director of operations, and Jona Freel, customer experience consultant.

Mr. Fitzgerald said he had been coming to St. Francis as the Society's representative since 1992. He commended the Village staff for their quick response as well as the firemen and community.

He had few answers for many of the questions. Again, it was impossible to tell what was going to take place until the cause of the fire was determined and then what the insurance companies would do. However, as he talked, it appeared that the Society might not be interested in putting a great deal of money into the facility. The population of Cheyenne County has been falling for years. The Society has 240 nursing home

See FORUM on Page 6A



DR. MARY BETH MILLER was one of the speakers at the public forum held Wednesday, Nov. 3, in the St. Francis high school auditorium.

Herald staff photo by Casey McCormick

## People talk about Village

On Wednesday, Nov. 3, a public forum was held to discuss the matter of what will happen to the Good Samaritan Village. A fire on Oct. 19, destroyed the middle portion of the facility. Several county residents gave presentations on why the facility is needed and a representative from the Good Samaritan Society was present to answer questions (see related article

elsewhere).

Kevin Berens, member of the Village advisory board, introduced the people speaking, but not before he noted that the tragedy had brought the communities together. This tragedy, he said, could be turned around into an opportunity – an opportunity to build a better facility.

Dr. Mary Beth Miller talked

about the four different levels of senior care. They included:

1) Keeping the patients in their own home with services such as Lifeline, home health care and Meals on Wheels. This helps maintain the elderly in their homes and the community does a pretty good job of doing this, she said.

2) Independent care where the

See VILLAGE on Page 6A

## Pheasant season opens Saturday

Hunters will start arriving in Cheyenne County during the day on Friday in order to be in one of the better areas for the opening of pheasant and quail season early Saturday morning.

With a milder winter and later summer harvest, pheasant numbers in northwest Kansas look strong and the quail population is up for the fall bird season, with the ringneck count up 55 percent according to a brood survey done during the summer.

Northwest Kansas had a fairly decent winter last year, said Jim Pitman, small game coordinator with the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, so there was a good carryover into the spring.

In June and July, parts of the area were hit by hail and heavy rains. It wasn't really widespread, he said, but Cheyenne, Thomas and Sherman counties has some storms that affected the bird population.

Even with that, said Mr. Pitman, the counts are up quite a bit for pheasants. The brood-count numbers for northwest Kansas are the highest they have been since 1986, when the program began.

"Overall," he said, "it should be an outstanding year."

For six weeks in the summer, from the middle of July to the middle of August, every Wildlife and Parks employee is asked

See SEASON on Page 6A

## Hunter's food breaks

Friday night, Riverside Recreation, west of St. Francis, will be holding a lamb fry from 6 to 9 p.m. for the hunters and others who want to come out and eat.

Getting a good breakfast is important to the hunters as they head for the fields this weekend. Places in St. Francis which are providing that meal include:

Majestic Service on U.S. 36 will be open and serving a hearty breakfast starting at 6 a.m.

Main Street Java at 216 West Washington, will be offering

breakfast burritos, cinnamon rolls and scones along with a variety of coffees and juices on Saturday. The shop will open at 6:30 a.m.

The Eastern Star members are holding a hunter's breakfast on both Saturday and Sunday at the St. Francis Senior Citizen's Center, 322 W. Washington.

They will be serving biscuits and gravy, pancakes, scrambled eggs and ham. Serving time is from 5:30 to 10 a.m. on both days.

# Welcome pheasant hunters!

