

Village to provide additional housing

By Karen Krien

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The Good Samaritan Village Society, St. Francis, will be building a house to provide additional living for elderly people. The house will be more homelike and less like an institution.

Rick Reeser, Village administrator, received word last week that the Good Samaritan Society in Sioux Falls, S.D., had approved the plans for a 3,800 square-foot house which will provide assisted living for up to eight people.

Mr. Reeser has been working on the project for almost a year.

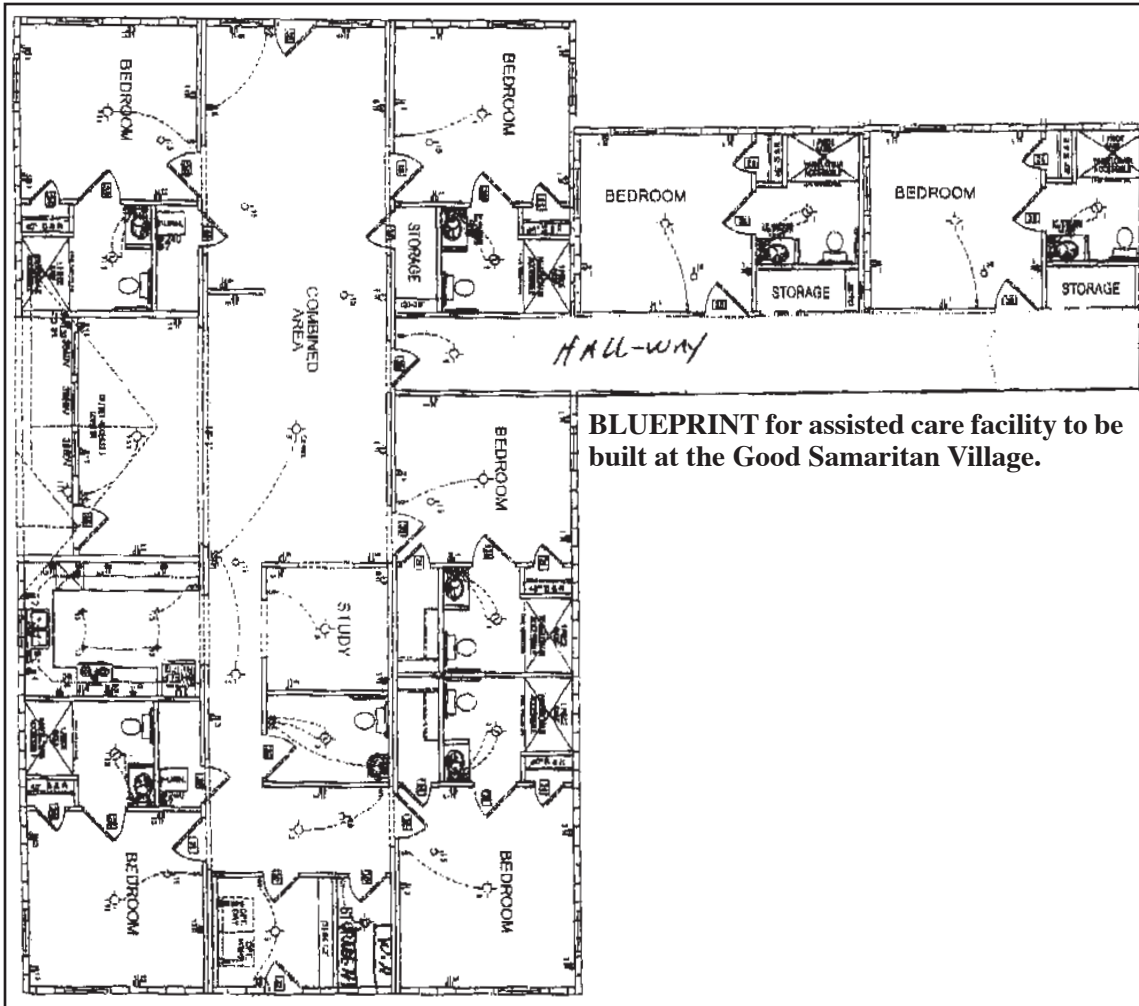
"We have a need in the county for an assisted care facility but it took months to get the plans approved," he said. "It will help meet the needs of the seniors living in Cheyenne County."

"Homes Plus," is an assisted level of service. People living there will be able to live as independently as possible. Mr. Reeser said. They will be free to come and go.

The new house will be paid for through the Good Samaritan Society's depreciation fund, as well as memorial or donor gifts to the project.

It is important, he said, that residents realize that none of the money will come from taxpayers.

The home will have seven bedrooms, each with a dedicated bathroom. Each resident's room will be 182 square feet — large enough for a queen-sized bed, dresser, chair, desk and television. There will be a phone hookup, as well as cable and



high-speed internet service.

The home will include two living areas — one for the residents to eat, watch television or play games, and another for residents to meet in private with family members. There will be a kitchen and a laundry room. However, food will be brought into residents from the Village kitchen and served by a staff member. Laundry can be done in-house or sent over to the Vil-

lage if the resident prefers.

There will be a certified nurse aide on duty 24-hours a day. The aide will help the residents as needed. They are there to help them get up and put them to bed, get their meals, assist with medicines, and any other activities that deal with daily living.

Residents will pay \$2,800 for complete room and board. There will be reserved parking if a resident has a vehicle or family comes to visit.

The residents can receive the service of home health which is also located on the Village campus. For those who do not drive, there will be scheduled transportation service available.

Building plans

The home will be located just east of the Village dining area.

The plans have to be sent to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment as well as the Kansas State Fire Marshal. When approval comes back, a company in Colorado will build the house which will come to St. Francis in four sections. It will take six weeks for delivery. During that time, the dirt work will be done and the

concrete poured.

The house will arrive with a crane which will lift it onto the foundation and it will be attached. Another team will put in the sprinkler system and do any other finish work needed.

Qualifications

Mr. Reeser said he has already had inquiries about the assisted living housing and he expects it to be filled by the time it opens by the first of the year.

There are certain qualifications that need to be met by residents. They:

- Must think clearly.
- Must be able to transfer themselves.
- Must be basically continent.

Continuum of care

The Village nursing home has room for 50 residents. There are also 14 apartments, two with two bedrooms and the other 12 have one bedroom.

"With the addition of the assisted living Homes Plus, the Village will be offering a full continuum of care: senior independent living, home health, assisted living and the nursing home," Mr. Reeser said.

Club Clip

Go-Getters

The Bird City 4-H club the Go-Getters had a meeting on Sept. 28.

The meeting was called to order by Caleb Keltz. The group moved to give money to the soldiers.

Aryn Sturgeon was nominated for the Dale Shoemaker award. Racheal Keltz was nominated for the Kevin Wright award. Mr. and Mrs. Krien were nominated for Friends of 4-H. The Sturgeon family was nominated for 4-H Family

of the Year.

The elections were held, Isaac Sturgeon became president, vice president is Joshua Keltz, secretary is Savannah Isely, song leader is Celine Isely, recreational leaders remained Elizabeth and Racheal Keltz.

The 50 states song was led by Elizabeth and Racheal Keltz, and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Savannah Isely

Moments With Mila

Parents should teach grandparents latest safety guidelines

By Mila Bandel, R.N.
County Health Nurse

Most parents are aware that certain steps must be taken to make their homes childproof. Many parents also rely on grandparents as day-care providers and babysitters, so it is important to ensure that they have also taken the steps to provide a safe environment for children.

Grandparents of today did not grow up with the car seats, smoke alarms or bike helmets like the parents of children in day's time have. Parents of young children need to let their own parents know that important changes have been made in childcare.

Accidental injury remains the number one killer of children ages 14 and under, but modern safety devices have contributed to a 43-percent drop in accidental child deaths from 1987 to 2004.

A grandparent's home might not be "childproofed" with safety gates on the stairs, locks on the cabinets, a fence surrounding the pool and all potential poisons — including medications, cleaning products and alcohol — locked out of reach.

Before a child comes to visit, a relative who doesn't have young children at home should look at potential hazards at and below a child's eye level. Pick up any small objects that could be a choking hazard, tie the cords of window treatments out of reach and lock up any matches and/or lighters. Safely store all medications, including those in your purse and in daily pill cases.

The Safe Kids Kansas program

offers reminders for grandparents who babysit occasionally some tips:

- Always in a car, buckle up your grandchildren and yourself.
- Set your water heater to 120 degrees F. or below to prevent scald burns.
- Make sure your grandchildren always wear a helmet when riding a bike, scooter, skateboard, or inline skates. Knee and elbow pads are also recommended for skating or scooters.
- If there are firearms in the home, store them unloaded and locked up and lock the ammunition in a separate place.
- Keep the Poison Control Center Hotline number close by telephones, it is 800-222-1222.
- Learn first aid and CPR.
- In any hazardous setting — on a playground, around pools or water, in the kitchen, near traffic, or near stairs — children should always be under active supervision. Inform your relatives of the safety guidelines for young children and let's keep our children safe.

Anonymous donor pays for shelving

By Karen Krien

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The ambulance director, at the Cheyenne County Commissioners' meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 30, said there would be no bill coming for the shelving they needed at the new St. Francis Emergency Building.

The shelving had been ordered from Lampe Hardware for \$2,200. Jannelle Bowers, director, said an anonymous donor had paid the bill in full.

Mrs. Bowers said she had read in the newspaper that there was concern among the fair board about the emergency medical technicians getting paid \$20 to sit at the fairgrounds during the fair. Mrs. Bowers said technicians only get \$15 and this is not billed to the fair board.

Mrs. Bowers said the first responder class is going well. She said she is looking into getting the skills testing done in St. Francis rather than Wichita.

The ambulance bids had come in at the last meeting but the director and others involved were not ready to make a decision at the Tuesday meeting. The commissioners will go over the bids at the next meeting.

Emergency manager's report

Gary Rogers, emergency management director, had the new updated Cheyenne County Emergency Operation Plan. He said he thought it was a good plan and the state had approved it as had the local responders. The plan will be located in the county clerk's office, the public libraries and city clerk's offices in both St. Francis and Bird City, and in the emergency operation center at the new St. Francis Emergency Building. Anyone wanting to read it or look it over is welcome to stop at any of those places. The commissioners also signed the plan.

He told the commissioners about a small portable base radio which can be used as a backup if something were to happen to the 911 dispatch center at the courthouse. He said there is one in Goodland and it reaches Cheyenne County. He had two bids for the portable radio but one, costing \$40 more, had the capabilities of 64 channels, and the cheaper had 32 channels. He said that by the time they programmed in the county as well as Rawlins County and Goodland, they would be using a lot of the channels. The total cost is \$2006 and it will be paid out of 911 funds.

He said that, with a \$18,000 Homeland Security Council grant,

the county can be set up on the 800 megahertz system. The system will let county officials talk to anyone in the state.

Also with the grant money, they will be getting Geographical Information System equipment and training. He said, in the future, the system will be mandatory and will help the 911 dispatchers, city and county officials. He has two people in mind who would like to take the training on Oct. 6.

In other business

In other business:

- The commissions accepted the resignation from Neil Zweygardt.
- A permit for Noble Energy to seismograph was approved.
- Rob Schiltz, St. Francis schools superintendent, presented the specifics on the proposed gym expansion bond.
- Wage agreements were signed for Karen Flemming and Amy Hilt. They are employed in the county appraiser's office.
- Mike Day, St. Francis city attorney, had sent a letter to the commissioners, detailing the Emergency Operations Center, St. Francis Emergency Building. The commissioners agreed to pay 70-percent of the utilities as the county's share for housing the county fire trucks and ambulances.
- The commissioners signed a contract between the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and the county health department. The contract allows the health department to receive a \$9,165 grant.
- The commissioners signed an agreement with Allied Information Solutions which assigns the company to maintain, manage and update the Enhanced 911 system.
- Craig Van Allen, sheriff, and Cody Beeson, undersheriff, were given approval to attend an Asset Forfeiture class; Carol Gamblin and Jennifer Padgett, 911 dispatchers, were given approval to attend the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials fall conference; John Garner, landfill supervisor, was given approval to have the cement at the landfill crushed.
- The bushes on the sidewalk corners of the courthouse were discussed. If there is no public objection during the next two weeks, the bushes will be removed. Their size is becoming a hazard.

Next meeting

The next commissioners' meeting will be held at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 15, in the commissioners' room in the courthouse.

Business Directory

To list your business, call 785-332-3162.

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RCC reminds customers that, after Feb. 17, 2009, a television receiver with only an analog broadcast tuner will require a converter box to receive full power over-the-air broadcasts with an antenna because of the Nation's transition to digital broadcasting. Analog-only TVs should continue to work as before to receive low power, Class A or translator television stations and with cable and satellite TV services, gaming consoles, VCRs, DVD players, and similar products. Information about the DTV transition is available at www.DTV.gov. Information about subsidized coupons for digital-to-analog converter boxes is available at www.dtv2009.gov or by calling 1-888-DTV-2009.
Offers subject to terms of wireless service agreement, Data Services Terms and Conditions and calling plan details. Additional charges will be included each month for each line of service to help Unicel defray its costs of complying with federal and state regulatory obligations, as follows: 3.7842% USF charge (11.7% USF charge for international calls), 4.34% KS USF charge, additional cost recovery fees of \$1.95 and, if roaming charges are incurred, roaming taxes if passed on by our roaming partners and a \$2.00 roaming administration fee. These charges are not taxes or government-required charges. Service activation requires credit check and may require security deposit. Federal, state and local taxes and surcharges apply. Must be at least 18 years of age with positive ID and must have user address in the Unicel home coverage area. Digital features and service are not available in all areas and may vary due to atmospheric, topographical and other conditions. Phone screen images have been enhanced for clarity. Other restrictions apply. See store for details and guarantee terms and conditions.
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Non-surgical treatment of hemorrhoids.

John D. Ferris, MD will be at: 291 15th Street Burlington, CO

Wednesday, Nov. 19 & Saturday, Nov. 22

For information or appointment, call 1-800-593-0009



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