

Theater production entertains crowd

Saturday's production of Oklahoma at the annual Cheylin Dinner Theater was a big success. Two hundred sixty-one tickets were sold, with 80 attending the Thursday night dress rehearsal.

Act I, consisted of three sets. Scene 1 was the front of Laurey's Farmhouse, Scene 2 at the Smoke House, and Scene 3 at a Grove on Laurey's Farm.

Act II, the first scene was at the Skidmore Ranch, scene 2 on Skidmor's kitchen porch, and scene 3 the Back of Laurey's Farmhouse.

Mike Boysen from Hot Brush gave the students a lesson on sign painting and helped them paint the back drop for the out-door setting and the other props and sets.

Cast members were: Jessie Smith as Aunt Eller, Walker Janicke as Curly, Nakita Schneider as Laurey, Ty Carmichael as Will Parker, Josh Keltz as Jud Fry, Stephanie Busse as Ado Annie, Adam Orten as Ali Hackim, Cassie Rucker as Gertie Cummings, Kelsey Miller as Kate, Grant Schrader as Mr. Carnes, Ellie Pochop as Ellie, Shayla Hubbard as Lillian, Danae Magnani as Shelly, Elizabeth Keltz

as Sylvie, Mary Anne Orten as Armina, ElsaCraig Burr as Aggie, Ruben Razo as Mr. Skidmore, Shawn Pochop as Cord Elam, Allie Frisbie as Jess, Devon Janicke as Chalmers, Derek Vandike as Mike, Reece Leonard as Joe, Ivan Kemp as Sam, Connor Hazuka as Ike, Casey Vandike as Slim, Jacob Brubaker as Peddler, and Diana Garcia as Jenn.

Bergan Bock and Haleigh Rucker served as prompters. Cathy Eddleman and Marily Pruitt friends of Jessie Smith, came from Goodland to do everyone's makeup. Montana Miller and Carrie Magnani did the girls' hair. Heath Churchwell ran the spotlights, and Eddie Frisbie ran the stage lights and curtain. Sandy Frisbie made the programs, decorations, napkins, and pressed the table cloths and costumes.

Costumes were from Bev's costumes in Cambridge, Neb. Janice Churchwell did all the piano music. Dennis Hengen was in charge of the sound system and assisted Rose Hengen in keeping the cast focused on performing and learning their parts at all the rehearsals.



THE BUNK HOUSE BOYS are poking fun at Adam Orten (Ali Hackim) as he lost out on marrying Nakita Schneider (Laurey). He left town, but came back.

Times staff photo by Norma Martinez



PERFORMING OKLAHOMA are Nakita Schneider (Sylvie), Cassie Rucker (Gertie Cummings), Allie Frisbie (Jess), Nakita Schneider, Stephanie Busse (Ado Annie) and Ellie Pochop (Ellie).

County looks at new lease for Village

By Karen Krien
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The Cheyenne County Commissioners, at the Wednesday, Oct. 31, meeting, reviewed a preliminary lease agreement between the Good Samaritan Society and Cheyenne County. Jeff Paulsen, Good Samaritan Village administrator, had sent the lease, noting that the lease had been sent to the county attorney the end of August. Kari Gilliland, county attorney, said she had been working with Kevin Berens, chairman of the Good Samaritan Village advisory board, on the lease.

Both of the commissioners present at the meeting, Andy Beikman and Dale Patton, expressed concern over the fact that the end of the year when the lease is to be signed, is almost here and they still had not received information they had asked for from the Society.

We know how important the nursing home is to the residents, staff and the county, said Mr. Beikman, but we are also

responsible for the people's tax money.

There is also the matter of property insurance which the county is responsible for. We need to know exactly what the county is going to be responsible for, Mr. Patton said.

The commissioners had called for the county insurance, EMC, to do a review which was made, but the company is still waiting for the inventory list from the Society.

Over a year ago, the taxpayers voted up to 6 mills for the nursing home. Depending on what a mill is valued at each year, 6 mills is approximately \$200,000.

Before the commissioners hand over that much money, they said they need to know what the nursing home brings in and pays out. In other words, they would like a profit-and-loss statement. They asked that a profit-and-loss statement be given to them each month but they have not seen one.

Randy Fitzgerald, regional director for the Society, said the nursing home does not make any

money and the county will need to subsidize the home. Mrs. Gilliland said that the commissioners had been given a breakdown of those figures and, when they took out the funded depreciation, the home was in the black.

The depreciation, Mr. Beikman said, is a fancy name for a savings account. How can they use that as a negative?

They agreed that they would like the money to be paid monthly after they have seen a statement. And, Mr. Beikman said, the Society says the nursing home loses \$1,200 a month - that's not even close to 6 mills or \$200,000. We are not afraid to come to a contract agreement, they both said, but we are sure that the people want us to act responsibly with their money.

If they, the Society, are sincere in saying they want a good contract, then they should agree to our terms, Mr. Patton said.

They talked about the abatement paid to the county hospital. They noted that there is an active board with accountability while the

Good Samaritan Village only has an advisory board.

They asked that Mrs. Gilliland change Number 9 in the lease agreement to read that the money given will require a submission of request and then will be paid, depending on the amount needed and that the Society will need to turn in an annual audit and submit a budget request by July 1. Mrs. Gilliland said she would make the necessary changes and send out an e-mail that day. We will see what response we get, she said.

All we are asking for is "transparency," Mr. Patton said. We need the information so we have greater accountability. We want to get the contract negotiated as quickly as possible so we satisfy the public.

Mr. Fitzgerald will be at the commissioners' meeting on Thursday, Nov. 15. The time listed on the agenda is 10 a.m.

Those wanting copies of the Good Samaritan Village's proposed lease can pick one up at The Herald office or the clerk's office in the courthouse.

Walk and run set for Nov. 17 in Sainty

In conjunction with the Cheyenne County Hospital Health Fair, the St. Francis United Methodist Church will sponsor a 5K run and a 2-mile walk at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 17. The race will begin and end at the St. Francis high school on College Street.

Medals will be awarded for the first three places in each age category for the run. There will not be medals for the walk.

Each participant will receive a T-shirt. There will be refreshments as well as drawings for door prizes. The top two door prizes will be a turkey and a ham.

The run is being held as a reminder for people to care about their health even during the holidays and to take time to exercise on a regular basis.



Regular check ups, good eating and sleeping habits, and exercise are vital for good health.

If anyone is interested in registering or volunteering to help with the race, call Warren Cico at 772-7098 or stop by the St. Francis United Methodist Church Education building on Webster Street.

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