

# Care Center move-in date announce

By William D. O'Dell (12/27/07 Beulah Beacon)

The first new nursing facility to be built in North Dakota in the last 15 years finally has a confirmed move-in of Jan. 26. The Knife River Care Center should be fully occupied by that date, more than a half year after the projected move-in date as projected at the groundbreaking in April 2006.

Earlier this year, a move-in date of Sept. 1 was mentioned, followed by Oct. 27 after construction delays and then again after the facility failed to meet certain specifications for the Medicare Fire Life Safety Code. After the Oct. 27 projected move-in date was delayed due to the failed state inspection, the contractors came back in to fix the inspection issues.

KRCC Administrator Neil Ostlie said contractors were also on hand last Tuesday and Wednesday when the facility passed the final inspection for the Medicare Fire Life Safety Codes. Ostlie explained that as the inspector checked over the facility, if there were any discrepancies in code or any changes that needed to be made, the contractors immediately went to work.

"They were all what they called insignificant," Ostlie said about the inspection discrepancies. "There was still quite a few...a lot of that stuff is interpretation of the code."

A problem with the last inspection, Ostlie explained that an incorrect interpretation of the Medicare Fire Life Safety Code might have been where the code called for fire caulk on a pipe and the contractor had initially used silicon. However, he added that all the fixes were completed within a few hours.

"To our knowledge, it's 100 percent complete," Ostlie said.

When asked if the repairs from the first inspection would raise the cost of the building, Ostlie explained that all the fixes that were required were covered under the contractor's bid and had to be redone at the contractors' expense.

Another issue that was raised in October was the non uniform painting throughout the facility. Some areas were rolled and others were sprayed, causing a distinct difference in the finishes throughout.

According to Ostlie, the painting issues are almost 100 percent resolved.

"There's a few oddball things," he said and explained that there are a few doorframes that still need to be completed. However, a crew is currently finishing up the touch-up painting while a cleaning crew is preparing the facility for the start of the move.

Ostlie added that after the first of the year, an architect inspection team from Helenske Design Group will be going through to complete a final inspection of the premises looking for knicks, scratches or any other irregularities that were not accounted in the Fire Life Safety inspection.

While Jan. 26 is the official move-in date, Ostlie explained that the residents' move-in should be complete by then with some nonessential items being moved after Jan. 1. The moving committee from KRCC will be contacting those people who had volunteered to help move within the next few weeks.

"Any help is going to be greatly appreciated," Ostlie added.

Anyone interested in helping can call the nursing home at 873-4322.