Two men arrested by Biddeford police plead guilty to fraud

By ANGELO J. VERZONI

Two men pleaded guilty Thursday in U.S. District Court to conspiracy to commit access device fraud, a Class C felony.

Between Sept. 5, 2013 and Jan. 24, 2014, Jervis A. Hilliard, also known as Jerome Leslie, 25, of

Memphis, California, and Tyondale P. Ramdihall, 27, of Rosedale, New York, knowingly used counterfeit access devices — in other words, counterfeit credit, debit and gift cards — and conspired to do so, according to court documents. After traveling from New York to Maine in September of 2013, the pair started making fraudulent purchases throughout the state, including a purchase of $11,755.05 from the Maine Mall Apple Store in South Portland, according to court documents. But their streak ended in January of 2014. Thanks in part to the work of the Biddeford Police Department.

On Jan. 24, 2014, an employee of the Biddeford police told police an unidentified man had used four different credit cards to buy a $300 gift card, presenting a different card each time one of them was declined. The man also used a separately card to buy baby formula and sun- screen. He bought three more cards to buy two iPods. The Biddeford police caught up with and pulled over the vehicle Ramdihall was inside. The man had exited the Walmart parking lot, finding Hillaire and Ramdihall inside. Ramdihall was arrested for driving with a suspended license and was arrested for providing a false identity. Police also found eight credit cards inside one of Hillaire's wallets.

Agent Matthew B. Fausolo of the U.S. Secret Service was

Red Cross helping displaced OOB fire victims

By LIZ GOTTHELF

OLD ORCHARD BEACH — The Red Cross is providing temporary assistance for about 25 people after a fire early Thursday morning at a School Street apartment building.

The fire was reported Thursday at 1 a.m. at Centennial Plaza apartments, located at 6 School St.

Authorities say the fire was caused by an electrical accident, and it began in the kitchen, spread to the hallway and to the second floor. The third floor suffered smoke damage. Some residents had to jump out of windows to safety.

The building provides income-based rentals to people 60 years old and older with disabilities. It was caused by a cooking accident.