

Mexican restaurant busier at new location near I-70

By Sharon Corcoran
The Goodland Star-News

A long-time family business bought a new location, and the owners say the move closer to I-70 traffic has made their restaurant busier. So, if you want an imported Corona to wash down your authentic Mexican burrito, El Reynaldo's can provide that at the new place. The restaurant, owned by Juan Diaz, moved closer to the Interstate two weeks ago, moving into the building next to Taco John's. Diaz's wife Carmina, son Victor, cousins Lindolfo and Homero and wife Loera, brother Jesus and wife Rosalva and his mother Uvaldina, all work at the restaurant. The family came from Zacatecas, Mexico, and have worked in restaurants in several states, he said.

The whole family has worked in the restaurant business, Juan Diaz said, adding that several uncles and even his godfather have restaurants in Colorado, Las Vegas, Arizona and California. "The place that has treated us the best," he said, "is Goodland. I think everyone comes here because they believe in us and wanted us to open this place, and with help from everyone, we got it open. We have been successful here." The restaurant opened in 2002 on 17th Street. After five months, El Reynaldo's moved to the former site of Sharon's Taco on U.S. Business 24 next to the Buffalo Inn, where it remained until two weeks ago. The restaurant has been busier in its new location on Commerce Road between Taco John's and

Dairy Queen, Diaz said. "It helps being near the Interstate," he said. "That is the main reason we moved here." He said they keep busy with Sherman County customers and haven't felt they are in competition with their neighbors. "We're a lot different from others here," he said of their food. The restaurant added a new country burrito to the menu when it moved, he said, but customers seem to enjoy the whole menu, even a dish that's not listed. "People like the taco salad," Victor Diaz said. "People think we don't have it because it's not on the menu, but we do." They bought the building and land and now have a license to sell beer, the family said.



Juan Diaz, owner of El Reynaldo's, checked a boiling pot on the stove Friday at his restaurant's new location. Diaz's wife, son, cousins, mother and brother work with him, and other family members own restaurants in several states. Photo by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

Full service at drive-up?



First National Bank President Larry McCants cleaned windshields Wednesday afternoon for patrons at the drive-through window. The lanes were busy, as the inside lobby is being over-

hauled. McCants said it was a good way for him to get to talk with customers. Photo by Andrew Liebau/The Goodland Star-News

Largest truck convoy to roll through Colby

Truckers, like bikers and runners, have a chance to join to raise money for a cause next month as the World's Largest Truck Convoy rolls through town on Saturday, Sept. 15. Drivers report to Truck Town, 105 W. Horton Ave., just south of I-70 in Colby. Registration begins at 10 a.m. and the convoy rolls down the highway at 11 a.m. All proceeds benefit the athletes of the Kansas Special Olympics. In an attempt to maintain Guinness Book of World Record status, truckers from the Colby area will join with others throughout the nation to hold the World's Largest Truck Convoy. This event has been held around the nation for several years. Colby's first contingent is being organized

by Joe and Jane Mentlick, Special Olympics volunteers. Truckers and trucking companies are encouraged to register now. The fee is \$100 per truck, which includes participation in the convoy, goodie bag, lunch and entertainment. Vehicles must be 10 tons or more gross vehicle weight; drivers must sign a waiver of liability and show a valid drivers license and proof of insurance. All proceeds will support Special Olympics programs, including medals, meals, competition venues and sporting equipment. For information or to register, visit www.kansastorchrun.org or call Joe Mentlick at (785) 443-1682 or Jane Mentlick at 460-2818.

St. Francis/Haigler Co-op gets new manager

By Karen Krien
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St. Francis/Haigler Equity Co-op employees and board members met early last Monday with new manager Karol Lohman on her first day of work. Mrs. Lohman comes from Leavenworth, where she had managed the Leavenworth County Co-op in Lansing for several years. Before becoming a manager, she said, she worked at eastern Kansas co-ops for 17 years. She said she was born and raised in Leavenworth County, where her father was a cow/calf operator and

owner of Palmer Trucking Inc. At an early age, she said, she learned to love the farm and livestock. She was in 4-H for 12 years, then went on to Kansas State University in Manhattan, where she received a bachelor's degree in ag and animal science with a minor in ag business. She started from the bottom, working on the co-op's research farm. She went on to become the assistant manager of the dairy on the Farmland Research and Development Farm, then managed the farm supply and feed department at the Ottawa Co-op before joining the Leavenworth County Co-op in 1982.

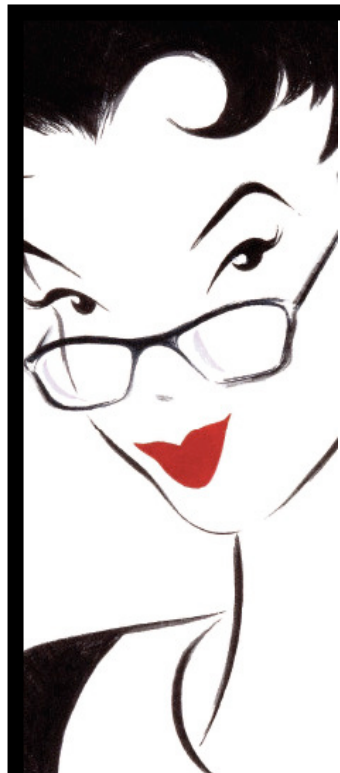
"I am a 'hands-on' person and plan on being a strong part of this business," she said. Among her goals are to continue to have a strong co-op and have a good presence in the community. "I want the co-op to continue to provide a viable service for this community," she said. "I want us to be involved with the youth in agriculture through the 4-H and FFA programs." When asked why she wanted to come to western Kansas, she said she had always wanted to go west. Eastern Kansas had become urban while this part of the state is rural and strong in production agriculture, she said. Steve Yost, a member of the Equity board, when he introduced Mrs.

Lohman, said he was glad to have her on the team. He said the board hopes to see more profits, and eventually, raises for the employees. Mrs. Lohman said she and her husband Terry have two children, Tyler and Troy. Tyler is a sophomore at Connors State College in Warner, Okla., where he is on the livestock judging team. Troy is a senior at Tonganoxie High School, where he is active in Future Farmers of America and 4-H along with working part-time for New Haven Angus. Mr. Lohman farms and drives a truck for the county road and bridge crew. They have a small herd of Angus cows and a show pig operation, she said, and both sons are active in livestock showing.

corrections

The Goodland Star-News will correct any mistake or misunderstanding in a news story. Please call our office at (785) 899-2338 to report errors. We believe that news should be fair and factual. We want to keep an accurate record and appreciate you calling to our attention any failure to live up to this standard.

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