

# Angel Trees ready

By Karen Krien  
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Angels are waiting to be picked from four different trees in St. Francis businesses. By picking an angel and buying a gift, one more child will be assured of having a present from Santa.

The Angel Trees are sponsored by the organization Association to Benefit Cheyenne County. The coordinator is Jennifer Milne, St. Francis.

People can select a tag off a tree at Bankwest, First National Bank, Owens True Value and *The Herald* office in St. Francis. There will be a suggested size of the child on the back of the angel for those who want to purchase clothing for their angel gift.

Once a person selects a tag and the gift is bought, both the gift and tag should be returned to the place where the tree is located.

Last year, over 35 children received gifts delivered by Santa. These gifts averaged around \$30 each. This year, there are around 50 children who need a visit from Santa.

If someone knows of a family who is having a difficult time making ends meet and could use a little help from Santa, please contact Mrs. Milne at 785-332-2344 or 785-332-2566 or any Association to Benefit Cheyenne County member.

Mrs. Milne said that each year, the Angel Tree has received generous support and members appreciate the help so they can give kids a merrier Christmas.

All gifts will be picked up on Tuesday, Dec. 18, so those who have selected a tag need to make sure their gifts are back under the tree before the pick-up date. They will be delivered that same evening.

If more information is needed for sizes, or gift ideas, call Mrs. Milne.



HAIGLER COUNTRY CAFE is now open and ready for business. The cafe is operated by Barb Wheaton who brings 4 1/2 years of experience with her. *Herald staff photo by Casey*

## Cafe in Haigler opens under new local management

By Casey McCormick  
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A new dining experience awaits locals just to the northwest of Cheyenne County. The Haigler Country Cafe is now open.

Barb Wheaton operates the restaurant and is leasing it, with a purchase option, from Steve and Terry Yost. Mrs. Wheaton brings 4 1/2 years experience from the Sandhillier Restaurant, in Wray, Colo., with her.

"I've been in the restaurant business all my life," Mrs. Wheaton said. "I love it."

The cafe serves a full breakfast menu daily, until 11 a.m. This is followed by an extensive lunch

and dinner menu.

Most of the food is made on location. The homemade cinnamon rolls are giant and covered in buttery goodness. Each day there are four to five different types of fresh pies to choose from. Soups and gravies are made from scratch.

Lunch features a large selection of sandwiches, including a hot roast beef or hamburger plate and steak sandwich.

Some dinner items are the rib eye and other cuts of steak and seafood entrees such as red snapper, salmon and scallops.

"We have a little something for everyone," Mrs. Wheaton said. "Smaller portions are available for

younger and older people who can't eat as much."

The Wednesday night special is a smothered beef and bean burrito. On Sunday, a different lunch special is featured.

The staff is friendly and the service is topnotch.

"We have a good crew," Mrs. Wheaton said. "But we are looking for a little more help."

The Haigler Country Cafe is open on Monday, Wednesday through Saturday from 6:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. (closed on Tuesday.) Sunday hours are from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. The phone number is 308-297-3330

The cafe is located on U.S. 34 in the center of Haigler. Ample truck parking is available.

## Club Clip

### McDonald Red Hatters

A lovely fall day was an added treat as the McDonald/Bird City Red Hatters headed to Atwood for a day planned and coordinated by Florence Antholz.

At Kristi Hawkins quilt studio, she demonstrated the long-arm quilt frame which is the newest quilting technique.

Next was lunch at the Aberdeen Steakhouse for their special — the wild rice with chicken soup was a hit.

Queen, Phyllis Wingfield read a "Stuff the Bag Day" story with the little girl getting her shoes that went click, click, click.

The members agreed that the winning money from second place won in the Scarecrow Contest be placed in a fund for memorials.

Alice Hill then took the group

on a tour of the 1907 Shirley Opera House.

Following the informative tour, the ladies stopped by the newly refurbished motel on U.S. 36 now called the It'll Do Motel. It is a great community improvement with the units having a microwave and refrigerator for the convenience of travelers.

The Bird City/McDonald Red Hatters attending were: Florence Antholz, Frieda Black, Bonnie Burr, Iris McIntosh, Carol Mears, Lois Morelock and Phyllis Wingfield.

Plans were made to have a gift exchange of a \$1 limit on the gift, lunch at Two Lee's and finish the afternoon with dominoes at the McDonald Senior Center on Dec. 18.

## Marriage planned

Brayden and Kaiden are pleased to announce the engagement of their mother and father, Ryan Andrew Weeks and Angelica Jai Gamino.

Ryan is the son of Dale and Sherry Weeks, St. Francis, and Carol Weems of Gladstone, Mo.

Ryan graduated from St. Francis Community High School in 2001 and received his associates degree in applied sciences from Northwest Kansas Technical College in 2003. He is currently an installer/repairman at Wamego Telecommunication in Wamego.

Angelica is the daughter of Anthony Gamino, Belvue, and Sharla Gamino of Wamego.

She graduated from Wamego High School in Wamego in 2002 and received her certified dental assistant degree in 2007. She is



Gamino - Weeks

currently a homemaker with their twins, age 2.

The couple is looking forward to their wedding on March 8 in Wamego. The couple lives in Belvue.

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# Memorials wanted for decorations

The Good Samaritan Society, St. Francis Village, will soon put up its Christmas tree, — the Love Tree.

Decorating and lighting the tree begins the traditional celebration of the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ, and the celebration of the lives and memories of our residents and others. The Love Tree helps the Society fulfill its mission: — to share God's love in word and deed by providing shelter and supportive services to older persons and others in need, believing that, "In Christ's love, Everyone is Someone."

The Village residents and staff want everyone to help decorate its Christmas Love Tree.

"You are able to do two good deeds with one donation," said Rick Reeser, administrator. "You can remember a loved one at Christmas with a memorial or an honor gift in someone's name, and provide for the convenience, health and safety needs of the residents and staff."

The Village exists to serve, and needs the continued generous support of the communities it serves.

The administration and management of the St. Francis Village holds a goal of operating without debt. The Good Samaritan Society is a not-for-profit organization, so the budget funds are very carefully disbursed with resident needs top priority.

The Village keeps fees at or below national level, and continues to meet resident needs. The nursing home industry is highly regulated, and regulations are costly to implement and maintain.

The Village is one of the largest employers in St. Francis (65 average), making it a vital part of the area's overall economy as well as a vital part of the area's health care system.

It is somewhat unique because it includes the management of Home Health Care, another important part of the area's health care system. In order to attract and keep compassionate and qualified health care professionals, particularly registered nurses (RNs) and



certified nurse's aides (CNAs), the Village must offer competitive salaries.

So what does all this have to do with the Christmas Love Tree?

The Village needs your continued financial support for the extra expenses. For example, the kitchen needs an upright freezer (\$800), and that's just not in the budget.

The activities room needs to have the floor tile replaced in 2008 at an estimated \$6,000 to \$8,000.

The nursing portion of the Village was built in 1963, and has the original furnace system. An updated system would be costly, but the new technology would save enough to pay for itself in approximately five years. After that, actual savings would be seen.

Several of the apartments need to be updated, and to have a second door installed to help ensure fire safety; this estimated cost is \$8,000, but is high on the list of needs.

The resource development coordinator, Carol Redding, has submitted three small requests for grant funds from area philanthropies, and is developing two more. The coordinator will work with the Good Samaritan Society corporate office for larger grants; these and other grant proposals will be submitted to supplement local support.

Please send your Love Tree donations to the Good Samaritan Village, 620 S. Denison Street, St. Francis, KS 67756 through Dec. 31. Please come help us celebrate our decorated Love Tree on Dec. 13, and join the residents and staff for soup and pie. Feel free to contact Rick Reeser, administrator, or Ms. Redding.

**Time to winterize!!**

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