



**TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2007**

The last chapter of a long and determined effort by Food Bank friends and supporters to build a new facility with the capacity to face the future ended with two snips of a ribbon at a dedication and public open house on February 23 at the KFB/Cargill Cares Complex.

The President of Cargill Meat Solutions Tom Hayes and I shared traditional ribbon-cutting duty—he on one end, me on the other. As the ribbon fell, everyone seemed to rightly sense that it signaled the beginning of a great new day for HungerCare in Kansas.

Don Meiergerd, new chairman of the KFB Board of Directors who headed the building-fund taskforce, presided over the brief dedication, which was highlighted by a blessing of the facility by the Most Reverend Michael O. Jackels, Bishop of Wichita.

Then Mr. Hayes presented a message on behalf of the Cargill company and its employees followed by a closing prayer by the Rev. Titus James, pastor of the North Heights Christian Church and a retired long-time member of the Food Bank Board of Directors.

The ceremony was given a very special touch by Cessna employee Ted Krehbiel's performance of his own original ballad, "Because no one should go hungry" (composed specifically for KFB).

Witnesses to the dedication ceremonies included the indispensable financial supporters for the project, past and present officers and directors of the Food Bank, members of the City Council and the County Commission, as well as numerous other high profile business and community leaders.

As this group began their tour of our fine new facility, they were joined by the first of a day-long parade of those responding to our invitation to attend our Open House to see "The Giant Step" it represents for the future of HungerCare in Kansas.

It was a wonderful event—not too big, not too small, not too fancy, not too plain—but just right for a food bank on the move. That's us. Thanks to you.

—Brian Walker, President/CEO

**A-MAIZE-N KIDS.** Fifty or so students from Maize Elementary School recently toured our new KFB/Cargill Cares Complex. They came in bright-eyed and in a questioning mood. Their eyes shone even brighter and questions poured out faster as we walked and talked our way around. The great soaring racks of food almost certainly were the largest collection of things to eat they had ever seen in one place. As new and exciting as it might have been to most of them, they kept cool and asked the right questions.

The tour was requested after a visit by a Food Bank staff member to the school in connection with a Food Drive being held by the A-Maize'N kids on our behalf. The drive added a sizeable amount of food to our inventory. The tour gave us new and greater respect for our Kansas school kids.

**HEAR YE! HEAR YE!** If he were alive today, U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice



John Marshall would likely render a "Very well done" decision on behalf of the students of a Wichita middle school named in his honor. John Marshall students recently volunteered real-world work-time as part of a community service project to benefit our Food Bank.

Each student in the sixth, seventh and eighth grades was committed to spending more than one hour assembling food packets for KFB's Food-4-Kids Backpack program. Altogether, they spent that amounted to 360 hours—equivalent to eight standard workweeks. A handsome contribution!

Our thanks to these dedicated school kids and to their terrific principal Mark Jolliffe who master-minded and monitored the project.

**FAST FRIENDS.** The annual campaign to provide food for our Food-4-Kids Backpack program conducted by area Dillon stores with the help of KWCH-TV Channel 12 and Davis Moore begins March 24 and runs through April 8.

This program offers bags of backpack food for sale in \$5 and \$10 sizes. When purchased by Dillon customers, the bags are placed in a special KFB collection bin. Last year's collection campaign amounted to about four tons of food for the backpacks.

This year's event is on its way. Watch for it. Our Backpack partners have a history of getting off the mark quickly—a good reason to call them our "fast" friends.



Don Meiergerd, (right) new chairman of the KFB Board of Directors introduces Tom Hayes, President of Cargill Meat Solutions at the ribbon-cutting ceremony on February 23.

Most Reverend Michael O. Jackels

Rev. Titus James

Ted Krehbiel



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If you're new, we welcome you!

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