



News and views from your Kansas Food Bank



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Nancy, a faithful supporter of the Food Bank who formerly worked as a special ed para-professional, describes her then place of employment as "the last setting for a problem student before he or she goes off to a mental facility or to jail."

The student who inspired Nancy's Food Bank gifts came to her attention when he was caught stealing food at a school meal site. The student was a teen-age boy who lived alone with his mother in obviously poor and distressful circumstances where having enough food for regular meals was never guaranteed.

Nancy was so sad that the boy was driven to steal food that she was moved to do something about other children like him. Her decision led her to begin her support of our program to send backpacks of food home to stop hunger on weekends for children who must have help or go hungry.

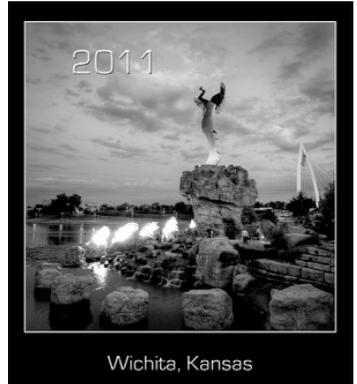
Nancy plans to continue her monthly gifts to the Food Bank. And she has made it known that she wants donations for the Food Bank instead of flowers at her funeral. In my mind, Nancy serves as a special kind of guardian angel for kids in most urgent need of one.

For all of those angels, past and present and those yet to come, we extend our heartfelt thanks for all you do to make the Season of Giving a more meaningful holiday for everyone.

—Brian Walker, President/CEO

CALENDARS FOR A GOOD CAUSE - Each year Dr. Merrill Thomas, a Wichita physician, creates a calendar from his photography and donates the net profit from their sales to charity. This year the proceeds will be donated to the Kansas Food Bank.

There are two calendar selections: one features Wichita images, the other the Big Sur coastline and Zion National Park. The full-color calendars are 10" x 20" with an image on the top and the calendar on the bottom. The cost is \$20 for one and \$18 for each additional one. Orders are due by Dec. 1 to be distributed by Dec. 15, in time for Christmas. Dr. Thomas' work can be seen on his website (www.thomasimaging.com). For more info, e-mail merrill.thomas@sbcglobal.net. The order must be prepaid. You can use the enclosed order form or contact Merrill Thomas, 1431 Dry Creek Ct., Derby, KS 67037 or call 788-3708.



AGENCY SPOTLIGHT: THE MITCHELL COUNTY FOOD BANK is a community-supported food pantry run by the Beloit Ministerial Association—a collaboration of seven local churches. Through a strong connection with local grocers and businesses and an outpouring of support from a caring community, it is able to provide a standout emergency food pantry that provides more than 60 items to a family of one or two people and more than 200 items to a family of five twice a year, if necessary.

These families also receive \$40 to \$60 in grocery store vouchers to purchase produce and dairy products. In addition to food support, they provide referrals to services that provide financial support for families with exceptionally critical needs.

'TIS THE SEASON - Several of our community partners are in the process of collecting food for KFB during the holiday season. And here is the list, so far.

Cargill employees are sponsoring this year's Holiday Harvest with contests to determine which department can raise the most food. Eddy's Toyota sales team is split into four groups to see which can collect the most food. Tallgrass Country Club is accepting food as a substitute for new-member initiation fees. Care Chiropractics holiday food effort offers one free visit with 10 cans of donated food. Off-Road Motor Sports is collecting nonperishable food items during the Roadkill Roundup. Great Clips at 21st and Maize is offering discount coupons that provide haircuts for \$6.99 and canned food donations. Advanced Auto at 8310 E. Central is collecting food to fill a KFB barrel. McConnell AFB groups are collecting food based on individual challenges.

Food Drives already completed include House of Terrors, Hu Hot, The Meece Haunted Yard, Twitter Feeds at Poetic Justice Coffee House and Rio Rose Retail Partners.

For more information about these and other food drives, or to hold your own, please visit us at www.kansasfoodbank.org or give us a call at 316-265-4421.