

County food pantry serves over 1,400 people this year

By Candi Douthit
Program coordinator

Did you know, that over the past 10 months, the Cheyenne County Food Pantry has served over 1,400 people? You may think that number seems really high, but let me elaborate.

Since January, we have served 25-43 families each month. On average these families equal 140 individuals, that receive the food goods through the food pantry.

According to FeedingAmerica.org, 12 percent of Cheyenne County residents or 330 of our neighbors are food insecure. Food insecurity is being without access to enough food or food of nutritional value, at times, to lead an active and healthy life.

Therefore, although it seems like 140 individuals being served each month is a lot, that isn't even half of those who have need for food at times throughout the year.

You may be asking yourself, what does it take to serve these families?

Well, it takes an extremely generous community, supportive businesses and willing volunteers. Our extremely generous community makes this pantry possible through financial and food donations.

We have numerous individuals, families, and church groups that

support us with donations from \$5-\$1,250 throughout the year. This past year we were also blessed with a substantial grant from the Gerber Foundation of Idalia and a large donation from a local family.

All of this generosity has really eliminated the financial stress that often comes when having so many families depend on this service monthly. Beyond these large donations, supportive businesses like Bella's Market, who ensures we have boxes, donates non-sale items, and orders some of our food items; Owen's True Value who donates hours of labor in unloading trucks and loading boxes; Uptown Meat Market who has stored our freezer overstock and assisted with other orders; and finally the sheriff's department which usually provides heft in unloading hundreds of pounds of food each month when the Kansas Food Bank truck comes.

Lastly, but most importantly, is our volunteers who donate 15 to 20 hours every month to restock the pantry and then pack and distribute the food boxes. These volunteers also visit with those who come offering a caring heart and listening ear for those who need a bit of support.

This community takes on the responsibility of caring for one's

neighbor with great compassion and precedence. The Cheyenne County Food Pantry is blessed by so much support and I take this opportunity to thank everyone for making it a success.

If you, or someone you know, would benefit from a food box, distribution is the third Saturday of every month from 9 to 11 a.m. at the west lower entrance of the courthouse in St. Francis. Boxes contain non-perishable and perishable items.

We encourage anyone in need of food, to come for food at this time.

Should you have any questions regarding the food pantry, please contact me at 785-332-0068 or the sheriff's department 785-332-8880. If you want to support our efforts to eliminate food insecurity in Cheyenne County, monetary donations can be sent to First National Bank and food donations can be dropped at Bella's Market or at the food pantry.

We will be doing holiday boxes in November and December, so we are gladly accepting turkey, ham, or holiday meal items. We will also gladly take any game animals if they are not wanted.

Thank you again for the incredible support you all provide!



RESIDENT OF THE MONTH — Hertha Kelley was interviewed by Cathy Loop during her party held at the Good Samaritan Village. Also pictured are her daughters Lori and Kathy.

Woman honored at Village

By Karen Krien

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"It's been a great life," said Hertha Kelley.

Mrs. Kelley was the October Good Samaritan Village Resident of the Month and a party was held for her on Wednesday, Oct. 17, with members of her family, friends and fellow residents present.

Mrs. Kelley was born on Dec. 25, 1917, in Augusta, Mo., to Fritz and Olinda Fuhr. She had two sisters, Alvina, who was 9 years older, and Stella, who was 6 years older.

She grew up in Augusta, helping on the farm by doing chores which included milking the cow and helping with the chickens. She earned her first doll by selling Caper's Weekly newspapers to all of her mother's friends.

When Hertha was a year old, her father died. She, her mom and two sisters were forced to move in with her aunt who became Hertha's "second mom."

At school, her favorite subject was spelling. Her favorite teacher was Mr. Pitts who taught history and was the basketball coach. Hertha was known for her basketball playing skills.

In 1936, she graduated from high school. That year, she was the class president, modestly noting that there were only six students in her class. The class motto was "Tonight, we launch - where shall we anchor?"

Following graduation, Hertha applied for a job in a St. Louis newspaper. She said that if an ad read, "Hardworking German, Christian girl looking for work...." there was always employment.

She was hired by a wealthy family where she was taught to cook and serve meals properly. The family had many parties which she was in charge of. Her day off was Sunday.

On Sundays, she said, the chauffeur drove her to the St. Louis Cardinal baseball games in



Hertha and Cletus Kelley

the summer and to the St. Louis Symphony performances in the winter. He also gave her driving lessons and took her to piano lessons.

On a trip to visit her sister, Alvina, who was living in Oberlin, her friends introduced her to a young man, Cletus Kelley. On April 22, 1942, she and Cletus were married in Oberlin.

Cletus worked for the gas company and Hertha was a clerk at the Oberlin Duckwalls. The Kelleys moved to St. Francis and through the years, Hertha continued as a clerk, working in Watkins Variety store and Skogmos.

She was able to travel to California with her sister and brother-in-law, enjoying seeing Crystal Cathedral. She also enjoyed camping trips.

Cletus and Hertha had four daughters, Gretta Ann, who died when she was one month old with spina bifida, Judy, Kathy and Lori. She also has 10 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Through the years, besides losing her father, she said cars made a big difference in her life. She had many hobbies including baking and sewing.

Her advice for young people today is, "Love without a doubt and keep a strong faith and sense of humor."

During her special day as resident of the month, Hertha smiled and laughed as she was asked questions and when her grandchildren presented her with drawings. Her daughters, Judy, Kathy and Lori, were also present and added humorous comments to her life story.

The Gardener

By Kay Melia



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Quietness now prevails in the garden. The freshly frozen leaves on the remaining tomato vines are still doing their best to cling to their stems, and somehow retaining a dark green color, but fighting a losing battle. The remaining leaves on the cornstalks are tannish-white and as brittle as snake skins, and seem to have dried in the fluted forms of their green growing days. The garden earth has seen it's fertility transferred to spent bean plants and beet tops.

Most of us have salvaged the last phase of the plants that served us so productively during the summer heat. Garlic hangs in a braid; paper skinned onions hang in the dark coolness of a quiet room; stacks of homemade crates hold Yukon Golds and Red Pontiacs; basement shelves are lined with jar after jar of goodness.

In the garden, only husks and stems and spent vines of every description remain. And very soon now, my trusty mower will be sent out to reduce the dry, once beautiful vegetation to small pieces of material that will then be plowed back into the tired soil. We now must spend

some smart time to renew the soil for tomorrow. We must return to the earth what we borrowed from it. It is indeed the period of regeneration!

In this, my final report, my greatest wish is that gardeners everywhere spend the winter quietly making plans for the new season. We all learned many things last summer, not the least of which was that gardens, with a little help, can still provide unbelievably large amounts of fresh, healthy food, despite 28 days of a hundred degrees or more, and less than 5 inches of rain from June 1st through September 30th in many of our gardens.

Think about it for a moment. Look around you. The most productive gardens were those that received the richness and fertility of the regenerative materials we added to the soil. Without a well tended and well amended soil, our gardens will show mediocrity.

Here at the end of the season, my garden plan for last summer is basically forgotten, and my illusion of last season's stewardship is being "reworked" in my mind. What happened in the garden last summer, happened. I learned from

it, but is now just another year's memory, swept like a leaf from my own small visions and into the vast possibilities of the future.

Late autumn is like a long, deep breath taken after a successful past endeavor of great intensity. It is the end of the season....the beginning of the regeneration of the next.

Thank you dear friends for occasionally reading what I have written. Please do not hesitate to send me a letter, an e-mail, or a phone call, anytime. I love to visit about gardening of any kind, anytime. Have a wonderful winter!

—Helpful Hints—

Keep a box of dryer sheets in rooms other than the laundry room and use them to:

- Clean pet hair from the floor or furniture. Rub a dryer sheet over the spot where Fluffy left her fur.
- Replace a sachet. Keep a dresser drawer smelling fresh and clean by placing a dryer sheet on the bottom of it.

A PROPOSITION to amend section 1 of article 11 of the constitution of the state of Kansas, relating to classification and taxation of watercraft, to be submitted to the electors of the state at the general election to be held on November 6, 2012.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 5017

§ 1. System of taxation; classification; exemption. (a) The provisions of this subsection shall govern the assessment and taxation of property on and after January 1, 2013, and each year thereafter. Except as otherwise hereinafter specifically provided, the legislature shall provide for a uniform and equal basis of valuation and rate of taxation of all property subject to taxation. The legislature may provide for the classification and the taxation uniformly as to class of recreational vehicles and watercraft, as defined by the legislature, or may exempt such class from property taxation and impose taxes upon another basis in lieu thereof. The provisions of this subsection shall not be applicable to the taxation of motor vehicles, except as otherwise hereinafter specifically provided, mineral products, money, mortgages, notes and other evidence of debt and grain. Property shall be classified into the following classes for the purpose of assessment and assessed at the percentage of value prescribed therefor:

- Class 1 shall consist of real property. Real property shall be further classified into seven subclasses. Such property shall be defined by law for the purpose of subclassification and assessed uniformly as to subclass at the following percentages of value:
- (1) Real property used for residential purposes including multifamily residential real property and real property necessary to accommodate a residential community of mobile or manufactured homes including the real property upon which such homes are located.....11 1/2%
 - (2) Land devoted to agricultural use which shall be valued upon the basis of its agricultural income or agricultural productivity pursuant to section 12 of article 11 of the constitution.....30%
 - (3) Vacant lots.....12%
 - (4) Real property which is owned and operated by a not-for-profit organization not subject to federal income taxation pursuant to section 501 of the federal internal revenue code, and which is included in this subclass by law.....12%
 - (5) Public utility real property, except railroad real property which shall be assessed at the average rate that all other commercial and industrial property is assessed.....33%
 - (6) Real property used for commercial and industrial purposes and buildings and other improvements located upon land devoted to agricultural use.....25%
 - (7) All other urban and rural real property not otherwise specifically subclassified.....30%

Class 2 shall consist of tangible personal property. Such tangible personal property shall be further classified into six subclasses, shall be defined by law for the purpose of subclassification and assessed uniformly as to subclass at the following percentages of value:

- (1) Mobile homes used for residential purposes.....11 1/2%
 - (2) Mineral leasehold interests except oil leasehold interests the average daily production from which is five barrels or less, and natural gas leasehold interests the average daily production from which is 100 mcf or less, which shall be assessed at 25%30%
 - (3) Public utility tangible personal property including inventories thereof, except railroad personal property including inventories thereof, which shall be assessed at the average rate all other commercial and industrial property is assessed.....33%
 - (4) All categories of motor vehicles not defined and specifically valued and taxed pursuant to law enacted prior to January 1, 198530%
 - (5) Commercial and industrial machinery and equipment which, if its economic life is seven years or more, shall be valued at its retail cost when new less seven-year straight-line depreciation, or which, if its economic life is less than seven years, shall be valued at its retail cost when new less straight-line depreciation over its economic life, except that, the value so obtained for such property, notwithstanding its economic life and as long as such property is being used, shall not be less than 20% of the retail cost when new of such property.....25%
 - (6) All other tangible personal property not otherwise specifically classified.....30%
- (b) All property used exclusively for state, county, municipal, literary, educational, scientific, religious, benevolent and charitable purposes, farm machinery and equipment, merchants' and manufacturers' inventories, other than public utility inventories included in subclass (3) of class 2, livestock, and all household goods and personal effects not used for the production of income, shall be exempted from property taxation.

Explanatory statement. This amendment would allow the legislature to classify and tax watercraft upon a basis different from other property. A vote for this proposition would permit the legislature to provide for separate classification and taxation of watercraft or to exempt such property from property taxation and impose taxes in lieu thereof. A vote against this proposition would continue the taxation of watercraft in the same manner as all other property.



Family Fall Festival

Wednesday, Oct. 31

6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Fairgrounds 4-H Building

Chili Cook-Off and Brownie Bake-Off

Bring a crockpot full of your favorite chili and a pan of your favorite brownies to win the bragging rights for the year!

Games

Hayrack Rides

Craft Table

Hot Cocoa Coffee



Absolutely Free!

Sponsored by:
St. Francis Community Church
Peace Lutheran Church
First Christian Church