Beef industry supporting troops, veterans

By Ron Wilson

Director Huck Boyd National Institute for Rural Development at Kansas State University

There's a battalion on the move. This battalion is mobilized and has a mission in mind. But these aren't uniformed troops on foreign soil. These are people in the U.S. beef industry who are finding a way to support our brave soldiers here at home.

Bill Broadie is the founder and chairman of the board of the All American Beef Battalion, a voluntary organization of people in the beef cattle industry working to support U.S. troops. Bill is a fourth generation Bill said with a smile: "The Marines and cattleman from Ashland, a Marine and a veteran who was wounded in the Vietnam War. He also works for Superior Livestock Auction.

One day Bill was driving to Colorado for a load of cattle. He got disgusted with what

were talking about was what was wrong with young people," he said. Bill had seen young men and women in the military, and he wanted to honor them.

"I come back to this statement," Bill said. "Who out there wouldn't buy a soldier a steak?" Since many people would be willing to buy a steak dinner for a soldier who is getting ready to deploy, Bill conceptualized an organization which would provide steak feeds for soldiers. It was a way of uniting two of Bill Broadie's passions.

"There are only two things I've done," cattle." As a lifelong cattleman and a decorated Marine, he liked the idea. To his boss, he pitched the idea of a non-profit organization to support steak feeds for soldiers, and he got enthusiastic support.

On April 26, 2008, this new organization

ing to the mainstream media and all they was called the All American Beef Battalion.

The goal of the All American Beef Batanother side, having served with brave talion is to organize and sponsor steak feeds, entertainment, programs, meetings, and projects for service members and their families. The larger purpose, according to the organization's website, is to "foster among the people of the United States an appreciation, respect, and honor for our Armed Forces military service members whose sacrifices have and will continue to make our freedoms possible."

With support from private sector donations, Bill and a group of volunteers joined together to implement this project. Typically, they provide 18-ounce ribeye steaks with complete dinners to wounded warriors or to military units who recently redeployed or are getting ready to deploy. Local hosts provide water, electricity and tables, and the All American Beef Battalion provides

soldiers

Demand for these events has been strong across the nation. The All American Beef Battalion has held steak feeds for soldiers and their families in California. Washington, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, Illinois, Arkansas, Louisiana, Kentucky, Georgia, and Virginia. Bill estimates that, as of October 2012, the All American Beef Battalion fed more than 140,000 people.

That's quite an accomplishment for rural America. Bill comes from the rural community of Ashland, population 962 people. Now, that's rural.

How is this possible?

"The ag community has been very supportive," Bill said. Creekstone Farms and U.S. Premium Beef have donated steaks and others have made cash donations. Cattlemen like Galen Fink have supported he was hearing on the radio: "I was listen- put on its first steak feed. The organization everything else. There is no charge to the the cause. One eight-year-old in Wyoming

donated \$500 from his 4-H project. Funds have been raised at rollover auctions, where the buyer donates the animal back and it is sold over and over again.

The result is a touching but tangible tribute to the troops. "We thank them for what they're doing," Bill said."I've had soldiers say, `I didn't know people out there cared this much.' I've seen a lot of healing."

For more information or to donate, go to www.steaksfortroops.com.

This battalion is on the move - not on some foreign battlefield, but supporting our soldiers right here at home. We commend Bill Broadie and all those involved with the All American Beef Battalion for making a difference by feeding and honoring these troops. They are on a mission worth accomplishing.

It's still possible to trim food bill

Food prices are rising, yet it's still Fill in with canned, frozen or dried possible to trim the grocery bill.

According to an Environmental Protection Agency report, American households waste an average of 14 percent of the food they buy, said Kansas State University professor Mary Meck Higgins.

If a family of four spends \$100 a week (\$5,200 a year) on food, reducing an average waste of 14 percent could yield a savings of \$728 - or enough to buy groceries for seven weeks, said Higgins, a food and nutrition specialist with Kansas State Research and Extension and a registered dietician.

• Review your calendar, and plan meals and snacks that work with your schedule. If time is available one day but not the next, cook more when you have time and use the leftovers when time is short.

• Review recipes and compare the list of ingredients with those on hand. Make a shopping list of only the items needed.

• Give preference to nutrientrich, les-processed foods such as fresh fruit rather than canned or frozen vegetables without added sauces. These foods are usually displayed around the outer walls of a store.

• Buy seasonal foods when supplies are abundant and prices low.

The Lorax (PG) Saturday AND Sunday 1:30 PM FREE! **Showing through Dec. 6 Breaking Dawn Part 2** (PG-13): Sequences of violence including disturb-

fruits and vegetables between shopping trips.

• Look for creative ways to use leftovers, such as incorporating them in a meal in the next day or two, freezing them for a future meal or using them as a snack in place of costly snack foods. Planning snacks to fill the gaps between meals can help manage weight and health.

• Buy only as much as you can use within a reasonable period of time to minimize spoilage.

• Opt for minimal packaging and limit buying items that will go to the landfill by choosing reusable fabric place mats and napkins and washable dish cloths or sponges.

• Choose local providers who have sustainable business practices, and take advantage of sales.

• Shop one store regularly, rather than spending time and money driving to several to buy one or two sale items.

More time and money saving ideas are included in a new Kansas State Research and Extension fact sheet: "Making Everyday Choices for a Healthy, Sustainable Diet." It is available at Extension offices and online at www.ksre.ksu.edu/library/ fntr2/mr3060.aspx.

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Goodland United Methodist

Church 1116 Sherman 899-3631 **Pastors**: Dustin and Shelly Petz Saturday: Worship: 5:30 p.m. Sunday: Adult Classes: 9:15 a.m. Worship: 10:30 a.m. Wednesday: Wednesday Nite Live 5:45 - 6:45 p.m. Simple Supper "Free will Offering 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Classes for all ages

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Pastor: Clifford Middlebrooks *Fifth & Broadway* 890-7368 *Sunday*: *Sunday School: 9 a.m.* Morning Service: 10 a.m.

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Pleasant Home Church Serving the rural community Celebrating 125 years of God's gracous blessings! *Rt.* 1, *Box* 180 • 3190 *Road* 70 (785) 694-2807 **Pastor**: Perry Baird **Sunday**: Worship Service: 9 a.m. Sunday School: 10 a.m.

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Promiseland Baptist Church Pastor: Rick Holmes • 890-7082

225 W. 16th (785) 890-7944 Sunday: Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. Morning Service: 11:30 a.m. Evening Service: 6:30 p.m. Wednesday: Bible Study Service 6:30 p.m.

Iglesia Del Dios Vivo

La Luz Del Mundo Spanish Speaking Church - translation available Minister: Jose S. Lopez 1601 Texas • 899-5275 **Daily Prayer**: Sunday thru Saturday: 5a.m. & 6 p.m.

Sunday: Sunday School: 9 a.m.

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Evening Service: 6 p.m.

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First Baptist Church

Pastor: Travis Blake

1121 Main

890-3450

Sunday:

Coffee fellowship: 9:30 a.m.

Morning Worship: 10 a.m.

Sunday School: 11:15 a.m.

Seventh Day Adventist Church

1160 Cattletrail

Pastor: Jim McCurdy

Saturday: Sabbath School: 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service: 11 a.m.

Priesthood/Relief Society: 12 a.m.

First Christian Church United Methodist Church (Disciples of Christ) **Pastor:** Rev. Carol Edling Jolly Pastor: Mike Baughn Eighth & Arcade • 890-5233 Worship Service: 10:45 a.m. CST Sunday: Church School - All ages 9 a.m. Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. CST Worship 10:30 a.m. Youth Group: weekly Jr./Sr. High groups Minister: Sheryl Johnson Thursday: Prayer Class - Noon Worship Service: 9 a.m. CST Pastor Carol's Class Wednesdays 5:30 p.m. Sunday School: 10:15 am CST www.goodlandfccdoc.org

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Celebrant: *Father Don Martin* 13th & Center Church 890-2115 or 890-7245 Services: 5 p.m. Saturday evening Bible Study: 4 p.m. the first and third Saturday of the month

> H2O Church.TV **Pastor**: Craig Groeschel 109 E. 17th (785) 728-0123 **Experience** Time

Sunday: 10:30 a.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

13th & Sherman • 890-6161

Pastor: Darian Hybl

Sunday: Christian eduction/fellowship:

10:15 a.m.

Worship Service: 9 a.m.

Kanorado

United Methodist Church **Pastor**: Leonard Cox

399-2468 **Sunday**: Sunday School: 9 a.m. Worship Service: 10:15 a.m.

Goodland Bible Church

109 Willow Road • 899-6400 **Pastor**: Chad DeJong Sunday: Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship: 10:45 a.m. 6 p.m. AWANA during school Evening Worship: 7:30 p.m. Wednesday: 6:30 youth group Growth groups call for information www.goodlandbible.org

Harvest Evangelical **Free Church**

521 E. Hwy. 24 • 890-6423 **Pastor**: Brian Fugleberg Sunday: Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday:

Senior High: 6:30 p.m. at the church Junior High: 6:30 p.m. at the church www.goodlandefree.com

Church of Christ

401 Caldwell 890-6185 Sunday: Bible Study: 9:45 a.m. Worship Service: 10:45 a.m. Wednesday: Bible Study: 7 p.m.

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