



NOVEMBER 11, 2008

Last month when we least expected it a massive economic meltdown spilled out over most of the nation and quickly spread into the financial markets of many other countries around the world. In a matter of days, America's October surprise interrupted the flow of credit, seriously eroded investor confidence, further weakened currency values, sealed the doom of a number of key international banking institutions and continued the decline in strength and viability of the world's financial infrastructure.

Closer to home, the meltdown mess left millions of us, in Elvis Presley's words, "all shook up!" But it also got the Food Bank moving quickly and aggressively to prepare for the "other shoe to drop" and the certain increase that will surely follow in the number of those people needing HungerCare help from us.

All signs indicate this most likely will happen a great deal sooner than was at first expected. The media has generously covered layoffs, production cuts, sales and expansion cancellations and going-out-of business stories. Downsizing is in the air. And the governing mood is concern for the uncertain future.

The Food Bank has been feeling an almost daily upsurge in the demand for HungerCare food. At the time of this report, the surge is growing even stronger and persistent in ways that are starting to hit home in full force.

In response to this demand, we are already shipping out about 20% more food than at this time last year. That's something we will continue to do if needed, no matter how high the demand. It's a pledge we can make when backed up by the support of our loyal contributors and volunteers and our team of skilled and dedicated employees. For these two groups, and for our fine new work place, we give thanks in the month of Thanksgiving.

—Brian Walker, President/CEO

HOTS-E! TOTS-E! Kansas Thespians, a professional organization for drama teachers and performers, is the sponsor for this year's campaign under the slogan, "Tricks or Treats So Kids Can Eat" (TOTS-E) a program to collect food for the Kansas Food Bank.

One group engaged in this effort was made up of 25 members of the Derby H.S. drama club, coached by drama teacher Richard Shultz. His students—along with similar groups from high schools in Rose Hill, Andover, Maize and Wichita High Schools Northeast, Southeast, Northwest, South, West, North and Heights—raised a total of 11,405 pounds of food, which was an increase of 2,100 pounds over that of the last drive.

Coach Richard, who helped run the contest at Derby High, said "It was a super effort from super kids that won the day." And we say it doesn't pay to argue with the coach.

GUEST APPEARANCE – Grant Delmar, a realtor with Prudential Dinning Beard Realtors, was one among 28 others representing the same firm, who volunteered for service at the Food Bank. Here is what he has to say about the experience.

"One day every year our company closes its doors so that we might volunteer and help give back to our community. I decided to help with the Backpack program. I believe we assembled just over 3,000 packets. This program and others are a real necessity to the health and wellbeing of many who urgently need help. It was a humbling experience."

He ended his note by encouraging readers to volunteer for the same experience. Nice guys. Nice idea!

NONPROFIT TO NONPROFIT. The nonprofit Chamber of Conference (NPCOS) has announced their first-ever United NONPROFIT food drive. It will run through November 28 and will collect nonperishable items to be donated to another nonprofit—the KFB. Call 316-440-6744 for more information.

DOUGLAS DESIGN DISTRICT NEIGHBOR – is conducting a food drive for the benefit of KFB. They invite everyone to visit the Douglas Design District between Washington and Oliver on Douglas Avenue. Bring along some perishable food donations while you're there. The drive is on throughout the gift-giving season. Go to www.dddwichita.com for a listing of stores.

STOMP OUT HUNGER

– You can redeem a \$5 coupon at the Century II WichitaTix office Box Office when you pick up your tickets for the exciting STOMP! dance performance at Century II Concert Hall on Nov. 25 or 26. Donations are collected for the Kansas Food Bank.



NOVEMBER 11, 2008, EDITION #40
If you're new, we welcome you!

1919 E. Douglas, Wichita, KS 67211 - Tel: 316 • 265 • 4421
Fax: 316 • 265 • 9747 - E-mail: foodbankinfo@kansasfoodbank.org
Website: kansasfoodbank.org