



TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2009

We are pleased to welcome Polly Basore, a recent addition to our Food Bank staff who has already begun her duties as our Director of Development. Polly, a well-known journalist and writer is no stranger to the world of non-profits. Through her own philanthropy Angel Works, she has helped fund several Wichita area charities representing a diversity of good causes, including the Kansas Food Bank.



In our case, she provided generous Angel Works grants for our Food 4 Kids Backpack program at a time when funding its expansion had become a serious and ongoing challenge. In addition to grants from the original Angel Works charitable fund, Polly wrote, published and sold thousands of copies of two children's books that provided a handsome return on investment. As a result two very deserving Wichita charities were given substantial help in expanding their good work. Polly switched from philanthropist to fundraiser in 2006 when she began working as a consultant with Wichita philanthropist Barry Downing to establish Real Men, Real Heroes, a mentoring program aimed at providing at-risk boys with positive adult male role models, which has since become a free-standing organization that continues to grow.

Polly said her passion for helping people in Wichita developed soon after she arrived here in 1998 to work as an editor at The Wichita Eagle. During her five years at the newspaper, she became convinced that people in Wichita always rise to help a neighbor in need if they only know of that need. "I saw it happen time after time," Polly said. And we are confident she will make that happen in her new position at the Food Bank—a step in the right direction.

—Brian Walker President/CEO

**A TRIO OF TERRIFIC TALENTS...** attending WSU Elliott School of Communications went all out to plan, organize, produce and promote a "Musical Smorgasbord for the Kansas Food Bank." Before they were through, they had created a three-act musical featuring the group, "Artfully Folded Paper, as well as single performers Kayla Jacobs and Matt Allison. The one-night show opened at 7 p.m. at Mead's Corner, 430 E. Douglas. Admission was free, asking only for a voluntary donation of a food item or cash.

Billed as the "Brewing Notes Benefits," the music and the evening was truly a smash hit! Donations for the Food Bank equaled more than a quarter ton (516 pounds) of food. Our special thanks to the students who put it all together for their class project: Jonna Shotton, Helen Barrett and Ivy Mullen. Good show. Take a bow, ladies!

**A SWEET DEAL...**Paul Anthony, General Manager of WAY-FM 90.1, a faith-based Wichita radio station, is well aware that his audience can always be counted on to help wherever help was needed.



Paul Anthony, Brian Walker, and David Conout

And did they ever! When he asked for contributions of peanut butter and jelly, items that are commonly found in home food pantries, donations weighed in at 213 pounds! Such a very nice ending to a very nice idea!

**THE OTHER WHITE MEAT TOUR...**and its half-dozen crew members rolled into Wichita for this year's River Festival to conduct a contest to determine Wichita's #1 Pork Fan.



The Food Bank's Kevin Enz (center) and the tour crew.

After auditioning a record number of energetic and very creative candidates, they chose Anastasia G. Miller as the winner, This also provided a record amount of 500 pounds of pork donations to the KFB. During their stay, the Tour's crew made many friends in Wichita. And then they were off to Memphis.

**CANS OR CASH -** Instead of paying off overdue book fines in cash, librarians at Wichita High School North spread the word that canned goods are acceptable in lieu of money. This brainstorm gathered a much faster response than previous appeals of asking for cold cash. And the Food Bank was donated 185 pounds of canned food to add to its inventory. Now, how cool is that?

*Turn to the back side of this issue for a special story on the '09 Plant-a-Row campaign.*

KANSAS food bank HELPING THE HUNGRY • SINCE 1984 A Member of FEEDING AMERICA

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## **WE'RE ON OUR WAY...**

with the 10th year of Plant-a-Row for the Hungry. The first donated garden vegetables recently arrived at the Food Bank's doors. Kevin Enz, who directs our food operations, reports that one generous gardener has already registered as the first one to bring a supply of salad fixin's from his Plant-a-Row garden: nine pounds of onions and radishes.

Kevin expects that before the last contributions are brought to the Food Bank from generous gardeners in the fall of this year, many thousands of pounds of fresh tomatoes, peppers, beets and other vegetables, as well as a variety of baskets of fruit will follow this first donation, providing many important nutritional supplements for food-insecure families throughout our Greater Wichita area.

Kevin, a member of the Plant-A-Row management group, asks that all those who grow more than they can eat or those with space to plant extra rows to bring in their surplus to the designated drop-off locations listed below. It would be a shame to allow fresh veggies and fruits to go to waste...so our thanks to all who share them.

For a running account of donations received throughout the summer, check Saturday's Home & Garden Section in *The Wichita Eagle*. And watch for more Plant-a-Row news in this special place next month. Happy Growing!

### ***Drop-off locations for fresh garden produce:***

*Kansas Food Bank, 1919 E. Douglas*

*Augusta Ace Home Center, 316 W. 7th Ave., Augusta*

*Brady Nursery, 11200 W. Kellogg*

*Hillside Nursery, 2200 S. Hillside*

*Hillside Feed & Seed, 1805 S. Hillside*

*Johnson's Garden Centers, 802 N. Ridge Road  
21st & Woodlawn or 2707 W. 13th*

*Valley Feed & Seed, 1903 S. Meridian*



**Plant a Row  
for the Hungry** 