

Foreign food aid program started by local farmer

By John Schlageck
Kansas Farm Bureau

Television, newspapers, magazines and the web are filled with images of starving children – skeleton-like figures crouched like dogs on their haunches while their mothers wail in anguish. Sometimes these pictures from such far-away places as Sudan, Ethiopia or Somalia also include children eating bread, bowls of rice and other staples that may have come from food produced on the fertile land of Kansas farmers and their counterparts across the United States.

The idea for food aid for these hungry people originated 60 years ago in Kansas. Named Food for Peace, this program started as an outgrowth of our country's foreign-aid policy.

Here's how it all began. A few years after the conclusion of World War II, the United States implemented plans to help countries devastated by the war. The Marshall Plan in Western Europe became the cornerstone of this newly emerging program.

While some of the funding was used for reconstruction, other monies were used to help feed starving people left homeless and unemployed by the war. During this same period, the United States enjoyed bumper crops and began stockpiling huge commodity surpluses.

In September 1953, Cheyenne County Farm Bureau – in northwestern Kansas – held a countywide policy development meeting. In that meeting, Peter O'Brien, a young farmer and rancher, suggested that it would make more sense to give aid in the form of food items than in the form of money.

Cheyenne County Farm Bureau drafted a foreign-aid resolution that called for exporting grain to other countries. The northwestern Kansas farm leaders believed that if underdeveloped countries were able to secure food they would become major buyers of U.S. commodities once they became more prosperous.



Leta and Peter O'Brien, Jr.

The Kansas farmers also saw this as a "sure-fire" method to help reduce grain inventories and increase shipments of U.S. agricultural products that could generate more business for American processors, packers, shippers, railroads and ocean vessels.

The county Farm Bureau resolution became a state resolution at the Kansas Farm Bureau annual meeting and later part of the official policy of the American Farm Bureau Federation. In 1954, Kansas Sen. Andy Schoepel sponsored legislation known as Food for Peace that passed both houses of Congress and was signed into law by Kansas' own native son, President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Since its beginning in Cheyenne County, Kan., Food for Peace has gone through many changes. It remains, however, a key ingredient in our overseas plan to aid countries with food rather than money.

Food for Peace has worked in more than 150 countries and provided food assistance to more than 3 billion people since 1954.

In 2013, Food for Peace provided approximately 1.1 million

metric tons of food aid valued at approximately \$1.4 billion in 46 countries. It also provided \$577.6 million in grants in 29 countries for local and regional purchase of food commodities, food vouchers and cash transfers under the Emergency Food Security Program.

Using food for humanitarian relief programs helps everyone. Without Food for Peace and the output of Kansas producers and their counterparts across the United States, millions of people will continue to go hungry.

It is only fitting we pay tribute to the Farm Bureau leaders in rural northwestern Kansas for planting this fertile seed that has grown to feed people and peace around the world.

John Schlageck is a leading commentator on agriculture and rural Kansas. Born and raised on a diversified farm in northwestern Kansas, his writing reflects a lifetime of experience, knowledge and passion.

Woman coaches youth shooting team as part of scholastic program

Kellie Brazelton (daughter of Kenny Richers) is the head coach of a youth shooting team, the Yellowstone Clay Shooters. Kellie has five kids on her team that is part of the Scholastic Clay Target Program, and Scholastic Pistol Program. This program is a national program for youth shooting. The kids shoot sporting clays, trap, skeet and .22 pistols.



BRAZELTON

Kellie has been working with the team for about four years with the help of assistant coach Michelle Sleaford and the parents. The kids are 14 and 15 years old but they can start with a team as young as eight (pistol is 12 years). Hunter (Kenny's grandson) is 14 and has been shooting competition since he was in second grade.

Hunter started in Las Vegas, Nev. and moved with his mom to Billings, Mont. in 2009 when he really got into competing. The kids have won numerous awards along the way. Along with him is Shelby Sleaford and Spencer Dalke who just this year has been invited to train with a world shooter, Mike Taylor



(USA Shooting.)

In addition, these three have applied and been accepted to go to the Junior Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo. for four days of intense training in August.

These kids have an amazing talent and Kellie and Michelle are going to see them through.

The kids fundraise and receive grants to help pay for shooting.

If you are interested in starting a team or donating to her 501C3 eligible team please email Kellie at kelliebrazelton@yahoo.com. She is more than willing to talk to you. The team is also on Facebook under Yellowstone Clay Shooters.



"DREAM POOL" WINNING PICTURES created by elementary school art students on display at the United Methodist Thrift Store are admired by Jordan Smull, Maggie Hingst, Breck Lohr.

Herald staff photo by Amanda Miller

Local students share pool visions

The St. Francis Elementary art students, under the direction of Peggy Moberly, designed their "Dream Pool" during the final days of art class. Their creations have been on display in several main street windows for the past two weeks.

The project was sponsored by "Citizens for a New Pool." A win-

ner was chosen from each grade. Winners will receive \$5 worth of movie bucks. A grand prize winner was also selected receiving a free 25-punch swim pass. The committee would like to thank the City Council for generously donating the prizes. The winners are: Kindergarten - Breck Lohr, 1st grade - Shane Todd, 2nd grade -

Addy Christensen (who was also the grand prize winner), 3rd grade - Talexa Weeter, 4th grade - Lyden Lampe, 5th grade - Cheyenne Yardley, 6th grade - Taighe Weeter. The winners can collect their prizes at the swimming pool office. Congratulations to all of the students who participated!

Obituary

Marjorie Ann Lampe

February 2, 1934 - June 22, 2014

Marjorie Ann Lampe, 80, died Sunday, June 22, 2014, following a brief illness.

She was born to Hugh and Grace (Miller) Carmichael on Feb. 2, 1934 in St. Francis. Marge had two sisters, Viron Carmichael Zimbelman and Cherree Sue Carmichael Halbleib.

Marge attended the St. Francis schools and graduated in 1952. Many classmates remained life time friends.

On Oct. 26, 1952, Marjorie married Jack Lampe in St. Francis. Daughter Tracy was born in St. Francis in 1954. Marge and Jack lived in California for a short period while Jack served in the U.S. Marines. The following year, after returning to St. Francis in 1956, their son Rod Allan was born.

Marge worked at Stuart's Jewelry for several years. She enjoyed reading, playing pinochle, going to the lake with friends and family, antiquing and spending time with her dear friends. She volunteered in her church and served in many positions, finding much needed strength in her faith.

Marge enjoyed her babies most of all. Each of her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren will remember Grandma with her very tender heart. In her eyes they could do no wrong.

Marge is predeceased by her parents, both sisters, step-father Wayne Pash and her brother-in-law Gary Zimbelman.

She is survived by her husband of 62 years Jack, daughter Tracy Freedman and her husband Howard of Lawrence, son

Rod and his wife Carla of St. Francis and five grandchildren, Kris Kite, Tyler Lampe (Megan), Jesse Kite, Allyse (Lampe) Ross (Derek) and Brett Lampe. She is also survived by five great grandchildren, Emma Lampe, Madison Lampe, Carson Ross, Collin Ross and Hadley Lampe, born just five days before Grandma died. She is also survived by brother-in-law Ken Halbleib, and brother-in-law Stan Lampe and his wife Nancy of Fort Morgan, Colo.

Services were held on June 25 at the United Methodist Church and burial was at the St. Francis Cemetery. The family is requesting memorials in her honor be made to the St. Francis Senior Center or the Cheyenne County Hospital.

HOSPITAL

Continued from Page 1

liked. Mr. Hughes said that their company wants to keep the things that are working, and make the hospital better by fixing things that are not.

Mrs. Bandel asked them to clarify how they would do that, and if they would be bringing new employees in. Mr. Hughes said that New Light Healthcare does not typically bring new employees in. He also said he wanted to be clear that they do not eliminate jobs.

Les Lacy, Great Plains Health Alliance vice president for regional operations and current interim administrator of Cheyenne County Hospital, asked the New Light Healthcare representatives if they have the most recent cost report. He clarified that because that was not available when they did their analysis, there would be some changes to the numbers for this year.

Mr. Biederman said that they had reviewed figures from January

of 2012 up until March of 2014. This gave them a good grasp of trends over the years.

Mrs. Bandel told the representatives that there have been rumors in St. Francis that several hospitals managed by New Light Healthcare have closed. She went on to say this is a small town, and close-knit, and asked how they would address the community when they are so far away.

Mr. Biederman and Mr. Hughes said that no hospitals have closed under New Light Healthcare. They said the company has been in business four and a half years, and the hospitals under their management have had amazing turnarounds. They encouraged people to check their references.

Mr. Hughes said that with technology available there was no reason they could not communicate effectively. He is just a phone call away. He and Mr. Biederman said New Light would be at every board meeting and would fly in very often and

be just as available as someone in Wichita.

After a few other questions, Mr. Lacy addressed the hospital employees. He said that there is another hospital in his region that is currently doing 'due diligence' and was asked to look into other management companies as well. He told them that no one goes out and buys the first car on a car lot, and he respects the board for what they are doing. He told the employees that they should show respect as well, and make sure the board has room to do what they need to do.

Mr. Biederman and Mr. Hughes told the hospital employees that they were available to answer any questions that the employees had. Their email addresses were made available to the employees so that they could email questions or concerns.

Mrs. Young and the hospital board made clear that this is still strictly a fact finding mission, and no decisions have been made.



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