Page 10



STENIO, A YOUNG BOY in Haiti, is sponsored by Showing the natives how to plant vegetable gardens was one Samuelson, (above) took a trip to Haiti in May to meet him. visit to Haiti.

Wally and Linda Friedichs of Topeka. Their daughter, Lora of the projects the volunteers (below) did during their recent

## Mother and son deliver new clothes to Haitian kids

**By MARY LOU OLSON** ml.olson@nwkansas.com

Nan Zander of Oberlin and her living for his family. son, Michael Bellamy of Maryville, Mo., who returned recently from Haiti, say they were able to witness

the joy of children at the House of Hope who had new clothes, thanks pair took there.

Mrs. Zander said that they took old treadle sewing machine heads with them and the cabinets were where a gift of goats will provide shipped. She said she got the idea for making "pillowcase dresses" while speaking at Trinity Lutheran Church in Madison, Neb.

"In Haiti, if a person owns a good sewing machine, and has the needed skills, they can earn a living making clothes, school uniforms and alterations," Mrs. Zander said.

The church was able to find six old-fashioned treadle machines, then bought one in Haiti with money from another donor. These machines work well in Haiti, she said, as they do not require electricity or a lot of maintenance. She said that they have hired a sewing teacher and several youths have started

They also took shoes and Christmas presents to the orphanage and helped the natives plant gardens, she said. They visited a medical clinic which is reaching out to help people, but itself needs equipment. The group Orphan Grain Train is donating and shipping dental equipment to the clinic.

Achemist, Mr. Bellamy has been working with a group called SWIM (Safe Water International Ministry) to improve technology to convert salt water to a chlorine solution to help disinfect water. During their visit in May, he and Dennis Florom of Lincoln, Neb., helped teach Haitians how to make chlorine.

In January, board members visiting Haiti were introduced to a widow and her five children, living in the mountain village where the House of Hope Haiti works. The family was so poor that they did not

was unable to go to school because he spent the day trying to eke out a

With the help of the House of Hope donors, they were able to provide the family food and buy pigs for them.

'The pigs will sell well in market to the sewing machines which the and provide a sustainable income," Mrs. Zander noted.

> The group plans to start a similar project soon in a nearby village. the income to start and sustain a school. A donor has already responded to the need, and the project will be underway soon.

Lora Samuelson, of Carthage, Mo., who made her first trip to Haiti in May, said, "My parents, Wally and Linda Friedrichs, have sponsored a young boy named Stenio from the House of Hope Haiti for about five years. They have his picture on their refrigerator and for my parents' 60th wedding anniversary, my five siblings and I decided to make a donation to House of Hope Haiti in their honor.

"After that, I began asking questions about Stenio and the children in Haiti and began to pray about going to Haiti to meet him. Well, God opened all the doors; and on May 6, I boarded a plane in Tulsa to go to Haiti.

"I got to meet Stenio the morning after we got there and told him, by interpreter, that my family loved him and prayed for him, and that his picture was proudly hung in my parents' home.

"Every day after that, when he saw me, he would call out, 'Lora.' The language barrier made it difficult to communicate, but I know he knew who I was and that my family cared about him.

"On the day, we were to say goodbye, I was so sad! I think I hugged him five or six times. I hope and pray that God allows me to go again.

"My time in Haiti definitely changed me! I went hoping and praying that I could show the eat every day. Their son, Merlou, love of God to the children, and



ROSSE KERRY of Haiti models the "pillowcase dress" made with the treadle sewing machines which have been shipped to the House of Hope.

instead, they showed the love of God to me! I'll never forget it ... the kids, their smiles, their singing, their hugs.

"Meeting Stenio was a dream come true.'

Mrs. Zander said anyone who would like to give a tax-deductible gift, or would like more information, may contact House of Hope Haiti, 917 R Lane, Oberlin, Kan., 67749 or donate online at www. houseofhopehaiti.com





**MERLOU CARES** for pigs provided by donors from this country to help him provide an income for his mother and her five children. They live in a mountain village where the House of Hope Haiti works.

10 kd 21.indd 1 7/5/11 8:08:22 PM