



# Around the Ranch

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Fall 2017

Volume 45, Issue 3

## Easy Ways to Help Alpha's Kids:

- Save General Mills Box Top Symbols for Alpha to redeem for cash—10¢ each! This helps purchase school curriculum for the kids and other needs.
- Save Best Choice UPC Symbols for Alpha to redeem for cash—3¢ each.
- Link your Dillons Plus Shopper Card to Alpha's Charity number—19764.
- Office Depot Give Back To Schools #: 70235483

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## Fantastic Summer Volunteers!

What a hectic summer we've had this year! With the exterior construction of the Faith House replacement home underway, we have been blessed with so many wonderful indi-



viduals and groups of friends coming out to give us a hand on this project, as well as helping with many other needs around the ranch. Pictured above



are members of the Kansas-Nebraska Campers on Mission group who helped us with the house, and with other needs such as replacing ceiling fans and a microwave oven in our Alpha House



residence, preparing Box Tops for submission,

and listening to the children read their school lessons aloud.

Below are members of the United Methodist Volunteers in Mission

group who came out to help with the house.



Both of these groups also partnered with youth groups who were here at the same time (Kiowa United Methodist Church of Kansas, and First Christian

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## Send Us Your Highway Sign Ideas!

Ron Ellis of the Meriden Community Church is working to replace Alpha's sign (located by US 59 Highway) which points visitors down the gravel road to Alpha's campus. The original sign installed in the 1970s is no longer easily

visible after the highway was significantly elevated during an improvement project years ago.

Ron is asking for your help in submitting ideas for a new, more visible road sign design, up to 4 foot by 8 foot in size. Responses may be sent

to Alpha's office via mail or email by the end of September.

*What great ideas can you come up with for Alpha's new sign?*

Send them in!



**Around the Ranch**



**Celebrating the Kids**



Our friend and regular volunteer, Dennis "Pappy" Petree, loves to



treat the children to a fun Independence Day Cookout and fireworks display on the 4th of July ... and the kids LOVE it! Pictured here are some of their



Independence Day shenanigans.

Many of the children are old enough to participate in 4-H activities and projects. They raise rabbits and goats for animal



competition, and being involved in animal programs includes other chores, such as helping out in the field when it is time to tackle hay harvest on the ranch.

That hay is used to feed the goats, rabbits, and horses.

4-H projects also include creative arts such as photography, lego projects, fiber arts, and cooking. Above, Sophia and Julian practice their photography skills.



When preparing for the county fair where they will show and sell their animals at auction, the children take photos and make invitation cards to



send out. Above, Sophia photo-bombed Ksusha's rabbit shoot, ha!



Kaitlyn & Rachel at the 4-H arena, showing their Boer meat goats.

The children are always thrilled to earn awards at 4-H competition for all their hard work. They brought home a whole table full of them this year!



Preschoolers enjoy some fun on the playground during their recess time, but the shade of the playset canopy sure feels good when the sun is hot!



The kids enjoyed a special field trip to experience the total solar eclipse in August! We thank the Cummings Christian Church, located in the path of totality, for their hospitality in allowing us to hang out at their church for the afternoon with most of the kids, giving them the opportunity to experience this very rare occurrence.



Several of the children were able to attend Ava's Christian dance recital at the Lied Center on the KU Campus.

## Volunteers ... Faith House Construction Progress

Church of Maryville, Missouri), mentoring the youth while tackling the construction projects together. It was a glorious experience for both the youth and the retired folks! Together they made wonderful progress on the house, and blessed each other in the process.

Saathoff Construction of Superior, Nebraska, brought their crew out to install the metal roof on the house while the other volunteer groups worked on continued installation of exterior soffit and



siding and preliminary electrical wiring throughout the inside.

Friends from Calvary Chapel of Liberty, Missouri;

Trinity Baptist Church of Wamego, Kansas; Lawrence Heights Christian Church of Lawrence, Kansas; and Superior Church of Christ, Superior, Nebraska, also came out to help with the house, and the Webber United Methodist Church of Webber, Kansas, helped us finish up fencing a 10 acre field in which to graze and keep the children's 4-H goat herd.



We are so very appreciative of each and every person who came out this summer to help us around the ranch! Your kindness and hard work were such a blessing, and the opportunity to share some time of fellowship and meals or recreation together with the children was wonderful. Heartfelt thanks go out to ALL of you!! We pray that you were as blessed as we were during your time of service here!



### Update on Construction Progress

After a very busy summer and lots of volunteer help, the exterior construction of the Faith House is almost complete, with just a bit of soffit and siding left on the front side as you can see above.

We are preparing to move onto the interior phase of construction which will include plumbing, electrical, and sheetrock work once the heating and cooling systems are installed.

### We still need your help!

Please call **Jeff Mulpas** at **785-760-6355** to arrange a mission trip for you or your group to help with interior construction projects for this needed home!

We invite you to come make a difference at Alpha, too!

## Gifts Honoring Loved Ones

### Charles Brison

By: Juanita Brison  
Grandview, Missouri

### Vera Hartman

By: Larry & Ruth Hartman  
Oak Harbor, Washington

### Warren Hughes

By: Mary Lou Hughes  
Havana, Illinois

### Aletha Moon

By: Beulah Mae Carter  
Hugoton, Kansas

### Dr. Paul Saneman

By: Anne Snavelly  
Perry, Kansas

Michelle Kincaid  
Perry, Kansas



### Past Members of the Pleasant Valley Club:

**Jackie Bayless**

**Alta Birtell**

**Margaret Henry**

**Jeanette Keck**

**Fannie Moore**

**Ina Mae Nason**

**June (Spacek) Unrein**

**Eve Vaughn**

By: Dennis & Vera Brinkman  
Carbondale, Kansas



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**Fall 2017**



## Mission Pantry Needs

- Breakfast Cereals
- Fresh Fruits & Veggies
- Shredded or Block Cheeses
- Sandwich Bread
- Canned Fruits
- Individual Snack Packs for Lunches
- Easy Mac Packets
- Pasta Sauces
- Long Grain Rice
- Seasoned Black Beans
- Saltine Crackers
- Condiments
- Paper Towels
- Facial Tissues w/ Lotion
- Glade Air Freshener Sprays
- Clorox Wipes
- 13 Gallon & Larger Trash Bags
- Gain Liquid Laundry Detergent
- Dryer Sheets
- Luvs Diapers Size 4
- AA & AAA Batteries



## Special Needs

- *Commercial quality 50-60" Zero-turn Mower for our mowing volunteer to use in keeping the grounds in good shape. Current one is almost worn out!*

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- *Funds for Building Materials for Faith House Rebuild*
- *Contractors & Volunteers for Faith House Rebuild*

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- **3 New Garage Doors and Openers for Maintenance Areas**

NOTE: If we should have any amount of funding left over from your support for a particular project, we will absolutely use it toward the many other needs of the children.

*Current Employment Opportunity:*  
  
**Learning Center Paraprofessional**



### 2017 Totals

General Mills Box Tops:  
 14,638 x 10¢ each = \$1,463.80

Best Choice UPC Symbols:  
 11,000 x 3¢ each = \$330

Dillons Rewards = \$1,045.81