



# Shepherd's Crossing

OCTOBER 2017—IN THIS ISSUE:

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*Share your blessings—Make a difference*

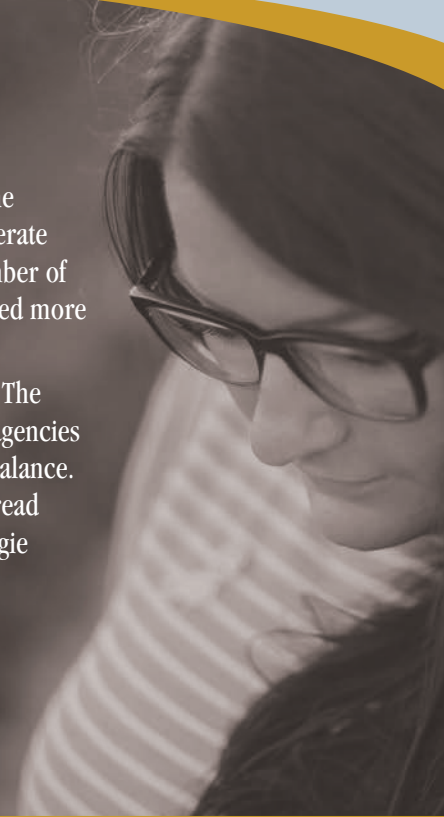
## Meet Angie **Learning How to Help Her Family**

Angie, a 34 year old single mother of three children, fell victim to cancer four weeks ago. Reactions to the treatment caused her to stop working which may mean she might also lose her medical insurance. Desperate to provide for her children, she turned to a local church where she was immediately embraced by a number of caring women. They helped as much as they could but Angie and her friends soon realized that she needed more help. One of the women suggested that Angie go to Shepherd's Crossing in this crisis time.

She took Angie to the Crossing, where Angie explained that both her rent and electric bill were past due. The counselor determined that Shepherd's Crossing could assist with the rent but then reached out to other agencies for assistance. Assistance was sought from another church to bring Angie's Westar Energy bill to a zero balance. Next, she gave Angie information about the Department of Children and Families, Boys and Girls Club, Bread Basket and the evening meals at the various churches of the community. With that help and guidance, Angie applied for and received disability assistance, food stamps and scholarships to Boys and Girls Club. She determined that she had to help herself so she applied and received flexible part-time work.

Angie and her children know they have been truly blessed during this trying time by Shepherd's Crossing and this community.

*Warren Holmes, Director of Client Services*



## 6th Annual C. Clyde Run and Midge's Mile

The College of Business Administration has set October 28 as the date for this popular event this year. The race will begin at 9 a.m. at Bosco Plaza on the K-State campus. The 2.5K route, entirely within the campus, will be repeated for the 5K run. The mile walk/run will start immediately after the last of the runners depart.

The previous five events have produced approximately \$100,000 in financial aid to our clients. This year's run could be the most successful of all. One reason for this optimistic outlook is that we are featuring a competition among sororities and fraternities. A beautiful walnut traveling trophy will go to the sorority and the fraternity that has the most participants in the run.



There is keen interest in this competition, designed to attract at least 500 students. The winning Greek houses will be treated to a catered dinner, courtesy of Hy-Vee.

In addition to the Greek competition, the run also awards a traveling trophy to the church that has the most participants. The trophy currently belongs to the First United Methodist Church. St. Thomas More has generated a couple of close contests.

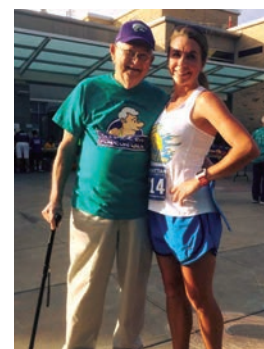
The Manhattan Broadcasting Company will again donate three weeks of public service announcements promoting the run. Coach Bill Snyder, former K-State distance runner Amy Mortimer Garman and radio star Dave Lewis recorded inspiring messages. Many thanks to Corey Reeves, General Manager of MBC, for his wonderful support.

The grand prize is two skybox seats for one of the two K-State football games after the run. These will be for either the West Virginia game on November 11 or the Iowa State game on November 25. To be eligible, participants must register on or before October 20.



For the past two years, Tanya Khvitsko has graced us with her presence. She will join us again this year. She married John Trimborn

in August and he will accompany her. Tanya's story is truly amazing. She was one of the first five children brought to Kansas City by Project International from Belarus in 1997. Belarus received 75 percent of the radiation fall out from the Chernobyl nuclear disaster of April 1986. Radiation caused many birth defects in children born after 1986. In Tanya's case, she was born with no lower legs. She now runs on artificial steel legs and engages in countless running events each year. She is a recent graduate of Mid-America Nazarene University and works for Knit-Rite, a company that produces prosthetic socks for the prosthetic and orthotic industry.



We also expect Nancy Rusanowsky from Wichita to return this year. Although an amateur, Nancy participates in many events each year, including the Boston Marathon. Last April she completed the entire Boston route. Nancy and her husband Alex have three adorable girls. We are looking forward to having Tanya and Nancy as featured runners in October.

*Shepherd's Crossing's mission is to provide compassionate and caring assistance to those in need of a listening ear and financial support.*

OPEN: Tuesday 10 a.m.-2 p.m. & Thursday 2-5:30 p.m.

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www.shepherdcrossing.info



## Bridget Stanton, Social Media Consultant

For the past six months, Bridget Stanton and her Bridge Digital Marketing Company have expanded Shepherd's Crossing's presence on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. These two stories featuring two of our Board members were posted on Facebook.



**Helena Grinter, board member, representing St. Thomas More**

*I believe all of us need to invest in our community. When our kids were young, my husband and I were involved in their activities. Once they were grown, I looked for an organization that made our community a better place to live. Shepherd's Crossing was the perfect fit for me. I have been active on the Board for the past three years. I am humbled to be a small part of a great organization, like*

*Shepherd's Crossing, that helps so many of our neighbors. It is truly a Community Organization—supported by over 30 churches, multiple businesses and civic groups and hundreds of individuals. In 2016, Shepherd's Crossing helped nearly 1,500 families with rent, prescriptions and utilities totaling \$286,000. That is tremendous! It is a perfect example of many individuals coming together to make a difference in the world.*



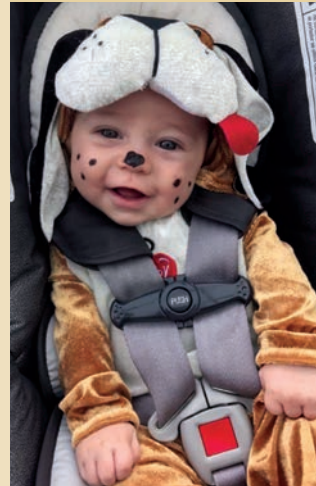
**Terry Arthur, president, representing First United Methodist Church**

*I have been on the Shepherd's Crossing board for seven years. During that time, I have seen how Shepherd's Crossing impacts the lives of those families that we serve. As a board member and president, I feel like I have been a part of helping these families meet the challenges of living with limited resources. I know of no other organization that helps those in need in the same way or with the same effectiveness.*

*It is a community effort of over 30 churches and other not for profit organizations joining together to fulfill this need in our community.*



## Halloween Costume Contest



With the run occurring near Halloween, we will again have awards for the best costumes for children and adults. This was a popular feature of last year's run. The grand prizewinner last year was C. Clyde's 3-month-old great grandson, dressed as a puppy. C. Clyde was not a judge!

## Business Ambassadors

The College of Business Administration encourages its students to get involved in service. This year, some 80 students will be present to work as volunteers at the run. Hats off to **Morgan Ziegler, president, and Amy Scott-Sanjur, vice president.** Their assistance is invaluable.

Join many others as a recurring online donor.  
It's easy to set it up at:

[www.shepherdscrossing.info](http://www.shepherdscrossing.info)  
then click the DONATE NOW link.

## From the Executive Director

Sally, a single mother, lives literally next door to a church and was constantly asking for help. The deacons were so frustrated with her. It appeared she would buy her kids bikes and eat out at restaurants with the money they gave her. One of the deacons even said, "Most of the poor people in town have TV sets, so I know they are not starving." That is not in accord with the Biblical command to love your neighbor as yourself and love others as Christ loved us. Why should we wait until they are starving?

We all want to help kind-hearted, upright people, whose poverty came upon them through no foolishness of their own and who will respond to our aid with much gratitude and joy. Some people persistently make sincere but very bad decisions about money and possessions, almost like being born with

impaired eyesight. Should we not continue to assist a poor person if that person continues to persist in selfish or idle behavior? What about the rest of the family? Sometimes we need to assist even when the parent(s) act(s) irresponsibly, for the sake of the children.

As time went on, the deacons realized that Sally bought those things for the children because she felt guilty for the poor life she was giving them. She could not resist the temptation when the church handed her money because it made her children feel normal. Sally agreed to work with the deacons to cut her expenses, to find a better paying job, and to have "big brothers" and "big sisters" mentor and tutor the children. Sally is pleased to share that the plan for her family's future has brought stability and joy.

- Beverly Olson

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