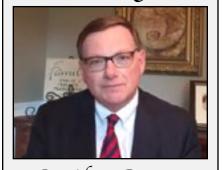
# **AKRON OHIO STAKE**

## SELF-RELIANCE DEVOTIONAL TO BE HELD SEPTEMBER 24

On Sunday, September 24 at 7 p.m., a self-reliance devotional will be held in the Canton building. The fireside is for anyone who wants to become more self-reliant, either spiritually or financially.

The intent of the devotional is to start members on the path to self-reliance by helping them understand the

Stake Presidency Message



President Dayton
https://youtu.be/rsOw50S15X0

importance of self-reliance, assess their current level of self-reliance, determine the skills and income needed to become temporally self-reliant, and select the self-reliance group that will help them reach that goal.

Four specific categories will be addressed at the devotional: (1) education, (2) finding a better job, (3) starting and growing a business, and (4) personal finances. At the end of the devotional, participants will be invited to choose a discussion group in one of the four categories.

Once a participant has joined a discussion group, he or she will be invited to attend weekly meetings for 12 weeks, starting in October. The cycle will then repeat, and if a member wants to join a different group for more training, he or she can do so.

"Inasmuch as God has given us our free agency to do as we please, He expects us to use our intelligence and ingenuity to improve our circumstances both spiritually and temporally. He wants us to be successful in life and desires to help us. Man really is that he might have joy."

Elder Mark E. Petersen "Blessings in Self-Reliance" April 1981

Anyone who wants to attend the devotional on the 24th is welcome. The stake also needs facilitators who can guide these discussion groups; individuals who are interested in that effort should attend the devotional as well.

Congratulations 2017 Pathway Connect Graduates!



Elder and Sister McEntire, Emily Sommers, Katrina Sommers, Marie Walker, Nicole Sharier, Lindsi Gerstenslager, Tabitha Palm, Monica Schneck, Cindy Squire, Shaun Larson, Sonia Varner, Sister and Elder Jentzsch. Not pictured: Walt Flory, Preston Lehman, Brittany McNees, Jared Varner

# **RELIEF SOCIETY NEWS**

Leah McConnell, Stake Relief Society Secretary

We received direction from the General Relief Society for our recent stake auxiliary training, we were asked to discuss the main purposes of Relief Society and additional meetings. The Relief Society was organized March 17, 1842, for the relief of the poor, the

must fail, charity is the pure love of Christ, and it endureth forever. Time and time again, they have been true to their motto "Charity never faileth."

Elder Henry B. Eyring says this about charity "The legacy of charity began with the sisters in



widowed, the orphaned, and for the exercise of all benevolent purposes. Relief Society was not only to relieve the poor but to save souls! A larger part of the work today is to look after the spiritual welfare and salvation of all the sisters

As told in Handbook 2 9.1.1, the purpose of Relief Society helps us prepare women for the blessings of eternal life as they increase faith in Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ and His atonement; strengthen individuals, families, and homes through ordinances and covenants;

and work in unity to help those in need.

in the church.

In times of trial and uncertainty, Relief Society sisters worldwide have followed Mormon's admonition to "cleave unto charity which is the greatest of all." They have demonstrated their sure understanding that while all things





Nauvoo, who engaged in organized charitable works and received temple covenants. It continued in Winter Quarters and along the arduous trail to the Salt Lake Valley. It sustained Latter-day Saint women as they settled frontier communities, endured political persecution and world wars, and maintained hope during economic depression. It has inspired loving-kindness at home and outreach efforts worldwide. It has motivated Relief Society sisters as they have served in hospitals and as they have helped with adoptions, wheat storage, humanitarian aid, and welfare. The pure love of Christ continues to motivate Relief Society sisters today as they gather to teach and serve

one another and as they strengthen and watch over each other one by one."

It is my hope that we can find simple ways in our day to help the sisters in our stake as we have difficult challenges and tests that are set before us.

# Ward Window ~ Akron ~

Fifty years ago, the Akron Ward building was completed and dedicated. On July 19, 2017, the Akron Ward and New Portage Branch hosted a Jubilee Celebration to commemorate the event. Dressed in 60's attire and listening

to 60's music, members and friends gathered and picnicked on the church lawn while children participated in games and activities from the 60's: four square, badminton, hula hoops and ten other games hosted by the Primary, Young Men's, and Young Women's organizations.

The highlight of the evening was the

excavation of the "time capsule" buried on July 19, 2002, by Bishop Max H. Lewis and Brother Paul D. Stark. Bishop Stark had the honor of digging up the time capsule. Unfortunately, the seal on the storage container was broken

and contents were water damaged. However, photographs of 2002 ward families were salvaged, dried and displayed the following Sunday. The time capsule also included a Book of Mormon, drawings, pictures, and write-ups from Young Men, Young Women, and Primary activities. It was a memorable and fun evening for all!



Two brothers who helped build the Akron Ward building as youth, Bill & Don Mars were in attendance with their wives. At the activity, a table was set up with old photos and videos playing of the construction of the building. In the video that their father had taken, you were able to see them laying bricks together fifty years earlier.



During the activity children enjoyed hula hooping, skateboard bowling, stick pulling, limbo, jump roping, badminton, four square, balloon animals and eating ice cold snow cones.



At the end of the activity a fifteen year time capsule was unearthed and opened! The contents were wet and smelly but it was fun to be able to see the pictures of ward members from that time.

# Journey to the Special Olympics

In August, Sierra Carter of the Akron Ward participated in the Special Olympics Ohio State Equestrian Competition. We have asked her mother, Sister Deb Carter, to share some of the spiritual insights she and Sierra experienced during the journey.

For the past few months, Sierra has been practicing to compete in the Ohio State Special Olympics Equestrian competition. She has spent many days going to the barn to practice with the horse she leases, Freckles, a gray Arabian. The two have made a great pair and have complemented each other's abilities for seven years.

Sierra practiced her routine

for showmanship over and over. We worked with a trainer to help her along the way. Showmanship is detailed and judged by how you present your horse and how you make the horse stand with four feet square. It is little jingles of the reins that get the horse to stand square. With too much jingling, the horse could move forward or back. You must not be in the same quadrant as





### Akron Stake Family History Fair

Sponsored by the Akron Ohio Stake of The Church of Jesus Christ of Letter-day Seints 106 East Howe Road Tallmadge, OH

> Saturday, October 14th 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM

## Register at Eventbrite

Registration 9:30 - 9:55 AM. Classes for all levels begin at 10:00 AM

See available classes at https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Akron\_Chio\_Family\_History\_Center.

Attendance is free and lunch will be provided.

the judge when showing, and you must keep your eyes on the judge. Showmanship is a great time to look proud of your horse and what both of you have practiced together.

Sierra also practiced with Freckles for English equitation. This is sitting properly in the saddle with quiet hands on the reins (no movement). head up, and being on the correct diagonal (rising up in the saddle, posting when the horse's outward front leg rises, then sitting down in the saddle when the leg is down). It is a motion on the horse when you are both in tune with one another, and it looks very impressive when done correctly.

Since the end of June, Sierra had been riding two times a week, practicing her diagonals and showmanship skills. She is a very mosaic individual (meaning she learns things and then can forget them), so she needs

continued on next page

# Journey to the Special Olympics continued

to practice repetitive movements more so than others. In July, progress was coming, but it was slow. Approximately three weeks before the horse show, she started to struggle in remembering what to do in showmanship. All I could think of doing was to pray for her to remember her routines. By this time she had diagonal down one way in the ring, but not the opposite way when her right leg was along the wall. Praver became a key for me. I asked Father in Heaven to help me have patience with this mosaic person. I also asked how to teach her. If she did not get the diagonal down, she would not qualify and would not place in English equitation.



Help populate JustServe.org in your area. Encourage volunteer organizations you are acquainted with to post their volunteer needs on JustServe.org. It's easy to follow the prompts and Register to Find or Submit a service project.

Akron Stake Plan

#### Revitalize the Rescue!



Become, and help others to become, true followers of Jesus Christ and enjoy the blessings of the holy temple by. . .

- Living the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- Gathering Israel through missionary work.
- Caring for the poor and needy. Live the law of the fast and discover ways to serve at



Identifying ancestors and doing their temple ordinance work.

The Saturday before the event, I asked our ward to pray for Sierra that her mind would be sharp and focused. My calling in the ward is an assistant librarian, and I came across a Deseret News article at church the next day called "Focusing the Mind." It was an article about how research shows that prayer improves an athlete's ability. It stated that a relationship with God impacts the brain, and that prayer is the key to keep your mind focused. I decided to read the article at home with Sierra. After reading it with her after church. I looked at Sierra and told her that I asked the people of the ward to pray for her, but then I told her the right thing to do would be having prayer with her all along. We fell to our knees to pray and to ask for help and guidance. We both cried knowing that we were touched by the Spirit.

The next day at Sierra's practice, things

continued on next page

#### How would you like to ...

- ...Reduce stress & improve your mood?
- ...Lower your blood pressure?
- \_Boost your immune system?
- \_Reduce perceived pain?
- "Promote life-long learning?
- \_Bond with others in your community? \_Strengthen testimonies?
- "Build motivation & empowerment?

These benefits & more are yours when you JOIN

Start your musical journey today by attending

# Music Basics for Beginners

Session 3 by Diane Silla at the STAKE MUSIC CONFERENCE

Learn:

How to read music How to sing parts

Which vocal range you are How to follow the conductor

Music Conference is FREE & OPEN TO ALL

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9,2017 9AM-3P 2135 Baldwin Rd, Reynoldsburg, OH





# Journey to the Special Olympics continued

became clearer. She learned to train herself to sit one bounce in the saddle and she would be on the correct diagonal when her right leg was on the wall. She sang her showmanship routine to the tune of "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" and became confident in her training. By the end of the week, she was talking through the routine for showmanship, and I could see in her eyes she knew what she had accomplished. We continued to pray for one

more thing: Freckles. Being an Arabian. Freckle's doesn't like to stand square. Arabians usually stand with one back leg behind. We spent countless hours of trying to set him up, but he just would not get it. We even had a prayer with Freckles in his stall to help him.

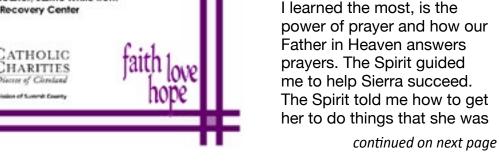
It was the day of the event and of course, Sierra did not show any signs of being nervous. We again started our day with prayer and asked God to help Sierra be

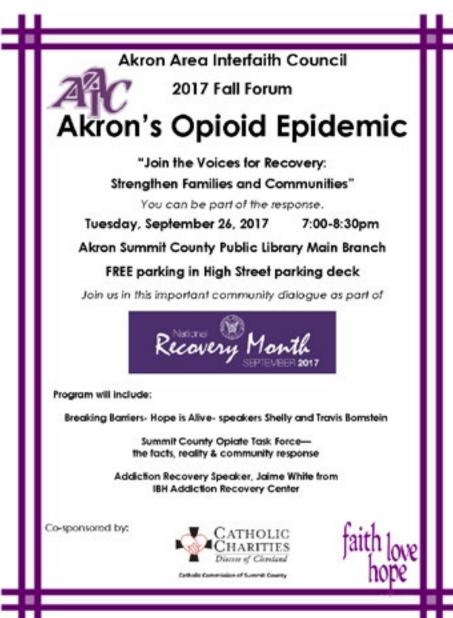
on task and be focused and that Freckles the horse would be a great participant in the Special Olympics.

Sierra was in Class #3 for showmanship and the last person to show in that class. Her trainer gave her a few tips like "don't forget to circle" and "trot your horse up to the judge." I could hear Sierra saving the routine sitting in the stand. Many in the audience said, "She is talking herself through it." She asked Freckles to trot and then said "WHOA boy" really loud, and he came to a complete stop and stood four foot square. Amazing! She watched the judge and moved into the correct quadrants. She placed 3rd and earned a bronze medal. Countless hours of working with her horse paid off!

Sierra then was in Class #23 English equitation. Her trainer gave her one tip: "When your right leg is on the wall, sit a bounce in the saddle and you should be on the correct diagonal." She did and it paid off. She also sat tall and straight in the saddle. Her hands could have been up more when holding her reins, but she looked good. She did well and placed 4th in state in English equitation.

We learned so much during this journey! One thing I learned the most, is the





## Journey to the Special Olympics continued

struggling with. Prayers can be answered by guiding us with what to do in situations.

I know through the years, with my kids, that if I needed guidance or help I would turn to prayer. I don't kneel often in prayer, but when I do, He answers my prayers. In my life, I pray often for guidance to help my children succeed. Prayer is where I turn to when I need guidance or answers. I look to my Father in Heaven to help me be an instrument in my children's lives, and ask Him how to help His children. I love the hymn "Did You Think to Pray." It reminds me to stop and pray even though life gets so busy. This journey is a start to a basic principle for Sierra: prayer does help you, IF you ask with a sincere heart. Listen to the soft voice of the Spirit and it will guide you.

Sierra plans to compete next year, but with a different horse. Freckles is 26 years old and this was his last great show to put in his book, but a beginning for Sierra. Sierra wants to jump (steeplechase) and will hopefully make the team again! She will have to rely again on the Spirit to help her make good decisions and to learn a new horse in one year.

#### MISSIONARIES LEAVING



BENJAMIN JAMES MORTENSEN

**20 SEPTEMBER 2017** 

FOR

UTAH SALT LAKE CITY SOUTH MISSION



SAIMASINA SIAKI BURGESS

27 SEPTEMBER 2017

FOR

CALIFORNIA OAKLAND SAN FRANCISCO MISSION



ABBIE JEAN FLORY

27 SEPTEMBER 2017

FOR

CHILE SANTIAGO
EAST MISSION

# Family History Corner



Working at the Family History Center has been such a blessing in my life. Working with patrons to help them find their lost ancestors and feeling their joy makes it exciting for my husband and me. Before the time of GPS, I remember how my we would plan a weeklong vacation going to the areas where our ancestors lived and visiting courthouses, cemeteries, funeral homes, and historical societies trying to find a few records. We would take time to map out the location from one place to the next so our travels would be organized. We would have the list of names we were searching so when we went to that courthouse or historical society we knew exactly who we wanted to find.

Now, it's either coming to our Family History Center to get help from trained consultants or working on your computers from home. How grateful we should be that most of this information is at our fingertips. Just yesterday, I happened to go online and found someone had put a picture of my 3rd Great Grandparents who came over from Germany in 1828. Technology is wonderful!

# Brecksville Home Storage Center News

Organize yourselves; prepare every needful thing.
D\$C 109:8

September 1 thru October 31, 2017

Nonfat Dry Milk \$4/pouch or \$48/case Shelf life -20 years

Pancake Mix \$4.75/pouch or \$38/case Shelf life - 2 years

We are happy to help anyone who might have any questions or concerns. Please feel free to contact us at Brecksville Home storage. We are open on Wednesday and Thursday.

> Brother and Sister Juhasz 6900 Southpointe Parkway, Suite C Brecksville, Ohio 44141-3284 440-526-4057

Wednesday-Thursday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Saturday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. by appointment

#### STAKE CALENDAR EVENTS

#### September 2017

#### Monday, September 4

Labor Day

#### Saturday, September 9

Stake Leadership Training/Tallmadge 9 a.m. - noon

2017 Multi-Stake Music Conference/ Columbus Ohio South Stake Center 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Stake Youth Dance/Cleveland 7-10 p.m.

#### Saturday, 23 September

General Conference Broadcast Women's Session 8 p.m.

#### Sunday, 24 September

Tallmadge Ward Conference Self Reliance Devotional/Canton 7-8:30 p.m.

#### Saturday, 30 September

General Conference Broadcast 12 p.m. and 4 p.m.; Priesthood 8 p.m.

#### October 2017

#### Saturday, 1 October

General Conference Broadcast 12 p.m. and 4 p.m.

#### Sunday, October 8

**Fast Sunday** 

Stake High Priest Quorum Meeting/ Massillon 7-8 p.m.

#### Saturday, October 14

Family History Fair/Tallmadge 9:30 a.m. -2:30 p.m.

Stake Youth Dance/Youngstown 7-10 p.m.

#### Sunday, October 15

New Portage Branch Conference

#### Sunday, October 29

Wooster Ward Conference

#### **November 2017**

#### Sunday, November 5

Daylight Saving Time Ends - Fall back!

#### Tuesday, November 7

**Election Day** 

#### Saturday, November 11

Veterans Day

Stake Leadership Training/Tallmadge 4-6 p.m.

Stake Conference Adult Session/ Tallmadge 7-9 p.m.

#### Sunday, November 12

Stake Conference/Tallmadge 10 a.m. -noon

#### Saturday, November 18

Stake Youth Dance/Cleveland 7-10 p.m.

#### Thursday, November 23

Thanksgiving



Food • Entertainment • Marketplace • Children's Activities Jennings Community Learning Center • 227 E. Tallmadge Ave.

akrongvf.org



Please send Akron Stake Calendar questions and updates to Brother Strate at srstrate@gmail.com