



CARNATION QUEENS LEARN ABOUT ALLIANCE AND SHARE TALENTS



As they always do, this year's group of Carnation Queens go above and beyond just prepping for the July 30 Carnation Queen Pageant. They learned about the community, explored, and worked to make Alliance a great place to live.

In July, the 15 candidates had a friendly competition to see who could collect the most food to donate to the Alliance Community

Pantry. At the end of the afternoon they had donated 3,149 pounds of food, and the winning candidate, Chloe Orzo, brought in 749 pounds, and was recognized at the pageant! Wow! This was the 11th year the candidates have collected food for the pantry and this year's donations puts the total at 33,406 pounds of food!



The girls did more than just donate food. They all wanted to learn about and see the pantry and do what they could to help support the pantry cause. Day manager Jim Perone put them to work and they filled 42 boxes of food. At the end of the day, several of them expressed interest in coming back to volunteer after the festival.

They have been busy doing more than collecting food. They went on a tour of downtown led by Karen Perone, president of the Alliance Historical Society; they will be helping out at a Habitat build; they explored the fire station; they will promote a local blood drive, and they will visit the Mabel Hartzell Historic Home to learn more about local history and clean.

The girls were escorted by Jenny Ritchie and Tierney Bratton, and the pantry volunteers welcoming and helping the contestants were Bruce Helsel, Jim Perone, Pat Gates, and Mike Patterson.

VOLUNTEERING: IT'S A FAMILY THING

Volunteering at the pantry can be a family affair. We have Jim and Jill Greiner, Linda and Richard Mitchen, Paul and Marcia Domino, Terra Lashley and her family, and others, and now we have Kristen Phillips, seen here with her twin sons, Issac and Samuel, who spent Tuesday morning repacking a variety of products.

Kristen, a physical therapy assistant at NovaCare Rehabilitation, had occasionally volunteered on her days off, and this summer is giving her twins the volunteer experience. Isaac and Samuel, who previously went to Marlinton, are ninth graders at Bio-Med Science Academy, a stem school in Rootstown.



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BOTH DAMON CHEMICAL and DALE BROWN CONTINUE TO DONATE



The urge to give back and to make a difference in the community is major part of what makes our pantry run so successfully. It's that spirit we see in our volunteers and those who want to support our efforts through financial gifts, food donations, volunteering, or sharing their talents.



One example is Dale Brown. As he had done before, Dale gave our warehouse floor a much needed stripping and waxing. Dale, who works as the custodian at Union Avenue United Methodist Church and also drives a bus for Alliance City Schools, arranged with Damon Industries to supply all of the equipment, cleaning supplies and wax necessary to complete the job. This is a huge help for us as we must protect and care for our facility. We thank Dale and Damon Chemical for helping make the pantry a welcoming place to volunteer.