

Alliance Community Pantry

215 E. Market St., PO Box 2581 Alliance, Ohio 44601

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GENEROUS ROYALTY

This year's 18 Carnation Festival Queen candidates continued the tradition that was started the first year our Alliance Community Pantry opened 15 years ago – they had a friendly competition to see who could donate the most food.

Thursday afternoon, July 10, they all stopped at the pantry, and in less than two hours they had dropped off 1,016 pounds of food which brings the queen candidates' 15-year total to 39,296 pounds.

Festival board member Missy Miller once again organized the activity for the girls, and as usual we got more out of it than just food. Working with pantry manager Debbie Skubiak and other pantry volunteers, the candidates spent an hour or so moving, organizing, and packaging and bagging what they had brought in. They also had time to do some pantry cleaning.

Pantry volunteers working with the girls were Jim Greiner, Bruce Helsel, and Paul Domino, and board president Jim Perone got together with the candidates to tell them all about the pantry's history, operations and positive impact on the community.

This year's queen candidates are Avery Horning, Sophia Thomas, Lyrical Andrews, Zoey Maxwell, Abrielle Walker, Ariana Aldridge, Faith Savage, Ciara Evans, Cydni Weatherspoon, Haley Morris, Alyssa Collins, Kaycie Jurina, Laney Cross, Sarah Gaczkowski, Brooke Fiegenschuh, Annabelle Goodwin, Karlaysia West-Cole, Cadence Luca.

At the pageant Brooke Fiegenschuh was crown 2025 Carnation Festival Queen.



QUEEN CONTESTANT DONATION RECOGNIZED



Queen candidate Karlaysia West-Cole was recognized during the 2025 Carnation Queen Pageant for donating the most food to the Alliance Food Pantry, 340 pounds!



Clients who arrive at the Pantry are being greeted by a beautiful first impression these days thanks to the work of two local nurseries and gardening centers. DeHoff Flowers & Greenhouses first planted beautiful evergreen plants in the two large flower pots in front of the pantry, and soon afterwards Barry Nichols from Kridler Gardens completed the pots with a beautiful arrangement of petunias. We thank them for adding beauty to everyone's pantry experience.

A BEAUTIFUL WELCOME

MEIJER'S GIVING CONTINUES

Meijer's generous Simply Give program in support of our Pantry has been rolling along since it started June 29, and in mid-August there will be one opportunity for shoppers to quickly assure a \$30 donation of food to the Pantry.

Aug. 16 is a Double Match Day, and all a customer has to do is grab a Meijer Simply Give \$10 donation card when checking out which will be added to the bill, and Meijer will double that and add \$20. All money collected will be donated to the Pantry.

Another Double Match Day will be Sept. 13. Meijer

will match up to \$5,000 in contributions in each double match day.

All donations will be converted into Meijer food-only gift cards which will be given to our Pantry to help us stock our shelves with food that may not be available from the Akron-Canton Foodbank. Meijer's Simply Give program is designed to help feed hungry families in the communities they serve and we praise them for that.

When Meijer first opened May 14, 2024, our pantry was selected as the initial Simply Give recipient, which lasted through September.



SHREDDING DAY



Stark Federal Credit Union shredding day is planned, Saturday, Aug. 16, 8:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at Stark Federal Credit Union, 11281 S. Sawburg Ave. in Alliance.

Everyone is invited to bring your documents to be securely shredded and recycled on-site.

Coordinated by Stephanie Sweany of the Stark Hunger Task Force, the annual event is a project to help support the Alliance Community Pantry.



Participants are asked to consider supporting our mission — food and monetary donations will be gratefully accepted to help fight hunger right here in our community.

ALLIANCE COMMUNITY PANTRY BOARD

Jim Perone-Pres., Jim Greiner-Treas., Bruce Heisel-Past Pres, Mike Patterson-VP Operations, Chris Schade-Sec., Jan Horning, Missy Miller, Tim Morrison, Betsy Brown, Pat Gates, John Whitehair, Cindy Magda, Andy Magda, Beth Simbro, Marge Simmons, Kim Cully, Rudy Roggencamp, Cathy Torma

