



Dig deep into your family roots this Saturday

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

If you've seen enough Iris Festival parades in your lifetime and you want to get out of town before traffic gets nuts, the Keizer Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS) has an opportunity for you.

On Saturday, May 20, the Keizer Stake is sponsoring Family Discovery Day at the Family History Center, 862

45th Avenue N.E. in Salem.

From 8:30 a.m. to noon, the center is offering free classes on discovering family roots.

"The focus is on how to use the available tools and how to put it all together once you have the information," said Don Garrett, director.

Attendees won't spend time on computers, but will learn how to start a genealogy search and begin compiling information. Garrett suggested bringing a pen and paper for taking notes, but handouts will also be available.

All family members are welcome, but there are no activities planned for children 12 and under.

While many of the databases available online — like ancestry.com or myheritage.com — require a subscription to ac-

cess, the Family History Center offers access to those resources for free twice a week, Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Wednesdays, 2 p.m. to 9 p.m.

"After they've found some of the information, we can help them fill out a pedigree chart or family group record," Garrett said.

Depending on where a family originates from, there are some volunteers who can assist in reading, and teaching others how to read, foreign language records.

Investigating genealogy can lead to all sorts of surprises, Garrett said.

Garrett himself spent time looking into his father's history and it led him to Scotland. When he had trouble pinning down his great grandfather's birth records, he realized that a tombstone might be his best bet for a date.

"I sent for a phonebook in the area where he lived and thumbed through it for two weeks before finding the cemetery where he was buried,"

Garrett said.

He wrote a letter to the caretaker and received a response with a Polaroid of the tombstone marking his ancestor's grave. There was only one problem: the name on the stone was completely wrong.

"My great grandfather's name was John Garrett and the tombstone had the name William Robertson," Garrett said.

The letter explained the discrepancy. Garrett's great grandfather had been buried atop Robertson, and another relative had been buried on top of John Garrett. The note also invited Garrett to pay £1-per-letter fee to have the additional names added to the tombstone.

"Those are the kinds of things that happen when you do the work," Garrett said.

While the Family History Center is sponsored by the LDS church, Garrett said anyone of any faith is welcome.

"There is no missionary work or proselytizing at the center," he said.

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ROBBERY, continued from Page A1

The identity of the vehicle owner led FBI and Salem police investigators to Sides, who had a criminal history of bank robberies and most recently came off federal supervision in 2012.

After the Key Bank robbery, on May 11, Salem police officers arrested Sides at his home on Bever Drive Northeast. More than \$1,000 was taken from Key Bank according to paperwork filed

with the courts by the Marion County District Attorney's Office.

During an interview, Sides provided information that was not known outside of law enforcement and said he committed the robberies to fuel a heroin addiction.

The female accomplice, Kalinda Rae Strader, was arrested at a Salem bar Friday, May 12, and charged with a parole violation.

Sides is being held at Marion County Correctional Facility and his bail has been set at \$500,000.

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