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## **SHAKE IT OFF, TAKE A STEP UPWARD**

Written By: Harry Gribnitz

*Lately, I have felt a little "buried" by life. You know the feeling. You just can't seem to do everything you need to do. Before you get one job done, another is piled on top. I am even a little late getting this month's letter written! I was reminded of a story a friend had shared with me some time ago.*

*One day a farmer's donkey fell into an abandoned well. The animal cried out as the farmer tried to figure out how to help him. Finally, the farmer decided it was hopeless. The donkey was old and the well needed to be filled in anyway. With the help of his neighbors, he reluctantly started to shovel dirt into the well. At first the donkey cried. Then, after a few shovels full of dirt, he quieted down.*

*The farmer sadly peered down into the well and was astounded by what he saw. With every shovel full of dirt that landed on the donkey's back, he did something amazing. The donkey would shake off the dirt and take a step up on the new layer of dirt. As the farmer's neighbors continue to shovel dirt on top of the animal, he would shake it off and take another step upward. After several hours, the donkey stepped up over the edge of the well and trotted back to his stall in the barn.*

*Life is going to shovel "dirt", all kinds of dirt on you. The trick to getting out of the hole is to not let it bury you, but to shake it off and take a step up!!!! Each of our troubles is a steppingstone. We can get out of the deepest hole by just not stopping, never give up. Shake it off and take a step upward!!*

Thanks,

Harry Gribnitz  
Your Home Loan Specialist for Life!

*PS: Please remember each day to keep the courageous young men and woman serving in our military in your thoughts and prayers*