



94th ANNUAL

# ROME PEACH FESTIVAL

COLLECTOR'S EDITION

Aug. 28 - Sept. 1, 2025

**Event Schedules  
& Details**

**Area Map**

**Parking & Shuttle  
Information**

*Olivia  
Lynn*

2025 Romeo  
Peach Queen

Photo by  
Mallory Mae  
Photography





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# Recurring Events

## All day (Thursday-Monday)

### Men's Club Parking

St. John Lutheran Church, 246 Benjamin Street, Romeo

## 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. (Thursday-Monday)

### Westview Orchards Market and Peach-y Treats Tent

65075 Van Dyke, Washington

Award winning donuts, flips, pies, peach products, pressed apple cider and Freestone Romeo Peaches

INFO: 586-752-3123, WestviewOrchards.com

## 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. (Thursday-Saturday)

### Thumb Area Artists' Exhibition

Presented by Romeo Guild of Art

Starkweather Arts Center, 219 North Main Street, Romeo

INFO: 586-752-5700 www.Starkweatherarts.com

## 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Saturday-Monday)

### Peachy Keen Craft Show

Summit Entertainment Center, 66600 Van Dyke, Washington

Free entry and free parking.

INFO: peachykeencraftfair@gmail.com

## 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Saturday-Monday)

### Fall Family Fun Kick Off at Westview Orchards

65075 Van Dyke, Washington

Admission to the farm includes U-pick apples, wagon rides, playground with structures, photo opportunities, straw bale maze, new Lainey Wilson corn maze, petting farm. Purchase tickets early to save money at westvieworchards.com

## 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Saturday-Sunday)

### Westview Orchards Peachy Craft Show

Located at: Westview Orchards, 65075 Van Dyke at 30 Mile

INFO: 586-752-3123, www.WestviewOrchards.com

## 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. (Saturday-Monday)

### Frontier Town's Annual Labor Day Craft Show

Frontier Town, 67300 Van Dyke, Washington

Free entry and free parking. Closes at 5 p.m. on Monday.

INFO: 248-464-8706

## 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. (Friday-Monday)

### Food at the Masonic Lodge

Smashed burgers, smoked brisket, smoked pulled pork, peach pie with ice cream and cash bar.

231 North Main Street, Romeo

INFO: 312-497-5554

## 12 p.m. - 6 p.m. (Friday-Monday)

### Westview Orchards Outdoor Winery Schoolhouse

65075 Van Dyke, Washington

Wine, hard cider, wine slushies. Closes at 4 p.m. Labor Day.

INFO: 586-752-3123, www.WestviewOrchards.com



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2025 PEACHFEST

# FIREWORKS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 29TH

Crystal Diamonds - 14713 33 Mile Rd

Fireworks at dark (Weather permitting)

Park opens at 6:30 p.m.



FREE!

# KIDSFEST

Ages 12 and under

SAT, AUGUST 30TH

9:30 AM - 1:30 PM

at Romeo Village Park

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Hometown

# PARADE

LABOR DAY

Mon, September 1st

at 1:30 P.M.

Main St., Romeo

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# Thursday, August 28

## 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

### AAUW Used Book Sale

Romeo Community Center, 361 Morton, Romeo  
Benefits Romeo High School scholarships  
INFO: 810-796-2153

## 4 p.m. - 11 p.m.

### Mid America Carnival Rides

Romeo Lions Field, 269 East Washington, Romeo  
No entry fee to enter grounds. \$30 Wrist Bands available in advance  
INFO: DiscoveringRomeo.com or Discovering Romeo App

## 4 p.m. - 11 p.m.

### Romeo Lion's Gourmet Food Pavilion

Romeo Lions Clubhouse, 269 East Washington, Romeo  
Sugo Boyz Italian, K-Block's BBQ, Gambino's Wood Fired Pizza, Chatitas Rolling Kitchen, Motor City Hot Dogs, The Rustic Bluebird, Kona Ice, Miller's Farmers Marketplace, FAMS Official Peach Festival Merchandise

## 4 p.m. - 11 p.m.

### Romeo Lions Refreshment Fieldhouse

### Beers Around the World Offerings

Romeo Lions Clubhouse, 269 East Washington, Romeo  
More than 100 craft, imported and domestic beers.  
Wine, seltzers and non-alcoholic beverages.

## 4:45 p.m.

### Metro Electric 33rd Annual Peach Festival 5K/10K Run

Races start at 6:45 p.m., Romeo Middle School, 11091 32 Mile, Romeo

Online register: [runsignup.com](http://runsignup.com)

INFO: [peachfestrun@gmail.com](mailto:peachfestrun@gmail.com)

## 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

### L and L Products Concert Series Live Music

The 2XL Band – Classic Rock

Romeo Lions Clubhouse, 269 East Washington, Romeo



The Agape Center, a food pantry located in Romeo, exists to help individuals and families who need emergency assistance. Our pantry is stocked with canned goods, meat products, fresh produce and personal care items. Caring volunteers treat everyone with dignity and respect as they navigate the difficult times in life.

We are located at 347 S. Main Street in Romeo. Those needing help feeding their families can call us at 586-336-6737 or simply stop by when our food pantry is open:

Tuesdays and Wednesdays - 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM  
Thursdays - 4:00 to 7:00 PM

To donate, see [agapenorthmacomb.org](http://agapenorthmacomb.org) or use the barcode:



*The Agape Center is an equal opportunity provider*



# Friday, August 29

## 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

### AAUW Used Book Sale

Romeo Community Center, 361 Morton, Romeo  
Benefits Romeo High School scholarships  
INFO: 810-796-2153

## 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

### Memories of Romeo Peach Festival – Oral History

Romeo Community Center, 361 Morton, Romeo  
With Emily Malek, Romeo Community Archives  
INFO: 586-690-4890

## 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.

### Knights of Columbus Pasta Dinner

St. Clement of Romeo Church, 343 South Main Street,  
Romeo

## 4 p.m. - 11 p.m.

### Mid America Carnival Rides

Romeo Lions Field, 269 East Washington, Romeo  
\$5 entrance fee until 8 p.m. – kids ages 12 and under  
are free.  
INFO: DiscoveringRomeo.com or Discovering Romeo App

## 4 p.m. - 11 p.m.

### Romeo Lion's Gourmet Food Pavilion

Sugo Boyz Italian, K-Block's BBQ, Gambino's Wood  
Fired Pizza, Chatitas Rolling Kitchen, Motor City Hot  
Dogs, The Rustic Bluebird, Kona Ice, Miller's Farmers  
Marketplace, FAMS Official Peach Festival Merchandise

## 4 p.m. - 11 p.m.

### Romeo Lions Refreshment Fieldhouse Beers Around the World Offerings

Romeo Lions Clubhouse, 269 East Washington, Romeo  
More than 100 craft, imported and domestic beers.  
Wine, seltzers and non-alcoholic beverages.

## 6 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.

**L and L Products Concert Series Live Music** – The  
Proud Naturals (easy listening) performs at 6 p.m. and  
Sunset Boulevard (80s and 90s rock-n-roll) at 8:30 p.m.)  
Romeo Lions Club Refreshment Fieldhouse, 269 East  
Washington, Romeo

## 6:30 p.m. (Show begins at dusk)

### Peach Festival Fireworks

Crystal Diamonds Softball Complex, 14713 33 Mile, Romeo  
INFO: Lynne Walker, RWB Parks and Recreation, 586-  
752-6543 ex.1412

## 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

### Open Mic Night at Romeo Gold Studios

66780 Van Dyke, Washington, 48095  
INFO: RomeoGoldStudios.com/openmic, 586-372-8540

## 7 p.m. - 11 p.m.

### Live Music at the Masonic Lodge

Dirty Mic and The Boys, New Relatives, with Special  
Guest  
231 North Main, Romeo  
Free admission, cash bar  
INFO: 586-497-5554



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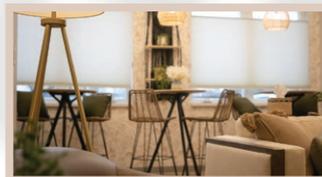
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# Saturday, August 30

## 8 a.m.

### 2025 Peach Festival Golf Tournament

Bruce Hills Golf Course, 6771 Taft Road, Romeo  
Check-in 7 a.m.  
INFO: [golfbrucehills.com](http://golfbrucehills.com)

## 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

### Children's Entrepreneur Market

The Abbey on Main Parking, 102 Church Street, Romeo.  
INFO: [kidsmarkets.com/event/romeo](http://kidsmarkets.com/event/romeo)

## 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

### KIDSFEST - A free, fun day for kids age 12 and under

Romeo Village Park  
Hosted by Romeo-Washington-Bruce Parks and Recreation; Sponsored by Pediatric Dentistry of Romeo, Romeo Lions and Wendys. Games, prizes, activities, music and more.  
INFO: 586-752-6543

## 10 a.m.

### Romeo High School Wrestling Cornhole Tournament

Romeo Lions Field, 269 East Washington, Romeo  
Tournament play begins at 11:30 a.m.  
INFO: 586-524-9481

## 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

### AAUW Used Book Sale

Romeo Community Center, 361 Morton, Romeo  
Benefits Romeo High School scholarships  
INFO: 810-796-2153

## 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

### Memories of Romeo Peach Festival – Oral History

Romeo Community Center, 361 Morton, Romeo  
With Emily Malek, Romeo Community Archives  
INFO: 586-690-4890

## Noon - 11 p.m.

### Mid America Carnival Rides

Romeo Lions Field, 269 East Washington, Romeo  
\$5 entrance fee until 8 p.m. – kids ages 12 and under are free.  
INFO: [DiscoveringRomeo.com](http://DiscoveringRomeo.com) or Discovering Romeo App

## Noon - 11 p.m.

### Romeo Lion's Gourmet Food Pavilion

Sugo Boyz Italian, K-Block's BBQ, Gambino's Wood Fired Pizza, Chatitas Rolling Kitchen, Motor City Hot Dogs, The Rustic Bluebird, Kona Ice, Miller's Farmers Marketplace, FAMS Official Peach Festival Merchandise

## Noon - 11 p.m.

### Romeo Lions Refreshment Fieldhouse Beers Around the World Offerings

Romeo Lions Clubhouse, 269 East Washington, Romeo  
More than 100 craft, imported and domestic beers.  
Wine, seltzers and non-alcoholic beverages.

## 2 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.

### L and L Products Concert Series Live Music

Romeo Lions Club House, 269 East Washington, Romeo  
2 p.m. Casual Smile - easy listening  
5 p.m. Jukebox Junkies- easy listening  
8:30 p.m. Parallel Fifth – Party Music

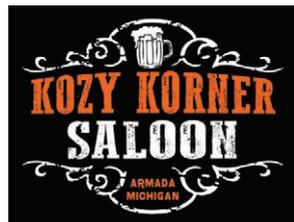
## 7 p.m. - 11 p.m.

### Live Music at the Masonic Lodge

231 North Main, Romeo  
Mass Dispute with special guest  
Free admission, cash bar.  
INFO: 312-706-3664

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# Sunday, August 31

## 7 a.m. - 2 p.m.

### Patrick L. Rinke Memorial Peach Festival Car Show

Blue Water Trucking, 14889 33 Mile Road, Romeo.  
Registration 7:30 a.m.-noon, awards presented 3 p.m.  
INFO: 586-662-3662 or julieb.homes4sale@gmail.com

## 8 a.m. - Noon

### Romeo Lions Club Annual Pancake Breakfast

Romeo Lions Club House, 268 East Washington, Romeo  
Ages 13 and up: \$12, ages 7-12: \$8, ages 3-6: \$5, under age 3: free. Show your student ID and get \$1 off your meal.  
Mimosa and Bloody Mary Bar.  
INFO: 586-764-0730

## Noon

### Third Annual Kids Pie Eating Contest at the Masonic Lodge

231 North Main Street, Romeo  
Ages 6-13 years  
Registration open: jakebaginski@gmail.com  
Registration closes noon Sunday, Limit 30  
INFO: 810-706-3664

## Noon - 11 p.m.

### Mid America Carnival Rides

Romeo Lions Field, 269 East Washington, Romeo  
\$5 entrance fee until 8 p.m. – kids ages 12 and under are free.  
INFO: DiscoveringRomeo.com or Discovering Romeo App

## Noon - 11 p.m.

### Romeo Lion's Gourmet Food Pavilion

Sugo Boyz Italian, K-Block's BBQ, Gambino's Wood Fired Pizza, Chatitas Rolling Kitchen, Motor City Hot Dogs, The Rustic Bluebird, Kona Ice, Miller's Farmers Marketplace, FAMS Official Peach Festival Merchandise

## Noon - 11 p.m.

### Romeo Lions Refreshment Fieldhouse Beers Around the World Offerings

Romeo Lions Clubhouse, 269 East Washington, Romeo  
More than 100 craft, imported and domestic beers.  
Wine, seltzers and non-alcoholic beverages.

## 1 p.m. - 11 p.m.

### L and L Products Concert Series Presents

Romeo Lions Clubhouse, 269 East Washington, Romeo  
1 - 4 p.m. - Romeo Gold Studios House Bands – kid's showcase  
4:30 - 7:30 p.m. – Stereo Kings – Cigar and Bourbon Party  
8 - 11 p.m. – The Family Tradition Band - Country

## 5 p.m. - 11 p.m.

### Karaoke Nite at Masonic Lodge

231 North Main Street, Romeo  
INFO: 810-706-3664  
6:30 p.m.

## 6:30 p.m.

### Peach Festival Bed Races

Main Street East Lafayette Street north to St. Clair Street  
An old favorite returns.  
INFO: Scott Verellen 586-703-3809  
michiganadrenalinebaseball@gmail.com

## 7 p.m.

### Peach Festival Charity Car Cruise

Main Street in Romeo - Begins at Pleasant Street and ends at Hollister Street  
Staging at Tractor Supply, 66143 Van Dyke, Washington, 48095  
Staging starts at 5:30 p.m., Leave parking lot at 7 p.m.  
INFO: Julie Brown, 586-662-3662, julieb.homes4sale@gmail.com



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**GOOD OLD DAYS**  
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Weekend after Labor Day

**September 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**Mailing Address:**  
P.O. Box 271, Richmond MI 48062  
586-727-1320

**Festival Address:**  
69500 Beebe St., Richmond MI 48062  
www.richmondgoodolddaysfestival.com  
www.facebook.com/richmondgoodolddays

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 SAT & SUN 7AM - 6PM

# Labor Day Monday, September 1

## 10 a.m.

### Children's Parade

Theme: Transportation  
Main Street in Downtown Romeo, Hollister Street to Washington Street  
INFO and Registration: 586-752-4436 kelley@northernmacombcc.com

## Noon - ?

### Mid America Carnival Rides

Romeo Lions Field, 269 East Washington, Romeo  
\$5 entrance fee until 5 p.m. – kids ages 12 and under are free.  
INFO: DiscoveringRomeo.com or Discovering Romeo App

## Noon - ?

### Romeo Lion's Gourmet Food Pavilion

Sugo Boyz Italian, K-Block's BBQ, Gambino's Wood Fired Pizza, Chatitas Rolling Kitchen, Motor City Hot Dogs, The Rustic Bluebird, Kona Ice, Miller's Farmers Marketplace, FAMS Official Peach Festival Merchandise

## Noon - ?

### Romeo Lions Refreshment Fieldhouse Beers Around the World Offerings

Romeo Lions Clubhouse, 269 East Washington, Romeo  
More than 100 craft, imported and domestic beers.

Wine, seltzers and non-alcoholic beverages.

## 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

### Romeo Peach Festival Hometown Parade

Main Street from Gates Street to Durham Street  
INFO: venetg@rwbpr.com or 586-752-6543 ex 1402



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# The Record

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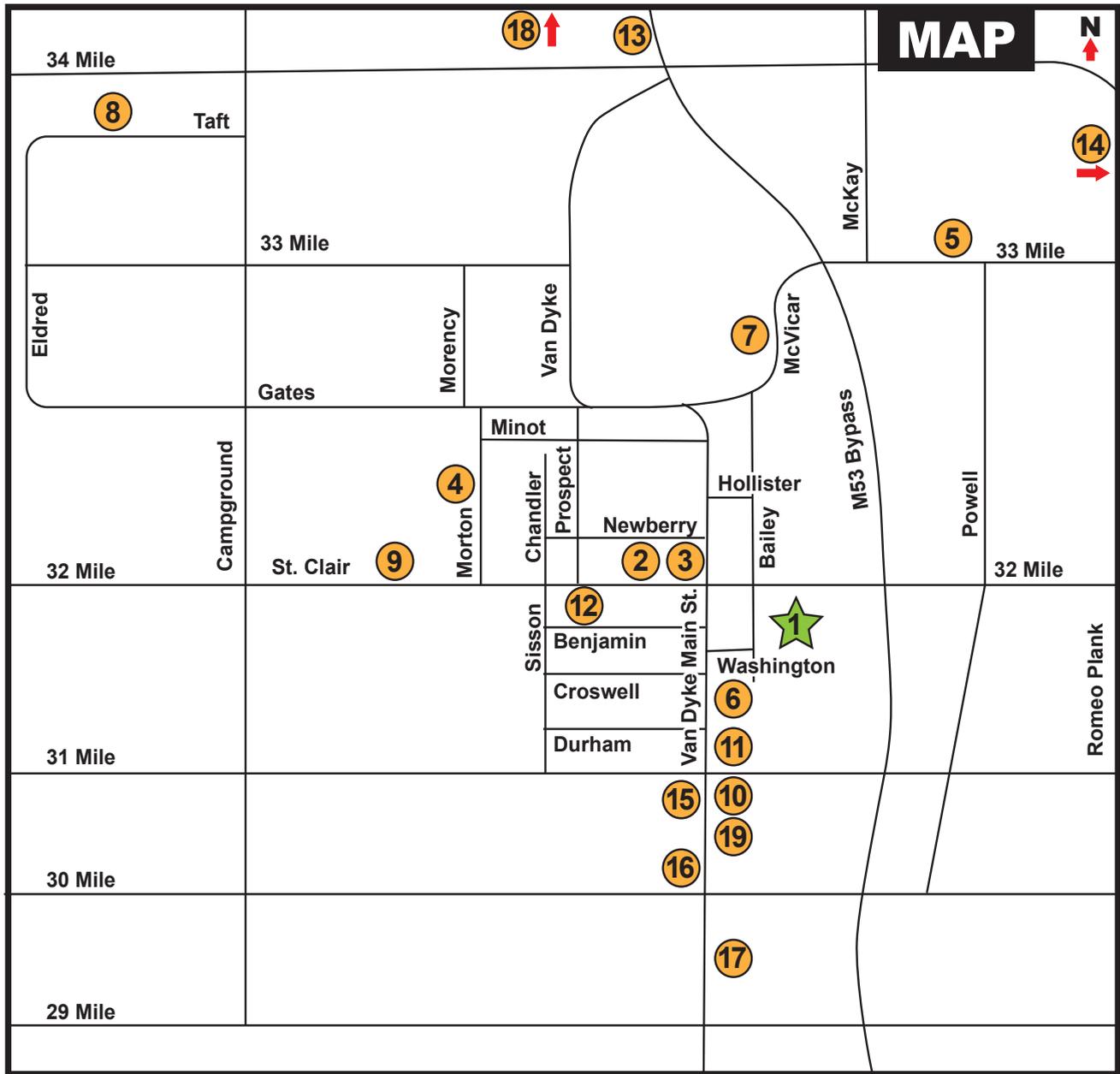
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| 3. Starkweather Art Center, Grey's Opera House (Masonic Temple) | 11. Frontier Town                    |
| 4. Romeo Community Center & Fields                              | 12. St. John Lutheran Church         |
| 5. Crystal Diamonds Fields                                      | 13. Northern Farm Market             |
| 6. St. Clement Church   | 14. Blue Water Trucking              |
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2025 Michigan  
Peach Queen of Romeo

# Olivia Lynn

Olivia Lynn, 18, of Washington Township, is the 2025 Michigan Peach Queen of Romeo.

It's a title that reflects her genuine heart, infectious energy and deep love for her hometown.

She is a recent graduate and valedictorian of Romeo High School.

Lynn was involved in National Honor Society, HOSA, Romeo Athletic Advisory Committee and Students Enriching Romeo through Volunteer Experiences (SERVE).

She earned the Youth Award at SERVE for completing over 200 hours of community service.

She spent her summer working full-time as a medical assistant, preparing for her future in medicine.

This autumn, she will begin her studies at the University of Michigan, where she'll major in neuroscience on a pre-med track and minor in psychology, all with the goal of becoming an anesthesiologist.

Lynn is known for her kind spirit, bubbly personality, and the way she lights up every room she walks into, according to Peach Festival organizers.

She said her Sundays are reserved for church with her family, where she centers her heart on Jesus, drawing strength, joy, and purpose from her faith in Him as the foundation for everything she gives to others.

**PAGE 20 - 2025 Romeo Peach Festival**



2025 Michigan Peach Queen of Romeo Olivia Lynn  
(Photo by Mallory Mae Photography)

During the Peach Queen Pageant, organizers said Lynn shared her passion for making a difference and her vision for what it means to be a role model in the community.

As Peach Queen, she plans to raise money in support of Common Ground ([commongroundhelps.org](http://commongroundhelps.org)), a Michigan-based mental health crisis center that provides 24/7 services and support for individuals in need.

"Mental health matters so much, no matter your age or what season you're in," Lynn said. "I want everyone in our community to feel seen, heard, supported and reminded that they're never alone."

In addition, Lynn is launching a small scholarship called the "Project Peach Grant," which will be awarded to a Romeo High School senior who is doing good in the community.

“Even a little recognition can make a huge difference,” she said. “This grant is about celebrating kindness and encouraging students to keep spreading light.”

Her favorite Peach Festival moment? The carnival, of course!

“As a kid, I was obsessed with the rides and cotton candy, basically, anything that made me laugh nonstop,” Lynn said. “Now, getting to enjoy the carnival as the Peach Queen feels even more magical. It’s a way to bring people together with your friends and the people you love the most.”

Lynn said she feels beyond honored to represent Romeo this year.

“This town has shaped me in the best ways,” she said. “I’m proud to give back to the community that has always supported me, and I hope to make people smile every step of the way.”



Olivia Lynn upon her crowning at the Romeo Lions Club.  
(Photo by Mallory Mae Photography)



Peach Queen Olivia Lynn participated in the St. Clair Shores Memorial Day Parade.

(Photo courtesy of the Michigan Peach Queen of Romeo)

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*2025 Mr. Peachy King*

## Luca Catanzaro

Mr. Peachy King 2025 is Luca Catanzaro, 5, of Washington Township.

He will be in kindergarten at Hevel Elementary School this autumn.

His family includes his parents Bryan and Krysti, brother Pauly and their dog Birichino.

He likes all water activities and building with Magnatiles with his brother.

*2025 Lil' Miss Peach Blossom*

## Elliana Bisson

Lil' Miss Peach Blossom 2025 is Elliana Bisson, 4, of Romeo.

She will be attending Young 5's at Amanda Moore Elementary School this autumn.

Her family includes her parents Aaron and Bryn, sisters Jaylee and Adeline and dogs Ruger and Moose.

She loves to dance, sing, swim and go fishing.



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## 2025 Honored Citizen

# Barb Jacobs

Barb Jacobs, 88, of Romeo is the 2025 “Honored Citizen” of the Romeo Peach Festival.

She has lived in the Romeo and Washington Township area for 80 years.

Jacobs is a huge Peach Festival fan, especially the Monday parades, and attends them each year.

Barb married Robert Jacobs in November 1952. Robert served on the Romeo Police Department for 15 years.

In May 1958 they moved into their house on Mellen Street where Barb has lived the past 67 years.



Members of the Jacobs family gather on a bench they donated to the Bruce Township Park. Pictured left to right in the back row are Tammy Grammatico, Jeff Jacobs, Vickie Klein, Ron Jacobs, Bob Jacobs; and left to right in the front row are Cyndi Sellers, the late Barbie Jacobs, 2025 Honored Citizen Barb Jacobs and Debby Finn. (Submitted photo)

The Jacobs raised eight children — three boys and five girls.

She is the proud grandma, memaw and GG to 21 grandkids, 21 great-grandkids and three great-great grandkids.

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2025 Romeo  
Peach Festival Grand Marshal

# Jennifer Andary

Romeo District Court Judge Jennifer A. Andary has been selected as the grand marshal for the 2025 Romeo Peach Festival.

She will appear in the Hometown Parade which will travel southbound on Main Street from Gates Street to Durham Street at 1:30 p.m., Labor Day, Sept. 1.

Andary was elected judge of the 42-1 District Court in November 2020.

She was appointed magistrate of that same court in 2017 and served in it prior to the election.

Prior to taking office, Andary handled a multitude of cases as an attorney involving all genres of criminal law, family law, labor law, as well as both federal and state matters throughout the State of Michigan.

Andary joined the Macomb County Prosecutor's Office where she tried numerous felony cases and won jury convictions on many major offenses, including but not limited to many life offenses in the Macomb County Circuit Court.

Andary also participated and worked with the Macomb County Circuit Court Drug Court Program.

She later became a part of Andary, Andary, Davis and Andary now The Andary Law Group.



**Jennifer Andary**  
(Submitted photo)

Andary serves on the Northern Macomb Foundation board and serves as an Academy Champions Board member for the Academies of Romeo High School.

The judge volunteers her time to work with the Law and Public Safety pathway at the high school and has the privilege to advise and work with the students on the Mock Trial Team.

She created the, "Layin' Down the Law with Judge Andary" program for the elementary schools of our community. She spends two days with the students in and out of the courtroom learning together.

Andary said she is honored and privileged to serve the community and raise her two children here.

Her son and daughter both attend Romeo Community Schools and love having the Peach Festival fun provide some of their favorite memories together.

# Peach Crisps

Recipe yields 8 servings

Ingredients:

- 4 cups sliced fresh peaches
- ½ cup all-purpose flour
- ½ cup brown sugar
- ½ cup cold butter
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 1 cup rolled oats

Directions

1. Gather the ingredients. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).
2. Arrange sliced peaches evenly in an 8x8-inch baking dish.
3. Mix flour, brown sugar, butter, cinnamon, and salt in a bowl using a pastry cutter until crumbly.



4. Fold oats into flour mixture.
5. Sprinkle mixture evenly over peaches, pressing down lightly.
6. Bake in the preheated oven until crispy and golden brown on top, about 30 minutes. Enjoy!



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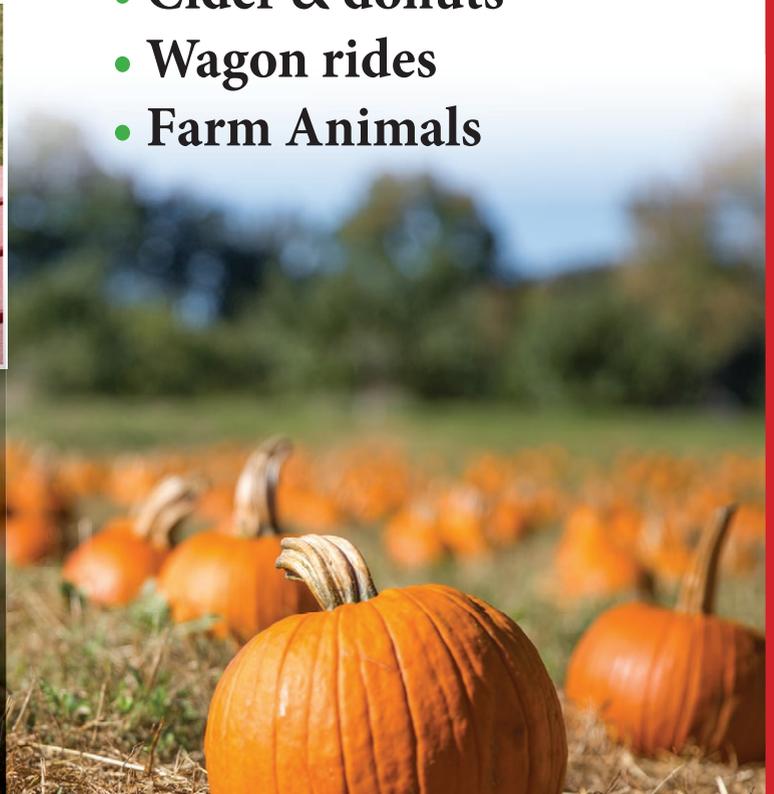


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# Peach Crumb Bars

## Ingredients

### For the crust:

- 1 cup granulated sugar (222g)
- 3 cups all-purpose flour (378g)
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 cup unsalted butter cold, cut into cubes (8oz or 226g)
- 1 large egg lightly beaten

### For the peach layer:

- ½ cup granulated sugar (110g)
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- ¼ teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 5 large peaches, peeled and diced (about 4 to 5 cups)
- 1 teaspoon fresh lemon juice

### For the icing: (optional)

- 1 cup powdered sugar (115g)
- ¼ teaspoon almond extract
- 1 tablespoon milk (more or less for desired consistency)

## Instructions

Preheat oven to 350°F if using a glass pan or dark metal pan, or 375°F for a light metal pan. Lightly grease or spray a 13×9-inch baking pan and set aside.

### For the crust:

1. In a medium bowl whisk together 1 cup of sugar, 3 cups flour, baking powder, salt and cinnamon. Using a pastry cutter, blend in the butter until the mixture resembles coarse sand. Add the lightly beaten egg and mix until the dough starts to hold together, but is still crumbly. Gently press a little more than half the dough into the prepared pan.

OPTIONAL: you can also process the sugar,



flour, baking powder, salt and cinnamon in the bowl of a food processor. Add the butter and process until the mixture resembles coarse sand. Add the egg and pulse until the dough starts to hold together.

### For the peach mixture:

1. In a large mixing bowl whisk together the sugar, cornstarch and cinnamon. Add the diced peaches and toss to combine. Drizzle the lemon juice over the peaches and toss to coat. Pour the peach mixture over the crust and spread evenly.
2. Using your hands, press together handfuls of the remaining crumb topping to create clumps. Scatter the clumps and remaining crumbled topping over the fruit layer leaving some peaches showing through.
3. If using a glass pan, bake at 350°F degrees for 50-55 minutes or until lightly browned. If using a metal pan, bake at 375°F degrees for 40-45 minutes. Cool completely then chill before cutting and icing.

### To prepare the icing:

1. Whisk together the powdered sugar, almond extract and milk. Drizzle on the bars just before serving.



Drawing by Autumn Marble



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# Peach Pie Recipe

Cook time: 45 minutes; Prep time: 30 minutes; Servings: 8-10

Ingredients:

- 3/4 cup sugar, plus 2 tablespoons for top
- 1/3 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/4 tsp cinnamon
- 6 cup fresh peaches, peeled and sliced
- 1 pkg refrigerated pastry for double-crust pie
- 1 Tbsp butter

Directions:

Preheat oven to 425 degrees.

Stir together 3/4 cup sugar, flour, and cinnamon in large bowl. Add peaches and gently toss to coat.

Place one pastry in a 9-inch pie plate; dot pastry with butter. Add peach mixture. Cover with top crust. Cut slits in the top, seal, and crimp edges. Sprinkle top with remaining 2 tablespoons of sugar.

Cover edge of pie and bake 45 minutes or until crust is brown and juice begins to bubble. Remove foil for the last 15 minutes of baking.



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# The history of peaches in Romeo

BY LARRY SOBCHAK  
EDITOR

The history of peaches in the Romeo area dates back to the earliest days of Macomb County.

The earliest non-native settlers were farmers from New England seeking new opportunities in the early 19th century.

Local legend has it that Michael Bowerman built a cabin two miles south of what would become Romeo in 1813.

The legend continues that Bowerman carried a small number of peach pits from

his father's farm in New York, introducing the popular fruit to Macomb County.

Bowerman, who was a War of 1812 veteran, was later able to claim the land where his cabin sat in payment for his service to his country and it eventually became Westview Orchards.

Other farmers in the 19th century enjoyed so much success that they decided to organize the Armada Fair in 1872 to celebrate their bounty.

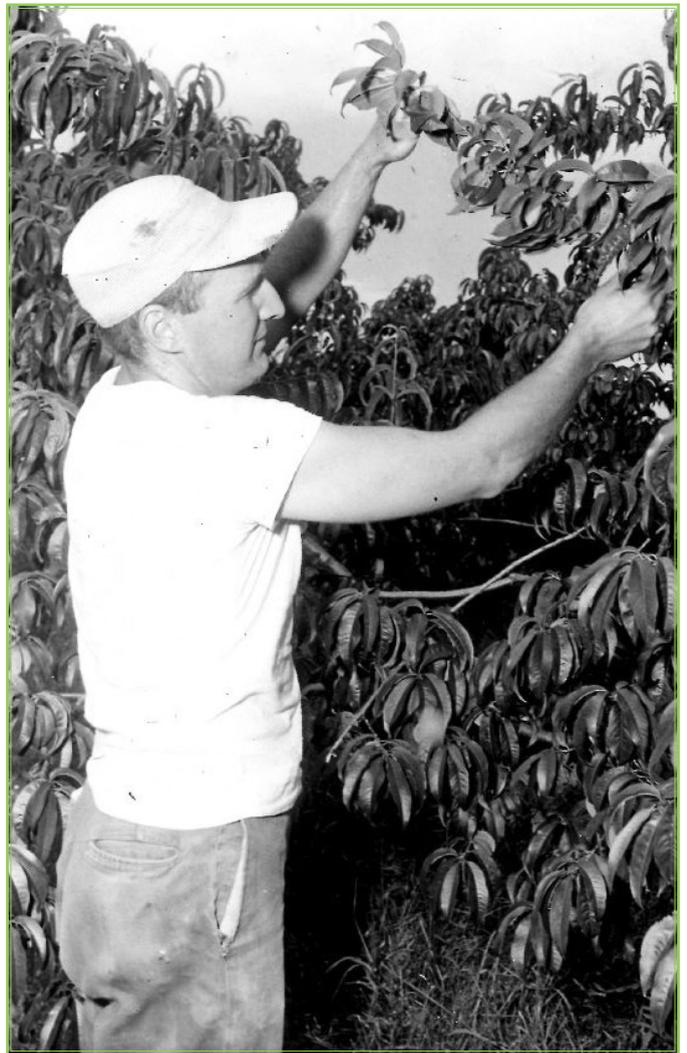
It was not until 1880 that Michael Bowerman's son, Byron, planted 10 acres of small peach trees which gave Romeo and northern Macomb County's orchard industry a



An entry in the 1961 bed races published in *The Romeo Observer Press*. (Photo credit: Romeo Community Archives)



**The 1950 Peach Queen Rosemary Murray presents peaches to Governor G. Mennen William.**  
 (Photo credit: Romeo Community Archives)



**Elmore Higby studies a branch on one of his farm's peach trees in 1955.**  
 (Photo credit: Romeo Community Archives)

commercial start.

The sixth-generation descendants of Michael Bowerman still operate Westview Orchard to this day.

Albert G. Griggs, of Rochester, made a number of trips to Romeo and surrounding territory in 1916 and in doing so found out from Byron Bowerman and William Bristol that they had more consistent peach crops in Romeo's vicinity than was to be had in other peach growing districts of the state.

This was on account of the rolling country. Peaches growing in orchards on the hill ridges mitigated the danger of frost. The hills also had heavier soil which helped prolonged the life of the trees to 15 years compared to seven to ten

years in other sections of the state.

Albert G. Griggs came to Romeo in 1916 and started the Mountain View Orchards near 32 Mile and Campground roads, planting 160 acres to peaches.

Later, Griggs and his son Perry planted an additional 110 acres, 60 of which they sold for suburban homesites to five families who operated a company known as Romeo Community Orchards.

D. I. Oliver of Pontiac also became interested and in 1918 started the Romeo Orchards Co. by initially planting 160 acres and later adding 80 more acres.

Mr. G. W. Faulman of Detroit came to Romeo  
**2025 Romeo Peach Festival - PAGE 33**



**Crowds line up on North Main Street to watch the Children's Parade in 1962.** (Photo credit: Romeo Community Archives)

in 1923 and established the Hillcrest Orchards planting 40 acres at that time and later increased the orchard by the addition of 145 acres.

E. T. Strong, Pres. of the Buick Motor Car Company, started the East View Farm Orchards in 1926 with 10 acres, later adding 40 acres more. East View Farm Orchards were located along Van Dyke Avenue, south of 30 Mile Road.

The Edward F. Fisher Farms were started by Edward F. Fisher of "Fisher Body" fame. This enormous farm and orchard is now the site of Ford Motor Company's Michigan Proving Grounds in Bruce Township.

The 1931 Peach Festival program listed many other orchards in and around Romeo such as: Crissman Orchards in Rochester, Holly Ridge Fruit Farm, Hidden Lake Orchards, Ingleside Fruit Farm, Rush Bros. Orchards, Stoney Creek Orchards, L. C. Scott Fruit Farm, Verellen Bros., Carter's Orchards in Armada, Ed Eckley Orchards, Blackmore Orchards in Goodison, Juengel Bros. in Rochester) and Walter Bailey.

The program reported that between the  
**PAGE 34 - 2025 Romeo Peach Festival**

larger orchards and many other smaller growers that approximately 2,000 acres of peaches orchards with an annual yield of 200,000 bushels were grown in the county.

The guide said that between 1915 and 1930, there was never a crop failure.

Growers such as the Verellen Brothers, which later became known as Verellens Orchard and Cider Mill, took advantage of an ever-increasing motoring public by opening a roadside stand in 1920 along Van Dyke Avenue after it was designated as one of the earliest state highways, M-53.

Westview followed in 1930 by opening their roadside stand after they discovered the Eastern Market in Detroit was flooded with a bumper crop of peaches and they could not sell their crop there.

The interurban streetcar, which ran from Imlay City to Detroit, passed by a string of roadside stands south of Romeo, and contributed to the sellers' potential customer base.

Area orchard growers convinced Romeo

Village President Edward Jacob, also a prominent attorney, to investigate creating a festival to promote their crops.

Jacob travelled to the Michigan Cherry Festival in 1931 and decided to model a similar festival around peaches in Romeo the same year with the help of the growers.

According to David McLaughlin's 2005 book "The Romeo Peach Festival," the Rotary Club was the only service club involved in organizing the festival. The Village of Romeo did not contribute to the festival but later set aside a fund to help with some of the cost.

There were no festivals between 1942 and 1945 due to World War II.

The festival ran annually between 1946 and 2019 but was cancelled in 2020 due to the Coronavirus Pandemic.

In 1951, according to McLaughlin, the Romeo Lions Club agreed to help support the Peach Festival and made some changes.

The carnival was moved in 1956 to its present-day location at the end of East Washington Street in Romeo.

Beginning in the 1960s, area growers felt the pressures of suburbanization as well as downward price pressure from massive corporate-owned orchards and farms in the western U.S. and many have closed.

The stretch of Van Dyke Avenue between 29 Mile and 31 Mile roads, once one of the densest stretches of roadsides stands, is down to two — Westview and Verellens. Disappearing to the annals of history since the 1970s are East View, Southview, Graubner's, Bowerman's and Rapp's.

A new generation has appeared to take the place of the retired farm and orchard operations including honey growers, handmade pies bakeries and lavender growers as well as produce farmers, farm fresh dairies and Christmas tree growers.

*Photos courtesy of the Romeo Community Archives, Romeo District Library, Romeo, MI collections. Romeo Observer Photographs: 19500831 r001, 19530910 r009, 19550714 r001 and 1961-09-07 RO i003.*

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A large crowd lines North Main Street for the Floral Parade. (Photo credit: Romeo Community Archives)

# Contact the Organizers

The Romeo Peach Festival is a collection of fun independently organized events held each year on Labor Day Weekend.

**WEBSITE:** [www.romeopeachfestival.com](http://www.romeopeachfestival.com)

FESTIVAL PRESIDENT: Rob Kreger • [cmkreger@yahoo.com](mailto:cmkreger@yahoo.com)

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LABOR DAY "HOMETOWN" PARADE:

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CRAFT SHOWS:

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[Lindseysokana@yahoo.com](mailto:Lindseysokana@yahoo.com)

[www.frontiertownromeo.com](http://www.frontiertownromeo.com)

Westview Orchards: [www.westvieworchards.com](http://www.westvieworchards.com)

Peachy Keen Craft Show at Summit Sports:

Sarah Miller • 313-300-9414

CAR SHOW & CHARITY CRUISE:

Julie Brown • [julieb.homes4sale@gmail.com](mailto:julieb.homes4sale@gmail.com) • 586-662-3662

5K, 10K RUNS & WALK:

[peachfestrn@gmail.com](mailto:peachfestrn@gmail.com)

VENDOR COORDINATOR

Jeff Kowalke • [kowalke@gmail.com](mailto:kowalke@gmail.com) • 586-588-4498

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NOTE: Michigan Peach Festival, a non-profit organization,

does not sponsor any event.

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