



95th ANNUAL

ROMEO PEACH FESTIVAL

COLLECTOR'S EDITION

Sept. 3 - 7, 2026

**Event Schedules
& Details**

Area Map

**Parking & Shuttle
Information**

*Eden
Eyeson*

2026 Romeo
Peach Queen

Photo by
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Photography





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Culver's

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Washington Township, MI • 66227 VanDyke Rd.

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Culver's

Thursday, September 3

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Thumb Area Artists' Exhibit

Presented by Romeo Guild of Art

Starkweather Arts Center, 219 North Main Street, Romeo

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

11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Juliet Chocolate Factory Peachy Palooza

NEW LOCATION! 275 East Gates Street, Romeo 48065

INFO: 248-842-4254, www.JulietChocolateFactory.com

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 after 5 p.m.

4 p.m. - 11 p.m.

Mid America Carnival Rides

Romeo Lions Field, 269 East Washington, Romeo

No entry fee to grounds.

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

Country Smokehouse BBQ & Snacks, AJ's on the Peach (Sponsored by Art & Jakes Sports Bar), 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, Mains Treat Coffee House & The Downtown Pretzel

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 34th Annual Peach Festival

5K/10K Run and Walk

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

Online register: runsignup.com

INFO: peachfestr@gmail.com

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

L and L Products Concert Series Live Music

Romeo Lions Clubhouse, 269 East Washington, Romeo
The Heartbeats - POP

Enjoy the Peach Festival! OPA!



MAD GREEK



235 E St Clair St, Romeo, MI 48065

586-372-7003



RWB Parks & Rec • 95th Annual Peach Festival

Labor Day Weekend FREE Event Schedule



FREE Shuttles

Courtesy of STAR Transportation

Bus 1 & 2

Sat, Sept 5 & Sun, Sept 6 • 9 am – 5 pm

- Westview Orchard 65075 Van Dyke
- Summit Bowling Center 66600 Van Dyke
- Frontier Town 67300 Van Dyke
- Gas Station NE Corner Main St/St Clair
- Romeo Community Center 361 Morton St
- Bruce Twp Park (9a-2p Sat Only) 233 E Gates
- Downtown Romeo PNC Bank
100 S Main (SW Corner Main/St Clair)

Bus 3

Sun, Sept 6 • 7:45 am – 1 pm

Runs back and forth between:

Car Show at Blue Water Trucking
14889 E 32 Mile Rd

Pancake Breakfast at Lion's Fairground
269 E Washington

Rauhorn Electric • The Pond Guy • Blue Water Trucking



Friday, Sept 4th at Dark

At Crystal Diamonds Sports Complex

14713 33 Mile Rd, Romeo, MI

With DJ Sound Dog

Available for purchase:

Messy Aces Rib Shack, Ice Cream, & Gloworks

Weather Permitting – (586) 752-6543 Ext. 6

BED RACES



Sun, Sept 6th • 6:15 pm – 7 pm

On Main Street in Downtown Romeo

The Bed Races are Back! This event is free to watch & takes place right before the Car Parade on the Sunday night before Labor Day.

Participants must Register. \$40 per bed.

Contact Scott Verellen for more info:

michiganadrenalinebaseball@gmail.com

KIDSFEST

FOR KIDS 12 & UNDER

NEW LOCATION!

Bruce Township Park
223 E. Gates St

Sat, Sept 5th • 9:30 am – 12:30 pm

Join us for a free day of fun in the park during Peach Festival that's all about the kids! Includes games, activities, music, giveaways & crafts. No registration necessary.

Hometown Parade

Mon, Sept 7th • 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm

On Main Street in Downtown Romeo

The 95th Annual Peach Festival Hometown Parade takes place on Labor Day! Join us for this treasured tradition. Free to watch, no registration required unless participating in the parade.

For registration info, contact Grace

at venetg@rwbpr.org or 586.752.6543 ex 1402

www.RWBParksRec.org • (586) 752-6543



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 **Antojitos by Chatitas**

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Friday, September 4

9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Juliet Chocolate Factory Peachy Palooza

NEW LOCATION! 275 East Gates Street, Romeo 48065
INFO: 248-842-4254, www.JulietChocolateFactory.com

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Thumb Area Artists' Exhibit

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.

AAUW Used Book Sale

Romeo Community Center, 361 Morton, Romeo
Benefits Romeo High School scholarships.
INFO: 810-796-2153 after 5 p.m.

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

Country Smokehouse BBQ & Snacks, AJ's on the Peach (Sponsored by Art & Jakes Sports Bar), 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, Mains Treat Coffee House & The Downtown Pretzel

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

The Proud Naturals (easy listening) as well as Stereo Kings (Pop) perform 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. No rain date.
INFO: Lynne Walker, RWB Parks and Recreation, 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/open-mic, 586-372-8540

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Saturday, September 5

8 a.m.

Peach Festival Golf Classic

Bruce Hills Golf Course, 6771 Taft Road, Romeo

Check-in 7 a.m.

INFO: 586-752-7244, www.golfbrucehills.com

9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Juliet Chocolate Factory Peachy Palooza

NEW LOCATION! 275 East Gates Street, Romeo 48065

INFO: 248-842-4254, www.JulietChocolateFactory.com

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

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

NEW LOCATION! Bruce Township Park, 223 East Gates Street, Bruce Township, 48065.

Romeo-Washington-Bruce Parks and Recreation

Games, prizes, activities, music and more. Kid's Market for youth entrepreneurs.

INFO: 586-752-6543

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Thumb Area Artists' Exhibit

Presented by Romeo Guild of Art

Starkweather Arts Center, 219 North Main Street, Romeo

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

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 after 5 p.m.

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

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Peachy Keen Craft Show

Summit Entertainment Center,

66600 Van Dyke Avenue, Washington Township.

Free entry and free parking.

INFO: peachykeencraftfair@gmail.com

PAGE 10 - 2026 Romeo Peach Festival

11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Romeo High School Wrestling Cornhole Tournament

Romeo Lions Refreshment Fieldhouse, 269 East

Washington, Romeo

Sign up at the SCOREHOLIO app. Look for "Romeo Wrestling Fundraiser @ The Peach Festival Powered by Klutch Cornhole"

INFO: 524-9481

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

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

Country Smokehouse BBQ & Snacks, AJ's on the Peach

(Sponsored by Art & Jakes Sports Bar), 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, Mains Treat Coffee House & The

Downtown Pretzel

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. - 11:30 p.m.

L and L Products Concert Series Live Music

Romeo Lions Club House, 269 East Washington, Romeo

- 1-4 p.m. TBD

- 5 p.m. Jukebox Junkies - easy listening

- 8:30 p.m. Parallel Fifth - Party Music



6771 Taft Rd., Romeo
(586) 752-7244
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43rd Annual

Peach Festival Classic

Saturday, September 5th - 8:00 a.m.

A Labor Day Weekend Tradition

4 Person
18 Hole Scramble

\$400

lunch
dinner
prizes

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M-F 6:30AM - 6PM
SAT & SUN 7AM - 6PM

Sunday, September 6

7 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Patrick L. Rinke Memorial Peach Festival Car Show

Blue Water Trucking, 14889 33 Mile Road, Romeo.

\$5 parking donation, free admission

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

9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Juliet Chocolate Factory Peachy Palooza

NEW LOCATION! 275 East Gates Street, Romeo 48065

INFO: 248-842-4254, www.JulietChocolateFactory.com

10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

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. - 5 p.m.

AAUW Used Book Sale

Romeo Community Center, 361 Morton, Romeo

Benefits Romeo High School scholarships

INFO: 810-796-2153 after 5 p.m.

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Peachy Keen Craft Show

Summit Entertainment Center,

66600 Van Dyke Avenue, Washington Township.

Free entry and free parking.

INFO: peachykeencraftfair@gmail.com

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

Country Smokehouse BBQ & Snacks, AJ's on the Peach

(Sponsored by Art & Jakes Sports Bar), 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, Mains Treat Coffee House & The

Downtown Pretzel

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. - Michele Ramo Jazz Orchestra – Jazz

Party; Casual Smile - Easy Listening

8 - 11 p.m. - The Family Tradition Band - Country

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

Labor Day Monday, September 7

8 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Juliet Chocolate Factory Peachy Palooza

NEW LOCATION! 275 East Gates Street, Romeo 48065
INFO: 248-842-4254, www.JulietChocolateFactory.com

10 a.m.

Children's Parade

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

10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

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

Noon - ?

Romeo Lion's Gourmet Food Pavilion

Country Smokehouse BBQ & Snacks, AJ's on the Peach (Sponsored by Art & Jakes Sports Bar), 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, Mains Treat Coffee House & The Downtown Pretzel

Noon - ?

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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

1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

L and L Products Concert Series Presents

Romeo Lions Clubhouse, 269 East Washington, Romeo
2XL Band - Easy Listening

1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Romeo Peach Festival Hometown Parade

Main Street from Gates Street to Durham Street
Parade route closes to traffic at 1 p.m.
INFO: venetg@rwbpr.com or 586-752-6543 ex 1402

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The Record

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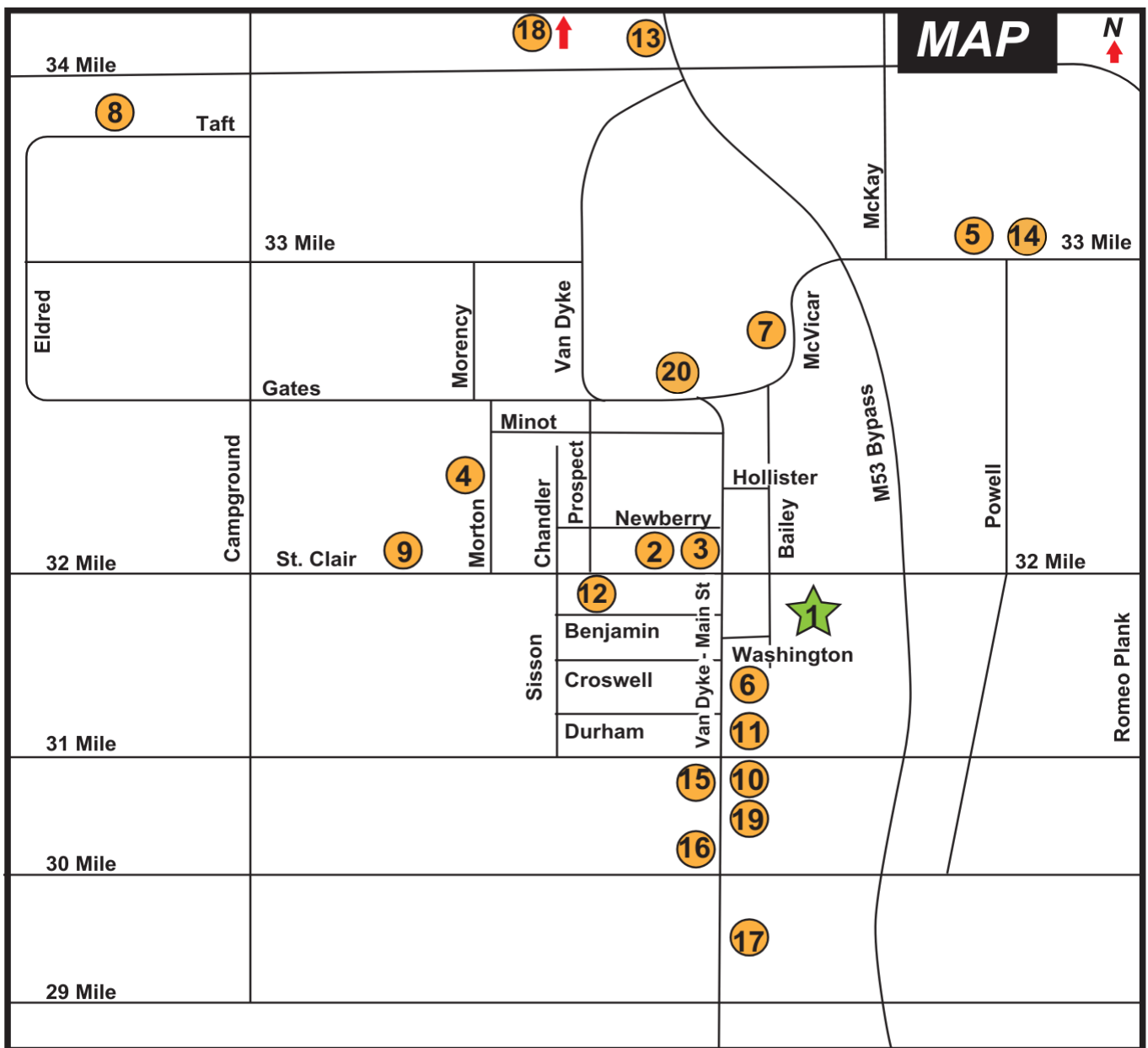
The Agape Center, located in northern Macomb County, exists to help individuals and families who need emergency assistance. Our food pantry is located at 347 S. Main St. in Romeo.

Call us at 586-336-6737
 or stop by when the pantry is open
Tue & Wed: 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM
Thur: 4:00 to 7:00 PM

To donate, use the link or QR code below:
<https://www.agapenorthernmacomb.org>



The Agape Center is an equal opportunity provider



1. Romeo Lion's Field House & Grounds
2. Romeo Village Park
3. Starkweather Art Center, Grey's Opera House (Masonic Temple)
4. Romeo Community Center & Fields
5. Crystal Diamonds Fields
6. St. Clement Church
7. Striber-McVicar VFW Post 2052
8. Bruce Hills Golf Club
9. Romeo Middle School
10. Romeo Gold Studios,
11. Frontier Town
12. St. John Lutheran Church
13. Northern Farm Market
14. Blue Water Trucking
15. Nicki's Farm & Flowers
16. Westview Orchards, Farm & Winery
17. Verellen Orchards
18. Hilltop Pies
19. Summit Entertainment Center
20. Bruce Twp Park & Juliet Chocolate Factory

Free SMART Shuttles

2 Buses Sat & Sun, Sept 5 & 6 9am - 5pm

- **Romeo Community Center** 361 Morton St
- **Downtown Romeo PNC Bank** 100 S Main (SW corner Main/St Clair)
- **Westview Orchard** 65075 Van Dyke
- **Summit Bowling Center** 66600 Van Dyke
- **Frontier Town** 67300 Van Dyke
- **Gas Station** NE Corner of Main St & St Clair
- **Bruce Twp Park** 223 E Gates St
SAT ONLY 9am-2pm New location of KIDSFEST

Extra Bus Sun, Sept 6, 7:45am-1pm

Goes Back & Forth between Show & Breakfast

- **Car Show** Blue Water Trucking 14889 E 33 Mile
- **Pancake Breakfast** at Lion's Fairgrounds
269 E Washington





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Eden Eyeson

Eden Eyeson, 18, of Washington Township, is the 2026 Michigan Peach Queen of Romeo.

She is a 2026 graduate of Romeo High School where she was involved in Students Enriching Romeo through Volunteer Experiences (SERVE), National Honor Society and Student Congress in addition to being a Romeo High School Ambassador.

She was a member of the Romeo Theatre Company as well as swim and dive team.

Eyeson is the founder and president of the Cool Girls Care Club, and is a section leader in the Detroit Youth Choir, as well as a youth group leader at her church.

She has been awarded Macomb Conference Scholar Athlete Award, AP Scholar with Honor, St. Timothy Award, Romeo High School Certificate of Honor: HHP Medical, #BeRomeo Award, Swim Team Varsity Letter, Michigan Youth Spirit Hope Award (200+ service hours), National Community Service Merit Award (40+ service hours) and Michigan Community Impact Award.

While in school, she also worked as a swim instructor and lifeguard.

This autumn, Eyeson will be heading to the University of Michigan to study biology, health and society.

She plans to pursue a career in medicine



2026 Michigan Peach Queen of Romeo Eden Eyeson
(Photo by Mallory Mae Photography)

with the goal of becoming a doctor.

She would like to focus on women's health and the treatment of diseases that disproportionately affect women.

Eyeson said that she is excited serve as the 2026 Romeo Peach Queen to allow her to continue her work in uplifting others and creating spaces where people feel valued on a larger scale.

She said that she hopes to inspire younger girls to lead with confidence and compassion and show that true strength comes from serving others.

Eyeson wants to use her reign to create a program that strengthens the next generation of leaders and reflects the heart of Romeo.

She is the daughter of Michelle and Patrick Eyeson, and sister to Brooklynn.

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**2026 Michigan
Peach Queen Runner Up**

Lucy Garcia-Gaytan

Lucy Garcia-Gaytan, 19, of Washington Township is the 2026 Romeo Peach Queen Runner-Up.

She is a 2024 graduate of Romeo High School where she was involved in National Honor Society, National Technical Honor Society and Students Enriching Romeo through Volunteer Experiences (SERVE) in addition to being a member of the Environmental Club.

Garcia-Gaytan was awarded the Michigan Community Impact Award, the SERVE Scholarship and the Youth Spirit of Hope Award.

While attending high school, she also worked several different jobs as a shift leader.

She returns to Oakland University this autumn where she is studying nursing.

On campus, she is involved in the Young Honors College and has been on the President's List for multiple semesters, which recognizes scholastic distinction, all while working two off-campus jobs.

Upon graduation, Garcia-Gaytan's goal is to become a nurse in a pediatric specialty such as neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) or pediatric intensive care unit (PICU).



2026 Michigan Peach Queen Runner Up Lucy Garcia-Gaytan
(Photo by Mallory Mae Photography)

She also plans to further her education to earn a master's degree and become a nurse practitioner with an emphasis in dermatology.

Garcia-Gaytan said she is excited to serve as the 2026 Romeo Peach Queen Runner-Up to give back to the community that has shaped her.

As a first-generation student, she said that she has learned resilience and hard work and wants to use her story to inspire others.

Garcia-Gaytan wants to use her reign to create a stronger connection between young students and the community, and to make a lasting impact as a positive role model for others.

She is the daughter of Carlos Garcia-Barragan and Terestia Gaytan, and the sister to Terecita, Karla, Emily, Carlos and Jesus.



2026 Mr. Peachy King

Henry Hustek

Mr. Peachy King is Henry Hustek, 7, of Washington Township.

He will be attending second grade at St. John Lutheran Rochester.

His family includes his parents, Justin and Heather, and sibling, Brooklyn, 5, and Mason, 3.

He is an active athlete who plays hockey for the Rochester Vipers and baseball with Washington Little League. He is a huge Detroit Red Wings fan and loves attending games with his family.

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2026 Lil' Miss Peach Blossom

Scarlett Throne

Lil' Miss Peach Blossom is Scarlett Throne, 7, of Romeo.

She will be in second grade at Amanda Moore Elementary School this autumn.

Her family includes her parents, Zach and Krystal, and has two brothers, Kent and Roman.

Scarlett likes soccer, crafting, Prims group at church, bible journaling, self-care with beauty products and spending time in downtown Romeo at the various shops and the library.



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Grace Venet

Grace Venet has been selected by the Romeo Lions as the 2026 Romeo Peach Festival Grand Marshal.

She has been the Peach Festival Parade coordinator for the Romeo Lions and Romeo-Washington-Bruce (RWB) Parks and Recreation for the past 16 years after taking over for Ron Rossell and his family.

Venet works with RWB Parks and Recreation Director Clara Russell Hunter, volunteers and parks and recreation employees to make the event run as smoothly as possible.

She has worked for RWB Parks and Recreation for 19 years.

Besides parades, her other duties are to program recreational activities for special needs individuals.

She organizes dances, bingos and sports programs such as basketball, football, soccer, bowling and golf.

Venet said that she thinks that this group of people is great to work with and that RWB Parks and Recreation provides a valuable service to individuals and their families.

She also helps organize Starkweather Arts Center, a 27-year-old, non-profit in downtown Romeo.

Venet has been volunteering for 13 years at the organization as secretary and treasurer.

She said there is always plenty of



Grace Venet

(Photo by First Street Photography)

activity to help with — gallery art shows, open mic nights, community projects and clay classes.

Venet involvement also includes the Romeo Mural, Peace Pole Project, Starkweather Alley art projects and the 2026 gallery show of the Starkweather Millinery historical hats.

She has a history of volunteerism with Girl Scouts, PTA, and Romeo High School Band Boosters.

“I never thought I’d be the type of person to spend time volunteering, but doing so has enriched my life in so many ways,” she said.

Venet has lived with her husband of 48 years, Mark, in Washington Township for 40 years and raised two sons and a daughter. She met Mark at Denby High School in Detroit.

She said that she is honored to be recognized by the Romeo Lions for her contributions to the Romeo Peach Festival and the community.

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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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.

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 Romeo Lions Club saved the Peach Festival

BY EMILY MALEK

The 2026 Romeo Peach Festival marks the 75th anniversary of the Romeo Lions Club became the lead organizer of the festivities.

For those who don't know, the Romeo Lions Club was established in 1942 as a local chapter of the Lions Club International.

Its focus is to help the local community through charitable contributions and functions, and the largest event they host is the Romeo Peach Festival.

To call it the lead organizer is to understate the important role the Lions played in saving the festival in 1951.

To understand why this marked an important shift in the festival's history, we have to go back to the event's inception.

The Michigan Peach Festival began in 1931, and the Michigan Peach Festival Association (MPFA) initially managed it.

The organization was non-profit and had a board of directors who were elected every two years.

The main purpose of the festival was to advertise Michigan peaches.

The Great Depression was happening at that time, so it was far more difficult for people to make and keep money.

Since the Romeo area was filled with tons of orchards and abundant peach crops, the festival wanted to bring people in, so they could buy that fruit and benefit the farmers.

In fact, the program for the very first
PAGE 36 - 2026 Romeo Peach Festival

Peach Festival starts off with a history of the peach industry in and out of Romeo and ends with peach recipes.

In addition, attendees could go on orchard tours during the festivities.

After 20 years of the festival, the MPFA announced that it was going to be a one-day affair in late May 1951.

An article from the May 24, 1951 issue of The Romeo Observer Press cited lack of interest from the community, shortage on help and materials, rising costs, and "current national and local conditions."

The first three reasons need no explanation as it certainly takes a lot of money and effort to put on events like the Romeo Peach Festival.

The last one needs some context.

Nationally, the Korean and Cold Wars were going on at the time.

There were people from Romeo who were enlisted in the former.

Also, like many areas of the country, they were dedicated in stopping the spread of communism even if it wasn't always explicit.

Locally, the village was occupied with promoting a new school building program and civil defense.

The former consisted of a four-room elementary school; a four-room addition to Washington Elementary School; and a combination bus garage, manual training, and agricultural shop.

The residents approved of the program



The Romeo Lions Club float at the 1951 Romeo Peach Festival Floral Parade passes Schaaf's Pharmacy, which is where Paramount Roofing is at now, on South Main Street. (Photo credit: Romeo Community Archives)

in the spring of 1951 and construction was about to begin.

With the latter, even though World War II was over, Romeo and the rest of Michigan continued to look out for air raids in the case some adversary decided to drop the bomb on them.

This was the situation the MPFA found itself in.

After the May 1951 proclamation, the board received various comments about its proposal.

The general consensus was that the community wanted the event as usual in "its customary splendor of shows and parades," but few were interested in serving on the committees or contributing financially.

In other words, the residents wanted the festival as is, but only a few were willing to help out.

This led to another announcement in

the July 26, 1951 edition of The Romeo Observer Press.

Given the circumstances, they doubted if they could raise sufficient funds to meeting rising festival costs.

While it was certainly devastating for the citizens to hear that, the board had two ideas to solve this problem.

The first was make the MPFA a for-profit association, and any money made would go to some community enterprise like a youth center.

The second was to turn over management to organizations like the Romeo Lions Club, Romeo Rotary Club and the Veterans' Building Association.

Each would run the festival every three years to minimize the burden of one group to operating it constantly.

When the news reached the Romeo Lions Club, they went above and beyond by asking for permission to take over the



Big crowds were present during the Floral Parade in 1951. (Photo credit: Romeo Community Archives)

festival and run it every year.

At first, the MPFA rejected this proposal due to two reasons.

First, it meant replacing at least seven members of the current board with Romeo Lions Club members.

At the time, the MPFA was comprised of 13 directors.

Second, the board still held onto the belief that the other clubs mentioned above would manage the festival on a rotational basis along with the Lions Club.

However, neither the Rotary Club nor the Veterans' Building Association made a statement about running the festival, and the MPFA suddenly changed their minds, for this declaration was made in the Aug. 9, 1951 issue of The Romeo Observer Press.

According to the article associated with that headline, the Lions Club planned it from Saturday, Sept. 1 to Monday, Sept. 3.

How did they do it?

They formed a 15-man board that would present the Romeo Peach Festival or another fruit-related festival suitable to the area each year.

It was a non-profit organization called the Romeo Festival Association, and Edward A. Jacob — the man responsible for the event to begin with — was appointed general chairman.

It managed to secure funds from concessions, private donations, the Romeo Village Council, and wait for it, the now-disbanded MPFA!

The latter donated \$200 (\$2,577.87 in today's money).

More importantly, the Lions Club placed a heavier focus on the Romeo community to show that it was as just as vital as the peaches grown.

As Jacob explained, "The festival is designed to promote industrial, agricultural and recreational facilities and advantages of Romeo and the surrounding territory by bringing about better relationships between the rural and urban areas."

The Lions Club didn't spare the extravagance in 1951.

Events that were planned included the Floral, Children's and Mummer's Parades; free acts; a wrestling show; agricultural exhibits; airplane rides; a parachute jump thrill act; and the Queen's Ball to honor that year's Peach Queen and court.

When the Romeo Peach Festival finally

arrive on that first weekend in September, it was a resounding success!

The Sept. 6, 1951 edition of The Romeo Observer Press mentioned that thousands attended the festivities, and 700 of them came to the Peach Queen's coronation.

Through the efforts of the Romeo community, the Romeo Lions Club, and public and private donations, the 1951 Romeo Peach Festival went on despite the "unsettled world and local conditions."

This marked a shift in what the festival emphasized.

Sure, it still promoted peaches since that's in the title of the event itself, but it placed a greater importance on the Romeo community.

The festival had put the village on the map, and the Romeo Lions Club wanted to thank the people for that.

Happy 75th Anniversary, Romeo Lions Club! Here's to another 75!

To learn more about the 1951 Romeo Peach Festival, you can contact the Romeo Community Archives at rca@romemodistrictlibrary.org or call 586-690-4890 to check out the Romeo Lions Club and Romeo Peach Festival Collections. If you want to search for articles on that topic, you can find the Romeo newspapers like The Romeo Observer on the Suburban Library Cooperative's Local History Digital Collection website.

Images and sources courtesy of the Romeo Community Archives; Melvin E. and Joan D. Bleich Collection, The Romeo Observer, May 24, 1951, p.1-1 and Romeo Peach Festival Collection, 1951

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. 

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

FESTIVAL PRESIDENT: Rob Kreger • cmkreger@yahoo.com

VICE PRESIDENT: Daniel Patrona • danielpatrona@yahoo.com

TREASURER: Kim Martin • RomeoLionsTreasurer@gmail.com

PEACH QUEEN'S CHAPERONE:

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