A feature publication of The Courier & REVIEW TIMES

## DISCOVEr September 2023

### Fall for all in the 419

Family fun options for the season

## By: Faith Zochowski, faithzochowski@thecourier.com

Fall is right around the corner, and Suter's Produce is the perfect place for all things pumpkins, flowers, cider and corn mazes.

Suter's Produce has been passed down through four generations, and is now run by co-owner Tom Suter. The farm grows famous strawberries in June and other seasonal crops like sweet corn, musk melon, tomatoes and peaches in July and August. The focus



Apples from Suter's Produce are used to make crisp apple cider with a press originally built in 1888.

of September and October is on the corn maze, as well as the cider press, pumpkin patch and flower patch. Produce is picked fresh daily and is available for purchase at their Red Barn Markets. The Suters pride themselves on solely hiring local high school and college students to help run these markets in the fall, as well as grow and pick their produce in the summer.

"We just really appreciate the local people that we've got — the younger people and the older people — they just work great for us and we enjoy being with them," Suter said.

If you're itching to find the best fall festivities, continue reading for more fun, local ideas to put on your list.

*Continued on page 3* 



2401 N. Main St., Findlay 567-250-8423 • 204 S. Sandusky St., Tiffin 567-220-7900 419Discover.com September 2023



## SEPTEMBER

Aug 30-Sep 4 Hancock County Fair (Findlay)hancockfairgrounds.org1st-7th Fulton County Fair (Wauseon)fultoncountyfair.com5th-10th Hardin County Fair (Kenton)hardincountyfair.org9th-16th Williams County Fair (Montpelier)wcofair.com11th-16th Wyandot County Fair (Upper Sandusky)thewyandotcounty-fair.com17th-23rd Ashland County Fair (Ashland)ashlandcountyfair.com

All Fair dates and web addresses were pulled from community websites and considered current at press time.





Find your way through the area's corn mazes this fall.

Photos provided

Sunflowers and other colored flowers are a few of the "whole rainbow of options" to pick for a beautiful flower bouquet at Suter's. Cider press

The cider press has been used at the farm since 1976, when Tom's parents Jerry and Nancy Suter first bought it — but it was originally built in 1888. The family has since modernized it, but it is still used each fall to make their cider. They press their cider several times each week, and their cider press store is open seven days a week. Cider is available to purchase by the gallon, and cider slushies are available on weekends only. Donuts also are served on the weekends, along with freshly popped kettle corn.

The cider press store hours are as follows:

Monday - Friday: 1-6 p.m.

Saturday: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Sunday: 1-7 p.m.

#### Corn maze

The Suter family has been cutting their uniquely designed corn maze since 1999. Each year brings a new design and theme, and this year's corn maze is Egyptian-themed, featuring a mummy, sphinx and pyramid.

Themes are never repeated exactly but some are recycled, Tom said, and the Egyptian theme has not been done since 2009.

The corn maze is open on weekends only. Walk the rows on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., and on Sunday from 1-7 p.m. Group appointments are available by calling 419-384-3331.

#### You-pick patches

If you are interested in a you-pick pumpkin patch or flower patch, take the hayride from the corn maze parking lot back to both patches, where patrons can pick tone or the other, or both to enjoy.

Get lost in the pumpkin patch while finding the perfect decorative pumpkin for your porch or the best pick for a jack o' lantern.

Sunflowers, zinnias and other colored flowers are a few of the "whole rainbow of options" to pick for a beautiful flower bouquet, Tom said. Customers can choose from different containers to hold their flowers, such as quart size containers and decorative buckets.

Hayrides to the patches are Saturday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 1-6 p.m. The last hayride departs at 6 p.m. each day.

Suter's Produce is located at 12200 Pandora Rd., Pandora. They will open for the fall on Sept. 16 and will close Oct. 29. For more information, visit Suter's Produce on Facebook or call 419-384-3331.



Photo provided

The pig races run every two hours during the fall season at Riehm Produce Farm in Tiffin.

#### **Riehm Produce Farm**

Looking for more fall weekend fun? Riehm Produce Farm may just be the place to check out. Located in Tiffin, Barnyard Fun Weekends at Riehm Farm offer over 20 fun activities for all ages, including barrel train rides, pedal carts, pig races, a corn maze and more. The farm has been in operation since 1911 and has been passed down through five generations to current owner Phil Riehtm. Barnyard Fun Weekends itself has been a tradition for 20 plus years, with new and returning traditions each year.

Don't miss the pumpkin cannon, giant slide, corn barn with over 500 bushels of corn for kids to play in and pig races running every two hours. Come hungry and enjoy farm-raised beef and brat burgers, farm-grown potatoes used for Johnny Fries, hot dogs and apple cider, to name a few.

This year's corn maze theme is air crafts to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the National Museum of the United States Air Force. The theme is also a tribute to Phil's friend who just retired from the Air Force as a pilot and instructor.

The Riehms often get design ideas from previous years and sketch the design on graph paper in the winter. Every row on the graph paper represents a row in the field, Phil said, and in the spring he and his father use flags to map out the design in the field and cut it, a 10-12 hour process.

Trivia questions will be scattered throughout the maze to give clues toward the exit and to teach wanderers more information about the Air Force and the Wright brothers, who opened up the world of aviation.

Riehm's opening day for fall is Sept. 23, and the farm will stay open until Oct. 29. Barnyard Fun Weekends hours are Saturday from noon-7 p.m. and Sunday from noon-6 p.m.

Riehm Produce Farm is located at 7244 N. Ohio 53, Tiffin. For more information, visit funacres. net/event/barnyard-fun or call 419-992-4392.

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Chalk-A-Walk Sat., Sept. 16th, 9:00 am-6:00 pm Calling all artists! Be a part of this year's Chalk-A-Walk Check out our website for more info.

Scott Sherman Solo Show Oct. 3-19, Opening Reception Fri., Oct. 6, 6-8 pm Fall Juried Show Oct. 24 - Nov. 17, Opening Reception during ArtWalk, Nov. 3, 5-9 pm



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### **GET INVOLVED**

Join the Findlay Art League, the oldest visual arts organization in the region (est. 1947) Network with other artists and become actively involved in our community. Class discounts. Leadership/volunteer opportunities. We encourage active participation for the common good and well being of our community. As a volunteerdriven organization, your action makes our existence possible. Memberships starting at \$40/yr. Visit findlayartleague.org to register.

#### UPCOMING CLASSES — Register at www.FindlayArtLeague.org

Home School Art Grades 1-6- Tuesdays, 1:00-2:15 pm, September 5, 12, 19, 26, October 3, 17, 24, 31; Tuition: \$80, all materials provided, all skill levels welcome. Instructor: Cindy Meadows

Home School Art Grades 7-12- Tuesdays, 2:30 – 3:45 pm, September 5, 12, 19, 26, October 3, 17, 24, 31; Tuition: \$80, all materials provided, all skill levels welcome. Instructor: Cindy Meadows

Home School Art Grades 1-6- Fridays, 1:00-2:15 pm, September 8, 15, 22, 29, October 6, 13, 20, 27; Tuition: \$80, all materials provided, all skill levels welcome. Instructor: Cindy Meadows

Home School Art Grades 7-12- Fridays, 2:30 – 3:45 pm, September 8, 15, 22, 29, October 6, 13, 20, 27; Tuition: \$80, all materials provided, all skill levels welcome. Instructor: Cindy Meadows

**Life/Figure Drawing-** Mondays, 6:00 – 8:00 pm, September 18, 25; Tuition: \$10 (Adult students: \$5) to help pay for the model, no instruction, bring your own supplies. Convenor: Bruce McKinney

Watercolor Collage- Thursdays, 6:30 – 8:00 pm, September 21, 28, October 5, 12; Tuition: \$75, all materials provided, all skill levels welcome. Instructor: Linda Lehman

**Beginning Pottery-** Wednesdays, 7:00 – 9:00 pm, September 27, October 4, 11, 18, 25, November 1; Tuition: \$180, all materials provided, beginning skill level welcome (over 18 years of age). Instructor: Marcie Allen

117 W. Crawford St., Findlay / 419-422-7847 / FindlayArtLeague.org / contact@FindlayArtLeague.org



## The origins of Oktoberfest

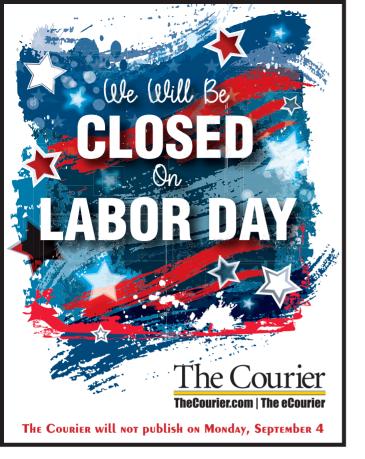
Oktoberfest is a celebration that transcends geographical boundaries. Much like people in various pockets of the globe celebrate St. Patrick's Day and Cinco de Mayo even if they have little or no connection to Ireland or Mexico, respectively, Bavarian heritage is not a prerequisite for participation in Oktoberfest revelry.

According to Oktoberfest.de, each year millions of people are attracted to the festival of Oktoberfest. It's not hard to see why so many people attend Oktoberfest, which is synonymous with fun, food, music, and, of course, beer. But the chance to engage in what might be best characterized as living history undoubtedly is part of the appeal of Oktoberfest as well. Oktoberfest is indeed steeped in tradition, and understanding the history of the beloved festival can make the celebration even more enjoyable.

The first Oktoberfest occurred as part of a wedding. Kronprinz Ludwig of Bavaria, who later became King Ludwig I, was set to marry Princess Therese of Saxe-Hildburghausen on October 12, 1810. The couple's nuptials were deemed a cause for great celebration, and a horse race was held in their honor on October 17. The inspiration for the races and the subsequent celebration of Oktoberfest remains a topic of debate. But there's no debating that Ludwig's decision to invite the people of Munich to join in the festivities had a lasting effect, inspiring many of the city's wealthiest residents to decorate the city. But even the less wellto-do joined in the celebrations. In fact, according to Oktoberfestguide.com, 32,065 buns; 3,922 pounds of swiss cheese; 400 kilos of mutton; 8,120 cervelat sausages; and 13,300 pairs of smoked sausage were distributed for free. Alcohol and music also featured prominently during the inaugural Oktoberfest, as 232 hectoliters of beer and four hectoliters of Austrian white wine were served during a celebration that also featured 150 musicians.

Though the festive atmosphere of Oktoberfest is known across the globe, the celebration has not been without its tragic moments. For example, Oktoberfest 1980 was shaken by a bomb that exploded at the festival entrance on September 25. Thirteen people were killed and more than 200 were injured, and the bombing remains under investigation more than 40 years later. World wars also affected the beloved festival, which was suspended between 1914 to 1918 due to World War I and then again from 1939 to 1945 due to World War II. The years immediately following both wars also featured toned down events that were not characterized as Oktoberfest but rather autumn celebrations. Celebrations in 2020 and 2021 were canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Oktoberfest remains a popular celebration more than 200 years after the inaugural event. Though devotees insist nothing can match the annual celebration in Munich, those who can't make it to Germany can find Oktoberfest festivities close to home at the Findlay Oktoberfest on September 23rd in downtown Findlay.







## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SEPTEMBER



#### **Hancock County Fair** Hancock County Fairgrounds, Findlay

Enjoy all the Hancock County Fair has to offer, from one-of-a-kind food, rides. games and entertainment of all types. Daily admission tickets, grand stand event admission tickets and season passes are available.

#### Tickets available at hancockfairgrounds.org

#### SEPTEMBER 5



6:00-7:00 PM LINDAMOOD ROOM



#### Teen Night: Japanese Foods 6 - 7 pm Lindamood Room, Findlay-Hancock County Public Library

Learn about Japanese culture through food with Japanese students from the University of Findlay during Teen Night. Dishes on the menu are onigiri (rice balls), vakisoba (fried noodles) and o-misoshiru (miso soup). Program is intended for students in grades 6-12.

Register at findlaylibrary.org.



#### **Eagle Creek Woodland Pow Wow and Gathering Camp Berry, Findlay**

A celebration of Native American culture. All are welcome to enjoy drumming, singing, intertribal dancing, Native American food, traders and vendors, cultural demonstrations, a mini petting zoo and other family and children-oriented activities. Performances are Saturday, Sept. 9 at 2 and 5 p.m., and Sunday, Sept. 10 at 2 p.m. Admission: \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors and kids, and children 5 and under get in free.



#### Flag City Model Train Show 10 am - 3 pm Northwest Ohio Railroad Preservation and Riverside Train. Findlay

Calling all train enthusiasts for Northwest Ohio Railroad Preservation's bi-annual Model Train Show. The train barn will be filled with vendors displaying and selling model trains, toy trains and railroad memorabilia. Admission is \$5 for adults. children under 12 free accompanied by an adult. Quarter scale train rides will be available for an additional cost (\$3 adults, \$2 children).





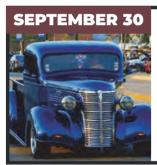
#### **Liquid Illumination 2.0 Artist Reception** 1-3 pm Albrecht Gallery at Bluffton University

Visit Bluffton University's Albrecht Gallery located in Sauder Visual Arts Center for an artist reception. Artists Sue Hershberger Yoder and Jon Yoder, creators of the Liquid Illumination 2.0 exhibit, will be in the gallery from 1-3 p.m.



#### **Oktoberfest Findlay!** 2 - 10:30 pm Downtown Findlay

Celebrate local German heritage at the 9th annual Oktoberfest. The family-friendly festival has become one of the largest single-day events in Hancock County. It includes live traditional German music and entertainment, a variety of contests, authentic German food from vendors like Schmidt's Sausage Haus, the Kinderplatz Kid Zone and a selection of domestic and German beers **Admission is \$5 for those 21 and over, and \$3 for those under 21.** 



#### Wings and Wheels Car Show 10 am - 4 pm Findlay Airport

Features rides on the iconic Ford Tri-Motor, a craft and vendor fair, food trucks, a kids' zone and a car show at the Findlay Airport, 1615 Gray St. **Admission is free; cars can register for the show for \$15.** The award ceremony will be held at 3 p.m. Tri-Motor plane rides will be available for purchase.

#### SEPTEMBER 30



#### **Pizza Lollapalooza** 4 - 7 pm Hancock County Fairgrounds, Findlay

Local pizza vendors will have their pizza available to purchase at the Hancock County Fairgrounds during this fundraiser benefiting Cancer Patient Services. Enjoy bouncy houses and other fun for kids, including face painting, balloon animals and super heroes available for meet and greet. **This event is free to attend; pizza, drinks and desserts can be purchased.** 

At press time, the information was pulled from community websites and was considered current.

We apologize for any information that may have been changed/updated after this edition was printed.



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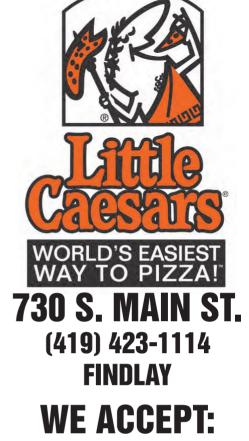


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#### **Historical events from September 1923**

The month of September has been home to many historical events over the years. Here's a look at some that helped to shape the world in September 1923.

• Half of Tokyo is destroyed when an earthquake with a magnitude of 7.9 strikes Japan just before midday on September 1. More than 120,000 people are killed and an additional two million are homeless in the aftermath of the earthquake.

• New York Yankees pitcher "Sad Sam" Jones pitches a no-hitter against the Philadelphia Athletics on September 4. In addition to getting no hits, the Athletics players also went the entire game without striking out. The Athletics also would be no-hit by Boston Red Sox pitcher Howard Ehmke on September 7.

• The International Criminal Police Commission is founded on September 7 in Vienna. Later known as Interpol, the organization maintains a presence in much of the world today.

• On September 8, Greece and Italy agree to terms to settle the Corfu dispute. The dispute arose over an issue regarding the border between Albania and Greece. Tensions escalated when an Italian general sent to resolve the dispute was murdered in Greek territory.

• Hyperinflation in Germany prompts a parade of housewives to march through Berlin carrying empty baskets on September 8. The empty baskets are chosen to symbolize the women's inability to buy food.

• The Irish Free State, established in December 1922, is admitted to the League of Nations on September 10.

• More than 2,500 communists are arrested in Bulgaria on September 12. The government suspects those arrested of plotting an uprising.

• Oklahoma governor Jack C. Walton declares martial law on September 15 in an effort to combat the Ku Klux Klan. Walton also suspends the writ of habeas corpus in Tulsa County. Walton is ultimately impeached on October 23 before being removed from office on November 18.

• Nearly 600 houses and 56 additional buildings are destroyed by a wildfire in Berkeley, California, on September 17. Remarkably, no one dies as a result of the fast-moving fire, though the National Board of

Fire Underwriters estimates total property losses of \$10,000,000.

• Production of New York City newspapers grinds to a halt when a pressman's strike begins on September 18. The strike ends on September 21.

• A citywide raid on Windy City speakeasies fills the jail cells of Chicago on September 22.

• The first film adaptation of Jack London's "The Call of the Wild" premieres in the United States on September 23. Later adaptations of the novel would feature legendary actors, including Clark Gable, Charlton Heston and Rutger Hauer.

• The German government officially ends its campaign of passive resistance against occupying forces on September 25, prompting various extremist groups to meet and discuss overthrowing the government. One such group includes the Nazi Party, then fronted by 34-year-old Adolf Hitler.

• The first U.S. Track & Field championships for women are held at Weequahic Park in Newark, New Jersey on September 29.



## The votes are in.

The Courier

Best of

Findlay

## **WINNER'S** EDITION

**\* \* \*** Published September 30 in

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