Obituaries

Marian Patricia ("Pat") Gates

June 2, 1931-May 25, 2026

Marian Patricia ("Pat") Gates, formerly of Port Clinton, passed away peacefully on May 25, 2026, in her home in Albany, Oregon, with her daughter Debby and son-in-law Jim at her side.

She is survived by her daughter Debby (Jim) Luchsinger, Albany OR; grandson Ryan (Valerie) Luchsinger, Marietta, GA; nephews Brad (Lori) Granfield, Sandpoint, ID; Stu (Suzanne) Granfield, Stuart, FL; grand niece Allie Grandfield and grand-nephew Matthew Granfield, both of Florida; step-daughter Sandy (Gates) Householder, Port Clinton, OH; step-grandchildren Samantha Beggin, Lakewood, OH and Maggie Margulies, Kent, OH; Shane Householder, Taryn Householder-Southern, and five great-grandchildren, as well as countless former students and friends.

She is predeceased by her beloved husband Bernie Gates, Norm Amidaneau, her sister Shirley (Cook) Granfield, 2 stepdaughters (Diane Gates Margulies and Sherry Gates), her parents, Jim and Grace (Fritz) Cook, her son, Kirk Amidano, 3 cousins, and 1 niece.

Pat was born in Cincinnati, Ohio to James and Grace (Fritz) Cook on June 2, 1931. She graduated from Ohio University with a bachelor's degree in education, was a member of the Phi Mu sorority, and later earned a master's degree from Bowling Green State University in Education. She was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star.

Pat was a lifelong teacher - both in and out of the classroom. While she primarily taught 3rd grade at Portage Elementary but also at Lacarne and Catawba Elementary schools. In addition, early in her career, she taught and substituted in schools in rural Kentucky, Mentor, and Dayton Ohio. She, along with Bernie, was an active member of St. John's Lutheran Church, the Port Clinton Yacht Club, and a former member of the Catawba Island Club, and was active in numerous civic activities in and around Port Clinton.

And, of course, Pat was a RABID Ohio State football fan!

In 2021, Pat moved to Albany, Oregon to a large retirement community complex to be closer to Debby and Jim. While she continued to miss her friends in Port Clinton, she was very active and social in her new home, both participating in and directing many events. She will be missed by all.

Memorial services and a celebration of life will be held at Gerner-Wolf-Walker Funeral Home, 216 Washington Street, Port Clinton, Ohio, on Wednesday, June 3, 2026. Visitation will begin at 10:00 a.m. with funeral services commencing at 11:30. Interment will follow at Catawba Cemetery.

Paul Clinton Moon

May 26 2026

Beloved father and husband, Paul Clinton Moon, 88, passed away on May 26 with his family by his side. He was born on December 19, 1937 to William and Martina (nee Heineman) Moon, who preceded him in death.

Paul was born and raised in Port Clinton. He attended John Carroll University, class of 1959, and Georgetown University Law Center, class of 1962. After completing ROTC, he served in the US Army as Commanding Officer of the 28th Transportation Battalion in France and Germany. He then returned to Port Clinton and began his law career and civic service by joining his father in private practice. He served on Port Clinton City Council from 1966-1970 and as President of Council from 1971-1973. With a profound regard for education, Paul also served on the board of BGSU Firelands including two terms as President, and Mercy College of Toledo. In 1979, he was elected judge of the Ottawa County Municipal Court and retired in 2008 as judge of the Ottawa County Common Pleas Court. Of his career, Paul always noted that it was not a job, it was his life.

Paul had a love for classical music, attending concerts across the world and most importantly with his family at his cherished Cleveland Orchestra. He took all opportunities to share his knowledge and passion for music and was honored to have sung in the choir at St Mary's in Sandusky, Musical Union in Oberlin, and The Toledo Choral Society. After retirement, he dedicated his time to the board of the Musical Arts Series Port Clinton and the Ottawa County Historical Society. He took great pride in his family legacy and deep roots in Ottawa County, being the descendent of Benajah Wolcott, the first keeper of the Marblehead Lighthouse, William Kelly, builder of the Marblehead Lighthouse, and Malcolm Kelly, first Common Pleas judge of the county.

Paul's dedication to his career and community was only superseded by his dedication and love of his family. Paul met his true love, Maria, on a blind date in 1969, she speaking no English and he speaking no Polish, but their shared joy in travel, music, arts, and history bonded them forever. Left to cherish his memory is his wife of 57 years, Maria (nee Chudy), daughters Laura Moon and Elisabeth (Paul) Christman, son Kamil (Maria) Drutel, grandson Charlie Drutel, siblings Bill Moon and Elizabeth (Frank) Maloney, and many family members throughout the United States, Poland, and Germany.

Paul was a brilliant legal scholar and historian. His mind was an encyclopedia of pertinent and random knowledge. We will miss being able to ask him, "Dad, what was ... ?" He loved to tell stories of his adventures, whether local or abroad, and sometimes on repeat. He never turned down a dinner invitation or the chance to boast about his family. But most importantly he was a fun and lovable daddy that left his family with infinite memories to treasure.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to Mike Mesner and John May for their lifetime of friendship to Paul, and constancy in the last few months.

Visitation Friday, June 5, 2026, from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm at Gerner -Wolf Walker Funeral Home, 216 Washington Street, Port Clinton. Memorial service Saturday, June 6, 2026, at 11:00 am in Immaculate Conception Church, 414 Madison Street, Port Clinton, where a time of music and reflection will begin at 10:00 am.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be sent in Paul's honor to the Ottawa County Historical Society, the Musical Arts Series Port Clinton, or Port Clinton Friends of the Cemetery.

Congratulations to Ron Metro who was chosen among 187 entries as the winner of the ***Find Wylie Contest in The Beacon!*** Wylie was hiding in the ad for *Arter Home Furnishings* on Page 3. Ron wins a **$25 Gas Card compliments of FriendShip Food Stores!**

American Presidents Series coming to Ottawa County

BY LINDA HUBER

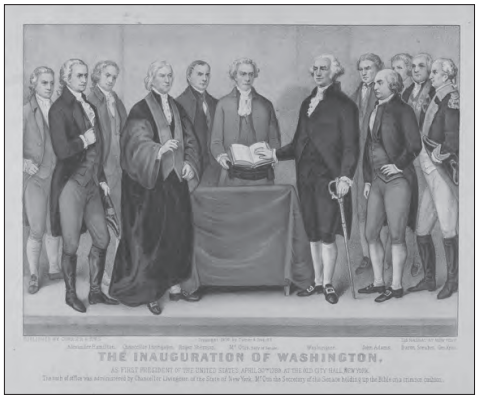
Ottawa County will be visited by seven American Presidents in 2026. Come and hear these presidential re-enactors sharing experiences and information on the Founding Fathers, Civil War, Reconstruction, Ohio, and fishing.

George Washington, 1st President, served two terms (1789-1797). Born in the Virginia, served as commander of the Virginia Regiment in the French/Indian War from 1754 to 1763, elected to the Virginia House of Burgesses, Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army during the American Revolutionary War and president of the Constitutional Convention in 1787, which drafted the Constitution of the United States. Dale Fellows as George Washington will visit Ottawa County twice – Friday, Aug. 7, at 2 p.m. at Liberty Aviation Museum for the Revolutionary War Badge of Military Merit (Purple Heart) ceremony sponsored by the Ottawa County Museum, and Wednesday, Oct. 14, at Catawba Island Community Hall for the Catawba Island Historical Society annual meeting.

John Adams, 2nd President and 1st Vice President, served one term as President (1797-1801). Born in Massachusetts, lawyer and political activist prior to the Revolution, delegate to the Continental Congress, helped draft the Declaration of Independence, diplomat to France and the Netherlands, and authored Massachusetts Constitution, which influenced the formation of the United States Constitution. Brian Ellis as John Adams will visit Ottawa County on Monday, June 29 at 7:30 p.m. at Lakeside Chautauqua Orchestra Hall.

Abraham Lincoln, 16th President, served from 1861 until his assassination in 1865. Born in Kentucky, lawyer, Illinois State legislator, U.S. representative, first Republican president, led United States through the Civil War, and issued the Emancipation Proclamation, freeing slaves in those states in rebellion. Lincoln will be reenacted by Kevin Wood on Monday, July 13 at 7:30 p.m. at Lakeside Chautauqua's Orchestra Hall and by John King on Sunday, Nov. 8 at 11:30 a.m. at Catawba Island Club for the Ottawa County Historical Society annual meeting.

U.S. Grant, 18th President, served two terms (1869-1877). Born in Ohio, served in Mexican-American War and later Civil War, defeated Robert E. Lee, ending the Civil War with Lee's surrender at Appomattox, promoted civil rights, created U.S. Department of Justice, prosecuted Ku Klux Klan, and created first Civil Service Commission. Curt Fields as U.S. Grant will visit Ottawa County on Saturday, Oct. 10 at 1:30 p.m. at the Wolcott Keeper's House as part of the Ottawa County Historical Society annual fall festival.



George Washington is one of the American leaders who will be featured in the American Presidents Series.

Rutherford B. Hayes, 19th President, served one term (1877-1881). Born in Ohio, served in Civil War, wounded five times, served in U.S. Congress, governor of Ohio for two consecutive terms, deployed U.S. Army against striking railroad workers, and honored commitment to serve only one term. Paulo DeMaria will visit Ottawa County on Sunday, July 26 at 1:30 p.m. at Lakeside Chautauqua's Orchestra Hall as part of the Lakeside Heritage Society Sunday Seminar Series.

William McKinley, 25th President, served from 1897 until his assassination in1901. Born in Ohio, lawyer, U.S. Congressman, advocate of protective tariff and "sound money," i.e., gold standard, annexed Hawaii, signed Congress' declaration of war against Spain in 1898 with American victory acquiring Puerto Rico, Guam and Philippines as American colonies. Mike Wilson as William McKinley will visit Ottawa County on Sunday, August 9 at 1:30 p.m. at Lakeside Chautauqua's Orchestra Hall as part of the Lakeside Heritage Society Sunday Seminar Series.

Herbert Hoover, 31st President, served one term (1929-1933). Born in Iowa, engineer and mining industry businessman, led several U.S. humanitarian efforts, director of the U.S. Food Administration, U.S. Secretary of Commerce, presidency dominated by the Great Depression, leading to reelection defeat. Brian Ellis as Herbert Hoover will visit Ottawa County on Monday, June 15 at 7:30 p.m. at Lakeside Chautauqua's Orchestra Hall.

THE BEACON

The Beacon is Published by Schaffner Publications, Inc
P.O. Box 176
Port Clinton, OH 43452
419-732-2154
www.TheBeacon.net

PRESIDENT & PUBLISHER
Ali Hermes
Ali@TheBeacon.net

Please direct any questions or concerns to Ali above.

EDITOR
Sheri Trusty
Sheri@TheBeacon.net

GRAPHIC & SOCIAL MEDIA DESIGN
Mark Schaffner
Production@TheBeacon.net

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
Gina Monak-Miller
Gina@TheBeacon.net

The Beacon is published every Thursday and is a free circulated community newspaper provided to many communities of NO COST to them via USPS under Permit #80, as well as by independent carriers. The Beacon serves, and is mailed and delivered to the communities of Port Clinton, Lakeside, Marblehead, Oak Harbor, Fremont, Tiffin, Gibsonburg, Genoa, Woodville, Clyde, Bellevue, Monroeville, Sandusky, Huron, Vermillion, Catawba, Danbury, Portage, Erie, Bay, Benton, Bellville, Carroll, Salem, and Perkins Townships; located in Ottawa, Erie, Huron, Sandusky, Seneca, and Lorain Counties. The Beacon is operated by Ali Hermes, the President and Publisher. No part of this publication may be reproduced, or transmitted in any form without the expressed and written consent of the Publisher/President. The views expressed by the contributors are not necessarily those of the ownership, management, or the staff of The Beacon. The Beacon and its logo are protected through the trademark, service mark and copyright registration. Real estate and classified deadlines are Fridays by 8pm. Obituary deadlines are Saturdays by midnight. Printing of The Beacon happens every Sunday the week of the publication date.

FIND WYLIE!

Each week Wylie is hiding somewhere in The Beacon. Tell us where you find him! A winner will be chosen from the correct entries.

Visit thebeacon.net/find-wylie/ or scan the QR Code below to submit your entry!

One entry per household.

The Beacon is looking to expand our team. We are currently seeking to fill the following position

DRIVER

Driver needed to pick up and drop off print run of newspapers for distribution
8 hours per month
$200 per month

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Workampers: RV Resort, on Lake Erie, needs an experienced, self-motivated couple or solo for the 2026 and/or 2027 camping season.

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