

Alliance Historical Society NOW & THEN



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Fall 2026



LEFT: Joseph Rubin of American Musical Productions directs a 26-piece band in the reenactment of a 1926 Alliance City Band concert during Independence Day festivities at Silver Park on July 4. **BELOW:** Ben Patterson, right, a 1997 Alliance High School graduate who is now a filmmaker in New York City, discusses his work with Kevin Kern, a professor of theatre at the University of Mount Union, during "Alliance Goes to the Movies" on August 27.

2026 Has Been A MONUMENTAL YEAR For Alliance Historical Society



City of Alliance

A lecture series on Founding Fathers, 250 flags at Glamorgan Castle, the reenactment of an Alliance City Band concert, and a conversation with an acclaimed filmmaker from the Carnation City has made 2026 a special year. See Story Inside.



LEFT: Two hundred fifty American flags wave proudly in front of Glamorgan Castle. Placed on the grounds ahead of Flag Day by volunteers as part of Alliance's America 250 festivities, the installation was a joint project between the Castle Crusaders, Alliance Historical Society, and Alliance Rotary Club.



POINTING THE WAY

Following the acquisition of 843 N. Union Ave. in March, the Society has placed a new directional sign on that lot, located at the corner of Vine Street. The sign, made of King ColorCore composite and measuring 6 feet by 4 feet, was made by and installed by Midwest Sign Center. The sign is a longtime goal of the Society board as it provides a prominent presence along a major thoroughfare, pointing the way to the Mabel Hartzell Historical Home.

Society Establishes Hall of Fame

In honor of the semiquincentennial, the Alliance Historical Society established its own Hall of Fame in 2026 to honor luminaries of the Carnation City.

The inaugural class includes 26 inductees for 2026, which includes three husband-and-wife "teams" in the founders category. Others were industrialists, educators, men of business, artists, and military figures.

Selected by board members Michelle Dillon and Jack Weber, inductees for the initial class had to be active in Alliance prior to 1920.

Dillon and Weber will discuss members of the class during the Society's Annual Meeting on Nov. 10 at 6:30 p.m. at Rodman Library.

ALLIANCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2026

A.W. Coates	Philip Sharer
D.W. Crist	Daniel Sourbeck
C.C. Davidson	Elisha Teeters
Nathan Gaskill	William Teeters
Amos Holloway	Oliver F. Transue
O.N. Hartshorn	Charles C. Weybrecht
Mabel Hartzell	John Weybrecht
Mathias Hester	
Ellis Johnson	Matthew & Mary Earley
Gertrude Kay	
Levi L. Lamborn	John & Nancy Grant
W.H. McMaster	
T.R. Morgan	
William H. Morgan	Jonathan & Sarah Haines
W.H. Purcell	
George Russell	

Historical Happenings

The following programs sponsored by the Alliance Historical Society are scheduled at Rodman Public Library: (Register at rodmanlibrary.com)

2026 ANNUAL MEETING November 10 (6:30 p.m.)

The Society's 2026 Annual Meeting will feature the official induction of the inaugural class of 26 into the Alliance Historical Society's Hall of Fame. The program will be presented by Michelle Dillon and Jack Weber.

VETERANS DAY OBSERVANCE November 11 (11 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.)

Jack Weber will present "Hometown Heroes: A Salute to Alliance-Area Veterans," sharing interesting stories of Alliance area service members that he collected while conducting research during his 27-year career as a journalist.

PEARL HARBOR COMMEMORATION December 7 (6 p.m.)

Local history enthusiast Sidney Zufall will present "The Sleeping Giant: From Pearl Harbor to Tokyo" on the 85th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

WINSTON CHURCHILL
Saturday, January 23 (2 p.m.)
Back by popular demand, local history enthusiast Sidney Zufall will present "Winston Churchill: The British Bulldog" on the eve of the commemoration of the world leader's death.

Historical Society Trustees

Officers

Karen Perone, president
Michelle Dillon, vice president
Jennifer Crist, secretary
Michelle Baker Sams, treasurer

Board of Trustees

Alexis Armour
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Jack Madison
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Karen Twaddle
Jack Weber Jr.

A Champion of the Castle

Historical Society Mourns the Passing of Art Garnes

Art Garnes spent three decades working in Glamorgan Castle as an administrator of the Alliance City Schools.

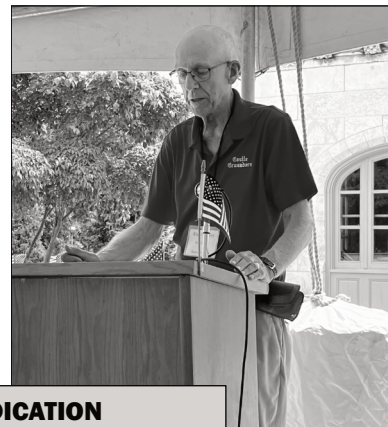
Following his retirement, he spent the next 20 years spearheading efforts to preserve the Carnation City's iconic landmark and its history.

Despite failing health, the former two-time Alliance Rotarian of the Year continued to lead the Castle Crusaders as its president, organizing a 250-flag display on the Castle grounds in honor of the United States' semiquincentennial.

Garnes also worked diligently to secure an Ohio Historical Marker to honor both the Castle and Col. W.H. Morgan, who built the magnificent marble mansion. Sadly, Garnes passed away on Sept. 17 – the day the marker was installed – and never witnessed it with his own eyes. We know his spirit will be with us when the marker is dedicated on October 25.

Not only was Garnes the heart of the Castle Crusaders, but he was a friend of all of Alliance's historical groups and believed in their missions. To that end, he was instrumental in the formation of the 3 Families, a collaboration of the Castle Crusaders, Alliance Area Preservation Society, and Alliance Historical Society.

His steady leadership, deep wisdom, and unwavering dedication will be missed by all who knew him and called him a friend, and we will honor him by continuing the efforts that he championed for so many years.



MARKER DEDICATION

Alliance's sixth Ohio Historical Marker, commemorating the legacy of Col. William Henry Morgan and Glamorgan Castle, will be dedicated on the lawn of the Carnation City's iconic landmark on Sunday, October 25 at 3 p.m.

Morgan revolutionized the field of engineering during the late 1800s and early 1900s with his electrical innovations. Holder of over 100 patents, he propelled the Morgan Engineering Company to international recognition.

Glamorgan Castle was built as his family home from 1904-1908. Constructed of Vermont marble with a tiled roof, the Castle sits on 20 acres in central Alliance and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1972.

Funding for the marker comes from grants from Visit Canton and ArtsinStark and the Pomeroy Foundation.

Art Garnes speaks during a dedication of the 250-flag display at Glamorgan Castle on June 14. As president of the Castle Crusaders and a member of Alliance Rotary, the patriotic display was his vision.



PERONES IN PARADE

Jim and Karen Perone were honored as marshals of the 2026 Greater Alliance Carnation Festival Grand Parade in August 2026. The retired couple are both active in many community endeavors, including the Alliance Historical Society of which Karen is the current president. Together, they produce the popular "Marking Time in Alliance," which features 44 videos that explore various historic sites, monuments, buildings, and landmarks in Alliance.

COMING SOON

The Alliance Historical Society is pleased to announce that copies of the publication "Of Caskets, Cranes and Contaminated Olives: A Chronicle of Alliance," written by Mary Louise Conroy, granddaughter of Col. William H. and Annette (Sharer) Morgan, will soon be available for purchase.

WELCOME ABOARD



ARMOUR



GROSS

Alexis Armour and Anson Gross are the latest additions to the Alliance Historical Society board of trustees. Armour, an automotive service technician at Wally Armour, joined in November 2025. Gross, the grounds supervisor and an assistant tennis coach at the University of Mount Union, joined in March 2026, following in the footsteps of his father, longtime board member John Gross.

Fall 2026 Trivia Night Set For Oct. 20

If you're looking for a challenging fun-filled night of fellowship, good food, and friendly competition, there's still time to get your team signed to test its knowledge in the Alliance Historical Society's Trivia Night.

The semiannual event will once again be held at Don Pancho's Tex-Mex Café on West State Street on Tuesday, Oct. 20, beginning at 6 p.m. To register go to alliancehistory.org/trivia-night.

As in the past, teams of four members each should register with a name, and the entry fee is just \$120 per team which includes a taco bar (chicken, beef or vegetarian), soft drinks, chips & salsa, and a gratuity. A cash bar will be available.

The Alliance Historical Society has hosted a Trivia Night every October and March since October 2022 with four-person teams competing across multiple rounds of questions covering general knowledge, sports, entertainment, and local history.

During the Fall 2020 edition, there will be six rounds of 10 questions each.

Prizes will be given to the winning team. The evening also features basket raffles and 50-50 drawings, with all proceeds benefiting local history preservation.

Trivia Night and sponsorships help the Alliance Historical Society continue its work to preserve the history of Alliance and its maintenance of the Mabel Hartzell Historical Home and Alliance History Mini Museum.

Sponsors' names will be mentioned on the Historical Society's website and publicity for the event and sponsor's logo will be placed on the tables at the event. Gold sponsorships are \$500, Silver sponsorships are \$250, Table sponsorships \$100, and \$50 Question sponsors will have their name mentioned throughout the sponsored question round.

Those who would like to be a sponsor or donate a gift card or raffle basket for the 2026 Fall Trivia Night should email alliancehistory@yahoo.com.



Semiquincentennial has been Big Year in Carnation City

The year 2026 has been a busy one for the Alliance Historical Society.

In all, the Society has sponsored more than a dozen public programs with three more to come before the end of the calendar year.

Semiquincentennial festivities started with a six-month "Forgotten Founders" Lecture Series at Rodman Public Library. Local history enthusiast Sidney Zufall delivered six of the seven-part series, one each month, starting in January with "Rebels and Revolutionaries," an overview of events that preceded the American Revolution and the people who guided the rebellion that led to the creation of the United States. Over the next five months, Zufall presented programs on Abigail Adams, Mercy Otis Warren, James Otis Jr., Joseph Warren, and John Hancock.

The series concluded on the Monday before the Fourth of July when Alliance Historical Society board member and Rodman Public Library Community Relations Manager Jack Weber put a local spin on the War for Independence, exploring the lives of John Shreve, the only Revolutionary War veteran buried in Alliance, and John Stark, the New Hampshire general who is the namesake of Stark County.

The real highlights of Alliance's America 250 festivities, however, occurred on the two big patriotic holidays of the summer – Flag Day and Independence Day.

On Flag Day, the Society took part in the dedication of a display of 250 American flags on the grounds of Glamorgan Castle. Several members of the Society were among a group of more than 30 volunteers who helped install the flags a week earlier with the help of local surveyor Bob Akins, who used his expertise to map out where the flags should be placed. Several other volunteers from groups such as the Castle Crusaders, the Alliance Area Preservation Society, the

Alliance Rotary Club, and local Scouts helped to bring the vision of the late Art Garmes to fruition.

The display also included yard signs for each inductee into the inaugural class of the Alliance Historical Society Hall of Fame.

On Independence Day, the Society was the major sponsor of a concert inside Silver Park

that reenacted a program performed by the famed Alliance City Band exactly 100 years prior. The concert, conducted by Joseph N. Rubin, a musicologist with American Musical Productions, featured a 26-piece wind band attired in period clothing. It played a free 75-minute concert at the park's amphitheater that included a march composed by Emil Rinkendorf, who led the Alliance City Band during its "golden era" from 1917 to 1940.

Prior to the concert, Rubin discussed his work in producing "living history" concerts as well as Rinkendorf and the Alliance City Band, which provided entertainment in the Carnation City between 1859 and 1992, in a talk at Rodman Public Library.

On August 27, Alliance High School graduate Ben Patterson, an award-winning filmmaker who runs his own studio in New York, spoke at the University of Mount Union as part of Ohio Goes to the Movies. Patterson, best known for documentaries like "Sweet Mickey for President" and "Maddman: The Steve Madden Story," is the son of Libby and Mike Patterson, a board member of the Society. Kevin Kern, a professor at Mount Union, interviewed Patterson as part of the evening in which he discussed his career and his upbringing in Alliance.

Other programs at Rodman Public Library sponsored by the Alliance Historical Society



Jackson Weber drills the hole where a flag will be placed as fellow volunteers Bill Prueter and Nancy Prueter, holding a flag in the back, look on at Glamorgan Castle in June. Alliance's patriotism was on full display as 250 flags proudly waved from early June through mid July.

in 2026 included Vice President Michelle Dillon discussing New Guinea, a settlement of Black inhabitants that flourished in Lexington Township roughly between 1805 and 1850 as part of a Juneteenth observance. Meanwhile, in commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, Alliance Review photographer Ed Hall Jr. shared his experience and the photos that he took in New York City in the days immediately following the national tragedy while on assignment for the local newspaper.

In September, the Society also participated in Ohio Open Doors by hosting its Freedom Trail Walk between the library and the Mabel Hartzell Historical Home.

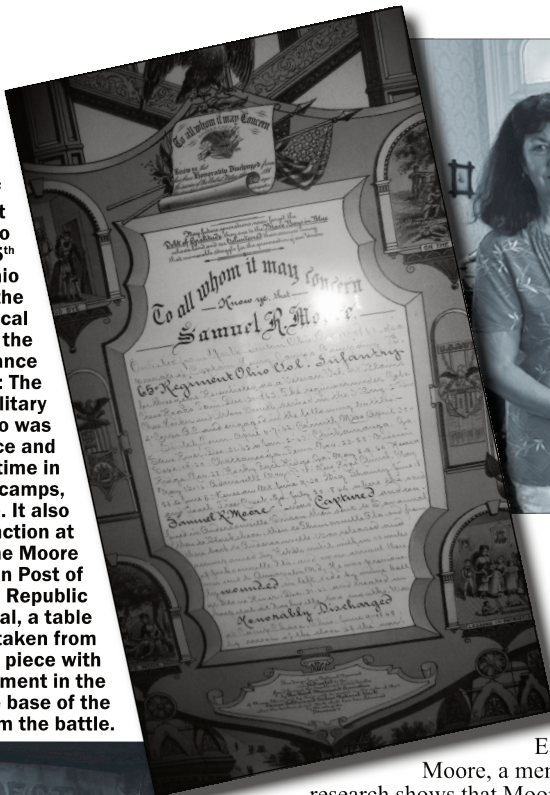
Still on the calendar for 2026 are three programs at Rodman Library, including Dillon and Weber discussing the 26 Hall of Fame inductees on November 10. On November 11, Weber will give a salute to area veterans when he shares some of the stories he uncovered during a 27-year career as a local journalist. Finally, on December 7, Zufall will return to explore Pearl Harbor and America's response, the Doolittle Raids over Tokyo, in observance of the 85th anniversary of that attack that forced the United States to enter World War II.



Alliance Historical Society

P.O Box 2044
Alliance, Ohio 44601

FAR RIGHT: Ken Bandy, right, and Alliance Historical Society Vice President Michelle Dillon hold an escutcheon of Samuel R. Moore, the first Alliance-area recruit to Company B of the 65th Regiment of the Ohio Volunteer Infantry during the Civil War. Bandy, a local military historian, donated the artifact to the Alliance Historical Society. **RIGHT:** The escutcheon details the military career of Moore, who was wounded during his service and also captured, spending time in Confederate prison camps, including Andersonville. It also states that he saw action at Chickamauga. **BELOW:** The Moore escutcheon joins The Harlan Post of the Grand Army of the Republic president's pedestal, a table fashioned from a tree taken from Chickamauga, as another piece with ties to the 65th Regiment in the Society's collection. The base of the table holds a solid shot from the battle.



Civil War Artifact Finds Home in Mabel's Parlor

Thanks to local military historian Ken Bandy, an impressive Civil War relic now hangs over the fireplace in the north end of the sitting room of the Mabel Hartzell Historical Home – an

Easel Monument estucheon detailing the service of Samuel R.

Moore, a member of Company B of the 65th Ohio Voluntary Infantry. Bandy's research shows that Moore, who died at age 91 in 1921 and is buried at Hartzell Cemetery in Deerfield, enlisted from North Benton and was the first soldier from this area to enlist in the regiment, which saw significant action in the War Between the States. The estucheon, measuring 3 feet tall and more than 2 feet wide, was created by the Easel Monument Association, an organization formed in the 1890s by the Grand Army of the Republic, a fraternal organization of Union Civil War veterans, to fundraise for a national Civil War monument. It sold custom-printed lithographs and chromolithographs of the proposed triangular easel-shaped monument with a blank center section where an individual veteran's service record could be hand-written. The national monument depicted in the artwork was never built.

