

# Luces are United Way 2017 campaign chairs

By **RON OSBURN**

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Allyn and Makenzie Luce, of Edon, are the 2017 United Way of Williams County campaign chairpersons.

The Luces are longtime supporters of United Way of Williams County and bring a wealth of energy and commitment to the organization, said Bill Pepple, executive director of United Way of Williams County.

“They’re passionate about United Way and they care about their community,” Pepple said Tuesday in announcing the selection.

Allyn Luce is an Edon native and vice president of manufacturing at Altenloh, Brinck & C. Group (Trufast), in Bryan. He serves on the Florence Township Fire Department and his late father, Jerry, was chief of the department.

The Luces are longtime supporters of United Way and said they welcomed the opportunity to take a leadership role in the organization and the community.

“It’s an opportunity for us to give back to the organization that means so much to us and the community that we live in. We’ve been donors in the past and we’re strong supporters of the United Way,” Allyn, 39, said.



Allyn and Makenzie Luce, of Edon, are the 2017 United Way of Williams County campaign chairpersons. The official 2017 campaign kick-off is just prior to the All-County Band Show on Monday, Sept. 11, at the grandstands of the Williams County Fair. The goal this year is \$360,000. **Courtesy photo**

“We see the value in it,” said Makenzie, 38, the Bryan High School swim coach since 2003 who also coaches the summer swim teams.

The Luces have two children, Carter, 9, a fourth grader, and Sidney, 6, a first grader, at St. Patrick Catholic School in Bryan. Both

Allyn and Makenzie cited their membership at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Blakeslee for their faith and said United Way and its programs embody those same faith-based principles.

United Way of Williams County, a 510(c)(3) non-profit, was formed in

1994 with the merger of the United Funds in Bryan, Montpelier, Edgerton and Stryker. It now serves 26 organizations and 34 programs county-wide, Pepple said.

“We are truly a ‘united’ campaign for Williams County,” Pepple said.

And importantly, said the Luces, all the funds donated to United Way of Williams County go to support people, organizations and programs in Williams County.

“It’s all locally focused and the money raised here stays in Williams County,” Allyn said.

Pepple also noted that donations can be directed to the specific organizations or programs that a donor wishes to support.

The official 2017 campaign kick-off is just prior to the All-County Band Show on Monday evening, Sept. 11, at the grandstands of the Williams County Fair. The goal this year is \$360,000.

For more information about the United Way of Williams County, visit the office during normal business hours at 520 W. Mulberry St., Suite 400, Bryan. The organization can also be reached by email at [we-care@unitedwaywc.org](mailto:we-care@unitedwaywc.org), by phone at 419-636-8603, or online at [unitedwaywc.org](http://unitedwaywc.org).