

## From the Office of the Mayor:



Charlotte, Isabelle and Lillian DiPiero, Grandchildren of Ron and Mary Doe

We are having a busy fall season at the Village Office with many initiatives and projects underway. Before I share highlights of some of them, I would like to mention several positive things that happened this summer and fall.

- First, thank you to Ted Klonaris and West Bay Inn for their contribution of over \$6,000 to our EMS Association. The funds were raised

through the weekly "Queen of Hearts" raffle at West Bay Inn. We are grateful for this gift that will directly support the health of our community members.

- Next, congratulations to our Kelleys Island Chamber of Commerce for a fabulous fireworks presentation on Saturday of Labor Day weekend. Mother Nature even cooperated by providing beautiful weather.

- A final note of appreciation to McKay Brothers. The company, owners of the new tower at the Transfer Station, contributed \$30,000 to the Village for the paving of the Transfer Station Road. It is a welcome improvement in accessing the vital service.

Now for current news concerning our village.

- Road resurfacing has been completed on McGettigan, Memory, Fernwood and Transfer Station Road. Our compliments to Precision Paving on a job well done.

- Memorial Park is decorated for the fall season and it looks great. I love the vibrant fall season colors which cover the Island.

- After considerable deliberation, the Village Council has voted to change providers of life flight emergency medical service on the Island. Council spent many hours meeting with St. Vincent Medical Center, the current provider, and MetroHealth. Council considered the advantages of both and worked to identify



Dying to Stay at the Inn! Maria Kekes, Kelsey Rodriguez, Ryan Lugibihl, Dan Kekes

the best possible service for our Village residents and visitors. Two town hall meetings were held to educate residents of the potential change while the decision was under consideration and one after the vote. I know there will be many questions from concerned residents. Please rest assured that we have worked extremely hard to get the best possible service for Village residents.

- Finally, on a disappointing note, another event casualty of the current pandemic. The annual Christmas Potluck Dinner is cancelled for this year. It was a hard decision to make but thought nothing would be worse than one of our seniors being exposed and becoming ill. We all hope we can continue the tradition next year.

In closing, I would like to wish everyone a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!  
 Ron Ehrbar, Mayor

## Thank You Lisa

Sharon Leidheiser, Publisher

As we close 2020 with our November/December edition of the Kelleys Life Newspaper, we want to thank Lisa Klonaris, our editor. She is leaving our team after eight years of working for Kelleys Life Newspaper.

Lisa has juggled numerous articles from our residents, businesses, the mayor, police chief, and Chamber of Commerce to name a few. In 2019, she and the other staffers were named to the Kelleys Island School Board Media Honor Roll for fair and balanced reporting of news about public schools. She has always met deadlines for the newspaper even when extremely busy.

In March, Lisa was sworn in as the new Clerk-Treasurer for the Village of Kelleys Island. This full-time position and other part-



Lisa Klonaris

time jobs she holds will keep her terribly busy. We hope Lisa will still contribute to the newspaper as a resident of the Island.

We wish her the best and thank her for her years of service and commitment to our newspaper.

## New Editor



Janet & Steve Wermuth

Janet Wermuth, aka Jan, has joined the Kelleys Life Newspaper as editor. She brings over 20 years of writing experience to the paper. She looks forward to learning and sharing new things about our Island with all of you.

You may know Janet and her husband Steve from the Crooked Tree Vineyard on Kelleys Island. Janet has been visiting the Island for over fifty years and it has become her permanent home. As of last year, the Wermuths are full-time Island residents along with their big furry friend Happy-the-Dog.

Please email article suggestions to JDWKelleys@gmail.com.

## 2020 KELLEYS ISLAND CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 6-8	Owl Fest Audubon Club	CANCELLED
November 15	Half Marathon & 5K - Village Pump	CANCELLED
November 27	Thanksgiving Potluck	Village Pump
November 27	Annual Park Lighting	Memorial Park
November 28	Sights, Sounds & Scents of the Holiday	K.I. Wine Co.
December 12	OSU Tailgate Party	Village Pump
December 31	New Year's Eve Celebration	KI Wine Co

# Kelleys Island Make-A-Wish Swim 2020



**Jeni Hammond**  
 Thank you for helping with our Make-A-Wish fundraiser during this crazy year. We are ecstatic, humbled, and overwhelmed at the generosity with \$20,200.00 being donated for 2020.  
 We finally got into the Lake on Saturday, August 22, starting at West Bay on Kelleys Island and swimming to Portside Marina. Swimming three miles in 1:45 minutes, our shortest swim ever but it seemed to fit for this year. Waves were one – two footers

with added boat wakes. This was one of our easiest swims which was different too.  
 Plans for 2021 include Saturday, July 31st Golf Cart Poker Run and Sunday, August 1st will be our Swim & Party for the Wish Children and their families. All are welcome to celebrate with us both days. Mark your calendars NOW!  
 We appreciate everyone's patience, support & always being there for us and the Children.  
 God Bless & Love, Cindra & Jeni



# Kelleys Island School Gym Alternatives

**Jodie Smith, Kelleys Island School Board**  
 The Kelleys Island School Board thanks our community members for their understanding the need to temporarily close the gym facilities in response to COVID-19. As we continue to explore options for creating the healthiest environment for our students and staff in the school building, we hold true to the understanding that the least number of adults allowed into the facility is safest.  
 We are extremely cautious for our students and feel the responsibility of the School Board is to the children first. The health of the community is important too, and we understand the need for fitness options. The following are some alternatives to the school gym during the pandemic.  
 The School Board has reached out to the Mayor and Village Administrator exploring the use of the Town Hall for indoor exercise. They are both supportive of the idea. The Village will work in collaboration with community organizations to develop a plan for use and to ensure there is a process in place to protect everyone's safety. Logistics for the opening of

the Town Hall are being developed with a goal of opening in November. In the meantime, get outside and move. Enjoy our beautiful Island!  
 Walking is a great activity for seniors because it is low impact but still provides many health benefits. Regular walking is good for reducing the risk of conditions like heart disease and diabetes and keeping the body physically strong can even improve balance and coordination.  
 For flat walking surfaces, have you tried the tennis/basketball court at the softball park? You can complete 17 laps around the court to equal one mile. Try walking fast on the short ends and slower on the long ends or vice versa. Also, the sidewalk between the corner of Addison and Division Street (on Chapel Street) is approximately one quarter of a mile. While walking that stretch, vary your walking pace at every other telephone pole.  
 The paved road that goes down to the sandy beach and boat ramp (off Division Street) is a great loop if you want the challenge of a hill. Walk down the hill towards the Sandy beach/boat ramp and head for the boat ramp then turn left to go up the

hill. Follow the road around as it becomes Division street again. Repeat. That loop is .38 of a mile. Three times around is 1.14 miles. Walking a hill is a great way to raise your heartbeat for exercise. Try walking up the hill backwards and discover muscles you forgot you had.  
 Walking in different directions during your walk is good for coordination and balance and to utilize muscle groups that are not used but should be kept active. Remember, our bodies are made to move in different directions. Remind your muscles of this by walking sideways and backwards and even doing a grapevine step to challenge yourself. As you know, there are miles of nature trails on the Island for those who are of sure foot.  
 For other ideas for your physical fitness routine outdoors, feel free to message or call

Jodie Smith 419-350-1082 or runjode@gmail.com. If you do not like to walk alone, contact me and I can connect some walking enthusiasts for a walk together! If you are willing to walk with someone, let me know so we can get people together to walk outside.

**Christmas Greetings**  
 from the Village of Kelleys Island:  
 Mayor Ron Ehrbar,  
 Clerk Treasurer and Staff

*Season's GREETINGS*  
 From The Board And Staff  
 At The 4-H Camp.

**HAVE A NOVEL NOEL!**  
 Kelleys Island Branch  
 of Sandusky Library  
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 Kelleys Island, OH 43438

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 Michele Lehmann  
 419-271-0467  
 www.truthfirstrealty.com

**IN THE HOLIDAY MOOD**  
 This little greeting is filled with best wishes and gratitude. For it just wouldn't be Christmas without good friends like you!  
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# SEASON'S GREETINGS & MANY THANKS!

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS**



from the  
**KELLEYS ISLAND SCHOOL**  
**STAY SAFE & HEALTHY!**

**Holiday Greetings**


Wishing you and your family happiness, health and good cheer, now and throughout the coming year.

from Steve Mack,  
Dave Tully  
and the staff at  
Berkshire Hathaway  
Professional Realty  
419-503-0712  
stevemack.ki@gmail.com



**Yuletide Greetings**

We'd like to join our good friends everywhere in a wish for peace on earth and goodwill towards all this holiday season. For the goodwill you've shown towards us we are deeply grateful.



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**Merry Christmas**

from  
**Camp Patmos**

*"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone."  
Isaiah 9:2*

May the light of Christ shine on you this season.



**MARBLEHEAD GALLEY**

Wishes Everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year!

Thanks for a great year  
See you in March!

113 West Main St., Lakeside Marblehead  
419-798-5356



**In This Holy Season**

Like the star in the East, may the Lord continue to light the way for you and your loved ones this holiday season and beyond. For your faith in us, we are sincerely grateful, Merry Christmas!

**Zion United Methodist Church**



**MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM ALL OF US**

Hope your holiday delivers everything you've wanted this year.

We appreciate your being there for all of us.

**VFW Post #9908**



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**Jason Smith REALTOR**



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We're overflowing with gratitude and best wishes for all of those who have helped to make this past year a bright one for us. Happy Holidays...and thanks!

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**hallelujah... It's Christmas!**

May the miracle of Christmas rekindle your spirits, and with great joy, we wish you and your family a truly miraculous holiday season.

**St. Michael's Catholic Church**



# MetroHealth Life Flight Services Coming to Kelleys Island

**Steve Wermuth,**  
Kelleys Island Village Administrator

After over a year of work, the Village Council and MetroHealth are entering into an Agreement to provide life flight services as well as telehealth to the residents of Kelleys Island. MetroHealth will be starting service as the relationship with St. Vincent Medical Center concludes in late December. St. Vincent has been providing life flight services to the Island for several years.

Upon review of both St. Vincent and MetroHealth service offerings and considering the direction the Village Council wants to go with fire and EMS services, it was decided that MetroHealth was the right partner for

the Village. MetroHealth will provide life flight services and accept insurance payments without any balance billing excluding any co-pays or deductibles. Also, the membership fee that residents paid for St. Vincent's services will not be necessary, so for many residents this will save about \$100 per year.

Included in the services from MetroHealth will be telehealth care. If a resident of the Village needs to talk to a physician, they can log on to the portal and connect with a physician associated with MetroHealth. This can save residents time and money by avoiding trips off the Island. Understanding that some residents do not have good internet

service, the Village Council is developing a clinic location with a good internet signal that residents can come to and connect to the telehealth services. The Village Council is also working with Erie County Health Department to coordinate their clinic services with MetroHealth to reduce fragmented health care.

Ultimately, the Village will combine its fire and EMS services which historically have been separate. Most communities in Ohio have combined fire and EMS to gain the staffing efficiencies of both departments. This will also lead to combining the fire and EMS levies into one levy for residents to vote on when these levies come up for renewal.

Town Halls were held on



September 29th and October 24th for residents to meet staff from MetroHealth and to learn how services will be delivered and ask questions. These Town Halls were well attended, and many questions were addressed. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) sheets are available at the Village Office.

**Thank You for your support!**  
Gary & Jackie & The Village Pump Crew

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For a Fabulous 2020 Season! See you in the Spring!!

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**THANK YOU...**  
for Visiting Us during this Trying Year.

Our Family is Always Happy to Serve Yours!

May you and your family Be touched with the blessings of Peace, health & happiness this joyous Holiday Season and Throughout the New Year

**Thank You...**  
for supporting your Chamber in 2020

We look forward to serving the Kelleys Island community in 2021!

**KELLEYS ISLAND**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

419-746-2360  
www.kelleysislandchamber.com  
info@kelleysislandchamber.com

**Christmas Park Lighting**  
Friday, November 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm

*Valentine's Day Greetings*

Send YOUR Valentine greeting to those you love and appreciate: employees, family, friends and loved ones.

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3511 W. Cleveland Rd., Huron

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*Submissions to Kelleys Life Articles, ideas, photos, letters to the editor and newsworthy items are welcomed. Submissions must be singled-spaced with paragraph indentations (no double spacing between paragraphs). Provide email or telephone contact information for follow up or clarification of details.*

**Editor's Note:** Stories written without a by-line are written or compiled by Kelleys Life editor. Kelleys Life is not responsible for the views of its writers or editor.

**Photos:** We want and welcome your photos for Kelleys Life, please send them-BUT-We can only use photos that are from an actual camera-digital or analog. Cell phone photos, no matter how clear they appear to you, will not reproduce appropriately. The photos should be 300dpi and sent via e-mail in a jpeg format to the editor. No exceptions.

**KELLEYS LIFE  
JANUARY /  
FEBRUARY ISSUE  
DEADLINE IS  
JANUARY 6**

**Send us your photos  
and stories, please!**

We at *Kelleys Life* would love to hear about your and/or your family's life on the island. Please send us your stories and photos - don't worry if their not done to a finished condition, we can do that for you. We'd also love your photographs of family events on the island. Please include the names of everyone in the photo and a contact name and number in case we have questions. Email them to JDWKelleys@gmail.com

## Kelleys Island Library Reopening

Janet Wermuth, Editor

Get your winter reading list ready! The Kelleys Island Library will reopen in late November or early December. The Kelleys Island Library volunteers are working with the Sandusky Library to finalize the

opening date. The WiFi, which has been down for several months, will be up and running by the opening. The winter hours will be Mondays 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.; Thursdays 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.; and Saturdays 10:00 a.m. - noon.

## Resuming Kelleys Island Public Health Clinics

Shari Greene, RN,  
Chief Health Planning Officer,  
Erie County Health Department

The Kelleys Island Public Health Outreach Clinic has resumed offering services on select Fridays. The Clinic is offered through the Erie County Health Department at the Kelleys Island Library. During the winter, the plan is to offer one monthly clinic on

November 13 and December 11 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Due to safeguards and infection control measures to protect all individuals secondary to COVID, all appointments for visits and the flu vaccine must be scheduled by calling Erie County Health Department Central Scheduling at 419-626-5623 ext. 174.

## What We Learned from Covid Life in 2020

Patti Johnson-Muranyi,  
Kelleys Island Brew Pub

Freedom is worth the effort. Having a small business is why people have come to America for hundreds of years. It is also why people leave their secure jobs and pensions, to create and practice financial independence and cooperative living. It is the American Dream.

Living in a small community is important. We all need to highlight our strengths and support others in their businesses. We also need to be knowledgeable of village politics and the issues that pertain to our safety

and conservation of this historic and ecological treasure.

The Kelleys Island Brewery had a year of firsts and lasts, and we are planting seeds for 2021. Focusing on the beer, the food, and the view that makes us part of the American Dream. Thank you to our supporters, our friends, and our extended Island family.

Storms sometimes devastate and may propel us to change. Ultimately, Mother Nature is in charge. We appreciate you and look forward to serving you next season.

Patti and Doug

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## Happy Birthday

### November

- 3 - John Fisher
- 3 - Stephanie Allan
- 4 - Bob Coulon
- 6 - Michael Krzynowek
- 6 - Jack Wade
- 7 - Mac Bechtel
- 7 - Robin Benvenuto
- 7 - Shirley Selig
- 8 - Izaak Elfers
- 10 - Olivia Schnittker
- 12 - Shawn Craig
- 14 - Lloyd Burns
- 15 - Brandy Kluding
- 15 - Matt Sandvick
- 17 - Eddie Ehrbar
- 17 - Alex Mack
- 18 - Katie Brian Mack
- 18 - Knut Lahrs
- 18 - Donna (Elfers) Lusk
- 18 - Debby (Elfers) King
- 19 - Twila Joyce
- 20 - Carol Nelson-Burns
- 20 - Stacey DeBoard
- 23 - Frank Dodson Sr.
- 23 - Anne Eddowes
- 24 - Lynn Maiers
- 24 - Samantha Schmidt
- 25 - Scott Smith
- 25 - Derrek Wagner
- 26 - Julie Thomas
- 26 - Joel Hassinger
- 27 - Jacquie Kranyak
- 27 - William Charles Welly
- 28 - Carlie Quillin
- 30 - Cindi Jenkins
- 30 - Todd Patterson

### December

- 1 - Jeremy Smith
- 2 - Marvin Robinson
- 2 - Evan Sandvick
- 3 - Michelle Maher
- 3 - Mike Maher
- 3 - Sharon Vetovitz
- 5 - Erin Joyce
- 6 - Dan Schroer
- 8 - Julia Martin Kennedy
- 8 - Craig Vetovitz
- 9 - Will Toldy
- 11 - Sierra Cremean
- 12 - Maggie Quillin
- 13 - Erin Fuller Brian
- 14 - Barry Brian
- 14 - Ava Gonzalez
- 16 - Nick Walker
- 18 - Kayla Maher
- 19 - Sonia Taylor
- 20 - Lynn Cooper
- 24 - Mike Mielke
- 30 - Emily Hedley
- 31 - Jacci Croudup
- 31 - Teanna Brunnet

# Kelleys Island Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau Update

**By: Jordan Killam, Director**

With each issue, I am tempted to begin my report with three words, "We made it." Is it alright if I say it again? No objections? Great! We Made It!

This year, I could not help but notice the large influx of first-time day trippers stepping off the ferry at my Seaway Marina office. They are easy to spot - not carrying much, amazed smiles on their faces, ambling towards the building (or golf cart shack), sometimes appearing a bit disoriented. They are the folks who, after lockdowns ended in their municipalities, lived within drivable distance of Marblehead, and thought "Why not Kelleys Island?"

We are all so grateful for their choice as business flourished once non-essential travel resumed in our state. Lodging properties were booked solid and many flocked to our beautiful nature preserves. It was almost like a regular summer - except with masks, social distancing, and capacity restrictions indoors.

In the latter half of the season, the Chamber managed to garner more participation than ever for Treasure Island Day, raised \$10k for a fantastic Labor Day Weekend Fireworks show, staged a rescheduled Mad River Bike Tour raising over \$1k, and elected a very qualified new board.

*Allow me to introduce them:*

**President** - Todd Hanes' background includes ten years of experience as a traditional school superintendent for Elida Schools in Allen County, and thirty years of experience as a teacher and administrator in public education.

He worked building the West Central Learning Academy, a school in Allen County to serve at-risk youth and subsequently served as that school's Chief Executive Officer. Todd is currently serving as President and CEO of Adriel, a social service agency for children. He serves as a board member of the Kelleys Island Land Owners Association and Chairman of the Kelleys Island Zion United Methodist Church trustees. Todd has been a foster parent in Ohio and currently lives on Kelleys Island with his son Will.

**Vice President** - Dawn Soldner is an Island resident and the owner of Island Adventures. She has owned property on Kelleys Island for about 20 years, living here full time for the last 5 years. She is committed to the future success of our Island through promoting the businesses and the natural beauty of Kelleys. Dawn grew up and raised her own family in the Toledo, Ohio area. Her 35-year career consisted of medical nursing, psychiatric nursing, public health nursing/health education, and teaching in both nursing school and a high school med tech program. Dawn's original visits to KI were camping with her family and Girl Scout trips, which began her love affair with the Island. Since living here, she has been involved with the Kelleys Island Historical Association (serving as a board member for 3 years), the Kelleys Island Audubon Society, and the KI Poker Paddle. Dawn belongs to Zion United Methodist Church where she is an active member and is involved with the Lay Speaker program for UMC.

**Treasurer** - Dan Hazard (Blue Heron Retreat) has been visiting Kelleys Island with his family since he was a child. He worked on the Island at various establishments for eight summers during and after college. In 1997, he purchased kelleysisland.com and has been promoting the Island online since that time. In 2012, he purchased a condominium with a partner, and they have been renting it since that time. In 2016, they purchased a second condominium and rent that out as well. In December 2017, he co-founded StayOnKI.com as a full service rental information website for the Island. The Kelleys Island Facebook page that Dan administers has over 32,000 followers and has been promoting the Island for over ten years. Dan's passion for new technology and digital solutions will be an asset to our Chamber going forward.

**Secretary** - Janet Wermuth (Crooked Tree Vineyard) brings 30-years of fundraising experience to the Chamber. Her development career began at Lakewood Hospital in Lakewood, Ohio in 1990. Today, she is a full-time Island resident running her fundraising consulting business, Focus on Funding, and, with her husband Steve, is fully immersed in the work at Crooked Tree Vineyard. Janet and Steve established Crooked Tree Vineyard on the Southeast side of Kelleys Island in 2013 and opened their dedicated tasting room in 2019.

The Chamber is so grateful that these individuals have volunteered to step up and serve our organization and by extension, the community of Kelleys Island! I look forward to

working with all of them and more importantly, learning from them.

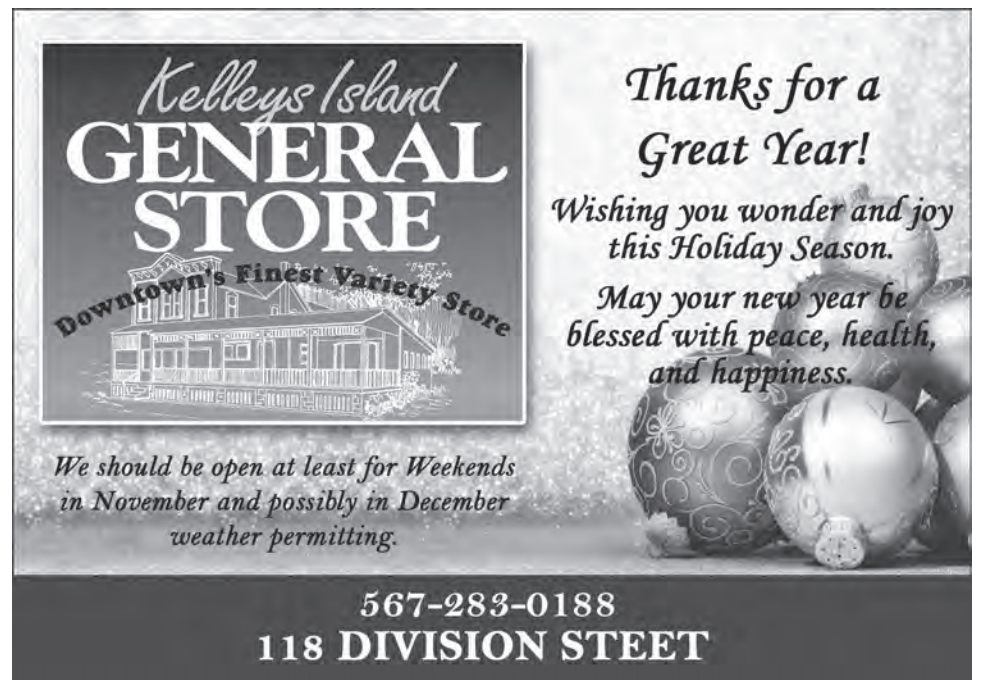
**What's next for us?** While the Island's economy did not take that feared dive as expected, the Chamber's budget took a hit as we could not host several key events this year - the 5 & 10K Run/Walk, KI's Got Talent, and Island Fest. We will be spending the winter brainstorming fundraising ideas, revising dated parts of our constitution, improving our website, recruiting new members (especially those who are located off-island), and creating new and better ways to serve our current and future membership. A Chamber events schedule will be shared in the first part of 2021.

Did you know that you can donate to our organization right on our site? It is super easy! Just visit [www.KelleysIslandChamber.com/donate](http://www.KelleysIslandChamber.com/donate) and select the event or initiative you would like to support. If you would like to make a general donation to the Chamber, select "General." Since we have limited revenue streams, donations like this are always appreciated!

The Chamber Office will likely close in early November, but our phone calls will be forwarded to my phone and I will be answering emails all winter long. If you would like to get involved with any of our initiatives or if you have any ideas to share, please do not hesitate to call me at 419-746-2360 or [info@kelleysislandchamber.com](mailto:info@kelleysislandchamber.com)



**Island Market**  
wishes you a  
**Wonderful Holiday Season.**  
**Rob and Kim Watkins**  
Downtown-Division Street  
419-746-2292




*Kelleys Island*  
**GENERAL STORE**  
*Downtown's Finest Variety Store*

*Thanks for a Great Year!*  
*Wishing you wonder and joy this Holiday Season.*  
*May your new year be blessed with peace, health, and happiness.*

*We should be open at least for Weekends in November and possibly in December weather permitting.*

**567-283-0188**  
**118 DIVISION STREET**



**Happy Holidays**  
*from KI Volunteer Fire Department*



**Holiday Greetings**

The Kelleys Island Landowners Association  
Thank You for a Great Year  
and Wish You  
Health and Happiness  
in 2021.  
See you in the Spring.

## News from the Kelleys Island History Museum

By Leslie Korenko

The season is almost over. The museum closed on Columbus Day but is available for tours by appointment. The resale shop will stay open for another few weeks. You will probably see some work being done at the house as we are having a real furnace, air conditioning system, and insulation installed. New windows will be coming next year.

What a year it has been. It seemed like everyone who stopped said "We've driven by a hundred times and finally decided to stop in." We were awfully glad they did. The Museum team met so many new people and received such positive comments. As homes were bought and sold, we wish to thank the many generous people who donated items to the History Museum and resale shop. Many were of exceptional quality and historic value. We particularly liked this c1920 baby carriage

donated by Jerry West. Absolutely gorgeous.

Our annual meeting was brief and low key. The meeting was recapped in our latest newsletter. As the year comes to a close, we look forward to a better 2021. Like many organizations, we were significantly impacted by COVID-19. The Museum was only open four days a week. This meant we had to really tighten our belts as we locked down spending in April with essential services only. While visitation was brisk for those four days, our visitors were mostly from the five-state area and not nationwide as it has been. Of course, we had to cancel our big fund raiser – Vegas Night. But never fear, we are planning a new Vegas Night in August 2021 (fingers crossed).

Even though it is early November, we wish you a bountiful Thanksgiving and best wishes for the holidays. See you next year.



Recently added to our collection, this wicker baby buggy c1920

## Pastor Ginny Park Recognized as an Upstanding Citizen



Janet Wermuth  
Virginia "Ginny" Park who leads

the Zion United Methodist Church will be retiring on January 1, 2021 from her position as Ottawa County Clerk. She has held that position for 32 years. In honor of Ginny's pending retirement, Mayor Ron Ehrbar issued a Village of Kelleys Island Proclamation in her honor. The Proclamation recognizes her as an upstanding citizen of the Village and states, "Let it be proclaimed, that Virginia 'Ginny' Parks Be Forever Honored for the love and care she has given to the community as she has pastored for many years the citizens of the Village of Kelleys Island."



Season's Greetings  
from All of Us at  
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Happy Holidays

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# The Island's Stone Fences

Leslie Korenko, author of *Kelleys Island - The Courageous, Poignant, and Often Quirky Lives of Island Pioneers*

So, what is the story of these walls which snake across the Island, looking like historic beasts?



**THE RUMORS:** Recently we had three queries about our stone fences. The first was a belief that they had been built by the Works Progress Administration (WPA). President Franklin D. Roosevelt created the WPA with an executive order on May 6, 1935. It was part of his New Deal plan to lift the country out of the Great Depression by reforming the financial system and restoring the economy to pre-Depression levels. In 1939 it was renamed the Work Projects Administration which employed mostly unskilled men to carry out public works infrastructure projects. They built more than 4,000 new school buildings, erected 130 new hospitals, laid roughly 9,000 miles of storm drains and sanitary sewer lines, built 29,000 new bridges, constructed 150 new airfields, paved or repaired 280,000 miles of roads, and planted 24 million trees. Oral histories indicate that the WPA was on the Island in the 1930s working on the Glacial Grooves.

Another person wanted to know why there was no historic marker for these walls as they were used by the soldiers during the War of 1812 to hide

behind. While there was a small outpost on the Island during this war, fighting occurred mainly on the water near the Bass Islands.

The third query asked why the stone fence along Monaghan Road on Long Point and was in such disrepair. We do not really have an answer for that, it is on private property.

**WHAT WAS THEIR PURPOSE?** One way to settle disputes about cattle, trespass, and boundaries was to build good stout fences. These also served as a convenient place to stack stones cleared from fields. Scattered around the Island are remnants of an extensive stone fence system. These fences were permanent fixtures, often referenced in deeds. While there are still portions of these fences standing on the east side and the middle of the Island, most of this extensive system has been dismantled.



**THE FIRST FENCE WAS BUILT IN 1856.** This first fence is attributed to Erastus Huntington. He secured the title to a 5-acre and a 1.5-acre plot in 1859, a part of the farm owned by his parents George C. and Emeline Huntington, but as noted in this article, Erastus took possession of the lots much earlier. He was just 18 in 1856 when he built the first stone fence on the Island.

"The first stone fence built on this Island was commenced in December 1856 by and for Erastus Huntington

across the front of his premises on Lake Street [formerly Water St. and now W. Lakeshore]. He finished the same the following spring. It proved to be a substantial fence and soon after, others followed his example. Up to this time [1861], about 189 rods [over 3,000 ft.] have been built and more are in progress of construction. A good part of it is built of surface stones, which are a nuisance on the land, thus making a useful 'riddance' of otherwise 'bad rubble.'

In New Germany, the stone were so plentiful on the surface as to be very troublesome, and it was found necessary to remove them. Enough of them were [had] to build a fence across the front, most of which is completed and there is plenty left to build another across the back part. New Germany is the name given to that part of the Island situated up Vineyard Lane 1/21 mile north of its junction with Lake Street. Enclosed as it nearly is, on the front to pedestrians, hogs traveling the lane must present a very formidable appearance. Horses or cattle have never been known to try, whether, 'the top rail be loose or not.' We are glad to hear there is more of this substantial fence to be built the coming spring."

Sections of several stone fences can still be seen on the Island. The most visible ones appear along former pasture lands, like this one along Woodford Road and the another along Monaghan Road, near Long Point.



Most of the fences are gone, but you can see proof of their existence in some

old Island pictures. A good example is the picture of the German Reform Church on Division Street, which was built in 1866. The fence around the German Reformed Church was made of stone while other sections were split rails.



Some fences were topped with flat stones while others give the impression of a prehistoric animal with a spiny backbone.



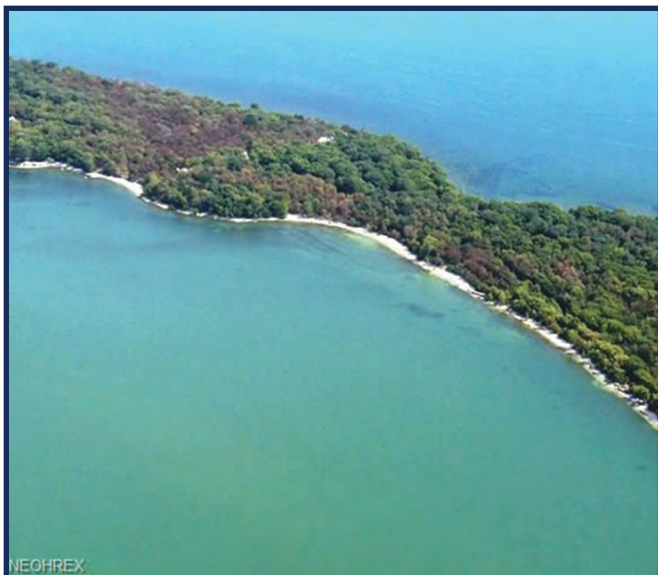
There was a lot of variety in the construction of stone fences, with changes in the top stones marking a boundary change. Sometimes, as with the Long Point fence, large round stones, probably driven onto the land by wave action, were incorporated into the design, while inland fences tended to have just flat stones.

Large stones marked corners of lots and were referenced in deeds. In other areas, hardheads, or large hard stones that were difficult to move, would mark the corner of a lot.

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**331 DIVISION**  
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**523 W. LAKESHORE**  
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**208 MCGETTIGAN**  
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**\$390,000.00**



**LOT 530 MONAGHAN**  
 This Gorgeous 2+ Acre Wooded Lot Is Adjacent To the North/ South Runway Of the Kelleys Island Municipal Airport.  
**\$78,900**



**LOT 202 MCGETTIGAN**  
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**\$339,900**



**VACANT LOT E. LAKESHORE**  
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**\$199,000**

# Depression is Not Normal Aging

Sue Daugherty, Director, Serving Our Seniors

With winter on its way, days are getting shorter and nights are getting longer and the “winter blues” could affect you in later life. Compounding the “winter blues” is Covid-19. To prevent getting the virus, social distancing is a necessary precautionary measure, especially for people of older age, due to reduced immune response. This makes social isolation during

fall/winter 2020-2021 a legitimate concern. It can compromise your ability to age well and if left unchecked.... It can lead to depression.

Depression is misunderstood by most people, especially those age 60+. This age group is the generation raised during a time when being depressed meant you were “weak.” One was taught not to discuss their feelings for fear of appearing weak/abnormal. Instead, the social norm was to “just suck it up and pull yourself up by your bootstraps.” In reality, nothing could be further from the truth.

We have learned a lot about depression over the last 50 years. We now know that depression is not a normal part of aging. I had the good fortune of listening to Dr. Carlos Lowell, D.O., Psychiatrist, speak at a public forum where he explained Depression and Dementia. It was there I learned untreated depression is toxic to the brain. Depression is a treatable health problem, if properly diagnosed. When depression is left untreated it can cause permanent damage. Untreated depression can mimic Alzheimer’s disease and related conditions.

To raise your awareness about depression in later life, let me bring to your attention The Geriatric Depression Scale (short form). It is not a substitute for a diagnostic interview by a mental health professional. Instead, I am writing about it, so those age 60+ can be more aware and better informed about what you are feeling and what to do about it.

### Geriatric Depression Scale -

Choose the best answer for how you have felt over the past week:

1. Are you basically satisfied with your life? **YES/NO**
2. Have you dropped many of your activities and interests? **YES/NO**
3. Do you feel that your life is empty? **YES/NO**
4. Do you often get bored? **YES/NO**
5. Are you in good spirits most of the time? **YES/NO**
6. Are you afraid that something bad is going to happen to you? **YES/NO**
7. Do you feel happy most of the time? **YES/NO**
8. Do you feel helpless? **YES/NO**
9. Do you prefer to stay at home, rather than going out and doing new things? **YES/NO**
10. Do you feel you have more problems with memory than most? **YES/NO**
11. Do you think it is wonderful to be alive now? **YES/NO**
12. Do you feel pretty worthless the way you are now? **YES/NO**
13. Do you feel full of energy? **YES/NO**
14. Do you feel that your situation is hopeless? **YES/NO**
15. Do you think that most people are better off than you are? **YES/NO**

(Source: <http://www.medafile.com/GDS15.htm>)

Answers in bold indicate depression. Score 1 point for each bold answer.

Scores of 0-4 are considered normal, depending on age, education, and complaints; 5-8 indicate mild depression; 9-11 indicate moderate depression; 12-15 indicate severe depression.

(Source: <https://www.woundcare.ca/Uploads/ContentDocuments/Geriatric%20Depression%20Scale.pdf>)

According to the Medicare.gov website, Medicare Part B does cover mental health care as an outpatient. It will pay for one depression screening per year and the screening must be done in the primary care doctor’s office. Since Covid-19, Medicare has reimbursed for “virtual visits,” when in the past Medicare would not. Therefore, it is entirely possible that you can remain on the Island, use your smart phone or computer, and see your doctor if you believe you may be suffering from depression.

If you would like our assistance in determining if Medicare will pay for a virtual visit with your doctor and/or to arrange such an appointment with your doctor, call Serving Our Seniors at 419-624-1856. Ask for a Senior Advocate Assistant to help you.

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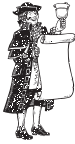
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# KILA Korner

Well, 2020 was quite a year. Despite the cancellations and curtailment of our accustomed summer season activities on KI, there were still lots of "new normal" things to do. Outdoor activities on the lake and in the parks and preserves were especially welcome. KILA gave out over 800 washable cloth masks to Island residents and businesses. We also distributed yard signs promoting "Keep Kelleys Safe." Thanks to all who participated in these community health and safety initiatives.

The KILA September Annual Meeting was conducted virtually via Google Meet as well as streaming on YouTube. While not a great turnout, 18 people followed the YouTube feed

as well as about a dozen on-line participants. President Chris Arnold shared his annual report; you can read the full report on the KILA website: [www.kila.rocks](http://www.kila.rocks). An election followed where the bylaws were amended (unanimously) to better define membership and board member eligibility reflecting recent practices. Five incumbent board members were re-elected and two new members were elected as directors to the board. Congratulations to incumbents: Jim Coleman, Frank Dodson, Janet Killam, Jennifer Pieratt, and Todd Hanes; new directors: Melanie Bates and Chris Kipfer. We also thank Vicki Finnegan and Jeanie Feagan for their service as directors and especially to Jeanie for her dedication as

treasurer for 2 years.

We look forward to 2021 and resuming our community activities such as the Welcome Back Potluck (May 15th), Homecoming (Aug 13 & 14th), and the Family Hayride (Oct 23rd). All of these activities and community service projects are made possible by membership dues, donations, and fund-raising activities. Please remember to renew your KILA membership or become a new member and join the over 250 active KILA members. Donations are accepted to support our continuing improvement efforts on the Island. Please make checks payable to KILA and mail to: PO Box 22, Kelleys Island, OH 43438. For your convenience, you can also pay by PayPal at: [www.kila.rocks](http://www.kila.rocks).



Thank you all for helping keep Kelleys safe. Have a Safe & Healthy Holiday season



Kelleys Island Audubon Club

## Health, Happiness And Birding

By Pat Hayes

The natural wonders of Kelleys Island did not disappear with the pandemic this year. The Kelleys Island Audubon research has continued, although regrettably without an audience.

The songbird numbers were incredible this spring at the songbird banding station at Jones Preserve on Long Point. Fall songbird banding also brought many species and several rarities to the banding station at Jones Preserve. Bird Banders, Tom and Paula Bartlett, continue to do an outstanding job with ongoing

research. Many thanks to them and their staff.

Our ongoing purple martin research continued with over 100 babies banded in July. One of our martins showed on Cape Cod a few years ago on its way to South America!

Owl banding mid-October started with a bang. Six owls were banded in the first week. Members were disappointed not being able to attend but understood the limitations due to COVID.

Monthly hikes were a nice alternative to our potlucks and programs we had to cancel. A big thank you to Tyler McClain, Kelleys Island Field Station, who led most of them.

On a positive note, our Pollinator Program is going well and on schedule. Seventeen acres have been planted with seeds purchased by donations from Kelleys Islanders. Thank you to Chris Ashley for coordinating the program.

A big shout out to Jackie Taylor, Kelleys Island Field Station Director for keeping their programs going and safe.

The Audubon Christmas Bird Count is still scheduled for December 20.

Everyone is welcome to join; make sure to bring your mask and bag lunch. Contact Tom Bartlett for details.

If you are looking for a Holiday Gift idea, consider the following organizations:

Kelleys Island Audubon  
PO Box 489  
Kelleys Island OH 43438  
Back to the Wild  
PO Box 423  
Castalia OH 44824

Western Reserve Land Conservancy Firelands  
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Happy and Healthy Holidays to all! And do not forget to look up for eagles!

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## OBITUARIES



**(Mary) Caroline DeBoard**, 87, of Kelleys Island, died Friday, August 28, 2020, in Stein Hospice Care Center, Sandusky, following a brief illness.

She was born Feb. 15, 1933, in Cleveland, to George and Jeanette

(Hamilton) Cleary. She owned and operated a bed and breakfast for many years on Kelleys. She was proud to be a great, great, great granddaughter of Datus and Sara Kelley. Datus and his brother Irad, founded Kelleys Island in 1933.

After raising four children, she worked as a congressional aide for William Broadhead in the 70's. She was a strong woman, beating cancer 3 times. The 4th time, not so lucky. Besides her family, her biggest love was Kelleys Island.

Caroline is survived by three daughters Lori (Pat) Hayes, Stacey DeBoard, and Beth (Tony) Alfonso; two grandchildren; four step grandchildren; one great

granddaughter; two step great grandchildren; sister Anne Sennish; and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband Richard E. DeBoard; her parents; sons Richard Kelley DeBoard and Jeffrey Booth DeBoard.

There was no visitation and cremation took place to honor Caroline's request. A graveside memorial service was held Sunday, Sept. 6th, 2020 in Kelleys Island Cemetery and a Celebration of Life will be held on Memorial Day weekend in 2021. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Kelleys Island EMS or to Stein Hospice Service, 1200 Sycamore Line, Sandusky, OH 44870.

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Mr. James O. Donnell

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SUNDAY 9 A.M. MASS

WINTER: SUNDAY 9 A.M. MASS  
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10:30 AM

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Pastor: Virginia M. Park



**Thomas "Tom" William Voltz**, 80, of Sandusky, passed away peacefully Friday, August 28, 2020 at

home surrounded by his loving family.

Tom was born on July 16, 1940 in Sandusky, OH to the late William and Geraldine (St. Marie) Voltz. He graduated from Sandusky St. Mary's as a member of the class of 1958. He was employed as a sheet metal worker and HVAC Service Technician for Voltz Furnace from 1958 to 1979 and Gundlach's from 1979 - 2002. Tom was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church, St. Mary's Athletic Federation, Knights of Columbus, Sandusky Maritime Museum, Kelley's Island Landowner's Association, Kelley's Island Historical Association and Sheet Metal Workers Union #33. In his spare time, he enjoyed remodeling and home improvement projects and spending time on Kelley's Island, where he had a house for more than 50 years. Tom's greatest joy of all was his family.

Tom is survived by his loving wife of 61 years, Beth (Ramsdell) Voltz, whom he married on January 3, 1959;

son, Bob (Lori) of Vermilion; 2 daughters, Cindy (Jerry) Schlett of Milan and Candy (Scott) Puma of Lakewood; 9 grandchildren, Rob (Stephanie) Voltz, Katie (Matt) Hayden, Greg (Kelli) Voltz, Nichole (Alex) Hartnett, Jennifer (Andy) Lieb, Chadwick (Emily) Schlett, Samantha Schlett, Vinny (Makayla) Puma and Gino Puma; 5 great-grandchildren, Ty, Allie, Kylie, Josie and Leah; brother-in-law, Glen (Sandy) Ramsdell; 2 sisters-in-law, Alice Ramsdell and Erma Voltz and many loving nieces, nephews and special friends.

In addition to his parents, Tom is preceded in death by his daughter, Christine Voltz Lieb; brother, Jim Voltz; sister, Sally Voltz Roesch; brother-in-law, Dale Ramsdell; mother-in-law, Kay Ramsdell and father-in-law, Ralph Ramsdell.

A private family Mass of Christian Burial was held for the immediate family. Groff Funeral Homes & Crematory assisted the family. Burial followed at Calvary Cemetery. Those wishing to contribute to Tom's memory may do so to Sandusky Central Catholic Schools, 410 W. Jefferson Street, Sandusky, OH 44870; St. Mary's Catholic Church, 429 Central Avenue, Sandusky, OH 44870; Stein Hospice Services, 1200 Sycamore Line, Sandusky, OH 44870 or to Cancer Services of Erie County, 505 E. Perkins Avenue, Sandusky, OH 44870.



**Violet "Vi" (Ward) Feyedelem**, 70, of Kelleys Island, died Tuesday, Oct. 20, 2020, at Stein Hospice Care Center after a lengthy illness.

She was born April 22, 1950, in New London, Ohio, to the late Valentine and Emily (Wooten) Ward. She was a graduate of Norwalk High School and enjoyed spending time

with her family and friends on Kelleys Island, where she and Michael lived full-time for the last 20 years. She was most proud of her family and her business that she built and ran for almost two decades, Vi's Island Treasures gift shop. She will be sorely missed.

She is survived by her husband, Michael J. Feyedelem of Kelleys Island; sons, Michael Feyedelem (Jana) of San Diego and Christopher Feyedelem (Vickie) of Logan, Utah. She's also survived by her grandchildren, Joseph of San Diego, Elise of Los Angeles and Jake and Isaac of Logan, Utah. She is survived by her sister, Margaret Gregory, of Norwalk, and brother, Joe Ward, of North Fairfield. She was preceded in death by her parents and her brothers, Clarence Ward and Thomas Ward.

A memorial service was held on Oct. 31, 2020, at Zion United Methodist Church on Kelleys Island.

## St. Michael's Catholic Church

Mass will be held on Christmas Eve at 3 pm.

Rev. Jim Pfiffer celebrant.

NO MASS ON CHRISTMAS DAY.

# Kelleys Island Pollinators & Partnerships Network



Mayor and Claudia Brown



Chris Ashley at State park



Monarch Island Sign



Monarch School Sign



Jackie Taylor from Field Station

**Jackie Taylor- Kelleys Island Field Station, Director**  
**Chris Ashley- Kelleys Island State Park, Manager**

The purpose of the Kelleys Island Pollinators and Partnerships Network is to Promote the Health of Pollinators Critical to the Lake Erie Island's Ecosystems through conservation, education, and research. Partnership members include the Ohio Ornithological Society, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program, Kelleys Island State Park, Kelleys Island School, Ohio State University's Stone Laboratory, Monarch Larva Monitoring Project, Monarch Watch, Journey North, Pollinator Partnership, Kelleys Island Audubon Club, the Lake Erie Islands Nature & Wildlife Center, the Village of Kelleys Island, Monarch City USA, Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Pheasants Forever, the ODNR Division of Wildlife, and the Kelleys Island Chamber of Commerce.

This June (2020) seventeen acres of native grasses and wildflowers were planted after two years of much planning and fundraising to establish Pollinator Habitats on Kelleys Island. The habitat restoration and the native seed mixture was supported by a variety of funding sources, but mostly from the Island community, partners, and volunteers. Local donations for the project totaled \$17,000, the Ohio Ornithological Society contributed \$3,000, and \$1,200 was given by the Pollinator Partnership.

Chris Ashley with the Kelleys Island State Park, his staff, and Jackie Taylor of the Kelleys Island Field Station, have been monitoring these habitats and eliminating the non-native plants throughout the growing season. Despite the dry summer, there has been successes with big blue-stem, sideoats gramma, blue vervain, common milkweed, butterfly milkweed, and black-eyed Susan all showing growth. In the spring we hope to see more germination, and plan to add three more acres of habitat.

This project has been nationally recognized by the Pollinator Partnership for the valuable contributions made to the Monarch Wings Across the Eastern Broadleaf Forest Program. With our participation, over 20 acres on Kelleys Island were registered as long-term secured habitat to support the conservation of the Eastern migratory monarch population.

Monarch City USA is a national

organization that recognized the efforts on Kelleys Island for improving the Monarch butterfly population recovery by encouraging and planting milkweed and nectar plants. In December 2019, the Kelleys Island Village Council approved Kelleys Island as a Monarch City USA. Kelleys Island is the first island to be recognized as a Monarch Island USA. Monarch Island USA signs are now around the Island showing the community's dedication for pollinators. Also, the Kelleys Island School

became a Monarch School USA through achievements in helping to protect the Monarch Butterfly and pollinators!

Currently, we are working on interpretive signage to educate the public about pollinators and their habitats, the threats they face, what this means in terms of pollination (both for humans and pollinators), and how these problems can be corrected. We are expanding our education and conservation activities and habitat monitoring at several differ-

ent sites. Pollinator trails will be incorporated into two of the properties that will connect with already existing State Park trails.

We cannot thank all our partners, sponsors, donors, and volunteers enough for the amount of support this project has received. At this crucial point in our Island's natural history, your participation in this revolutionary program will help our pollinator habitats flourish on Kelleys Island. We will continue updating you on our progress!

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# Camp Patmos to Open Next Season



**Dave Sellers, Executive Director**

We have great news to share with you. When the Coronavirus started in March, Camp Patmos was unsure how this year would look. We did not know if we could open for camp, retreats, day events, or if we would need to close the doors forever. God has spoken through people just like

you, and the answer is, with God in front of us, Camp Patmos will open again next season!

We have raised \$193,436, sixty-four percent of our goal to reach \$300,000 to open next year without adding debt to Camp Patmos. A Payroll Protection Plan Loan/Grant was secured to bring a small staff back to camp to prepare to open if we had that opportunity. The PPP Loan/Grant is forgivable and will not count against Camp Patmos. We also applied for and received an Economic Impact Disaster Loan of \$301,000 as a safety net if things went badly. From the beginning, we planned to hold these funds and only use them if absolutely necessary. A portion of that loan has been used to pay off our credit line and credit card since they were at higher interest rates. We will pay that portion back as soon as possible.

We have been praying for God to provide a \$50,000 matching fund. In the last few weeks, He answered loud and clear! Not only have we secured contributors to commit to a \$50,000 matching fund, but we also received funds to purchase a much needed 2020 John Deere Gator and the same family gifted a 2007 Honda Ridgeline to pull our boats!

While this news is exciting and encouraging, we still need your help! We are asking you to pray how you

can help us double this generous \$50,000 matching gift. Donating today helps keep our camper prices as low as possible and prevents adding debt to camp that will take us decades to pay off.

The past few summers, one of our High School campers has provided a scholarship so another student can attend Camp Patmos. This summer, Alex doubled his gift to \$1,000 from the previous year. Here are his own words of encouragement, "You guys have given me so much, and I hope this can show you how much I care and appreciate everything you do and how Camp Patmos

has affected my life."

You can donate by mail at PO Box 1920, Kelleys Island, OH 43438 or by going to <https://www.camppatmos.com/support-the-camp/current-fund-raisers> select "Matching Fund" to make sure your gift gets doubled today.



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## Running For Pollinators!



On November 14, 2020 starting at 9:00 a.m. Emily Beal, Kelleys Island State Park, and Jackie Taylor, Kelleys Island Field Station, will be running 10 miles to support the Kelleys Island Pollinators & Partnerships! You can help them reach their goal to raise \$5,000 by supporting their effort.

Ways To Sponsor Emily and Jackie:

1) Go to the Kelleys Island State Park Office Window (920 Division St)

and make an in-person pledge any day 8-10am or 4-6pm

2) Mail in your pledge to Pollinator Run Kelleys Island Audubon Club, PO Box 851 KI, OH 43438

3) Contact Jackie Taylor at: [jackieruthtaylor@gmail.com](mailto:jackieruthtaylor@gmail.com)

4) Cheer us on running day- we will have 5 planned locations for folks to cheer us on throughout the run!

## Thank You!!

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