

## KI Easter Egg Hunt proved to be an egg-citing time for everyone!



**Jodie Smith**

A beautiful warm sunny day on Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023, was a welcome sight for young and old as children scrambled to find just the right egg to fill their baskets. After church services were completed, many families walked into town to enjoy the sun blessed day! They were greeted by a large,

beautifully dressed white rabbit. Children and adults lined up to speak with the rabbit and have their picture taken. The rabbit was responsible for the colorful array of eggs, spilled across the park, as he made his way to various homes throughout the night.

Families anxiously awaited the start of

"the hunt," by standing around the edges of the grass. Precisely at noon the whistle was blown for the smaller children to rush into the park and gather their eggs. After giving the smaller children adequate time to fill their baskets, the older children rushed the park!

**Please turn to page 2**

## From the Mayor's Desk

I am glad to be writing this letter as we will now have another newspaper in town to spread island news. So, spring has sprung and here we are, ready for another year. Winter was quiet, as it should be, and the weather pretty much followed suit. Other than the Christmas Eve storm, the temperatures were moderate for January and February and very little snow. The issue with that is there was no ice for fishing and we all look forward to some ice fishing.

As for village news, we have been busy getting ready for the projects that are scheduled for this year. Here is my village update from back in February, which explains the projects happening this summer, it also can be seen on our village website.

We have been busy taking care of the everyday business to keep the village running and here are some of the items we have been working on.

**Safety Forces:** The Police Department, for those that did not realize, in October we swore in a new chief, Jamie Bartus and he will be here full-time. Also, we hired a full-time officer, Amy Krall. Both are great additions to our police department and the cost to the village will be minimal.

The Fire Department is having an assessment completed for the village's needs. This assessment will bring to light the possible needs for additional equipment and how to pay for that. Since our community is growing, the thought of a professional opinion was deemed necessary.

Our Emergency Medical System is continuing to excel since joining with Metro

Health a little over two years ago.

Continued training along with the purchasing new equipment with the guidance of Metro Health has greatly enhanced our EMS, which is a benefit to all of us.

**Water Department:** After all the changes last summer and fall, I am pleased to say Tom Lange is doing an excellent job, along with his new hires. Looks like Huntington will be getting a new waterline in spring, much needed after many years of continuous water leaks. Tom, along with our Village Administrator, Steve Wermuth have been working together, along with RCAP, a federally funded consulting firm with no cost to the village for an EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) low interest loan, towards getting this problem resolved.

**Streets and Sidewalks:** Happening this spring, Fairview Lane, Lakeview, Crestline, and Lake Ct. will be Tar and Chipped.

Other projects have been talked about but are not on any schedule. Also, Huntington will be paved upon completion of the waterline project. Last fall we were awarded \$400,000.00 from the state's Capitol Budget Fund for the East Lakeshore Project and are working with Bramhall Engineering to prepare the bid specs.

**Land and Buildings:** In January, The Erie County Health Department opened their new office at the remodeled Golias House on Addison Street. They moved from school and will see patients here. Watch for information dealing with scheduling of a doctor, and dentist, and other health related issues. We

**Please turn to page 2**

## Life returns to Kelleys Island

Upon hearing the news that once again Kelleys Island would have a local newspaper, there was much enthusiasm throughout the island. Islanders were glad to learn that our community newspaper will again be available throughout the summer.

Vicky Rovder is the graphics designer who has been involved with the Kelleys Island papers for over 25 years. Vicky will be the publisher teaming with her husband, Jerry Rovder. Jerry is a Computer Engineer with a strong business background who will certainly add to the success of the paper.

Beyond becoming a 100% color publication, another change is the introduction of a new name for your paper: Life on Kelleys—the Emerald Isle news. Kelleys Island has long been known as the Emerald Isle because it is an outstanding destination for nature enthusiasts, as well as a relaxing retreat for vacationers. The island is renowned for its unique geological, ecological, and archaeological features. For all of these reasons, the wording: The Emerald Isle news was added to the name of the paper as a tribute to the island.

Life on Kelleys—the Emerald Isle news will showcase community information as well as events and projects benefiting the island, so that readers can become more aware to actively participate and build a stronger community.

Vicky and Jerry's family home is in Chagrin Falls and they hope to become active participants in our community for years to come. Please extend a warm welcome to them.



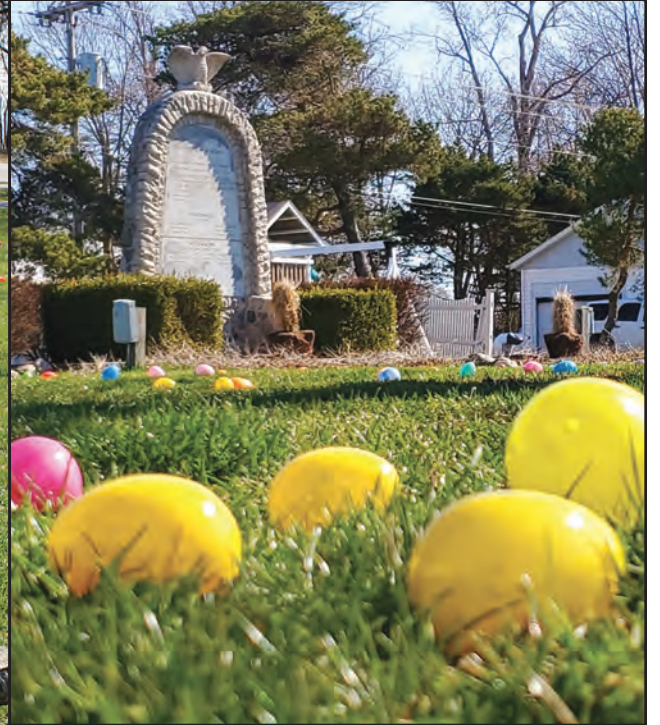
# KI Easter Egg Hunt

—continued from page 1

Each egg was filled with candy and some larger eggs were character themed. After all of (100's!) the eggs were collected, children anxiously began to open the eggs. Many exclamations of joy were heard as a child found their favorite candies. Some trading of the treats took place amongst friends and families. All of the empty eggs were collected and returned to the Easter Bunny as he is a big believer in re-use and recycle!

Overall, the 2023 Easter Egg Hunt was a huge success. The community wishes to thank the Chamber of Commerce for sponsoring this very fun event each year.

Enjoy some additional photos from the Easter egg Hunt



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**GIFT CARDS!**

## From the Mayor's Desk

—continued from page 1

here in the village are very proud to be part of this new facility. If you have not seen the house, feel free to ask and I will give you a showing.

The village has added a generator for the Town Hall, EMS, and the Police Department thanks to Russ Maust who secured a grant for the unit.

Other news, our Village Administrator, Steve Wermuth, is resigning. When we hired Steve, I gave him a bucket list of items that I would like to see accomplished during my term as mayor and with his help these projects are well on

their way to being completed. Steve not only did his duties as administrator but took on several other duties to help the village. Many thanks and Good Luck Steve in all your future endeavors!

As I said before I believe it is a good thing to have a paper to keep everyone in the know. Let us all get behind the producers and support the newspaper. Welcome back everyone and enjoy the spring like weather.

Ron Ehrbar  
 Your Mayor



# VFW Post 9908 – Bugle Call

**Paul Burns**

On November 27, 2023 our post will celebrate our 75th anniversary. Imagine that, 75 years of Kelleys Island history. We look forward to many more years of making history here in our community.

There have been several additions to the building over the decades. The building was originally built on Johnson Island, then it was transported here, where for a while it was a pre-prohibition saloon, and in the late 1940's it became our post. This winter we have renovated the second floor of our post into a modern apartment. The transformation has been remarkable. Not bad for a building that dates back to the American Civil War of the 1860's.

The club was open five days a week with the help of our two bartenders this winter, thank you Jan Thom and thank you Dani Zingales. A big thank you to Trudy Neu for all the work she does as the onsite club manager this winter. Ann Lorenz should be back in charge of the canteen by the time we are reading this in this newspaper. We want to thank everyone for helping make this past winter the success that it was. We are proud to have made monetary donations to five organizations in our community this winter; Saint Michael's Church,

Zion Methodist Church, KI Volunteer Fireman's Association, KI Police Association, and KI EMS. On Saturdays in January and February we were privileged to host the KI EMS "Feel Good Meals" these were a huge success for both our organizations. We were glad to have the Wii bowling league again this winter. Thank you!

Please plan on attending our annual Memorial Day Ceremony over at the cemetery, 11:00am on Monday May 29th. We are grateful and honored by the support the public shows for those who gave so much for our country.

We are planning on another Sunset Island Cruise. A fun time was had by all aboard the ship last year. Our Annual Chicken Dinner will again be held this summer. We are still finalizing the plans and dates for both the cruise and chicken dinner at the time of my writing this article in March.

Our pavilion is available for private receptions and parties check with our club manager for availability and rates.

We are always looking for new members or members that would like to transfer to our post. Remember if you have received a campaign medal for overseas service; have served 30 consecutive or



Our building as it looked seventy years ago in 1953, photographer unknown.

60 non-consecutive days in Korea; or have ever received hostile fire or imminent danger pay, then you're eligible to join our ranks. Please contact one of our members or stop by our Post for more details.

## Ben Ohlemacher new Principal of Kelleys Island School



Ben Ohlemacher has accepted the role of Principal as of February 20, 2023 of Kelleys Island School.

His background of serving as an educator for 20 years proves him to be more than qualified for the position. Previously, he spent seven years as a classroom teacher and taught grades four through six and also was an eighth grade teacher. Mr. Ohlemacher also served as a Middle School Assistant Principal, High School Principal and Director of Special Education Services.

As a resident of Sandusky, he will commute to Kelleys Island School to perform his many duties. So far, he states, that he has enjoyed coming to the island via plane and looks forward to the spring time which will afford him more time to meet and greet the islanders.

Mr. Ohlemacher enjoys the uniqueness of leading an island school and he looks forward to being a part of the Kelleys Island community.

We welcome him and look forward to many years of his leadership.



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# Kelleys Island 2023 Calendar of Events

## MAY

6	Derby Day	Island-Wide
6	1st Annual Derby Day Chicken Derby	
18	Free Museum Day	Historical Museum
20	EMS Spaghetti Dinner	Peeper's
20	Welcome Back Potluck	The Pavilion (KILA)
21	Nest with the Birds	Jones Preserve
27	Science Saturdays	State Park
29	Memorial Day Ceremony	At the cemetery, 11:00am
31	Dice Run*	Island-Wide

## JUNE

3	Science Saturdays	State Park
4	5 & 10K Run/Walk*	Memorial Park
10	Science Saturdays	State Park
16-17	Razzles Volleyball Tournament	Seaway Marina
17	Science Saturdays	State Park
24-25	Kelleys Island Motorcycle Tour*	Island-Wide
24	Science Saturdays	State Park
26-30	Nature Camp (ages 4-9)	KI Field Station

## JULY

1	Science Saturdays	State Park
3-7	Nature Camp (ages 9-12)	KI Field Station
8	Science Saturdays	State Park
8	KI's Got Talent*	Memorial Park
14-16	Islandfest	Memorial Park
15	Science Saturdays	State Park
17-21	Zion Vacation Bible School	
22	Science Saturdays	State Park
22-23	Film Fest *	The Ball Field
29	Science Saturdays	State Park

## AUGUST

5	Science Saturdays	State Park
11-12	Homecoming - KILA	Village Pavilion
12	Science Saturdays	State Park

## AUGUST

19	Science Saturdays	State Park
26	Science Saturdays	State Park
26	KI Historical Assoc. Festival	KI Historical Assoc.
	Campus	

## SEPTEMBER

1-4	Light Up KI*	Island-Wide
2	Island Singers Concert	Town Hall
2	Science Saturdays	State Park
3	Glacial Glimpses	Audubon Club
8	Treasurer Island Day*	Island Wide
16	Wine and Art Fair	Kelleys Island Wine Co, Monarch Winery, & Crooked Tree Vineyard
17	Feathers and Foliage	Jones Preserve

## OCTOBER

7	3rd Annual Pump Alumni Party	Village Pump
7	24th Annual Chili Cook-Off	Peeper's
12-11/20	Owl Banding	Scheele Preserve and North Pond Preserve after dark
14	Family Halloween	
21	Adult Halloween	

## NOVEMBER

3-5	Owl Fest	Schelle Preserve and North Pond Reserve
23	Thanksgiving Potluck	The Village Pump
25	OSU vs Michigan Tailgate Party	The Village Pump
26	Sights, Sounds, and Scents Kelleys of the Holidays	Island Wine Company

### \*Chamber of Commerce Sponsored Events

If you have an event that you like included please email [Lifekonkelleys@gmail.com](mailto:Lifekonkelleys@gmail.com)

*Calling all Mothers and people with MOTHERS!!!*



**RESALE SHOP**  
DAILY 12-4  
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*You must celebrate your mother by stopping at Kelleys Island's premier store, the Parsonage Resale Shop and it's charming new "side kick," Sis's Cottage.*

We have everything you'll need from greeting cards, gifts, necessities, gorgeous jewelry, wonderful curiosities from England, which are now on special at 1/2 off, to furniture and clothing to adorn her and everyone else.

**NEW this MAY is our PRE-MOM'S DAY**  
*Never been done before*  
**Flower, Garden and Plant Sale!**  
Date: May 13th  
*conveniently on the Saturday right before Mother's Day*  
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Remember we always stock books, videos, DVD's, CD's, vases, gardening tools, beach toys, puzzles, games and so many more surprises  
We are waiting to serve you so come on in.

We will be open Everyday Noon till 4:00 (*Tip: we rarely can close at 4*)  
We will also accommodate before and after hours appointments  
Simply call one of the three founders  
Janet 419-304-3095 ♦ Jodie 419-350-1082 ♦ Sonia 419-202-8083  
*Got Donations? Call one of the numbers above to make arrangements*

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# Mother's Day And Spring Are Like Twins Both Are Irrefutably Fabulous!

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And new, for it's first full season of our expansion, we welcome Sis's Cottage. On the Campus of the Kelleys Island Historical Association

Just as Spring has sprung, we are springing into action with sales galore.

All Easter delights will be 1/2 off and expect the same for our wondrous curiosities direct from England, which make up the Harmony Kingdom Collection. Come in and open a few up. You are certain to

smile, be amazed by their content and craftsmanship and want to take at least one for yourself and one for your mother!

Remember, if you've forgotten to pack a spatula, wine glasses or your toaster is on the fritz, don't worry. We've got your back!

Need a greeting card for any and all occasions? The Parsonage is sure to have it.

Gifts and sundries will tempt you in every room, from the front yard all the way to the back of the property behind Sis's Cottage.

Vintage and antique offerings abound at our house.

You never know what you'll find, because new inventory comes in EVERY DAY! It's fun. You'll have a good time with our wonderful staff of volunteers. We love that the shop has become gathering place to visit, see and be seen.

Would you like to volunteer? 2 or 4 hour shifts can be arranged weekly. If you'd rather not commit, put your name in as a substitute. You'll earn volunteer bucks for every hour you're there which can be used, of course, in the Parsonage and also the Museum Gift Shop. When your "salary" accrues, it makes shopping a blast.

*Our volunteer motto is*

"If you're not having fun, working at the Parsonage, You're Fired!!!"

Have donations for us? Please call or stop in to let us know.

We are open this Spring Daily 12 noon to 4 PM.

Can't make it during business hours?

YOU are a vital part of our business. We love when you call us for an appointment.

So please do so and we'll meet you there!

Jodie Smith 419-350-1082

Janet Killam 419-304-3095

Sonia Taylor 419-202-8083

## Join in the fun Come to Derby Day on May 6



Patti Johnson

It's that time of year again! Cure that cabin fever and get a head start on summer fun by attending our island-wide Derby Day festivities. Wear your finest derby garb and hats to cheer on your picks for the 148th

Kentucky Derby!

All bars and restaurants will be participating in the celebrations surrounding this historic horse race, dubbed "the most exciting two minutes in sports!"

*Discover your own path* **KELLEYS** island CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**2023 coming events**

- May 31: Ohio Bike Week Dice Run**
- June 4: 5 & 10k Run/Walk**
- June 24-25: KI Motorcycle Tour**
- July 8: KI's Got Talent**
- July 14-16: Island Fest**
- July 22-23: Film Fest**
- Sept. 1-4: Light Up KI**
- Sept. 9: Treasure Island Day**

**2023 EVENT SPONSORS NEEDED!**

**Become a Member or a Friend of the Chamber**  
Visit [KelleysIslandChamber.com](http://KelleysIslandChamber.com) or SCAN the QR Code Below!

Thank You! **YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS MAKE ALL KICC EVENTS POSSIBLE!**

Visit our website for Island Info Maps & Events!

117 Addison Road • 419-746-2360 • [info@kelleysislandchamber.com](mailto:info@kelleysislandchamber.com)



### Kelleys Island Landowners Association

*KILA tries to preserve the tranquility and beauty of Kelleys Island.*

*As a charitable organization, KILA also acts to improve and enhance the village to benefit all citizens, residents, and guests of Kelleys Island.*

*Please join KILA for \$25 for initial membership. If you are or were a member, please remember to renew your membership in KILA for 2023 (\$20)*

### KILA Membership Dues

Description (Due 05/15/23)	Amount Due
Initial Membership	\$25.00
Annual Dues (Renewal)	\$20.00

Please make checks payable to KILA and mail to:  
PO Box 22, Kelleys Island, OH 43438.

Meg's MakeShop will accept membership forms & cash or check payments  
For your convenience, you can also pay by PayPal at: <https://kila.rocks/join-kila>

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ISLAND ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you.

If you have any questions or have comments,  
please contact KILA at [info@kila.rocks](mailto:info@kila.rocks).

Please Keep Kelleys Safe



## KILA Korner

### Drew Aglase

Welcome Back. It's a new season, a new KI newspaper, and the summer residents are coming back to join the year 'round Islanders. And, of course, visitors to KI are making plans for their visits. Welcome back to all. KILA is hosting a Welcome Back Pot Luck - "PotLunch" at 1-3 PM on Saturday May 20th at the Pavilion in the Kelleys Island Community Park. KILA will provide hamburgers & hot dogs, and some beverages. Please bring a side, desert, or whatever to share.

The annual KILA Homecoming will be on Friday and Saturday, August 11 & 12. Friday will feature our 3rd annual fish fry, live entertainment, and beverages. Saturday will feature a parade including the Edison Chargers marching band, more live entertainment, food, a vendor's market place, games, a pie contest, and much more family entertainment. We are also introducing the 1st annual Corn Hole tournament. Circle those dates on your calendar!

Our members make KILA run. This includes the fun events, community service, and contributions to the improvement and enhancement of Kelleys Island. Some recent KILA contributions to KI include substantial cash donations for the Playground equipment and trash containers at some park & preserve trailheads.

As you make your way back to our island oasis, remember it's never too

late to sign up for your KILA membership. One membership is allowed for each residence and dues are only \$25 for new members or \$20 for renewals. There are 3 ways to pay. (See membership application in this issue).

1). You can pay by check by sending it to:

Kelleys Island  
Landowners Association  
PO Box 22  
Kelleys Island Ohio 43438.

2). You can also pay using the PayPal link at our website ([www.kila.rocks](http://www.kila.rocks)). Click the Join KILA link at the top, scroll down and select Renew Membership and follow the instructions.

3). New for this year, we can take payments using Square. If you want to pay through this option, email [info@kila.rocks](mailto:info@kila.rocks) and you will be sent an invoice.

Members will receive a membership card, or KILA Kard, that has discounts at island businesses. Members paid as of May 12th will have a card that will be given at the Pot Luck on May 20th. Members joining or renewing after May 15th will receive cards without their printed names.

We welcome your support, volunteering, donations, and suggestions for activities, projects, or initiatives to help KILA improve Kelleys Island; via email to [info@kila.rocks](mailto:info@kila.rocks) or our Facebook page.



# Kelleys Island Chamber Update: May 2023

## The Kelleys Island Chamber of Commerce

Can you believe it is already May? Winter and spring have flown by! The ferry resumed running on March 13th for the 2023 Season, and the Jet Express Sandusky Route will resume running on Memorial Day Weekend. Businesses are slowly reopening and most will be reopened by Memorial Day Weekend.

The 2023 Island Maps have already been delivered to the Jet Express, the Kelleys Island Ferry, and both Shores & Islands Visitor Centers. Our office has also reopened for the 2023 Season with weekend hours until Memorial Day Weekend, where we will expand our hours. We have plenty of brochures in our outside rack so be sure to stop by and grab brochures, magazines, or our Island Map!

We are ramping up for a great 2023 Season! Kelleys Island Chamber of Commerce has been working hard in the off-season to make 2023 a great year for all businesses, residents, and visitors! If you have anything questions for us, don't hesitate to contact us by email at: [info@kelleysislandchamber.com](mailto:info@kelleysislandchamber.com)

### 2023 Chamber Events

*Save these dates! Here are the 2023 Chamber of Commerce Events:*

- Dice Run: May 31st
- 5&10K: June 4th, 2023
- Motorcycle Tour: June 24th & 25th
- Kelleys Island's Got Talent: July 8th
- Islandfest: July 14th - 16th
- Filmfest: July 22nd - 23rd
- Light Up KI: September 1st - 4th,
- Treasure Island Day: September 9th

Volunteers are always needed to help pull off Chamber Events! We could not run these events successfully without volunteers. If you want to volunteer for any of these events, please contact us by email. We want to make our events filled with local support, so please come by or volunteer online.

### May/June Events

Happening at the end of this month is the annual Ohio Bike Week Dice Run put on by Harley Davidson! That will take place on May 31st, 2023. Participants will experience an exciting tour of the island while

completing a scavenger hunt and collecting dice rolls at a variety of local businesses.

Also happening is the 40th Anniversary of the 5 & 10K on Kelleys Island. On June 4th, runners will swarm to Kelleys Island for the day to compete and have fun! Participants will enjoy a scenic route, along the lakefront, and will be provided with numerous water stations along the race route.

Enjoy live music & lunch after the race at the Casino Bar and at Docker's Waterfront Bar & Restaurant. The canon goes off for the start of the races at 10:45 am from Memorial Park. Same-day registration begins downtown, in Memorial Park, at 8:00 am. A discounted rate of \$20 will be available to those who pre-register online before midnight of May 28. Day-of registration will be \$25. Online registration closed one week before the race date. Register before midnight May 28 to be guaranteed a race shirt. Pre-Race Packet pick up will be held at Docker's Waterfront Bar & Restaurant from 3-7p on Saturday, June 3rd. We would like you to be a part of our 5K/10K Run to celebrate 40 years of our event. Sign up your family and friends and let's have the best run ever on June 4, 2023!

### 2023 Island Map

Our 2023 Island Map has been completed, printed, and is ready to go! All full members that joined or renewed by December 23rd, 2022 were included in the map. Did you miss out on being on our Island Map? When membership renewals go out later this year (September to be exact), be sure to renew your membership in a timely fashion to be included on the 2024 Kelleys Island Map! You must renew by December 1st of every new membership year to be included in the Island Map for the next year.

### 2023 IslandFest Fireworks Fund

Did you hear that IslandFest is back for 2023? We are very excited! The Chamber is in the process of completing the "behind the scenes" work for IslandFest right now, but we have already begun the process to fundraise for the 2023 Fireworks. The Fireworks Show will be on the Saturday of IslandFest @ 9:45 PM. You can find the QR Code by heading

to the Chamber Facebook Page, or Celebrate KI Facebook Page. Help us reach our 2023 Goal of \$20,000!

### Donation to the Kelleys Island Park Board

The Kelleys Island Chamber of Commerce has made a \$5,000 Donation to the Park Board for their continued efforts to rebuild the playground at the Pavillion! We are excited to donate to their cause and look forward to seeing the ongoing results!

### Great Lakes Islands Alliance Update

Over the course of the winter, Kelleys Island Chamber of Commerce has had a presence at the Great Lakes Islands Alliance Meetings. GLIA is working on some educational and community building activities that will benefit our island both in the incoming season and in the long term. Stay tuned for ideas for a fall event and the details for the 2024 Summit.

Be sure to look for opportunities to come together with other interested parties for some island gatherings and perhaps a survey of what you would like to see on your island in the next 10 years!

### Social Media Update

During the winter, the Kelleys Island Chamber of Commerce has been active in promoting our Rental Members, Associate Members, and our 2023 Events! All Rental Members from the Chamber have been highlighted, with a description of their amenities, as well as a link to view their listing on the KICC Website.

All Associate Members have also been highlighted on our Facebook Page as well, with the final businesses highlighted in mid-February. As a reminder, all Chamber Members receive their individual Chamber Highlight/Spotlight on the Facebook page. They also receive a minimum of three shared posts on Facebook each membership year.

We are currently in the process of highlighting our Full Members. Our post reach has increased by over 600% in the last few weeks of February, and our Page Engagements on our Facebook Page is up 210% Our Page has over 10,000 Followers and is growing by the day. We also

have over 9,500 Page Likes as well! Thank you for being a successful part of growing our Social Media Pages to attract more visitors and residents to Kelleys Island.

Each week, the Chamber posts events related to our page and our members. Please continue to post your events and we will share, or submit them to us and we will put them on our website.

### 2022-2023 Membership Totals

The 2022-2023 Chamber Membership Year is underway! Listed below are the updated Membership totals for the new year. We'd like to welcome our newest Associate and Full Members to the Chamber! Thank you for your investment in our Chamber and in our community!

### 2022-2023 Membership Totals:

Associate Members: 31  
Full Members: 65  
Rental Members: 44  
Total Members: 140

New Members that have joined for the new year: Erie County Community Health Center, A Wave From It All (Rental), Rosie's Retreat (Rental), The Addison House (Rental), The Shores of Long Point (Rental), Shaw Property Management LLC, Amplex Internet, Marblehead Soap Company, Gold Gorilla Media, and Hudson Family Tree Service.

The Kelleys Island Chamber of Commerce is always welcoming new members! If you're interested in becoming a Chamber Member, you can email us at: [info@kelleysislandchamber.com](mailto:info@kelleysislandchamber.com), or head to our website: [kelleysislandchamber.com](http://kelleysislandchamber.com)

### General Membership Meeting Dates

Listed below are the 2023 General Membership Meeting Dates. The General Membership meets quarterly. The Final General Membership Meeting date is when our annual board elections take place. Stay tuned closer to October to hear more about running for board positions. We need an active membership and creative voices to continue to highlight our beautiful island businesses.

- July 12th, 2023
- October 11th, 2023

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# Come one, Come all, to the FIRST EVER Kelleys Island Wine Co. Chicken Derby!

Patti Johnson

If you have ever visited the Kelley's Island Wine Co. you have probably seen the rotating group of chickens that wonder the fenced in area by the cantina. Well, this year we have decided to make them earn their keep! At 4:37PM on May 6th, 2023, we plan to race the Wine Co. Chickens

along a pea gravel track, located underneath the KIWC tent. The chickens will be released at the same time and go around the track a TBD number of times and cross a finish line. The winner will be established by a panel of established chicken judges. This event is all in good fun and may not go exactly as planned. In

the event of a "SCRATCH" (no pun intended) we will all have a good laugh.

Come early to view the race chickens and pick which chicken you choose to cheer on! All normal Derby Day festivities will continue and may extend to the chicken race. Join us in your best hat, for mint

juleps and Derby Day Specials!

This event is weather dependent, in the event of bad weather this event will not take place. Follow our Facebook for updates in the event of weather.

Live Music with Anthony Clay!

## YOGA on Kelleys Island!

Lake Erie Love Yoga & Wellness was founded in 2022 by Stacy Notestine, a nurse and registered yoga teacher. Stacy became a full time KI resident in May and had the dream to bring yoga to Kelleys Island.

KI Kid Yoga Club was created in the fall and offered 2 days a week before school. Numerous studies show that yoga for kids helps improve concentration, focus, body awareness,

flexibility and strength. The kids have fun coming to yoga and find that it's a great way to start the day.

The parents and KI residents began asking about adult yoga classes. So this winter 2 adult yoga classes were added. One was beginner level and one was for more experienced yogis. Typical attendance at these classes were 15-20 people. The local islanders loved it! So much so that a

third class is being added this spring. This class will be a Morning Meditation and gentle stretch class.

Some common comments after yoga class included "My body feels so much better after yoga." "Yoga has really improved my flexibility." "Yoga has really helped with my stress level."

The KI School board has graciously provided the funding to provide these

classes to KI residents. Stacy plans to expand her yoga and wellness services this summer not only for residents, but for visitors to the island as well.

For more information about upcoming classes follow Lake Erie Love Yoga and Wellness on Facebook or on Instagram @lakeerieloveyogaandwellness.

## Kelleys Island School Strategic Plan Completed



Deb Haig

The Kelleys Island School board approved its 2023-2027 Strategic Plan during the December 2022 board meeting. A strategic plan is a document that tells people what the school wants to achieve now and in the future, how it plans to get there, and how it will measure success and evaluate progress. Strategic plans are required for all school districts no matter how big or small. The entire process took over 6 months to complete and was spearheaded by interim superintendent, Todd Hanes. Board members, staff members, and families were all an important part of this collaborative effort. The Board would like to recognize the following individuals who attended a focus group meeting and provided community input and expectations: Tom Behlen (facilitator), Janet Wermuth (scribe), Todd Hanes (host), Rick Holmes, Diane Clemens, Craig Clemens, Hannah Kulka, Claudia Brown, Deborah Schmidt, Lori Hoffman, Jack Wade, Tina Callari, Bill Minshall, Mary Lou Gilles, Rosalyn Ahner, Robin Benvenuto, Peg Mayor, Peggy Cooney, Tom Pierat, Steve Wermuth, Mary Gaither, Jodie Smith, Cynthia Wagner, Barb Shadle, Shari Herman, and Anale Burns. Everyone is encouraged and welcome to view the strategic plan as it guides the board's work to ensure the viability of the Kelleys Island School now and into the future. (www.kelleys.k12.oh.us)

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# Congratulations!

Zoey Marek Leonard and Michael Richard Vargo were married October 1st 2022 at 5:00pm at Sandusky Yacht Club by Pastor John Butchko of Kelleys Island's Zion Methodist. Pastor John Butchko has known the Vargo family for many years. He married the groom's parents in Avon, Ohio many years ago and baptized Michael Vargo and his siblings. The night was filled with nods to the couples love of Kelleys Island, including a Kelleys Island driftwood arch built by the father of the bride, Bill Leonard of Melody Lane. There was dancing and singing along with a tradition Pittsburgh Cookie Table. The couple spent a long weekend honeymooning in Hocking Hills, Ohio and have since started their married life in Avon, Ohio with frequent trips to their beloved island, Kelleys.



Ceremony -- left to right: Zoey Leonard, Pastor John Butchko, Michael Leonard



The bride and ring bearers -- left to right: Isaac Leonard, Zoey Leonard, Michael Lawson, Elijah Leonard



The groom's family -- left to right: Kim Vargo, Meredith Vargo, Ryan Vargo, Michael Vargo, Zoey Leonard, Cory Vargo, Kyle Vargo, Dave Vargo



The bride's family -- left to right : Zach Leonard, Bill Leonard, Michael Vargo, Zoey Leonard, Cindy Leonard, Megan Lawson, Elle Lawson, John Lawson, Yana Leonard, and Josh Leonard

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**Submissions to Life on Kelleys 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 *Life on Kelleys* editor. *Life on Kelleys* is not responsible for the views of its writers or editor.  
**Photos:** We want and welcome your photos for Life on Kelleys, please send them. The photos should be 300dpi and sent via e-mail in a jpeg format to the editor. No exceptions.

## Community Updates

### Park Board:

Currently, the Park Board has received \$135,000.00 from several grantors which is enough to complete phase one and two of the playground at the Community Park. The Park Board and the Village of Kelleys Island can now begin the planning and purchasing for the project.

Ron just informed, 2/6/2023, that the Kelleys Island Chamber of Commerce has also approved a \$5,000.00 donation to the Park Board. Thank You, Kelleys Island Chamber of Commerce. We can add that to the \$135,000.00 that I reported above.

### Airport:

The airport will be receiving new runway LED lighting in the spring. This project will be 90% funded by the FAA. The state will pay 5% and the village will pay the remaining 5%. The project will be a great addition to our airport, remembering our airport is the only way off the island in the winter, especially for medical emergencies, nighttime included.

I am happy to repost that things are going well here at the village. Lisa and I will be happy to help with any issues you may have as regards the village

Thank You,  
Ron Ehrbar  
Your Mayor

### Kelleys Island History Museum Gift Shop

*Join our group of amazing volunteers!*

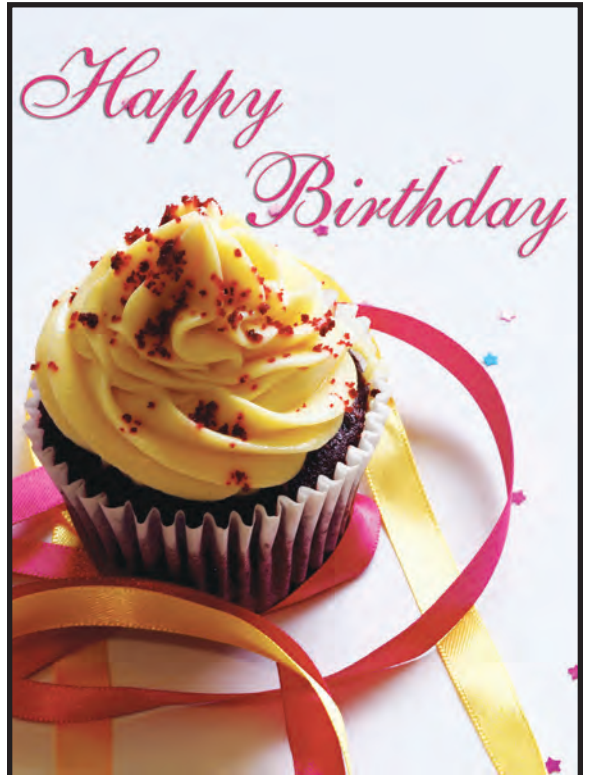
Don't worry about lack of knowledge or experience there's on the job training. The best way to learn is to DO and we have a team of volunteers who love to share their knowledge of the island.

If you're friendly & like meeting new people then this is the place for you!  
Shifts are 12 -2pm or 2-4pm, any day of the week. Stop in and talk to Janet, Julie or Justiina.

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## MAY

- 1- Molly Leckler
- 2—Madeline Walker
- 3—Barbara Feyedelem Donnelly
- 4 – Bill Campbell Sr.
- 5 – Eric Nedrow
- 5-Jean Solomon
- 6 – Deb Haig
- 7- Kirt Zettler
- 8- Jodie Smith
- 9- Pat Seeholzer
- 12 – Kathi Thomas
- 12- Paige Fisher
- 13- Heidi Quinn
- 13 – Randy Lorenz
- 14—Jonathan Burns
- 15- Connor McCafferty
- 18- Sandra Elfers Cairelli
- 19 – Angela Burns
- 22 - Mark Priebe
- 24- Dan Kranyak
- 24- Kyle McCafferty
- 24 – Ken Weibel
- 25—Janet Beck
- 25- Ron Ehrbar
- 25- Victor Elfers
- 25- Joe Joyce
- 29—Beverly Vetovitz
- 30 – Alison Priebe



## Kelleys Island Branch

SUMMER HOURS | JUNE 4 - AUGUST 27

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Thurs: 1:00p.m.-3:00p.m.  
Sat: 10:00a.m.-12:00p.m.

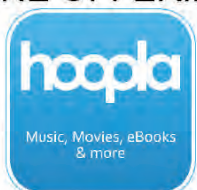
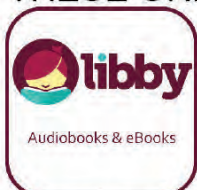
### June 10-August 26

Mon: 5:00p.m.-7:00p.m.  
Tues & Thurs: 1:00p.m.-3:00p.m.  
Wed & Sat: 10:00a.m.-12:00p.m.

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# Come See What's New At The History Museum

**Free Museum Day**  
Thursday, May 18, 2023  
10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Kelleys Island  
Historical Association  
224 Division Street  
Kelleys Island, OH 43438  
(419) 746-2399  
kimuseum@msn.com

The Kelleys Island History Museum joins other Erie County museums in celebrating International Museum Day. Admission, of course, is free! Stop by to explore our great museum check out our new exhibits, visit the Parsonage Resale Shop, and tour the historic Old Stone Church, built in 1866, next door!

**Jodie Smith**

Carmen Smith is the Kelleys Island Historical Association's new collections manager. Carmen has been coming to the island her whole life. Two years ago, Carmen moved to the island full time and now is a 'year rounder.'

As the museum's collections manager, Carmen is responsible for inventorying, cleaning and maintaining the museum's artifacts.



dress required more TLC. The dust is vacuumed out with a special tool called a 'dust table.' Since you can't sew into silk because it is too fragile, netting was tacked over any tears in the material to prevent more damage.

Leather items also required special care. A pair of WW I boots had mold on the outside of the boots and spider nests in the crevices of the boots. They were first cleaned with distilled water. Then Carmen applied an organic leather protectant to prevent more damage. A gorgeous saddle was also cleaned with distilled water and moved to a new location where the saddle straps could hang correctly. This prevents any further damage to the straps from creases.

In terms of new exhibits, Carmen wants to focus on displays that highlight the connection of our artifacts to the island and Lake Erie. Carmen also wants to encourage our museum members to suggest exhibits that might be meaningful for them.



There are two new exhibits this year. One exhibit is geared towards kids. The display, entitled 'From Home to School' focuses on children on the island over the years, showing them playing, camping, and exploring. Children's toys are purposely displayed at their eye level.

The second exhibit is at the entrance to the museum. There Carmen, with help from volunteers Jackie Polofka and John Michael Bankhead, as well as Abbey Rosado, Rostislav Zettler, and Gbenga Banjoko, over the winter constructed a dock. On the wall, there is a historic picture of Kelleys Island ferry riders. Visitors can step up onto the dock and take a photograph!

Visitors may also notice that the information about Kelleys Island ferries will be displayed differently and there will be additional information about the different ferries that served the island over the years.

Future plans for the museum include more interactive exhibits that engage the audience. Carmen wants to create a special exhibition space in the northwest corner of the museum that will change every year to keep the museum displays fresh and new. Carmen also wants to create a timeline about island industries, including over the last 20 years, that she plans to mount on the south wall of the museum.

We look forward to seeing you at your history museum. We think you will enjoy the innovations Carmen has introduced.

Any ideas you have on how to improve the museum or if you have suggestions for an exhibit, we would love to hear from you. You can email us at: [conservation@kelleyslandhistorical.org](mailto:conservation@kelleyslandhistorical.org)

The job also includes displaying the museum's artifacts, creating new exhibits, and meeting with people who want to see specific items in the collection.

As our new collections manager, Carmen has had a lot to work on. Carmen first had to familiarize herself with the collection, do research on restoration practices, review and add to the on-line catalogue, and sort through the physical collection. Carmen has been able to build on Leslie Korenko's fantastic work as our previous Collections manager, among other positions she held at the museum. Leslie is also a local historian.



This past winter, Carmen completed a general cleaning of the collection. Anything that looked drab or dirty was cleaned and dusted. Next was restoring some of the most fragile or damaged items, like leather, quilts, clothing, and linens in the collection. With the quilts, the first step was vacuuming the dust out of the quilts, a slow and tedious task. Then cotton panels were stitched on the back of each quilt. When the quilts are hung for display, the cotton panel on the back protects the quilt.

With several pieces of clothing, some small repairs were made by patching and darning. A silk wedding

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# Well Deserved Recognition

**Jodie Smith**

The Kelleys Island School finished their 2022 Cross Country season with a recognition and awards ceremony on Thursday December 8, 2022. This was the first middle school cross country season ever at Kelleys Island School. Viktoriya Skeans completed many firsts this fall, one of them by being the first runner representing Kelleys Island School to compete under the Ohio high school athletic association rules. Viktoriya competed in the allotted 12 meets, including the state elementary and middle school meet held near Columbus, Ohio. Viktoriya also represented KI in the Lake division of the Sandusky bay conference meet held in Tiffin, Ohio. This fall, (2023) Viktoriya will be chasing her own records for each course she ran and she will be pushing for better placement in each race.

The elementary runners, Nikolay Skeans and Josie Gaither made great improvements over their cross country season. Their schedule

included 4 meets and a 5k road race!

Improvement was shown by each young runner as they learned new training routines and demonstrated their commitment to their fitness and health.

You may see these runners training this spring for the Kelleys Island 5k and one mile fun run and a summer track meet. Middle school track participation is a challenge due to transportation schedules, but Viktoriya hopes to participate in a couple of local Middle School track meets. She has been practicing hurdles, and wants to put her distance running skills to the test in the 1600 meter run.

Results or information about upcoming meets for the Kelleys Island School runners can be found in the gym entryway as soon as it is available.

Check out the schools web page or Facebook page!  
<https://www.kelleys.k12.oh.us/>



Co-coach Natasha Skeans, Nikolay Skeans, Viktoriya Skeans, Josie Gaither, co-coach Jodie Smith (absent co-coach Emily Beal).



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# Officer James (Jamie) Bartus heads KI Police Force

**Jodie Smith**

Officer Bartus was born and raised in Sandusky, Ohio and attended St. Mary's Elementary School and graduated from St. Mary's Central Catholic School and attended Bowling Green Fireland's Campus.

He started as a Corrections Officer in the Erie County Sheriff's Office in 1999 leaving in 2001 to attend the EHOve Police Academy, from where he graduated and then started his Law Enforcement Career with the Put-in-Bay Police Department. It was from there he became a Patrol Officer and promoted as a K9 Officer.

He has no children, but his nephews and nieces are the world to him. He is the youngest of three

children. His mother passed away in 1995 and his father continues to live in Sandusky.

He has a Sheep-A-Doodle dog names Sarge. Sarge has become quite the favorite among the islanders and the tourists, also and is looking forward to another fun-filled season of meet and greet people.

In May, 2018, Bartus was diagnosed with a rare form of Testicular Cancer; however, with the wonderful support of family and friends, he celebrated five years cancer free and was considered "Cured and a Survivor" this August.

After his diagnosis, he did some soul searching about life and what he wanted his legacy to be. He felt

cancer patients typically go through this as a normal process; however, he always felt a little incomplete and it was that part that he felt he was put here to make a difference in people's lives and to assist and defend the ones who couldn't defend themselves. He wanted to help those who needed someone to help them and with that, he decided to attend the Police Academy where he graduated in 2020.

When he is not at work, he enjoys a nice day at the pool, a round of golf, catching an Indians game in the summer and of course, taking in a Michigan Football game in the summer when he has time. These are all on his To-Do list.

He is very family oriented and that is one of the things he enjoys about working on Kelleys Island. He experiences this feeling of family on Kelleys whether tourist or resident, here everyone is treated like family and they are always willing to help each other in time of need.

He is determined to have his department focus on the community and his goal is to keep the island safe. As summer approaches and he sees the influx of returning islanders and tourists, he feels that it is important that people make sure they are all following the laws that are in place to provide a fun and memorable experience on the island for years to come.

# Kelleys Island Audubon Club Celebrates 30 Years

**Barb Zeller**

In 1992 a small group of Kelleys Island residents formed the Kelleys Island Audubon Club (KIAC) to protect, preserve and develop natural habitat for the birds and wildlife that inhabit the island. The KIAC was led by President Pat Hayes and Program Chair Lori Hayes, who continue in those capacities to this day. Original board members Jean Kuyoth and June Campbell continue to serve respectively as the Treasurer and Secretary for the club, as they have since the inception. The board has expanded in more recent years to include others who work in various capacities to support and improve the natural areas on the island, including the KI Schools Field Station, the KI State Park, and the KI Village Park Board as well as interested community members.

Most people familiar with the

KIAC associate it with the bird banding studies conducted by Tom and Paula Bartlett. The banding station, located on Cleveland Museum of Natural History property on Long Point, has become a favorite place for local residents and visitors to gather during the spring and fall passerine migration, when warblers, buntings, woodpeckers, and various songbirds land on Kelleys Island to rest and eat as they head either north or south to their seasonal homes. Those people lucky enough to be on the island on late fall evenings can also observe Tom and Paula as they band tiny Northern Saw-whet Owls at the Scheele and North Pond Preserves.

Less known, however, is the impact the KIAC has made in the preservation of various natural areas on the island, including the North Pond, the Scheele Preserve, the Huntley-Beatty Preserve and the Ed

Curilla Preserve. Working closely with the Western Reserve Land Conservancy and the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, President Pat Hayes and the KIAC have helped to identify unique plant species, such as the lakeside daisy, or habitats to facilitate setting aside these important areas to be enjoyed by people and animals alike. With the addition of these natural areas as well as the extensive natural areas owned and maintained by the KI State Park, visitors to the island can spend hours enjoying the beauty of the island and Lake Erie as well as support island businesses and restaurants.

The KIAC meets monthly from May through October on the 3rd Thursday of the month to provide a social gathering for its members. A speaker is featured each month for an educational program. Please consider joining us for our meetings and



Barb Zeller

become a member using the membership form included on our website <https://kelleysislandnature.org/>. A 30th Anniversary Celebration is in the planning stages, so check our website or our Facebook page for updates on that event.



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# Owl Banding Research Fall 2022



Bartletts and Pat Hayes

PHCR: Paula Bartlett

## H. Thomas Bartlett

2022 owl banding research began in October. After a record year in 2020 with 174 Northern Saw-whet Owls banded and having 5 foreign recaptures and also 126 NSWO banded and three foreign recaptures in 2021, we didn't expect 2022 to be a very good year. The general feeling is that saw-whets follow a four-year cycle, peaking every four years, then crashing before peaking again. 2020 was a peak year but we didn't see the expected crash in 2021 so we were expecting in 2022. That didn't happen, again! Our final count was 134 Northern Saw-whet Owls and 7 Eastern Screech-Owls banded with four foreign recaptures.

The fall owl banding began at the Scheele Preserve, Kelleys Island State Park – North Loop, and North Pond State Nature Preserve on October 13 and continued through December 17. We attempted to band owls on 41 nights (16 nights in October, 17 nights in November, and 8 nights in December). The continued addition of nets at the North Pond SNP trail and along the North Loop trail at the state park again proved to be very productive.

We recaptured four foreign banded Northern Saw-whet Owls and had seven of our banded saw-whets recaptured elsewhere this fall. St. Ignace, Michigan recaptured three of our owls; one from 2019, one from 2020, and one from 2021. One of our owls was recaptured at Sandy Hook, New Jersey. Another was recaptured on Pelee Island, Ontario. Another at Long Point Bird Observatory near Port Rowan, Ontario. And our oldest saw-whet was recaptured in Vinton County, Ohio on November 14. We had banded it on October 24, 2018. In addition, we received word of a



Pat and Lori Hayes

recapture from October 21, 2021 near Brooktondale, New York which we had banded October 13, 2020. There was also a recovery of a dead Eastern Screech-Owl at the Kelleys Island State Park on October 15. We had banded this owl on November 11, 2020 at the State Park. But our best recapture of the year was of an Eastern Screech-Owl on our first night, October 13. She carried band number 0745-90840 and it was a lock-on band which I haven't used in 10 years. She was banded on March 5, 2012 as an AHY-F so she is a minimum of 11 years old!

The fall 2022 migration of saw-whets was expected to be below normal due to the normal Northern Saw-whet Owl cycle. But for much of the country it was a normal fall movement. But again Kelleys Island was not. In Ohio, 326 saw-whets were banded during the fall of 2022 at 7 banding locations. A couple of other Ohio stations also had higher than expected numbers. 2023 season will be interesting. Our age and sex ratio this year was what would normally be expected during a down year. Most years after a crash 80% of our captured owls are young and 20% are adults. In 2021, 60% were hatch-year, 30% were second-year, and 10% were after-hatch year or after-second year. The sex ratios were 66% female, 9% male, and 25% undetermined. This year (2022), 77% were hatch-year birds, 10% were second-year birds, and 13% were after-hatch year or after-second year birds. This was more typical of a year following a down year. 86% of our birds were females, 4.5% were males, and 9.5% were unknown sex.

We are looking into putting radio tags on some of the owls in the future. The island has a MOTUS tower at the State Park which is designed to pick up signals from the tags and it would give us a better idea of the owls staying and for how long. We have secured funds to purchase nanotags thanks to an islander, Karen Hoy. We are now working on the permits and training to get it started in 2023 or 2024.

Our tenth annual Kelleys Island Owl Festival with the Kelleys Island Audubon Club and the Kelleys Island Field Station was over the weekend of November 4-6, 2022. More than 360 people showed up to view the banding and listen to talks. Dr. Blake Mathys, Ohio Dominican University and an owl bander was the featured speaker. His talk was on the his Center Ohio Owl Project. We banded 8 Northern Saw-whets over the three nights. In addition we recaptured two Northern Saw-whets and one Eastern Screech-Owl. The 11th Annual Kelleys Island Owl Festival is schedule for November 3-5, 2023.

Again this year we had some big nights but nothing like November 3 and 4,



Nick and Owl

2021 when we captured 75 owls in the two nights. This year October 28 and 29 resulted in the capture of 32 owls. November 21 we banded 15 owls. Then, quite unexpectedly on December 11, we captured 10 owls. I have always said, if you want to see saw-whet owls, come to Kelleys island the last week of October or 1st week of November. December, you never know...

Special thanks to the Owl Banding volunteers, Chris Ashley, Paula Bartlett, Tyler McClain, Brian McClain, Mariah Scherer, Emily Beal, Kelly Williams, Blake Mathys, Sarah Romer, Gabi Lindsey, Beck Miller, Dave Coon, Leslie Brown, Amy Lee, and Patti Wainwright Haley.



Northern Saw-whet Owls

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## Camp Patmos update

Our 2023 Summer season is heating up even if we are still in a spring chill as I write this. We are still looking for a few good summer staff positions. If you are 18 and older and you love Jesus and want to make an impact for the Kingdom, go to [www.CampPatmos.com](http://www.CampPatmos.com) and click on "Staff" then "Summer Staff" and apply today. We could use one more Male Cabin Leader, one more Female Cabin Leader, A/V Chapel Coordinator, Dock manager and two Kitchen staff.

We are also looking forward to our Marriage Retreat coming up on May 19-21. Join us this year for an ALL NEW marriage event. While many of the topics and themes will be similar to years past, the content will be new and fresh. So, whether you have attended one of our Art of Marriage events in the past, or if this is your

first time coming to a marriage retreat at Camp Patmos, rest assured that you will leave encouraged and better equipped with things you need to know. There will be projects to help you apply the teaching, and some value added options as well that will ensure it is a fun and memorable time with your spouse. The cost is \$275 per couple. Lodging and meals are included, and did we mention rocking chairs and beautiful sunsets? We hope that you will come and experience a marriage event like no other, and while you're at it, why not invite another couple or two to come with you as well.

There is still plenty of time to sign up for Summer Camp. All weeks have availability right now, but they are filling up fast. Again, go to [www.CampPatmos.com](http://www.CampPatmos.com) and click on "Summer Camps" to sign up today.

Be sure to check out and discounts and dates and rates.

This year we are focusing on raising funds to protect and rebuild the dock at Camp Patmos. The projected cost will be around \$150,000 to bring in large anchor stones to be placed along the west side of the dock to break the waves before reaching the dock and then we can refill the dock with stones and finish with concrete to make it better than it was before. The dock at Camp Patmos is an important feature for all our water activities, fishing, and enjoyment of Lake Erie. Without this critical repair we will not be able to use the dock and it will become a dangerous liability. Please prayerfully consider giving towards the Dock Project this year. If 1500 people give \$100 we can reach our goal to restore the dock.

Blessings to you all,  
Dave Sellers, Executive Director

Save the dates of all our Camp Patmos Retreats on page 17

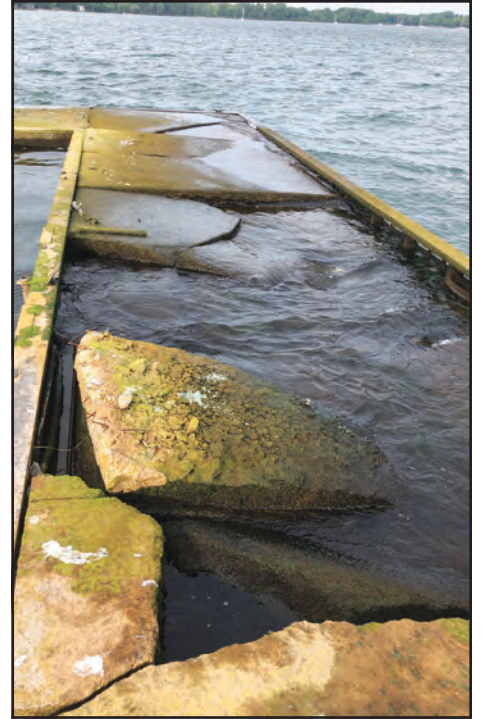


Photo: Dock repairs needed.



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## Don't Fall For The Publisher's Clearing House Sweepstakes Scam

**Sue Daugherty, Director,  
Serving Our Seniors**

The Publisher's Clearinghouse Sweepstakes has been around since I was a child, and I'm 61 years old.

I remember the TV commercials of the Prize Patrol showing up with balloons and a giant check. A million-dollar prize was awarded to the lucky recipient. This sweepstakes award is well-known, which is having some unfortunate consequences for many who are in my peer group of 60+.

Scammers are impersonating themselves as one who works for Publisher's Clearing House Sweepstakes and calling the 60+ population. The message is the senior citizen is a winner of a car and a million dollars. The Publisher Clearinghouse Sweepstakes scam has been around for years. Yet many retirees are not aware. They are only aware of the real Publisher Clearinghouse Sweepstakes.

This scam is so pervasive that the real Publisher's Clearinghouse has established a customer service phone number to warn victims who receive such calls. This phone number is 1-800-392-4190. When called, an automated message will say: "Thank you for calling Publisher Clearinghouse. We would love to make you a winner. And remember, at Publishers Clearinghouse the winning is always free."

Then the automated message asks the caller, "Are you calling because you received a fraudulent contact from someone claiming to be from Publisher's Clearinghouse? Please say Yes or No."

If you say "Yes," the message will respond with, "Please tell us more." If an imposter using the Publisher Clearinghouse name tried to scam you in some way, say the word "scam."

After the caller speaks the word, "scam," the message says, "If you were contacted about a prize award from someone claiming to be from Publisher Clearinghouse, please do not send any money. You have not heard from the real Publishers Clearinghouse. You have received a fraudulent contact. Publishers Clearinghouse would never ask you to send or wire money, pay taxes or fees or any amount to claim a sweepstakes prize. Do not respond to any such contact. If you have been a victim of a scam, we recommend that you file a police report with your local authorities."

The unsuspecting, who are naïve to this crime, are duped into paying the scammer something. There is always a reason/excuse the prize can't be

delivered as intended and requires one more payment. It is common for the payment to be in the form of gift cards. Serving Our Seniors also knows of other older victims who have paid through electronic bank transfers, cash, check, cashier's checks and money orders.

If you have received a call stating that you have won a prize – any prize -- the prize will be sent with no strings attached. It will cost you nothing. The prize will arrive on the day the prize was scheduled to arrive and there will be no delays.

If you are an Erie County resident and receiving such calls that you are a winner, call Serving Our Seniors. We will give you the help and moral support you need to report this fraud to local enforcement, the Ohio Attorney General's Office and the Federal Trade Commission.

Erie County residents, ages 60 and older, can call Serving Our Seniors and ask to speak with a senior advocate assistant at 419-624-1856. If you receive such a call after 4:30 pm during the week or on the weekend, the Erie County Financial Elder Abuse Investigator, Dan McLaughlin, wants you to call him 419-503-5385. His passion is preventing this crime from victimizing older adults.

**Q:** I'm 72 and live on Kelleys Island. I need a ride to the Cleveland Clinic to see a specialist. Can Serving Our Seniors help me?

**A:** Yes! The more notice we have in advance of your appointment the more likely we are to get you a ride. Serving Our Seniors has 24 volunteers willing to drive at least one time per month. Other volunteers are willing to drive more often. The cost of the ride is an anonymous donation. You will be picked up in Mablehead at the Kelleys Island Ferry Service parking lot, in a Serving Our Seniors car. Or, if you prefer, the volunteer will pick you up at the Port Clinton airport.

For more information or to request your ride, call Serving Our Seniors at 419-624-1856.

Serving Our Seniors is funded by the Erie County Senior Services Tax Levy, private grants and donations. The agency advocates for Erie County residents, age 60+, to maintain their health and functional independence as they grow older.

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[www.ServingOurSeniors.org](http://www.ServingOurSeniors.org)



OBITUARIES

**Catherine Ullrich**



Age 69, of Marblehead, OH and formerly of Kelleys Island, OH passed away Monday, January 9, 2023 at her home. She was born January 17, 1953 in Cleveland, OH the daughter of Victor and Iva Lou (Nelson) Gigliotti. She married Thomas Joseph Ullrich

in 1982 and he preceded her in death in 1997. Catherine loved her sons, spending time with family and friends, Cleveland sports, THE Ohio State Buckeyes, playing cards, and reading. She was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Marblehead, OH.

Surviving are her sons: Matthew Thomas (Iva Petkova) Ullrich of Schaumburg, IL, Stephen Victor Ullrich of Seattle, WA; brother: Victor

(Martha) Gigliotti. She was preceded in death by her parents and husband.

Visitation was held from 3:00 – 7:00 pm Friday, January 13, 2023 at Neidecker, Crosser & Priesman Funeral Home & Cremation Service, Peninsula Chapel, 7755 E. Harbor Rd. Lakeside-Marblehead, OH.

A Funeral Mass was celebrated by Father Nick Cunningham on Saturday, January 14, 2023 at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 822 Barclay St. Marblehead,

OH with a private, family only, interment in Kelleys Island Cemetery.

A celebration of life will be held on Kelleys Island in the spring. Memorial contributions may be given to Stein Hospice, 1200 Sycamore Line, Sandusky, OH 44870.

Online condolences may be shared with the family at [www.neideckercrosserpriesman.com](http://www.neideckercrosserpriesman.com).

**Robert I. Coulon Sr.**



Age 95, of Kelleys Island, passed away Tuesday morning, January 17, 2023, in his home, surrounded by his loving family.

He was born November 4, 1927, in Clinton Township, MI, and graduated from Lakeshore High School in St. Clair Shores, MI. Robert completed his undergraduate work from Michigan State University and earned his Law

degree from University of Detroit. On June 6, 1953, Robert married his beloved Helene Himmelein, and they were together for 40 years, until her death on September 4, 1993. He was a member of the State Bar of Michigan and worked as The Friend of the Court of Macomb County, MI, for 32 years. He was a member of the Kelleys Island Zion United Methodist Church, Kelleys Island Historical Association, former president of the Kelleys Island Landowners Association, and the Mt. Clemens Rotary Club. Bob loved

spending time with his family and staying informed with all of his grandchildren's lives. In 1976, he and Helene undertook the renovation of her family's 117 year old home, the Himmelein House, on Kelleys Island. For over 50 years, he loved sitting on his front porch with a good book or a 4:00 martini in hand.

He is survived by his daughter Marcy (Michael Sr.) Mielke; son Robert (Ann) Coulon Jr.; grandchildren Mariana (Justin) Monak, Michael (Mariya) Mielke Jr., Mallory (Harris)

Eide, and Robert (Kyrsten) Coulon III; great grandson Brandon Coulon.

Robert was preceded in death by his wife Helene (Himmelein) Coulon; parents Irving and Elvira (Schultz) Coulon; sister Joan Lowe; and numerous close relatives.

Memorials may be made to Zion United Methodist Church, 142 Division St. Kelleys Island, Ohio 43438 and Kelleys Island EMS, 121 Addison St., Kelleys Island OH 43438

**Charles D. Burns**



(Sept., 1947-Feb. 2023) passed into eternal rest at Mercy Clermont Hospital in Batavia, Ohio, after increasing health challenges during his residence at the Ohio Veterans Home in Georgetown, Ohio.

Born in Sharon, Pa., in Sept. 1947, Charlie (aka "Chuck") retired from the Ohio Bureau of Workers Comp after a career of counseling and advocating for individuals with disabilities to be

re-employed with accommodations necessary for their job performance. A career he was drawn into after his own disabling experience: Charlie made medical history for surviving two cerebral aneurysms shortly after honorable discharge from the US Navy in San Diego, in 1971.

Charlie had served as a Stores Keeper aboard the SS Perry and SS Annapolis in South East Asia during the Vietnam War, setting up a supply store for troops in the Mekong Delta. But neither medical nor rehab staff knew what to do for a profoundly

paralyzed 21-yr. old veteran who couldn't walk, see well, or even grasp how his life had suddenly changed: no more boating, skiing, or driving. Up till then, someone like Charlie at that moment simply died.

Returning to Pennsylvania to live with his parents, Charlie was determined not to spend the rest of his adult life watching daytime tv. When the Ohio Bureau of Employment Services had a new job for a Veterans Re-employment Specialist, Charlie re-entered the workforce, circa 1980. As community services began to

address the "Nam vets," Charlie was asked to chair a support group. His sense of humor and social skills, balanced by his profound physical disability, impacted the group persona, calming distrust, anger, and other facades "the guys" used to suppress their pain and horror.

In 1982, Charlie met and "courted" me, director of the new battered women's shelter home on leave from teaching in Australia but having to return. We married, surrounded by Charlie's "guys", and he joined me down under. In New South Wales, Charlie helped write protocols for employing people with disabilities, and when we returned to the US, he continued a career in counseling injured or disabled workers to return to the workforce, identifying and advocating for "reasonable accommodation" in Cleveland, Dover (Delaware), and Toledo, Ohio. His wit, good humor, and people skills kept him buoyant even as his disabilities created increased challenges as he aged.

Retiring to Kelleys Island in Lake Erie, Charlie continued serving others: he was elected to the school board, served as an officer in the VFW, and on Zion UMC church council. He managed to drive a golf cart, and a pontoon on the bay—driving being what he most missed. We traveled by train, on cruises, and flights: to Nova Scotia, San Diego, Florida, San Antonio, Colorado, Alaska, Vancouver and Washington State, as well as Canada, Wales, and England.

Wherever he went, Charlie made friends. His life was a remarkable journey: unforeseen challenges, unimaginable accomplishments. Around the world, he impacted others' lives, serving in ways he hadn't planned to do, and loved by people in places he didn't expect to go.. Left to cherish Charlie's memory: his wife Carol, his beloved "cheerleader" cousin, Pam and her sisters Trish & Sharon; his sister Sherry Burns Irvine (Connecticut) and her adult children Jill and Gregg and their children; his cousin Robert Krieder and his wife Linda and their adult children Beth, Cathy, and Scott along with their spouses and children—a host of extended relatives & dear friends in Canada, Australia, England, Wales, and across the US...

Unburdened by the constraints his body imposed, CHARLIE IS FREE... SOAR, NOW SOAR!!

A Celebration of Life is being planned for summer 2023. Donations to a charity of choice is always appreciated; Charlie most valued and supported veterans, children, and services to those with disabilities, inc. the VFW Home in Grand Rapids, Michigan, the VFW.

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# Happenings at St. Michael the Archangel Parish

Deacon James O'Donnell

St. Michael the Archangel Parish continues to serve the island with Masses throughout the year. Sunday at 9 a.m. and Saturdays in the summer at 3 p.m. All are welcome to attend. The parish plans on hosting Vacation Bible School again this year July 10 thru 14 in the parish community center. The theme will be "Who is My Neighbor."

Holy Hour is normally held every first Friday of the month at 11 a.m. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered a half hour before Mass or by appointment. There is no permanent clergy on the island and Masses are said by retired priests from the mainland.

The parish has a brand-new

banquet hall that is available for wedding receptions, reunions, community events etc. It holds approximately 180 people and has a large kitchen. Bookings can be made by calling 419-341-9441.

Recently the exterior and interior were completely repainted and the whole church building is bright and fresh. A new keyboard system is planned as well as restoration of the interior of the steeple. A new marquee was installed last summer. Many generous donors have contributed to all of these improvements and is very appreciated.

We look forward to serving the spiritual needs of our island community and visitors.



## Zion Church News

Rev. John Butchko

It has been interesting to observe Kelleys Island go into winter. And then also as spring is now upon us.

One year ago I was settling into retirement intending to be mostly done. I would fill in on occasion and was working part time for the Guardians (as I had been with the Indians since 2016). Then I received a call that Kelleys Zion might be open and would I be interested? I said yes but I could not imagine doing every Sunday. In early June Dawn Soldner (A lay speaker on the Island) and I

were assigned. If I had realized how great Kelleys was I might have said I will do every week. But I am glad things are as they are.

I probably spent 20 nights here during the winter. And from the Christmas Pot Luck, EMS dinners at the VFW, yoga classes, and library being open I received a good dose of community life.

The Zion Church folks make me proud constantly. They pulled together for a Mardi Gras pancake breakfast, a March community meal. They also delivered numerous meals

to transportation challenged. It has been a privilege to be with them this winter. And I know that the people of St Michael's are made of the same fine cloth I look forward to the year ahead

The poem "If Once You Slept on an Island" I think would be best understood to be a winter night on Kelleys when you cannot guarantee you can leave the next day. For next month I will work on a parody entitled, If Once You Have Preached on an Island. Being here continues to improve me

We have another community meal planned for April 26. We will be serving Chicken Zioniti. It is like Chicken Tetrazinni, Only better 500 p,m

This article was written after our Good Friday service. I forgot to send it. So now I have to write one more. I just left the church where we hosted a bunch of kids decorating Easter cookies, The good folks a packing some Easter boxes to deliver. Island Life is good. Thanks be to God.

## OBITUARIES

Johanna Vetovitz



1932 - 2023  
(nee Ekstrom), 90, of Broadview Heights, passed away March 26, 2023. She was born to the late Alex and Marie (nee Strand) Ekstrom on June 16, 1932, in Cleveland, Ohio, and graduated in 1950 from West Tech High School. Johanna married William

Vetovitz (deceased) in 1953. They had four children together.

She earned her Associate in Arts from Cuyahoga Community College in 1972 and retired as a Social Worker for Medina County in 2000. In her retirement, she spent her summers on Kelleys Island, where she volunteered at the library and was a member of the Red Hat Society, and wintered in Cedar Key, Florida.

Johanna will be remembered for her love, kindness, patience, and

determination. She enjoyed being a homemaker and loved reading books. She is remembered by her children and grandchildren as being fun and supportive. She also enjoyed the many dogs she and William raised over the years.

Johanna is survived by her sons, Keith (Karen), Curtis (Kate), Craig (deceased), and Kirk (deceased); and her grandchildren, Kevin, Brent, Marc, Kreg, Stephanie, Sondra, Sean, Beverly, and Cory.

The family welcomed guests on Saturday, April 1, 2023, at Waite & Son Funeral Home, 3300 Center Road, Brunswick. A funeral service followed Johanna was laid to rest at Westview Cemetery, 4353 Center Road, Brunswick.

Please share condolences and memories with the family on Johanna's tribute page at [www.waitefuneralhome.com](http://www.waitefuneralhome.com).

Katie Bugel



December 23, 1974 - April 02, 2023  
Katie Bugel, 48, residing in Sandusky, passed away unexpectedly Sunday, April 2, 2023.

Katie was born on

December 23, 1974 in Sandusky, OH to Don and Carol (Havens) Bugel.

Katie graduated from Perkins High School in 1993. Katie grew up and spent her childhood in Bay View. She was a free spirit and was never afraid to break boundaries. She loved Kelleys Island and worked there for many years.

Katie is survived by her son, Hunter James Torres of Sandusky, OH; parents, Don and Carol Bugel of Sandusky, OH; and brother, Scott D (Andrea) Bugel of Milan, OH.

A Memorial Service was held on April 10, 2023 at Groff Funeral Homes & Crematory, 1607 E Perkins Ave, Sandusky

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Reverend John Butchko ♦ Dawn Soldner**



OBITUARIES

Marymargaret "Skip" Welly



Age 84, of Hicksville, Ohio, passed away at 11:40 P.M. on Tuesday, April 4, 2023, at Lutheran Hospital of Indiana in Fort Wayne, Indiana, surrounded by her family. Skip was a 1957 graduate of Edgerton High School and was a devoted homemaker. She was a member of St. Michael Catholic Church in Hicksville and the Rosary Altar Society. She was an avid reader and talented seamstress, making

wedding dresses for her daughters and others. She also enjoyed working in her flower garden and doing puzzles and loved to dance. Most of all she was devoted to taking care of her husband and family and spending time with her children and grandchildren.

Marymargaret was born on February 25, 1939, in Edgerton, Ohio, the daughter of Rex Joseph and Rosemary (Schuller) Snyder. She married William C. Welly on July 6, 1957, in Edgerton and he survives.

Surviving in addition to her husband are her children, Edmund Rex Welly, of Atlanta, Georgia, Jodine Marie (Scot) Smith, of Kelleys Island, Ohio,

Thomas Michael (Sean Cline) Welly, of West Palm Beach, Florida, Anthony Allan (Debra) Welly, of Hicksville, and Jessica Lynn (Steve) Roehrs, of Dundee, Michigan; eight grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; two brothers, Reverend Larry (Beth) Snyder, of Toledo, Ohio, and Charles Snyder, of Decatur, Indiana; and one sister, Sharon (Rick) Sweet, of Manchester, Indiana. She was preceded in death by her parents and one son, Joseph Welly.

Visitation will be held on Monday, April 10, 2023, from 3:00-7:00 P.M. in the Krill Funeral Home, 114 East Hull Street, Edgerton, followed by recitation of the rosary at 7:00 P.M. Mass of

Christian Burial will be held on Tuesday, April 11, 2023, at 11:00 A.M. in St. Mary Catholic Church, Edgerton, with Reverend Daniel Borgelt officiating. Interment will follow in St. Mary Catholic Cemetery, Edgerton.

Memorials are requested to Crippled Children and Adult Society, 309 Wendell Avenue, Hicksville, Ohio 43526, St. Michael Catholic Church in Hicksville or St. Mary Catholic Church in Edgerton.

To plant trees in memory of Marymargaret Welly, please visit the Krill Funeral Home Sympathy Store.

Byron Fred Crabill



February 23, 1929 - April 6, 2023

Byron F. Crabill, age 94 went to be with his Lord on April 6, 2023, at home surrounded by family. He was born in Fort Wayne Indiana and is

preceded in death by his parents: Fred and Elsie Crabill and his younger sister Carol Bower (Bill).

Byron graduated from Purdue University with a BA in Engineering. He then joined the United States Air Force, was stationed in Japan as an Air Traffic Controller, and earned the rank of 1st Lieutenant during the Korean War. After Bryon was discharged from the Airforce, he attended the University of Cincinnati where he earned a degree in Architecture. During his time at UC, he was the Interfraternity Council President (SIGMA PHI EPSILON),

and where he met the love of his life Shirley Shepard. Bryon and Shirley were married for 66 wonderful years.

Bryon was influenced by mid-century design and his architectural focus and passion was seen in the designs of Churches and State Parks, such as the Magee Marsh Nature Center in Northern Ohio. He was an Architectural Judge on the State of Ohio Building Appeals Court, and ran his private Architectural firm for over 50 years.

Byron designed and built his family's dream home on Kelley's Island, Ohio, which fostered years of family memories. Bryon and Shirley enjoyed their wonderful retirement years with their many Kelley's Island friends.

Bryon and Shirley enjoyed traveling to California to spend time with their two wonderful grandsons and attending and cheering them on at their baseball games.

Bryon was also an avid wood

carver, with a special love for carving birds, these carvings are cherished by both family and friends.

Byron is survived by his loving wife Shirley; their sons: Allan Crabill (Maggie) and Ross Crabill (Bill Arbogast); daughters: Lori Gurren (Rodney) and Nancy Story (Tom). Bryon also had two grandsons: Andrew and Matthew Crabill.

He was an active member of Christ Lutheran Church in Cincinnati for over 60 years.

His life was celebrated on Saturday, April 15, 2023, at Christ Lutheran Church, 3301 Compton Road, Cincinnati.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that any memorial donations or contributions be made to a charity of your choice or because of Bryon's love of birds to the National Audubon Society.

Herbert T. Walker III and Walker Funeral Home are honored to serve the Crabill family.

Save the Dates

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# A History Of Island Newspapers

Leslie Korenko  
www.KelleysIslandStory.com

We welcome the new newspaper Life on Kelleys--The Emerald Isle News which follows in the footsteps of the long-running Kelleys Life. Did you know that Kelleys Island has an incredibly rich history of newspapers going back to the 1860s?

THE ISLANDER 1860-1877 - The Islander is the newspaper that started it all. It was published for a remarkable 17 years, during each winter. The Islander contained from 40 to 80 pages in each weekly issue. Only two issues are missing from the collection. Almost all the content of this newspaper has been transcribed and can be found within the pages of Leslie's history books. The masthead of nearly every issue proclaimed "Independent in all things Neutral in none." And with good reason. Inside these hand-written pages are wonderful stories about life on the Island, local events, world news, handy hints, family histories; pretty much everything you would see in a regular newspaper. The editors changed every week, so there was a variety of opinions and stories presented. Submissions of essays, stories and observations were encouraged. This resulted in a

wonderful selection of articles from school children and young and old women and men. The newspapers were read at the weekly Lyceum, held in Kelley's Hall every Saturday evening and 2-300 people would show up. One of the highlights was the reading of essays and the resulting debates. These debates, like on the issue of voting rights for women, were insightful, often humorous and occasionally just a little insulting; but always fairly reported.

It would be almost 50 years before another Island newspaper would be published. For many years it was the Island school that reported the news. THE ERIE ECHO - 1924-1931 was a school newspaper published by The News in Vermilion. It was produced by the high school seniors of each school in Erie County Ohio. THE KI-HI NEWS - 1936-1937 was published by the Kelleys Island School and full of interesting news about the students and the community. THE ISLANDER II - 1937-1938 contained a wealth of information and stories about people who lived on the Island almost 100 years ago! THE KELLEGIAN - 1950-1951 continued the school legacy. Most people are familiar with THE SCHOOL SPIRIT - 1963-1965,

published by the students of the Kelleys Island school under the direction of Kurt Boker. Part of each paper was devoted to school news, community news, and, thanks to Kurt, a lot of Island history.

In the late 1970s, Carol Elfers began publishing the KELLEYS ISLAND HOME TOWN NEWS 1978-1983. She wrote "Just when you thought you had lost all ties with the island for the winter, along comes a new publication which is designed to help you fight off the winter doldrums - The Kelleys Island Home Town News. A Bridge to the Past." The paper was filled with photos, stories, and island news, and grew as the years went by. Then came SEASCAPE 1989-1991 published by Carole Krzynowek full of local news, and featuring columns by Jessie Martin on Island history and Coradine Myers. In the May 1991 a new KI based publication came out, THE PERCHIE PRESS 1991-1993, publishers Tim & Vicki Sullivan. 'Covering the World from Kelleys Island, Ohio,' this newspaper focused on antics and news from the Village Council and reports on the new Zoning Code that was being proposed. 'Give 'em The Perch - Give the Gift that Keeps On Irritating.' Political,

insightful and sometimes embarrassingly observant, it pulled no punches. In later issues, it focused more on Island news. The ISLAND SCENE jumped in to fill the news gap on the Island, publishing its first issue in September 1993 and ending in 1995; Editor - Phyllis Pahler. Generally 1-2 pages it contained Island news, shying away from politics, unlike its predecessor. When the Island Scene folded, articles began appearing in the PUT-IN-BAY GAZETTE. Each monthly column covered unusual weather, events, council meetings, and news from the community. Finally, rivaling the Islander in longevity came KELLEYS LIFE 1999-2022. It was the Island's first real newsprint newspaper. Regular features included From the Mayor's Desk, EMS/Fire/Safety Services, events, a history column, Chamber and Audubon columns, articles submitted by Islanders, and much more.

Now we have LIFE ON KELLEYS --The Emerald Isle News, a summer newspaper which made its debut with this issue. We welcome this new newspaper, a great addition to a long line of Island newspapers and thank Jerry and Vicky Rovder for making this happen.

## Lake Erie Continues Historic Run Of Excellent Fishing

COLUMBUS, Ohio - Lake Erie anglers can expect the 2023 fishing season to provide more world-class fishing and lasting memories, according to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Division of Wildlife.

Lake Erie walleye fishing will once again be exceptional in 2023. After another year of strong walleye hatches, Lake Erie maintains its title as the Walleye Capital of the World. Additionally, a stable yellow perch population in Lake Erie's west zone will provide good fishing in 2023, while low catch rates are expected to continue in the central and east zones.

"Lake Erie is known worldwide as a top fishing destination," said Travis Hartman, Lake Erie Fisheries Program Administrator for the Division of Wildlife. "With many species to pursue, Lake Erie is again a high-performing destination thanks to science-based management which guides regulations to ensure long-term angling opportunities."

Lake Erie walleye and yellow perch fisheries are managed through an interagency quota system. Each jurisdiction regulates its catches to comply with annually determined

safe harvest levels that ensure sustainability. The most recent quotas were announced on Thursday, March 30.

### Walleye

The walleye daily limit on Lake Erie is six fish per angler with a 15-inch minimum length requirement. Walleye hatch success has been exceptional for seven of the past nine years. Anglers will mostly catch abundant 2- to 5-year-old fish ranging from 15 to 24 inches. Larger fish from 2015 and earlier hatches will provide chances to reel in a Fish Ohio qualifying walleye (minimum 28 inches).

Abundant young fish will show up in the catch and range from 9 to 14 inches, with an increasing number of 2-year-olds reaching 15 inches as the season progresses. Anglers are encouraged to release these sub-legal fish with as little handling as possible so they can contribute to the future fishery.

"Our staff were pleasantly surprised to see the results of the 2022 walleye hatch index," said Travis Hartman, Lake Erie Fisheries Program Administrator for the Division of Wildlife. "After another

year of above-average results, we expect walleye anglers to find more high-performing fishing across the lake."

### Yellow perch

Yellow perch abundance in the west zone from Toledo to Huron is increasing as a large year class of 2-year-old fish will join the population in 2023. The best success is anticipated during July through mid-August when the water temperature is above 76 degrees, and again from mid-October through November as adult perch move to shallower water to feed at water temperatures below 60 degrees. These two time periods provided a majority of angler yellow perch harvest in 2022. Abundant young perch from 7 to 9 inches will dominate the catch, with jumbo 12-inch and larger fish from older year classes also contributing to the catch.

The Lake Erie Committee sets conservative quotas each year to ensure sustainable spawning stocks that will allow the best opportunity for population recovery. Yellow perch daily limits remain as described in the 2023-24 fishing regulations through April 30, 2024, with a daily limit of 30 perch in the west zone, 10

in the central zone, and 30 in the east zone.

### Bass

Smallmouth bass and largemouth bass fishing in 2023 will remain good with the opportunity for trophy catches. The daily limit is five bass per day, with a 14-inch minimum size requirement until Sunday, April 30, 2023, and again from June 24, 2023, to April 30, 2024. During the spawning season, from May 1 to June 23, 2023, anglers may harvest one bass per day with a minimum size requirement of 18 inches.

Lake Erie fishing reports, information on Lake Erie research and management programs, fisheries resources, maps, and links to other Lake Erie web resources are available at wildohio.gov. The current fishing regulations can be found on the HuntFish OH app, at wildohio.gov, or locations where fishing licenses are sold.

*The mission of the Division of Wildlife is to conserve and improve fish and wildlife resources and their habitats for sustainable use and appreciation by all. Visit wildohio.gov to find out more.*

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## Be prepared with a boat safety kit

You can't always predict an emergency, so be prepared for any situation. Your boat safety kit should be kept on board no matter the size of your boat. Below are some essential items your safety kit should include.

**Flashlight** - A flashlight and extra batteries can help you see around your boat in the dark

**Duct tape** - Spring a leak? Temporarily bandage the hole with duct tape. **First aid kit** - A properly equipped first aid kit, plus the knowledge on how to use it, is vital in case of an accident or medical emergency.

**Whistle** - As a recognized signal calling for help on the water, a waterproof whistle is another must-have.

**Ropes** - These are critical for pulling someone in who has fallen overboard, securing your craft to the dock and tying down loose items in extreme weather.

**Mirror** - A mirror or any reflective object can signal for help. **Garbage bags** - Use them as rain ponchos and protection for items on board.

**Fire extinguisher** - All passengers should know the location of your fire extinguisher and how to use it.

**Life jackets** - You should have a U.S. Coast Guard approved life jacket for every person on board.



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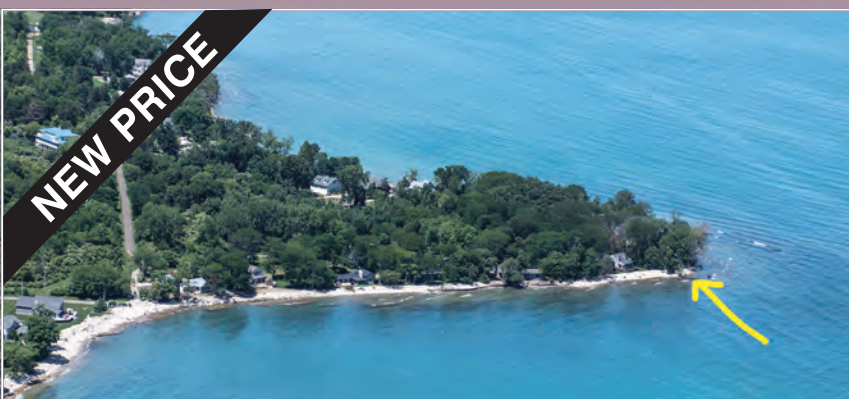
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