

LIFE ON KELLEYS

THE EMERALD ISLE NEWS



'Green Devils for The Day'

Ben Ohlemacher

On Friday, May 16th, Kelleys Island School and Field Station launched its 'Green Devils for The Day' program. We had the pleasure of hosting 100 enthusiastic 8th-grade students from Edison Local Schools. Edison Middle School students arrived on Kelleys Island eager for a day of learning and exploration. Students were treated to an engaging walking tour that highlighted the island's unique geological features, including the glacial grooves, the Alvar, and the historic stone crusher. This provided a wonderful opportunity for them to walk directly on the grooves, discover fascinating fossils, and gain insight into the geological history of Lake Erie.

Following the tour, the students visited the Kelleys Island School and Field Station, where they participated in a hands-on activity examining plankton samples under microscopes allowing students to identify plankton samples and understand their vital role within the Lake Erie food web. Additionally, students received a tour of the school where everyone enjoyed a pleasant lunch together in our newly constructed pavilion.

The visit was a great success, and the students left with a deeper appreciation for the formation of the Great Lakes, their current importance, and the critical need to protect this valuable resource. We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the Erie County Community Foundation for their generous support, which covered the cost of ferry transportation for the students, chaperones and their buses. This crucial contribution significantly reduced financial obstacles and enabled more students to have this valuable first-hand learning experience about Lake Erie.

We look forward to providing additional educational opportunities to mainland students in the future.



From the Mayor's Desk

All
If you are not already aware, the Village adopted an ordinance that now requires ALL rental properties to be registered with the village to be legally permitted to operate as a rental on Kelleys Island. The deadline for making application for your license is May 30th, 2025 and if you have not already made application by the deadline you will not be permitted to operate a Short term Rental on the Island.
The program requires a series of steps to become licensed including filling out the application and paying the licensing fee, getting a qualified home inspection completed, getting a septic inspection completed, providing the necessary insurance coverage, and registering with the county for tax compliance. For a comprehensive breakdown of the process, visit the Kelleys Island website at Kelleysisland.us and click on the transient rental program tab from the home page. For specific questions email question to trpclerk@kelleysisland.us.

Ron

Village Information:
Website: www.kelleysisland.us
The Village of Kelleys Island Website contains all Public meeting Notices, Currently Passed Legislation, Council Minutes and information and updates for all departments.

SCRAP METAL RE-CYCLING DAY

Where: Kelleys Island Transfer Station
When: Sunday, June 1, 2025 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. or until the container is full
Cost: Free event with the exception of Freon Removal; \$25 per appliance.

Transfer Station Hours of Operation:
Winter Hours: Wed., Fri., Sat., Sunday 11am - 3 pm
Summer Hours: Mon., Wed., Fri., Sat., Sunday 10 am - 3 pm

Water / Transfer Billing Clerk Hours:
April - January: Friday 8 - 4pm & Saturday 10 - 2 pm
February - March: Every other Saturday 10 - 2 pm

SUNDAY RUN DAY 2025
WE RUN THIS ISLAND
KELLEYS ISLAND, OHIO

RACE DAY
SUNDAY, JUNE 1, 2025
PLEASE NOTE ROAD CLOSURES AND DETOUR FOR THE RACE FROM 10:30AM - 12:15PM

10K RUN COURSE

5K WALK COURSE - OUT AND BACK

STATE PARK DETOUR

FOR ACCESS TO THE STATE PARK AND FERRY DOCK PLEASE FOLLOW THE DETOUR ROUTE IN BLUE

5/10K END **5K START** **10K START**

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:
Kelleys Island
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

5K & 10K RACE

Sunday ♦ June 1, 2025 ♦ 10:30AM-12:15 PM

All Residents And Visitors

Road Closure

On Sunday, June 1 from 10:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m., the roads which are being used for the race route will be closed to all through traffic. Please be sure to plan any travel for before or after the race. Please be sure to inform renters and visitors of the road closure. Exceptions will be made ONLY for church services and emergencies.

Please be courteous to our runners, this is a great event. Please take their and others safety into consideration.

The race will begin just before the Kelleys Island Ferry Boat entrance at 10:30.

The 5-K will proceed west on Lakeshore Dr., a little past the trailer park and back to

Memorial Park.

The 10-K will proceed up Lakeshore Dr., up Division St., rounding the entire block before coming back to Division St. Runners will then proceed north on Division St., around Titus Rd. to W. Lakeshore Dr. and head back to Memorial Park. All races will be led by police cruiser and followed by a couple of golf carts.

The 1-mile Fun Run will begin at noon at Division St. and Lakeshore Dr. and go around the block.

Thank You For Your Consideration Kelleys Island Chamber of Commerce



Kelleys Island Make-A-Wish Swim and Golf Cart Poker Run “Watching over our Kids”

Last year at the end of October, we donated over \$51,000. Granting over 5 Wishes. Thanks to you and everyone who donated so selflessly.

This year we will be swimming from Carpenters Point to the Casino Dock. Come and greet us as we stroke in.

Meet and greet our Wish children and families. If you haven't made your reservations, do it soon.

Saturday, August 2nd ~ Golf Cart Poker Run 9-11am registration at Caddy Shack ending at KI Winery 3pm ~ \$10 per hand, no limit to hands. Raffles & baskets and fun await you. Chances to win fantastic prizes.

Sunday, August 3rd ~ Cindra and Jeni swim in to the Casino Marina with

a party to follow at the KI Ball field. ALL are welcome.

Meet Vanessa, 16 yrs old. She has bone cancer & wishes to go to Hawaii.

Meet Lila, 12 yrs old. She has a seizure disorder & wishes to go to Disney World.

Please make checks to: Make-A-Wish

Send to: US Bank 205 W. Perkins Ave Sandusky, Ohio 44870

or P.O. Box 517 Kelleys Island, Ohio 43438

“T” Shirts and all raffle tickets will be sold by Cindra & Jeni, plus, only through Chicklets Closet thanks to Tina on Kelleys Island.

We hope to see you again this year. Thank you and may you be Blessed. Jeni & Cindra



KILA Korner June 2025

Drew Algase

Hello Summer.

KILA announces

2025 support awards

The Kelleys Island Landowners Association (KILA) received four applications to support projects in 2025 to improve and enhance Kelleys Island.

Two awards were approved by the board of directors:

1. Kelleys Island School - \$7261.00 for furnishing the outdoor classroom pavilion for the KI Field Station. The seating will include two octagon picnic tables with attached seating to accommodate 16 and four perimeter seating benches that will allow for up to eight people to sit at a comfortable distance if that is their preference. In addition, a trash receptacle will be purchased for the space. The Outdoor Classroom pavilion will be available for KILA and other community groups to use when not engaged by the Field Station.

2. Kelleys Island 4-H Camp - \$2448.00 for the dining hall updates. This includes appliances to better serve campers, staff, and the KI community. The 4-H camp hosts the annual KILA family hayride on the third Saturday in October.

The other two applications needed further information in order to act on the requests.

Awards for these and past projects are made possible by KILA members. Over the last five years, KILA has approved support for 12 projects totaling about \$65,000. Annual dues, donations, and fundraising activities are the sources to fund KILA's contributions. Our main fundraising activity is the annual Raffle. Five cash prizes (\$2500, 1000, 500, 250, 100) are given. Raffle tickets are \$20 each and only 600 will be sold. Tickets will be available from KILA board members soon.

If you have a specific project to improve & enhance Kelleys Island, you may request support from KILA. Please send requests to info@kila.rocks or PO Box 22 Kelleys Island, OH 43438-0022. Or, use online form: link for an on-line request form. <https://kila.rocks/kilas-donations/>

Welcome Back Pot Luck

The KILA Annual Welcome Back Potlunch on May 17 was attended by nearly 50 people who endured typical blustery spring weather even though the temps were in the 60's. A nice variety of shared dishes were enjoyed by all along with lemonade, fresh cooked burgers & tasty hotdogs provided by KILA. We look forward to another great year on The Rock!! Thanks to all who braved the “pre-spring” weather and to Jim Coleman for leading this annual event.



Photo of the last few folks at the end of the Potlunch (Ed Nowak, Ned Williams, Donna Algase, Chris Arnold, Frank & Carol Dodson, Jim Coleman)

Coming up:

KILA's 51st annual Homecoming celebration will be on Friday and Saturday, August 8 & 9 th. The theme for this year is “Remembering Big Chuck”, honoring the memory of Charles “Big Chuck” Schodowski.

Homecoming begins on Friday with the 5th annual fish fry. Perch dinners will be prepared by KILA volunteers and Frank & Dean will entertain. Ticket availability will be announced in July.

Saturday will begin with the Homecoming parade including the Crestline Bulldogs and Milan Edison Chargers marching bands. Please think about joining in the parade by decorating your vehicle with your favorite Big Chuck character or memory. The day continues with live entertainment by Fat City Band, delicious food, a vendor's market place, kid's games, the annual pie contest, 3rd annual Corn Hole tournament, silent auction, and much more family entertainment. Circle those dates on your calendar!

Shores & Islands Ohio again is a sponsor for Homecoming for the KI community and all visitors & guests.

The Family Hay Ride at the 4H camp is scheduled for Saturday, October 18th from 3-5 PM. While this is during the “Adult Halloween” weekend, this event is intended for families of children & adults.

Please 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.

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). Click the “Join KILA” link at the top, scroll down and select New or Renew Membership and follow the instructions.

3). We can take payments using Zelle®. If you want to pay through this option, send to drew@kila.rocks.

Send money with Zelle®
Scan in your banking app to pay

Kelleys Island
Landowners Assoc



zelle

We welcome your support, volunteering, donations, and suggestions for activities, projects, or initiatives to help KILA improve Kelleys Island. We're available via email to info@kila.rocks, our Facebook page www.facebook.com/kelleysislandlandowners, and our website www.KILA.rocks.



Islandwide Chamber Member Events

JUNE

- 7 - Science Saturdays: Frogs, Kelleys Island School (10am-12pm)
- 7 - School Tours, Kelleys Island School (1pm)
- 12 - Welcome to the 2025 Season, Charles Hemdon Galleries and Sculpture Garden (1pm)
- 14 - 5th Annual Greasy Pole Competition, Portside Marina by Dockers Far Bar (1pm)
- 14 - Science Saturday: TBD, (10am-12pm)
- 14 - Father's Day Weekend, West Bay (11am)
- 15 - VP Father's Day Dinner, The Village Pump (Noon)
- 21 - Science Saturday: Turtle, Kelleys Island School (10am-12pm)
- 21 - Razzles/Kelleys Island Grass Coed 6's Tournament, Seaway Marina (9am)
- 23-27 - Intro to Nature Camp (4 yrs), KI Field Station (10-11am)
- 23-27 - My 1st Nature Camp (5-6 yrs), KI Field Station (11:30am-12:30pm)
- 23-27 - Nature Camp (7-8 yrs), KI Field Station (1-2:30pm)
- 28 - Science Saturday: Fishing, Kelleys Island Park (10am-12pm)
- 30-JUL 4 - Nature Camp- Environmental Adventure Camp I (9-10 yrs), KI Field Station (10am-12pm)
- 30-JUL 4 - Nature Camp- Environmental Adventure Camp II (11-12 yrs), KI Field Station (12:30pm-2:30pm)

JULY

- 4 - Community Firework, West Bay (Dark)
- 5 - Science Saturday: TBD (10am-12pm)
- 12 - Science Saturday: Turtles, Kelleys Island School (10am-12pm)
- 12 - School Tours, Kelleys Island School (1pm)
- 19 - Science Saturday at Island Fest, Memorial Park
- 21-25 - STELLAR: Zion United Vacation Bible School, Zion Church (10:30am)
- 26 - Science Saturday: Butterflies, KI Field Station (11am-1pm)
- 27 - STELLAR: VBS Children's Presentation, Zion Church (10:30am)
- 28 - Project WET Workshop OSU Stone Lab w/ Ohio EPA, KI Field Station

AUGUST

- 2 - Science Saturday: TBA (10am-12pm)
- 2 - School Tours, Kelleys Island School (1pm)
- 8-9 - KI Homecoming, KILA (Fri-5pm /Sat All Day)
- 9 - The Kelleys Island Historical Association Art Show, KIHA (10am)
- 9 - Science Saturday: KI Homecoming, KI Ball Park
- 16 - Science Saturday: Ohio Geological Society-Geology, Glacial Grooves (10am-12pm)
- 23 - A Dreamy Afternoon with Tom Waits, Charles Hemdon Galleries and Sculpture Garden (1pm)
- 23 - Pollinators & Pancakes, KI School (9am)
- 29-SEP 1 - Labor Day Weekend, Island-Wide
- 30 - Science Saturday: Monarch Butterflies, Kelleys Island School (10am-12pm)
- 31 - Glacial Glimpses, KI Audubon, (1pm-2pm)

SEPTEMBER

- 1-30 - Monarch Tagging (all month long)
- 6 - Monarch Tagging, KI Field Station/KI School
- 8 - Perch Tournament, The Casino (8am)
- 13 - Wine and Art Faire, The Kelley's Island Wine Co, Crooked Tree Vineyard, Monarch Winery (12:30pm)
- 14 - KI Field Station Day & Celebration, KI Field Station (1pm)
- 21 - Feathers and Foliage, KI Audubon (TBA)

OCTOBER

- 4 - Oktoberfest, West Bay (11am)
- 10-12 - Family Halloween, Island Wide (10am-7pm)
- 11 - Kid's Trick or Treat! (3pm), Kids Crafts & Music (2pm-4pm), The Kelleys Island Wine Co
- 11 - Casino Clam Bake, The Casino (4pm)
- 11 - FD/PA Harvest Festival & Pig Roast
- 15 - Owl Banding, KI Audubon (Nightly, Mid-Oct thru Late Nov)
- 17-20 - Adult Halloween, Island-Wide (Noon-11pm)
- 18 - KILA Family Hayride, KILA (3pm-5pm)
- 31-NOV 3 - Owl Fest, KI Audubon (7pm-9pm)

NOVEMBER

- 28 - VP Thanksgiving Potluck, The Village Pump (6pm-9pm)
- 29 - VP OSU vs. Michigan Tailgate Party, The Village Pump (10am-5pm)
- 30 - Sights, Scents, and Sounds, The Kelleys Island Wine Co (4pm-8pm)



For more information about these Island events please scan the QR Code or visit our website at www.kelleysislandchamber.com.



events are subject to change, please check social media for most updated information

Kelleys Island Comes Alive for the 2025 Summer Season

**Zoey Vargo (Leonard),
Executive Director**

As the summer season kicks off, Kelleys Island is buzzing with excitement, and there's no better place to experience the island's energy than the newly relocated Kelleys Island Chamber of Commerce at 104 Division Street. The Chamber has officially settled into its new home in the building shared with the Jet Express and casino carts, providing an ideal location to welcome both residents and visitors.

"We are beyond grateful to be right where so many of our visitors first arrive on the island," says Chamber Director, Zoey Vargo. "Having the Chamber in such a central, easily accessible spot will help us connect with even more people and make their experience on the island truly unforgettable."

Located just steps from the popular Jet Express ferry terminal, this new

location ensures visitors can quickly get all the information they need to enjoy their stay. Whether it's suggestions for activities, dining, or simply discovering what makes Kelleys Island so special, the Chamber's friendly volunteer team is ready to help.

As we gear up for a vibrant summer, don't miss the exciting events planned for June. Mark your calendars for June 1st, the annual Kelleys Island 5/10K Run/Walk, a thrilling event that brings together athletes from near and far. Just days after on June 4th, the Kelleys Island Dice Run is a can't-miss event, combining great sights, smooth rides and good times. And for fans of the eerie and mysterious, June 22nd the Sandusky Witches Walk will promise a spooky and fun-filled evening for all you witches.

For more details on these and other upcoming events, visit our website's

events page <https://www.kelleysislandchamber.com/events/>. There's something for everyone to enjoy!

The Chamber is also thrilled to extend an invitation for new members to join. You don't have to own a business to become a member - we would love for you to become a Friend of the Chamber. Your membership supports the efforts of the Chamber in promoting and preserving the beauty of Kelleys Island, while providing opportunities to connect with the local community. Please be on the lookout for more information on how to support the chamber. Becoming a member is easy, and we welcome you to join us in helping Kelleys Island thrive. To learn more and to sign up, please visit our website at <https://www.kelleysislandchamber.com/>.

We can't wait to see you on the island this summer!

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ohio shores 
VACATION RENTALS

The Museum Campus
221-226 Division Street
KI Historical Association Museum,
The German Reformed Church,
The Parsonage House Resale Shop and Sis's Cottage.





Kelleys Island Historical Association's
"Free" Ride Fundraiser
\$10.00 a ticket, with only 500 tickets being sold
Quilt Raffle
Quilt tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5
While visiting the Museum,
Purchase your Raffle Tickets
The Museum is OPEN: Noon to 4pm Thursday thru Monday,
CLOSED Tuesday and Wednesday.
For special shopping appointments call:
Jodie 419-350-1082 • Janet 419-304-3095 • Sonia 419-202-8083.

“What Can You Do At The

Jodie Smith
To fully understand what the KIHA is all about, visit The Museum Campus at 224-226 Division Street, Kelleys Island, Ohio 43438. There you will find The KIHA History Museum and Gift Shop (OPEN 12-4 Thursday-Monday), The Old Stone Church, and The Parsonage House and Sis's Cottage Resale Shop (OPEN Dailey 12-4 or by appointment).



message is related to a milestone family event. This year's quilt was made in 2011. It was donated back to Teri. Be sure to read the inscribed message on the back of this quilt honoring dear family friends. This will most likely be the last queen-sized quilt that she will donate. After 30 years of quilt making Teri will retire. But she says she will continue to use up her material and make smaller items like baby blankets, table runners, and wall hangings. Teri has continued to make an impact and serve the community of Kelleys Island, just like her Grandparents, Parents, Aunts, Uncles, and various cousins have over the years. By serving on the Kelleys Island Historical Association Board and being an ACTIVE member through her gardening and quilting work, Teri has demonstrated the spirit of an Islander. Each and every person on Kelleys Island can donate their time or skills to help this small piece of paradise continue to thrive for future generations. The Kelleys Island Historical Association and the Community of Kelleys Island wish to offer Teri a sincere "Thank You" for her years of service.



PHCR: Melissa Slasor Photography

The Old Stone Church was built in 1866 and was originally used as The German Reformed Church. It was vacated in 1956 and was acquired by KIHA in 1986. The church is open for a self-guided tour, typically when the Museum or Resale Shops are open. The church makes a lovely venue for weddings or small musical performances or readings. It can be rented for \$450.00 with a refundable \$250.00 deposit. See <https://kelleysislandhistorical.org> for more information.



When you walk to the Old Stone Church, you may notice a brick sidewalk. These Bricks have been purchased by people in remembrance of their loved ones, or perhaps a special event. The Memorial Walk is another way that you can support the KIHA! The bricks are 8"x8" and are \$150.00. You can find out how to purchase by going to <https://kelleysislandhistorical.org>.

The History Museum is artfully curated and begins from ancient times to the present. Interactive displays, along with reading, and photos take you through this interesting timeline. Put on a hat and join the crowds of tourists getting off of a steamer in the 1920s. Read about the animals of the island and see up close and personal the beloved island turkey, named Stanley. Amongst our collections, Children will hunt for our mascot, Tarzan, the talking dog, and receive a prize when Tarzan is found! Young and old alike will find a keepsake or gift at the beautiful Gift Shop!



The Gift Shop displays the hand-made quilt that will be raffled off in September. Be sure to buy your Quilt Raffle Tickets (\$1 each or 6 for \$5) and see the beautiful work done by Islander Theresa "Teri" Betzenheimer Behrends, for the benefit of The Historical Association. Teri has a family history with the Parsonage Home/House. Her Grandparents, Alexander Betzenheimer and Emma (Beatty) Betzenheimer rented the Parsonage home after the German Reformed Church stopped using it as a Parsonage. Part of the arrangement was that they would take care of the Church, the grounds of the Church, and the Parsonage House.

Teri still does that task today. She is the gardener you see keeping things nice on the Museum Campus! Teri has been a KIHA Board Member since being asked to by past president Mike Feyedelem. Teri added in our interview, that she and Mike attended KI elementary school together. She was inspired by her aunt Florence ("Sis") to start making the quilts as a fundraiser after Russ Matso stopped making clocks that were raffled off for fundraising. That was in 1994. Until about 10 years ago, Teri quilted by hand. Now the quilting is done on a friend's long-arm machine. Besides the uniqueness of each design, Teri adds a personal message on the back of each quilt. The



CHARLES HERNDON GALLERY+
SCULPTURE GARDEN

Gallery is open
Thurs.-Mon,
11-4

Or, view the art by appointment:
(419) 746-2249
110 Laylin Lane
KELLEYS ISLAND,
OH.

Gardens are open
Dawn-dusk every
day



June 12th:
Season opener

July 26th:
Plein Air Fest
(Bring your supplies and create in nature!)

August 23rd:
An afternoon of
Rambling
Troubadours

Glass blowing and art
demos
every Thursday,
Friday and Saturday
in Season



More information on Facebook: Charles Herndon Gallery

PAGE 4

June 2025

Kelleys Island Historical Association Museum Campus”

The Parsonage House Resale Shop was built in 1888 as the home to the Pastor of The German Reformed Church. Now it helps support KIHA through the sales of donated items. Inside the home, it is easy to see how and where the family lived. Many pieces of the home are in original condition, including the red pump at the kitchen sink. The home never had indoor plumbing and so, the outhouse remains standing in the backyard. Beside the outhouse, is Sis’s Cottage, an extension of the Resale Shop. The last occupant of the Parsonage House was Florence (nee Betzenheimer). She was one of five children raised in the home after the church no longer used it as a Parsonage. Florence was known as “Sis” to her family and islanders. She had moved into the home with her two daughters and raised them there. She

lived there until close to the time of her death in 2013. The Resale Shop tries to remain open 7 days a week from 12-4 or can be opened by special request.

Other events that happen on The Museum Campus can be found listed under Island Events at <https://www.kelleysislandchamber.com> August 9, 2025, has been set aside for the annual

Arts and Crafts Show on The Museum Campus. On your next visit to Kelleys Island, be sure to set aside time to do all that there is to do on The Museum Campus!

Campers on Kelleys

Back in the 1990’s Kelleys Island adopted a zoning code that restricted people from openly placing campers on lots for overnight accommodations. There are significant limitations today for the use of campers and due to a recent uptick in the occurrences of campers, we are taking time to be certain people understand the existing laws pertaining to campers and camping.

With the proper permits from the police department, Campers are permitted for up to 30 consecutive days on lots that have homes built on them and the homes can provide the necessary accommodations for cooking and sanitary needs. This provision allows an existing homeowner to permit a guest to show up with a camper for an extended stay not to exceed 30 days and DOES require a permit from the police department.

For property owners who are in the building phase of developing their property, i.e they have the necessary construction permits and are actively engaged in the process of building, these folks are permitted to also get an extended camper/trailer permit for up to one year, provided the camper is plumbed into the lots existing and approved septic system on the lot in question. An additional 6 month permit can be added to the first year in the event the project was not completed in the first 12 months. This is only permitted with the appropriate permit also from the police department.

Campers on empty lots are not permitted under any circumstances. Campers on property without a habitable structure are not permitted under any circumstances. Campers in business parking lots are not permitted. Overnight campers are not permitted parked in public parking spaces.

The storage of campers on lots with homes are permitted provided they are not stored in setback areas of the respective zoning code and they are not hooked up to utilities and being used for overnight accommodations without the necessary permits.

The specific details related to Camping on Kelleys are spelled out clearly in the ordinance book in chapter 96. Additionally, 96.99 deals specifically with the violations related to not having the necessary permits and it states. “Any person violating any provision of this chapter is guilty of a minor misdemeanor and shall, upon conviction, be fined in a sum not exceeding \$150. Each day in violation of any provision of this chapter shall constitute a separate offense. Upon conviction of a second violation within a six-month period, such person shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.”

Questions related to this can be sent to the police department at police@kelleysisland.us, or to the zoning office at zoning@kelleysisland.us.



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July 15, 2025



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More details to come.
www.hwe.coop

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- SNOWMOBILES Yamaha & Ski Doo

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Kelleys Island Safety Service Day for Police, Fire, and EMS



Kelleys Island Service Day gave islanders and visitors the opportunity to be introduced to Kelleys Island Police, Fire and EMS personel. The Safety Services were able to provide information about services and directing them to specific locations or services available on the island.

PHCR: Brian Foox



IT'S TIME TO...
Stay. Play. Explore.
Shop. Dine. Relax.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Kelleys Island

LAKE ERIE

Visit our website to plan your visit today. Find places to stay, things to do and our scheduled events!

2025 Chamber Events

June 1

5/10K Run/Walk/Fun Run

June 4

Ohio Bike Week:
Kelleys Island Dice Run

June 22

Brew Cruise III to Kelleys Island:
Witches Walk the Plank

July 18-20

IslandFest "Boats 'n Boots"

August 2-3

FilmFest

September 6

Treasure Island Days

HOSTED BY KELLEYS ISLAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

For more information or to sponsor an event please scan the QR Code or email the office at info@kelleysislandchamber.com or visit our website at www.kelleysislandchamber.com.

Thank you to all our event sponsors! Your generosity is what makes these events possible each year!

SHORES & ISLANDS

OHIO



Frequently Asked Questions

The Kelleys Island Police Dept. enforces the laws of the State and local ordinances, various questions that we get asked are:

- Can my child drive the golf cart?
No, Golf Carts are Motor Vehicles in the State of Ohio and can only be operated by a licensed driver.
 - Is the island a "DORA" district?
No, the island is not a DORA district, all open containers must remain in the establishment that you purchased them from and are also NOT permitted on golf carts.
 - Do you perform golf cart inspections?
Yes, we inspect golf carts for title and license plate purposes by appointment only. Monday - Friday 10am-5pm / Saturday - 10am-12pm / Sunday -10am-12pm
- Our clerical and administrative staff supports these Village operations. Safety personnel can be contacted by telephone for non-emergency services at 419-746-2735, or by e-mail directed to the Village Clerk at Office@KelleysIsland.us or the Police at Police@KelleysIsland.us.
- In an emergency CALL 911. That is the best and fastest way to dispatch Island Safety Services. If possible, use a land line as there are many low and no signal areas.
- PLEASE NOTE: We cannot answer questions about events, the weather or if the ferry is running.

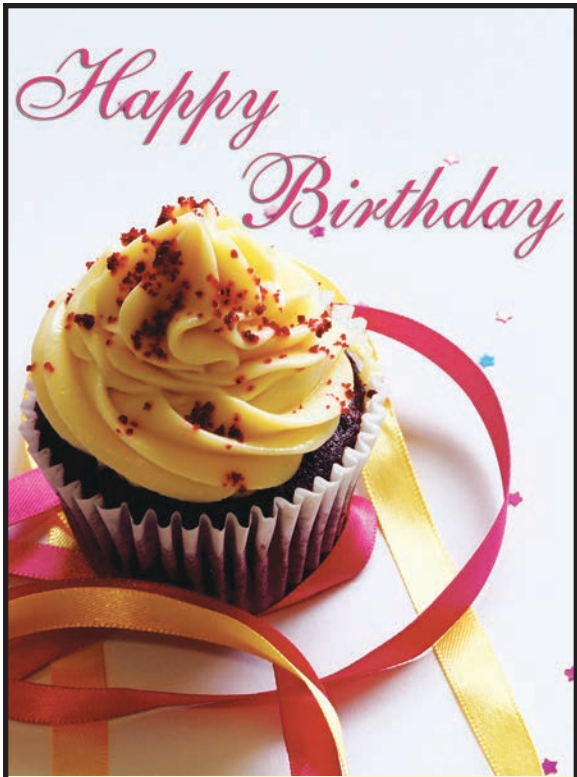
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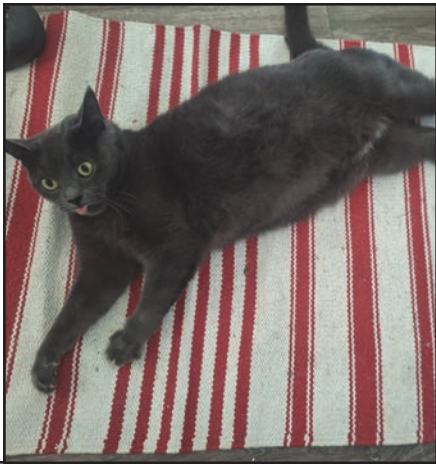
- 1 – Jonathan Schodowski
- 1 – Bill Campbell Jr.
- 2 – Keegan McCafferty
- 2 – Jessica Shenker
- 2 – Kelley (Elfers) Yorks
- 2 – Leslie Algase
- 3 – Dave Rich
- 5 – Jan Lochotzki
- 6 – Mark Walters
- 8 – Lauren Kranyak
- 8 – Lillie Leckler
- 9 – Amy Karpowicz
- 9 – Erin Sandvick
- 10 – Benjamin Elfers
- 12 – Kreg Vetovitz
- 14 – Shane Nelson
- 14 – Jennifer Volz
- 14 – Courtney Zeilmann
- 15 – Doug Karpowicz
- 16 – Eric Benjamin Elfers
- 16 – Johanna Vetovitz
- 17 – Kristen Pascoe Krecic
- 19 – Ernie Bell
- 19 – Mac Quillin
- 20 – Deb Brian
- 21 – Drew Algase
- 21 – Ned Williams
- 22 – Brad Bechtel
- 22 – Ty Bell
- 22 – Dale Pilcavage
- 23 – Anne Lynn Smith
- 24 – Don Alexander
- 25 – Megan Haig
- 25 – Andy Quillin
- 27 – Jennifer Walker
- 27 – Marisa Moody
- 27 – Karissa Schroer
- 27 – Marisa Moody
- 30 – Joan Quillin



Lenny

We adopted Lenny from Ottawa County Humane Society and he is just over 2 years old. He loves to hang out at the bars on the island and he gladly accepts pets and love from everyone! Lenny was just on his way home from West Bay when Adam saw Benny and Goldie and couldn't resist the opportunity for purrfict picture! -Mellanie Burda

Left: Adam Adams holding Lenny, Benny Elfers (in truck) with Goldie (Benny's doggo) Right: Lenny



Nature Camp 2025



The Kelleys Island Field Station is excited to host our 8th year of Nature Camp this summer! This summer, we will combine exploring the great outdoors with learning about the amazing biodiversity found on Kelleys Island. Experienced naturalists will lead daily field trips, and We are excited to announce the 8th year of our Kelleys Island Nature Camp, hosted by the Kelleys Island Schools Field Station! The 2025 theme is "Amazing Animals," we have an All-star lineup of partners joining us, including Ohio State University's Stone Laboratory, Back to the Wild, the Lake Erie Islands Nature & Wildlife Center, Erie Metro Parks, and more. Campers will have various opportunities for up-close and hands-on interactions with a diverse range of Ohio's native animals, allowing

campers to learn about ecology and conservation while exploring and having fun.

Nature Camp goes far beyond the traditional classroom experience by allowing participants to step outside and get up close and personal with the nature around them.

We look forward to working with the kids again. Please contact us with any questions or suggestions.

The Nature Camp Registration Form can be found at:

<https://www.kelleys.k12.oh.us/field-station-programs/>
OR Scan the QR Code
Jackie Taylor and
the Nature Camp Crew
jtaylor@kelleys.k12.oh.us



Camp Dates & Times

Intro to Nature Camp (4yrs.)		
June 23-27	10-11am	\$50.00
My 1st Nature Camp (5-6yrs.)		
June 23-27	11:30am-12:30pm	\$50.00
Nature Camp (7-8yrs.)		
June 23-27	1-2:30pm	\$75.00
Environmental Adventure Camp I (9-10yrs.)		
June 30-July 4	10AM-12PM	\$100.00
Environmental Adventure Camp II (11-12)		
June 30-July 4	12:30-2:30PM	\$100.00



Council Notes

Leslie Korenko

The Police Dept reported that new tech will be installed soon and evidence tracking program will be in place soon. EMS reported 3 runs and 3 clinic calls. Monthly training continues. Council authorized the creation of part-time paramedics particularly to help during the summer months. The Fire Dept. had one run. A study of future needs was completed with 20 recommendations. Several have already been implemented. The biggest issue is a new Fire Dept. building, which has been on the wish list for several years; however, no location has been selected. Other

recommendations include training; Standard Operations Procedures Manual; updating trucks and equipment; creating a hazardous site plan (trails, quarries, etc); and secure State funding. In addition, the Fire Dept. will be working with the Water Dept to identify alternative water supplies for fighting fires (those that don't use the municipal water system which has volume limitations). The OEPA has completed its review of the Water Dept, and found no violations. There have been several queries about co-locating on private towers, but nothing formal has been submitted. Any towers must comply

with Village Code section 152.045 which identifies just two locations for towers. New towers outside these areas would require a change in the Zoning Code. The Ordinance increasing the salary of the Zoning Inspector passed. It was clarified that the increase was due to the additional duties relating to administering the Transient Rental Program. Deadline for registration for this program was May 30. Planning Commission met and will be recommending some changes to the Zoning Code to clarify and streamline several sections. Many of these have been in place since 1993.

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Circulation: 6,000

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.

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One of a Kind, Secluded Property With Panoramic Lake Erie Views From Both Levels and Decks! The 2,268 Square Foot Open Floor Plan, and Thoughtful Design of This Custom Home Make Morning Sunrises A Priority!
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103 SOUTHAVEN LANE

Wow! Stunning Lake views from Multiple Rooms and Decks Makes This a Very Unique Island Home! This 4 Bedroom, 3 Bath Home Is Located in The Desirable Southaven Subdivision.
\$679,000



203 LOWER CLIFF

Built in 2010, This Island Oasis Getaway is Move In Ready! The 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath Home Has All the Amenities of Home and Much, Much More! Check Out the Pool and Oversized Cabana!
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205 LOWER
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Convenience, and
Charm Come
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is a True Hidden
Gem.
\$479,900



145 ORCHARD
LANE

This 3 Bedroom,
2 Bath Home was
Constructed in 2010.
Unwind, Relax and
Entertain on the
Oversized Back Deck
with Gazebo
(378 Sq Ft of
TREX Decking).
\$489,900



705 E LAKESHORE

This One Acre Lakefront Lot is located on
KI's Southern Shore. Septic Design Approved.
City Water Available at the Street. Newly
Constructed 360x24 Pole Barn on Rear of Property.
\$498,500



LOT 1 SOUTHAVEN

Beautiful Lakeview Lot in Desirable Southaven
Woods. Lot is 100 x 189 (0.4339 acres).
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LOT 2 CHARDONNAY

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LOT 3 CHARDONNAY

141 x 116 (0.375 Acre) Lot in Desirable
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Kelleys Island Clean Ups



If you saw people in orange shirts around the island on Sunday, May 18, they were helping to keep our island CLEAN!!!
Thank you Josh Notley for organizing this every year!
Thank you to everyone that made it out! It was a very successful clean up!!!

PHCR: Brian Foox



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The Parsonage Perspective

Hey Everyone!!!

Father's Day is right around the corner on June 15 and we can and will solve your shopping woes if you come over to our slightly off-the-wall Resale Revelation to find him a gift and a greeting card!

If you're stepping off the ferry with a bit of shopping on the brain (and honestly, who isn't?) chances are The Parsonage is your very first stop. And if it's not...well, you're doing it wrong!

Nestled right here at 228 Division Street, the shop is open daily from noon to 4 p.m.- and often later, because apparently, we are just that popular!

You never know what you'll find, and frankly neither do we. That's part of the fun!



Our inventory is a wild, wonderful mix of the generous donations from the mansions, cottages, houses, and even the businesses here. One moment

you're holding a rare antique, the next you've found a like-new fondue pot and a signed copy of a romance novel set on Kelleys Island, called The Suite Spot.

We've got antiques, small appliances, clothing, books, lamps, sofas, and furniture of all shapes and sizes. Think of it as treasure hunting without the scary pirates or the digging!

Right now we are gearing up for Father's Day, so stop by to snag a gift and a greeting card for your beloved Dad.

You'll get bonus points if you buy him something quirky enough to make him laugh before he tears up!

While you're here, don't forget to grab your raffle tickets, at \$10 each, for a chance to win a \$500 Kelleys Island Ferry Boat gift card!

Tickets are selling faster than a kayak in a windstorm-so don't miss out!

Also, we are looking for someone like YOU to volunteer to join in on the fun. Just two hours a week gets you out of the house, into the action, and earning Volunteer Bucks-redemable in both The Parsonage and the Museum gift shop. It's so much fun, we've adopted the motto: "If you're not having fun, then you're fired!"

Want to donate items? Please do! Just make surer to get them approved by a manager first.



For more info or to get involved, contact:

- *Janet 419-304-3095
- *Jodie 419-350-1082
- *Sonia 419-202-1083

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The Double-Crested Cormorant: A Master of Water and Air

Jim Zeller, Audubon Board Member

The double-crested cormorant is one of North America's most widespread and adaptable waterbirds. Recognizable by its sleek black body, orange-yellow facial skin, and – during the breeding season – tufts of black or white feathers above each eye (its "double crests"), this striking bird has long fascinated birdwatchers, ecologists, and fishermen alike. With its remarkable diving abilities and controversial status in some communities, the double-crested cormorant is a species worth knowing.

Adult double-crested cormorants measure about 30 to 35 inches in length with a wingspan that can exceed four feet. They are often mistaken for ducks or geese from a distance, but closer inspection reveals a slimmer, more angular silhouette and a distinctive hooked bill. Their webbed feet and powerful legs make them

excellent swimmers, but unlike ducks, their feathers are not fully waterproof. This trait allows them to dive efficiently but also means they must dry their wings after fishing – a behavior famously captured in photos of cormorants perched with wings outstretched.

Double-crested cormorants are expert fishers. They dive underwater using their strong legs to propel themselves and can remain submerged for over a minute. Their diet includes a wide variety of fish species, and they have been observed to adapt their feeding habits depending on local fish populations.

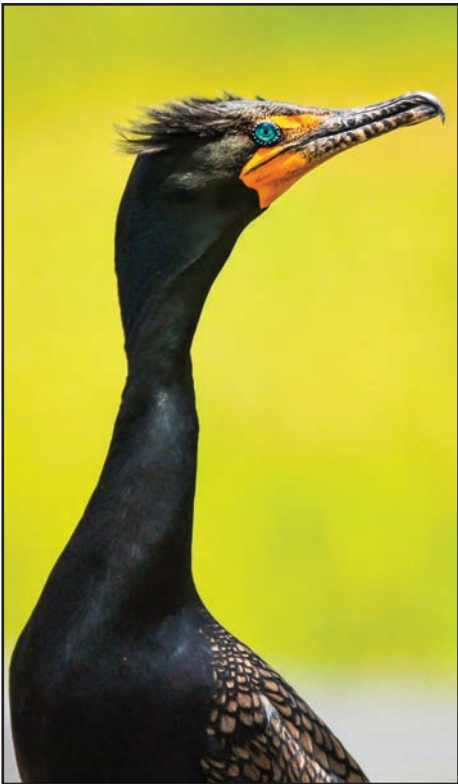
Once in decline due to pesticide contamination and habitat loss, the double-crested cormorant population rebounded following environmental protections enacted in the mid-20th century. Today, cormorants can be seen around KI in large flocks. Many thousand cormorants can be viewed

during a boat trip around Middle Island.

In some areas, cormorants are viewed as a threat to fish stocks and aquaculture operations. This has led to management programs that include egg oiling, nest destruction, and in some cases, culling.

Despite the controversies, double-crested cormorants play an important ecological role. As top predators in aquatic food webs, they help regulate fish populations and serve as indicators of environmental health. Their nesting colonies also contribute nutrients to ecosystems, though in high concentrations, their guano can impact vegetation and soil chemistry.

The double-crested cormorant is a resilient, intelligent, and efficient bird that has successfully adapted to both natural and human-altered environments. While its growing population presents challenges in certain regions, it also offers opportunities to rethink how we manage wildlife in a changing world. Understanding and appreciating the



Double-Crested Cormorant
Photo Credit: Stephanie Pluscht

complexity of species like the double-crested cormorant is key to fostering coexistence between people and the natural ecosystems we share.

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Have You Recently Discovered Birdwatching?

If you're new to bird watching, you're not alone! Birding has evolved from a niche hobby into a global pastime enjoyed by millions. Part of the appeal is tied to increased awareness of environmental issues and a desire to connect with nature. Technological advancements have also helped fuel interest in the hobby. In the past, birdwatching required specialized knowledge and bulky field guides. While field guides are still essential, online platforms and apps like eBird, iNaturalist and Merlin help birders both new and old identify and track birds. They also help foster a sense of community among birders of all skill levels. Joining organizations like KIAC can also fuel knowledge and interest. There's always so much to see on Kelleys Island!



Cedar Waxwing
Photo Credit: Paula Bartlett

2025 Kelley's Island Audubon Club Annual Membership Form

☐ **Northern Saw-whet Owl** \$25.00 Annual Membership (Individual or Family) \$ _____

☐ **Monarch Butterfly** - \$100.00 Annual Business Membership \$ _____

☐ **Lakeside Daisy** \$500.00 Lifetime Membership \$ _____

Membership fees are not sufficient to cover the KIAC educational programs or the support we provide to island nature activities including the Bartlett Bird Banding Stations, the KI Schools Nature Camp and Science Saturdays, as well as the Pollinator Habitats. Please consider an additional donation in support of these efforts:

Additional Donation to KIAC Programming/Partners \$ _____
(In memory/honor of _____)

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED (Membership + Donations) \$ _____

Mail to Kelley's Island Audubon Club, PO Box 42, Kelley's Island, OH 43438
Please make checks payable to Kelley's Island Audubon Club

The Kelley's Island Audubon Club is a 501 (c)3 organization (Fed ID# 34-1906455). Donations are tax deductible.

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Telephone: _____ E-Mail: _____

The mission of the Kelley's Island Audubon Club is to bring into closer association those interested in the study of wild birds and in the conservation of natural resources of Kelley's Island; to further the knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of ecology and to cooperate with other organizations having similar objectives.

Pat Hayes – President, Barbara Zeller - Vice President, June Campbell – Secretary, Jean Kuyoth – Treasurer,
Chris Ashley, Virginia Coyne, Lori Hayes, Tom Pieratt, Jackie Taylor, Jim Zeller

Find us online at: Kelley's Island Nature.org

Kelleys Island Bird Watching Guide

Kelleys Island State Park
920 Division St., 419.746.2546, 866.644.6727, parks.ohiodnr.gov
Kelley's Island State Park offers great Lake Erie views, easy access to the shoreline. Boating, fishing, birding, and wildlife watching are just a few of the park's favorite activities across its 677 acres. Year-round, daily dawn-dusk.

North Pond State Nature Preserve
Ward Rd. (off Division St.), 614.265.6419, naturepreserves.ohiodnr.gov
Containing a variety of rare plants and animals. Accessible via the trailhead at Ward Rd., opposite the parking lot. Consisting of 30 acres of wetlands with the estuary leading into Lake Erie, which is famous for the tremendous numbers of waterfowl migrating through in the spring and fall. A birder visiting North Pond during these seasons will be rewarded by sightings of numerous species of ducks and other water birds. To protect plant life, please remain on trails. No pets.

North Shore Alvar State Nature Preserve
920 Division St., 614.265.6419, naturepreserves.ohiodnr.gov
The only undisturbed alvar community in Ohio. An alvar is bare rock such as limestone bedrock with unique plant life growing on and between the rock surfaces. The scouring motion of the waves and ice off Lake Erie maintains the alvar. Accessible via the North Shore Loop Trail within Kelley's Island State Park. To protect plant life, please remain on trails. No pets.

Comparing the First Half of 2025 to Last Year

Steve Mack
Century 21 Bolte Real Estate

It is always interesting to see how the market shifts from year to year, and 2025 has taken on a slightly different rhythm here on Kelleys Island.

We are five months into the year, and so far, the number of single-family homes sold matches 2024 at five. However, there are a couple of key differences. This year, homes are taking a little longer to sell, averaging around 120 days compared to 98 last year at this time. While prices are a bit higher this year, averaging around \$599,000 compared to \$509,000 last year, the gap between list price and sale price has widened in some cases. A few homes have closed at 83 to 86 percent of their original asking price,

and the overall 2025 sale-to-list ratio for homes sits at about 92 percent. That reflects a more cautious, value-focused and price-sensitive group of buyers.

Only one condo has sold this year, compared to two during the same period in 2024. That said, the price stayed right in the same ballpark at just over \$420,000, which shows that demand is still there if the property is positioned well.

The land market has been a bit slower too. We have had two lot sales in 2025 so far, with average prices coming in a bit lower than last year. To be fair, 2024 included a large five-acre parcel that sold for \$350,000, which pushed the 2024 averages up. This year's land buyers have focused on

smaller, buildable lots in the \$60,000 to \$170,000 range. A few are under contract now, and I would not be surprised to see more activity as summer kicks into gear.

Overall, the market remains healthy. Buyers are looking carefully, taking their time, and placing offers that reflect what they see in value. That is not a bad thing. It simply means

both buyers and sellers need to come into the market informed and prepared.

If you're thinking about buying, selling, or just keeping an eye on the market, I'm always happy to talk it through. Real estate on Kelleys Island isn't just about numbers, it's about timing, community, and finding the right fit for your plans and lifestyle.



Kelleys Island Septic Systems 2025

The Village of Kelleys Island has no municipal sewage treatment facility. All sewage on the island is treated in home sewage treatment systems (HSTS) or commercial package plants/small flow systems. Some systems on the island are new and some are old. The age of the system does not always determine when or if a system will fail. Numerous problems can occur with any septic system. Some of the problems are caused by human error and others are caused by Mother Nature.

Some of the signs that your system may be failing included the following:

- Sewage has begun to back up into the house or into the septic tank causing it to overflow or drain slowly
- Odors of raw sewage are noticed outside or inside the residence
- The soil on or around the septic system has become soft and "spongy" from moisture. This area can usually be identified with lush green grass.
- Well water can become contaminated with bacteria

If any of the signs listed above are observed, they should be further investigated. If one of these signs is detected it may be for other reasons besides a failing household sewage system. Sometimes these issues above can be simple repairs instead of a costly replacement of the entire septic system.

Household sewage systems can fail because of human errors such as the overuse of the septic system. It is not uncommon for homes to be designed as a two-bedroom home and later converted to a three- or four-bedroom home. This new addition can increase the amount of water flow put into the system and can cause pre-mature failures. Sometimes Mother Nature can play a role in the failure of a system. If a system becomes oversaturated with groundwater it can cause sewage to rise and break through the surface of the ground. Tree roots can also cause system problems. The roots can cause blockages in pipes leading to a backup of sewage into the home or septic tank.

Tips to prolong the life of your system:

- Limit the number of guests/renters at your home. Over renting/overuse of any septic system will lead to pre-mature failure as systems are designed based on the number of bedrooms in a home. Bedrooms are a key indicator of the occupancy of a structure and the wastewater to be generated.

- Conserve as much water as possible by using low flow fixtures, taking shorter showers, check fixtures for any leaks, and only run full loads of laundry.

- Never dispose of paper towels, plastics, tissues, greases/oil, paint, feminine hygiene products, or "flushable wipes" into your septic system.

- Make sure downspouts and groundwater sump pumps are not discharging into the septic tank and divert downspouts and groundwater sump pump discharges away from the septic system; especially the secondary system (leach bed, mound, etc.).

- Have your septic tank routinely pumped (one every 3-5 years) and have tank lids brought to grade for easier accessibility. More frequent pumping may be necessary if heavy solids accumulate in the tank and when the system has heavier than normal use for prolonged periods of time.

- Maintain mechanical components if applicable and maintain a service contract with a registered service provider.

- Educate guests, family, friends staying at your homes about your septic system and the tips listed above.

- Be aware of the replacement area on your property. If your current septic system fails, the replacement area is there to accommodate the installation of another system in the future when that time comes. Protect the soil in the replacement area and avoid constructing things such as driveways or buildings on or near the replacement area. Contact the Erie County Health Department if you are not sure where your replacement area is located on your property.

If you suspect that your system may be failing, malfunctioning, or in need of routine service you should contact a registered service provider or registered septage hauler. Lists of approved registered service providers and septage haulers can be found on our website: <https://eriecohealthohio.com/sewage-treatment/sewage-treatment-contractors-list/>

If you are interested in finding a record of your septic system or have questions about septic systems, please contact the Erie County Health Department's Environmental Health Division at 419-626-5623 x5115.

Craig Ward,
Chief Environmental Public Health Officer
Erie County Health Department



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Mary Erne

June 16, 1940 - May 16, 2025



Mary Jane (Matthews) Erne, age 84, passed away on May 16, 2025, in Medina, Ohio. Mary was born on June 16, 1940, in Fayetteville, North Carolina to the late Oliver and Eva May (Hewitt) Matthews. She was the youngest of 10 children, and as a child she enjoyed a close, loving bond with her siblings. She had a simple and adventurous childhood playing with them and her school friends. Mary met the love of her life, Jim Erne, while he was stationed in Fayetteville, North Carolina at Pope Air

Force Base. They married in 1960 and raised four loving children: Teresa Scheck, Sandy (Darryl) Albright, Joe (Betty) Erne, and Jenny (Brent) Stevens. Mary was most proud of her family and her greatest accomplishments- her eleven grandchildren, and four great grandchildren. Mary Jane was a wonderful homemaker and a dedicated in-home day-care provider for many years; Her love of children was unmatched but coming in as a close second was her quick-witted sense of humor and her fantastic peach cobbler! She was gentle, funny, bright-eyed, she loved hugs and all animals. She could sit and watch birds at her feeder for hours every day.

Mary was preceded in death by her beloved husband and soulmate of 59 years, James Erne, her parents Oliver and Eva May (Hewitt) Matthews, her brothers, Oliver, Verdery, and Paul, sisters, Irene, Maxine, Etrue, and Jeanette. She is survived by her children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, one brother, Robert, many brothers and sisters in law and a host of dear lifelong friends. The family received friends on Thursday, May 22, 2025, at Waite Funeral Home, 765 N Court Street, Medina, OH 44256, with a funeral service immediately following the visitation hours at 7:00 p.m.

The family will hold a private burial on Kelley's Island Cemetery where they will lay her to rest next to her beloved husband James. In lieu of flowers, donations in Mary's memory would be gratefully accepted by Hospice of the Western Reserve Headquarters, 17876 St Clair Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44110 for benefit of Medina Inpatient unit. The family would like to thank the entire staff at Hospice of Medina County Inpatient unit for their kind compassionate care of Mary Jane. Online condolences and memories may be shared with the family at www.waitefuneralhome.com.

Connie Newcomer

July 8, 1947 - May 13, 2025



With her three daughters by her side, Constance J. Newcomer passed away the morning of May 13, 2025 at her home in Powell, Ohio. Connie was born and raised in Cleveland and a graduate of Baldwin-Wallace College. Lovingly known as

Nonnie by those closest to her, she was a devoted and generous mother, grandmother, and friend. You could often find her at one of the grandchildren's baseball games, choir concerts, swim meets, and more, supporting them always. Connie ensured that the lives of those she loved were filled with joy, laughter, and unforgettable gatherings and traditions. She was "family famous" for hosting great parties and celebrations,

complete with bounce houses, water slides, and delicious food. Family was her EVERYTHING! Outside of her family, some of Connie's favorite things were music, boat rides, and nature, which she loved admiring in her big backyard. Her meticulously cared-for home was a sanctuary she graciously shared with friends and loved ones. That home became the family's grounding place, where we always knew we would be generously loved. A faithful follower of Christ, Connie lived gently, offering those around her warmth and belonging. Her adoring children and their families survive her; daughter Adriane Meyer, son in law Dean Gluck, and grandchildren Samuel and Joseph Dierker and Alyssa, Holly, and Garrett Gluck; daughter Ericka Penick, son in

law Jack Penick, and grandson Ryan Penick; daughter Elise Ring, son in law Sean Barton and grandchildren Cora Ring, Noah Ring, Connor Barton, Skyler Benedett (Barton); stepson Aaron Newcomer and granddaughter McKinley Newcomer; stepdaughter Laura Kaldy, son in law Dave Kaldy, and grandchildren Elaina, Lucas, and Gwenth Kaldy. In eternal peace, Connie joins her beloved husband, John C. Newcomer, and her parents, Myrna and Richard Nicholson. Connie's life left a legacy of love, laughter, and devotion. She is already greatly missed, her memory will remain alive in the hearts of all who knew her. In lieu of flowers, her daughters ask you to consider donating to Kelleys Island Historical Association at www.kelleysislandhistorical.org

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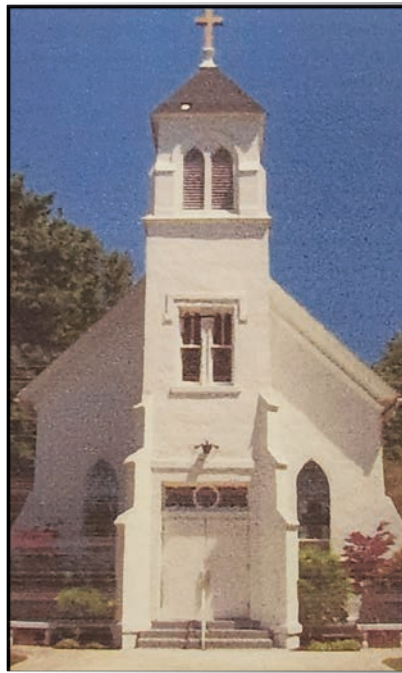


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OBITUARIES

Barbara J. Galloway

Jan 29, 1930 - Apr 4, 2025



It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Barbara J. Galloway, a cherished mother, grandmother, sister, and friend. She departed from this world Friday, April 4, 2025, leaving behind a legacy of love, compassion, and unyielding strength that will forever be remembered by all who had the privilege of knowing her.

Born January 29, 1930, Barbara grew up in Monroe, Michigan, and demonstrated an early passion for the farm that she grew up on. Her dedication to learning, reading, and history was evident throughout her life as she pursued her dreams with fervor and

determination. She worked in the antique business, where she excelled and forged lifelong friendships, many of whom remain close to her family to this day.

Barbara was a pillar of her community. Her home was a museum. Dedicated to the years of collecting, buying, and selling antiques. Her kindness knew no bounds, and she was actively involved in the Historical Society in Newtown, Pennsylvania, in the 60s and Medina Community Design Committee where she helped place the Gazabo in the town square that remains there today. Her commitment to helping others was demonstrated through her volunteer work with Lake Norman Regional Medical Center during her years spent in Mooresville, North Carolina, where she touched countless

lives with her generosity and compassion.

Above all, Barbara was a devoted mother to Gary, Grant, and Jackie. She instilled the values of hard work, honesty, and kindness in her children. Her nurturing spirit and unwavering support were the cornerstones of her family, and her children are a testament to her love and guidance. She was also a proud grandmother to John, Joe, and Julia Galloway, whom she adored and cherished deeply.

Barbara had a zest for life that was reflected in her numerous hobbies and interests. She was an avid gardener and reader, loved music and bird watching, and her antiques were admired by all.

Barbara's departure leaves a void that cannot be filled. Her spirit and legacy will continue to live on in the

hearts of those who knew and loved her. Her family will honor her memory by carrying forward the values she imparted and the love she shared so freely.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Kelleys Island Historical Society, P.O. Box 328, Kelleys Island, OH 43438 and Island Safe Animal Sanctuary, 3620 E State Rd, Port Clinton, OH 43452, in her memory.

Barbara was more than just a mother; she was an inspiration, a guiding light, and a beacon of love and kindness. Her legacy will endure, and she will be dearly missed by all who had the honor of knowing her. May her soul rest in eternal peace.

Condolences may be shared online at www.grofffuneralhomes.com.

Jean R. Solomon

November 3, 2024



Jean R. Solomon (nee Ragone), age 86, passed away Sunday, November 3, 2024. Beloved wife of Terry for 68 years; loving mother of Terry "TJ." Solomon and Debbie Grim; dearest grandmother of Guinnevere Hawkins, Kyle Grim (Brittani) and Courtney Zeilmann (Joe); great-grandmother of six and one on the way; daughter of the late Louis and

Theresa (nee Romano) Ragone; sister of Eugene Ragone and the late Robert Ragone, Raymond Ragone and Marie Lukas; beloved aunt and friend of many. Jean enjoyed summers at Kelley's Island with family and friends. She loved reading, playing games on her Kindle, needlepoint and enjoyed a martini while cooking her delicious dinners. She was loved and will be greatly missed. In lieu of flowers the family suggests contributions to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, www.stjude.org



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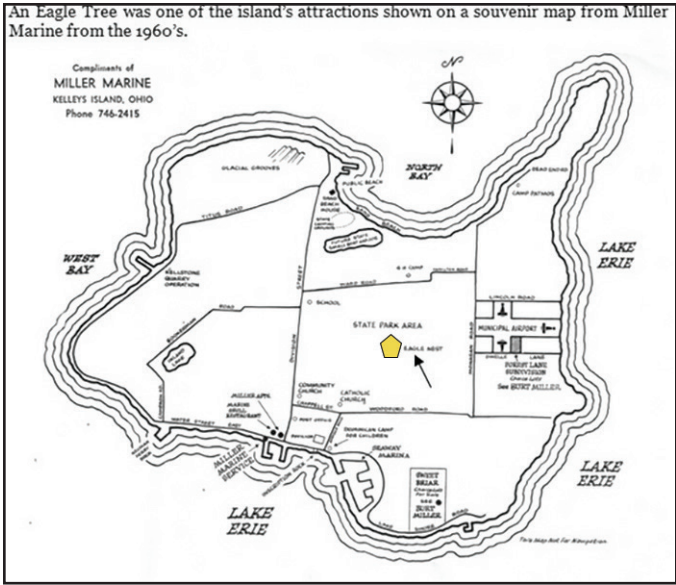
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June 2025

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The Eagle Tree Falls – 1863



An Eagle Tree was one of the island's attractions shown on a souvenir map from Miller Marine from the 1960's

Leslie Korenko

“Everyone remembers the grand old monarch that formerly stood near the center of the Island. The pride of the neighborhood, the wonder of visitors, and the trysting place of young people who came in from the county. The following interesting sketch, in memory of the good old tree, is taken from our exchanges.

The Eagle Tree is one of the things past, for it now no longer towers above

its neighbors but lies low upon the ground. We all dreaded to see it go, for it seemed like the relic of the past, standing alone unchangeable, while everything around it changed as the years sped away. A great many have wondered how high the tree was. As it was probably as tall as anything on the Island, it may be interesting to some of you to know how high it was.

It was measured just 84 ft. up to where it was burned off last fall. The part that fell was 20 ft. up to the next, and the limbs were still higher. The nest therefore was 104 feet from the ground. If you have ever been to the foot of the tree and looked up, you can imagine how high were the walls of Babylon, as they were 100 ft. high.

The nest was a great curiosity to many and for their benefit we will say that when it fell, there was rubbish enough upon the ground to have filled a good sized wagon. Some of the largest sticks of which the nest was made were

nearly as large as your wrist and about two ft. long. Some of the smaller ones were longer. The birds must have worked hard and patiently, more so than any of us would have done.

The old eagles had not been to their homes for some time before the fire and woodsman's axe tore it down. They only stopped now and then to rest their weary wings and perhaps to mull upon their once bright and happy home. If such a thing were possible for his lordship to do which is very doubtful.”

Eagles built several nests over the years. One nest was a tourist attraction as a map from the 1960's shows. The nest was built in almost the same area as the one mentioned above. Eagles became threatened by pesticides in the food chain and this nest also fell victim to neglect and the elements. In September 1963, the school newspaper, *The School Spirit*, reported that “one of our Island landmarks is no longer a scenic attraction. The old Eagle Nest near the E. Quarry fell from the tree during a severe storm in June. This nest, however, has not been in use for a number of years. One nest still remains and the Eagles have been around here all summer.” That second nest was later abandoned.

Eagles returned to the islands in 2003 and a pair began incubating eggs in a nest on Middle Bass Island. In 2004, 2005 and 2006 a young nesting pair unsuccessfully attempted to breed on



Few old pictures exist showing island Eagle trees and the few that survive do not do the nests justice. They were huge

Kelleys Island. However, Islanders were hopeful that a new nest, started in 2008, would be successful for these magnificent birds and in 2009 the first Eagles in over 50 years successfully fledged their offspring from a nest just north of the Seaway Marina. Tom Bartlett does a winter bird count each year and in December 2024, he counted 30 Eagles on the Island, most on Long Point. This is an incredible come back.

From the book *Kelleys Island 1862-1865 The Civil War, the Island Soldiers, & the Island Queen*



A 5-gallon bucket containing one of each: tomato, pepper, basil, onions, egg plant and marigolds.

Photo provided by Erie County Master Gardeners

Master Gardeners aim to combat food insecurity

Erie County Master Gardners

A total of four community agencies and area businesses together with three Erie County Master Gardener Volunteers are partnering to provide research-based education and a hands-on experience that will build confidence in growing food.

Barnes Nursery, Corso's, Care & Share, and OHgo are collectively providing the soil, plants, and students for this pilot project. The target audience are the clients who receive food from these two food banks.

“We are delighted for the Master Garden Volunteers to do a project like this,” Anita Kromer of Care & Share said.

Added Joe Ramey of Barnes Nursery: “We thought it would be a great way to give back. It is in our realm and we strongly support it.”

Master Gardener Volunteer Gaye Harris-Miles was the inspiration behind the project and is the co-instructor.

“The food bank recipients are enthusiastic to learn, and we hope that this experience will encourage each one to grow more food in the future, and to inspire neighbors, family and friends to learn how to grow food as

well,” stated Master Gardener Volunteer Kathryn Goerig-Eastlake, co-instructor, and Master Gardener Volunteer David Eastlake assists as well.

At the sessions, the Master Gardeners are teaching good gardening practices regarding the features of a container garden, and what vegetables can be grown in one. Future sessions will include participants selecting vegetables for their container; and discussions about healthy plant requirements, pest management and backyard wildlife management.

This project will conclude with each student planting their chosen plants in a 5-gallon bucket and taking it home to set on their porch or stoop to manage and finally to eat the produce that their plants will provide. Corso's is donating the plants.

“We love that our participants were given the opportunity to learn how to grow food in their communities and homes, without needing too much space to do it. We believe it will increase vegetable consumption, and has potential to significantly supplement their diets,” said Christine Boesch of OHgo.



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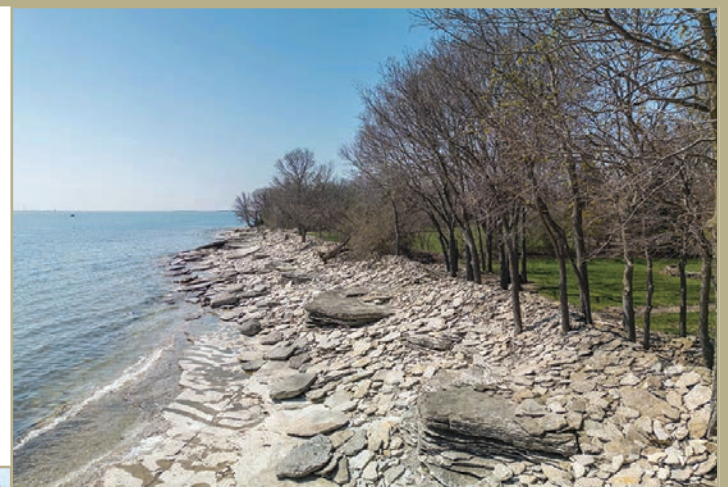


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Kelleys Island Market Snapshot: 2025 Year-to-Date

Residential Sales (Homes & Condos):

- 6 total properties sold
- Average sale price: \$568,983
- Average days on market: 81
- Average sale-to-list ratio: 93%

Land Sales:

- 2 lots sold
- Price range: \$64,000 to \$170,000
- Average days on market: 34
- Average sale-to-list ratio: 97%

Currently Available:

- 8 Active home listings: from \$479,900 to \$1,475,000
- 5 Active lot listings: from \$84,950 to \$498,500

Data from Firelands MLS as of May 22, 2025. Private/off-market sales not included.

For property information please visit Kelleysislandforsale.com

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