



# LIFE ON KELLEYS

THE EMERALD ISLE NEWS



Left: Ellery & Tennyson Schwartz-Pieratt children of Mainon Schwartz and Chris Pieratt, grand children of Tom & Jennifer Pieratt, with the Easter Bunny.  
Right: Cora finds her first egg!



PHCR: Jodie Smith

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

**Jodie Smith**

Downtown Memorial Park was the chilly site of the 2026 Easter Egg Hunt. Easter Sunday presented as overcast, 44 degrees and breezy but that did not stop Marie Casey and the Village Pump Family from spreading 100's of eggs on to the park lawn. Island Families and visitors began to line up on the sidewalk awaiting the arrival of the Easter Bunny! Many of the families attending were generational to Kelleys Island. What a joy to share this event with their children, and grandchildren! The smiles on everyone's faces told the story of memories past and new memories being made.

As the time drew near for the hunt to begin, children finished posing for pictures with the Easter Bunny and took their places along the sidewalk edging the lawn. First were the little ones, 6 years old and under! They took off running to claim as many candy filled eggs as they could before the older children came out! Next the 7- to 10-year-olds and then the 11 and over age group were off and running! It literally took minutes for the eggs to be collected by all the eggcited children! The next part of the hunt was the best, opening the eggs to see what delicious candy was inside, and perhaps trading with friends to get your favorites! After that monumental task was complete the now empty plastic eggs were happily returned to the Easter Bunny who collected them in giant plastic bins to be used again for next year's Easter Egg Hunt! After last minute pictures with the Easter Bunny and friends, families rushed to escape the cold and continue their Easter Sunday at home or at The Village Pump. Thank you to The Village Pump Family for sponsoring this memorable event.

**Please turn to page 6 for more photos**

## An All-American Summer Begins on Kelleys Island

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

As winter slowly loosens its grip on Lake Erie, there's something truly magical about Kelleys Island this time of year. This past season gifted us with a rare and breathtaking sight—the lake frozen solid, stretching endlessly to the horizon in a quiet, crystalline stillness. It's a reminder that while many think of the island as a summer destination, its beauty knows no season. From the icy calm of winter to the vibrant energy of summer, Kelleys Island offers something special all year long.

Now, as we look ahead, that stillness begins to give way to anticipation—and excitement is building for an incredible 2026 season. This year is especially meaningful as we celebrate America's 250th anniversary with an "All-American Summer" full of community, tradition, and unforgettable experiences.

We're thrilled to welcome back our signature events, starting with the 5/10K Race/Walk on Sunday, May 31, followed by the Bike Week Dice Run on Wednesday, June 3, and the Brews Cruise: Black Flag Rising on Saturday, June 13. One of the most anticipated weekends of the year, Islandfest, returns Friday, July 17, through Sunday, July 19, bringing parades, music, and island spirit to life.

Summer continues with the Film Festival on August 1-2, leading into fall favorites like Treasure Island Day on September 12 and Restaurant Week from September 21-27. As the season winds down, we embrace the festive fun of Kids Halloween Weekend (October 16-18)

and Adult Halloween Weekend (October 23-25).

None of these events would be possible without the incredible support of our local businesses, organizations, and island residents. Sponsorships and donations play a vital role in bringing these experiences to life each year—helping us create memorable events that

**Please turn to page 2**

## New book features Kelleys Island

**Leslie Korenko**

Bob Adamov has just published his 24th novel - Island Shadows (there are dangerous secrets in these shadowed waters). This book will be available at the KI History Museum gift shop. You will recognize so many Island places and people. The North Side Crusher building plays an important part of the story, and a dark one.



Here's the story: Flames rip through two luxury yachts in Put-in-Bay's harbor. A charred body is discovered onboard one of the smoldering yachts. Investigative reporter Emerson Moore follows the clues to nearby Kelleys Island, a place known for quiet beaches, friendly bars, and postcard-perfect sunsets. But when Moore arrives, the island's easygoing charm feels different. Unsettling activity begins after dark along the island's remote northern shoreline. The trail leads to a powerful, reclusive foreign businessman and his heavily guarded waterfront compound. Moore digs deeper and uncovers a ruthless criminal network. With time running out, the chase may end in a desperate escape aboard the Kelleys Island Ferry. Island Shadows is a fast-paced, high-stakes thriller with familiar island landmarks, beloved local restaurants, and colorful characters.

And just when you think it is over, comes the twist.



The German Reformed Church

**Jodie Smith**

The Kelleys Island Historical Association has new Board Members and officers for the 2026 Season. Museum Gift Shop Manager, Justiina Loveless has stepped up to the position of President of the Board. Lisa Lotito is serving as Vice President of the KIHA board. Other board members include Nancy Easton (secretary), Terry Behrends, Chad Waffan, Michael Beatty, Donna Algase, and Jackie Polofka. Carmen Smith is the Museum Collections Manager. The Board Members all serve unique and contributing roles on the board. Without "active" board members all that makes the KIHA function, would not be able to happen. Along with new Resale Shop manager, Shery Eddy, and our valued Volunteers, the KIHA Museum Campus will be ready to roll on Memorial Day weekend. You will find the Campus OPEN Thursday through Monday from 12-4 and

# History & Beyond...

CLOSED on Tuesday and Wednesdays. A soft opening of the campus will occur on Saturday May 16, 2026.

The Parsonage House Resale Shop has received a much-needed Facelift over the winter. Cleaning, wall patching and painting have been completed in some rooms of the home. You will find the home staged with antique furniture and accessories of the past. Some items have been placed for Historical display but there are still items "For-Sale." Sis's Cottage has been tastefully staged for the bulk of our donations. Find your favorite treasures in Sis's Cottage or in The Parsonage House Resale Shop.

Donations are now being accepted at the Resale Shop. Please contact Sherry Eddy, 740-680-7200, or Jodie Smith 419-350-1082, to schedule your donation drop off or have us come to your home to choose what the Resale Shop can use. Without your generous donations, we would not be able to provide our community with needed items, or to sell island treasures and peculiarities to our loyal and new customers!

History is the main focus of the Campus, and you will find plenty of it at the KIHA History Museum! New Exhibits will be presented this season! The German Reformed Church hopes to be housing some of our items as the Museum building is stretched to the limits for display space! Look for the Historical Items being used in the Parsonage house, too! The German Reformed Church, The Parsonage House, and the Outhouse are Historical Structures in themselves and deserve a visit.

To support the Kelleys Island



Sis's Cottage Resale Shop (above) and The Parsonage House (below) are ready to Welcome You for a soft opening on May 16th!



Historical Association, the esteemed Quilt Raffle will be held again this year. The Quilt was hand made by Board member and Family descendant from Kelleys Island, Teresa Behrend (nee Betzenheimer). The Quilt Raffle Tickets may be purchased at the KIHA Museum Gift Shop. They are \$1.00 each or 5 for \$6.00. Another source of revenue for the Association is the rental of the German Reformed Church. Please contact Justiina Loveless (330-205-2285) for details. Our Memorial Walk on our campus gives you an opportunity to memorialize an event or a person. Please go to [KelleysIslandHistorical.org](http://KelleysIslandHistorical.org) to order your in scripted brick for the Memorial Walk.

The Ferry Ride Raffle will be held once this year. Buy a ticket for \$10.00 for a chance to win a \$500.00 Gift Card to the Kelleys Island Ferry Boat Line. Only 500 tickets will be sold! Tickets are available at the KIHA History Museum and Resale Shop. Drawing is on August 3, 2026, and based on the Evening Ohio Lottery Pick 3 Number. Thanks to our sponsor, Ray Schaefer Construction!

Finally, we welcome volunteers, old, new, experienced or learners of the craft! The Kelleys Island Historical

Association was founded with the idea of being volunteer based. We encourage you to get involved! Visiting for 2 weeks? Yes, you can volunteer! Stop by the Museum or Parsonage House Resale Shop or contact Sherry Eddy 740-680-7200 or Justiina Loveless 330-205-2285 to inquire about volunteering for KIHA!

See YOU this season at the Kelleys Island Historical Association Campus!



The Outhouse for the Parsonage House

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**The Museum Campus**  
224-226 Division Street  
KI Historical Association Museum  
**NEW EXHIBITS!**  
The German Reformed Church  
The Parsonage House & Sis's  
Cottage Resale Shops

**"Free" Ride Fundraiser**  
\$10.00 a ticket with only 500 tickets being sold  
win a \$500 Gift Card to the KI Ferry Boat  
Tickets sold at KIHA Museum and Resale Shops

Thanks to our sponsor  
**Ray Schaefer Construction**

**Quilt Raffle**  
While visiting the mueum  
buy your raffle tickets \$1  
each or 6 for \$5

The Campus is OPEN  
Thursday-Monday 12-4pm  
CLOSED Tuesday & Wednesday

## An All-American Summer Begins on Kelleys Island

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celebrate our community and welcome visitors from near and far. We are deeply grateful for the continued generosity that keeps these traditions strong.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor for the 2026 season, we would love to connect with you. Please reach out to us at [info@kelleysislandchamber.com](mailto:info@kelleysislandchamber.com) or call 419-746-2360 to learn more about how you can be part of this exciting year.

Each event is an opportunity to celebrate not only the island, but the community that makes it so special. Whether you're a year-round resident or planning your first visit, 2026 promises to be a season to remember.

Here's to the changing seasons, the enduring beauty of Kelleys Island, and an exciting year ahead. Stay, play, explore—we can't wait to see you on the island.



# May Events

in Shores & Islands, Ohio

**Jill Bauer, Public Relations Manager Shores & Islands Ohio**

May in Shores & Islands Ohio is when everything comes to life—longer days, blooming landscapes, and a full calendar of can't-miss events that signal the start of the season. From outdoor adventures and waterfront festivals to family-friendly celebrations, shopping events, and unique cultural experiences, this curated "best of" list showcases the very best ways to enjoy the region throughout the month. Whether you're planning a weekend getaway or looking for something new to explore close to home, these standout events offer something for every interest—and every kind of spring day.

**Spring Sip & Shop • Saturday, May 2, 2026 1-5 pm**

Twin Oast Brewing, Catawba  
A laid-back afternoon combining local shopping, craft beer, and springtime vibes! Guests are invited to browse a selection of small businesses featuring handmade goods, unique finds, and locally crafted products. Vendors will be set up throughout the brewhouse and extending onto the outdoor patio, creating an open-air market atmosphere perfect for a spring day.

As you explore, enjoy beer samples and take time to relax with a full pour of your favorite Twin Oast brew.

**Cedar Point Opening Day 2026! • Saturday, May 9, 2026 10 am-8 pm**

Cedar Point Amusement Park, Sandusky  
It's the unofficial start of summer at A Place Like No Other™ and your first chance to take on your favorite record-breaking coasters like Top Thrill 2™ and Siren's Curse, North America's tallest, longest, and fastest tilt coaster. Indulge in big bites of delicious fresh-cut fries and decadent funnel cakes, or kick back and relax on the mile-long Cedar Point Beach. Mark your calendars and join in as Cedar Point® opens for its 157th season on Saturday, May 9!

**Mother's Day Craft & Vendor Show • Saturday, May 9, 2026 10 am-5 pm**

Sandusky Mall, Sandusky  
Over 100+ vendors with unique items, decor and sweet treats will be on hand for your shopping pleasure! While you are here, join in the Mother's Day Adventure Tour! Grab a "Passport Sheet" from the table at the Mall Main Entrance. Get your passport stamped at 5 or more participating stores and enter to win a \$50 Mall gift card and prize package!

**Mother's Day Tea • Saturday, May 9, 2026 2 pm**

Historic Lyme Village, Bellevue  
Step back in time and celebrate Mother's Day with an elegant afternoon tea inside the beautiful Wright Mansion. Join the living history interpreters of Northcoast Narrative, dressed in period attire, as they serve a delightful selection of traditional teas. Guests will enjoy an assortment of classic tea fare including chicken salad and cucumber tea sandwiches, scones, cream puffs, and other bite-sized delectables. Guests are encouraged to wear a hat for the occasion—those who do will be entered into a drawing for a special prize! After tea, guests are invited to take a self-guided tour of the historic mansion. Bring your mother, daughter, grandmother, or a dear friend and share a memorable afternoon together.

**Spring Bloom 2026 • Saturday, May 9, 2026 10 am-3 pm**

Quarry Hill Orchards, Berlin Heights  
Spring has sprung at Quarry Hill Orchards! This annual Spring Bloom joyfully coincides with Mother's Day weekend for a buzzing day of interactive workshops. This year's workshops include a macrame plant hanger, tree planting in the orchard with Ben Gammie, and a pressed flower bar to make mom the perfect handmade gift. Delight in springtime treasures, from handmade aprons to local honey to fresh produce.

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## Bugle Call: VFW Post 9908

**Paul Burns, Quartermaster**

Happy Semiquincentennial Year! The 250th anniversary of the signing of the United States Declaration of Independence.

We will be doing our annual Chicken BBQ Dinner on Saturday June 27th at our pavilion. Tickets will be available shortly at our canteen or from a VFW member. Always a sellout so get your tickets sooner than later.

We want to thank both our winter bartenders Mel Burda and Lisa Klonaris. Thank you to both for helping our community. From all accounts it was a successful and fun winter season at the post.

Memorial Day Ceremony will be at 11:00 am on Monday May 25th at the flagpole in the village cemetery. I've said it before, and hope to say it often, I am truly touched by the respect our community shows for veterans by coming out to our humble ceremonies each year. Thank you for your continued support of our post and veterans.

Please think of our Pavilion and Canteen for any of your events. Our canteen manager Ann has all the details.

Paul Burns was honored by being appointed as a National Aide-de-Camp from Ohio for the 2025-26 VFW year. He was one of eighteen comrades honored with the appointment from all of Ohio. Congratulations!

Also, in pursuit of the by-laws, each April we hold elections for post officers. This past month we elected Greg Yoscovits as commander, Jeff Koenigseker as senior vice commander, Mike Feyedelem to junior vice commander, Paul Burns as quartermaster, Knut Lahrs as chaplain. John Kilko, Todd Neu, and Jim Wojtowicz are trustees. All were elected by acclamation with a hearty round of applause and congratulations to all for another year.

The purposes of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States are fraternal, patriotic, historical, charitable, and educational.

We are always looking for veterans to join the ranks with us in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of America. If you have received a campaign medal for overseas service; or have served 30 consecutive or 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, or email us at us VFW9908@gmail.com for more details.

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**Kelleys Island**  
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## 2026 Chamber Events

Sun, May 31 <b>5/10K RACE/WALK</b>	Fri, July 17-Sun, July 19 <b>ISLANDFEST</b>
Wed, Jun 3 <b>BIKE WEEK DICE RUN</b>	Sat, Aug 1-Sun, Aug 2 <b>FILMFEST</b>
Sat, June 13 <b>BREWS CRUISE IV</b>	Sat, Sept 12 <b>TREASURE ISLAND DAY</b>
Mon, Sept 21-Sun, Sept 27 <b>RESTAURANT WEEK ON KI</b>	

VISIT [KELLEYSISLANDCHAMBER.COM](http://KELLEYSISLANDCHAMBER.COM) OR CALL 419.746.2360 FOR MORE INFORMATION

# Kelleys Island Make-A-Wish Swim & Golf Cart Poker Run



For 31 years Cindra Mielke and Jeni Hammond have been making swims from different points around the island to Kelleys Island for Make-A-Wish. Last year's swim raised over \$60,000 granting 6 wishes to children in our area.

2025's swim started at the west can off Carpenters Point between Put-in-Bay and Kelleys, ending at the Casino Dock in just about 2 hours with 1-3 ft

waves and a SE wind and Calyin Mielke (Cindra's 13 yr old grand-daughter) swam with us. Starting the next generation. She stayed right with us and made us proud. One little Wish child (2yrs old) blew us a kiss from shore as we swam by. That kiss is what this is all about. Afterwards Wish families and islanders meet at the

Pavillion for a cook-out & fun. Snickers, the Balloon Man, entertained all the kids and made some fantastic balloon animals.

The Saturday Poker Run ended at the KI Wine Company & Cantina raising almost \$16,000 alone on Saturday. Over 300 hands were sold, 66 baskets raffled off along with 2 Pit Boss Grills, many tools, \$300 Lottery Tree & the 50/50 was generously donated back. Huge "Thank you" to all that volunteered and participated on this sunny day.

Ed Kuchar was our largest donor, giving us a check for \$20,000 in hopes that others might match his donation. This donation alone granted 2 children's wishes. Thank you to the Kuchar family for your support over the years.

Many thanks go to: Our husbands & families. Kelleys Island Ferry Line & the Palladino family, the Kuchar family, the



Kelleys Island Wine Co & the Zettler & Rosado families, Do it Best RSV of Medina (grills), Rocky & Paige Allen, All Ports Yacht Club (baskets), George & Sharon Wilson, Val Pathways. The Pump, Caddy Shack & Dockers (for food),

Island Market, Rob Watkins & family, Seaway Marina & Jen Dugan, Casino (for letting us swim in there), WCPZ, Randy Hugg & Troy Baumgartner, All the businesses on Kelleys, Port Clinton, Marblehead & Catawba Island (for gift cards &

(donations). If we missed your name, please know that we do appreciate you and are forever grateful.

This years Poker Run will be Saturday, August 1st with registering and starting from the Island House (9am), where there will be breakfast drinks available. Swim will be Sunday, August 2nd. Plan your reservations NOW!

Thank you for supporting us though-out these years. Blessings until we see you again.

Cindra & Jeni

## Story Corner... Hello 2026

**Patti Johnson**

It's been two years since I've written anything for the island.

Not because there wasn't anything to say—but because I was living through a change I didn't yet have words for.

Our family has loved this island since 1948. My grandparents taught me stewardship, and my parents taught me what it means to belong to a place without needing to own it. For most of my life, that love took the form of work—showing up every day, running a business, welcoming people, answering questions, helping others find their way here.

In 1960 my father and uncle built the Dairy Isle across from Neumanns Boatline when they moved it from downtown. Many old timers remember getting an ice cream cone or milkshake while they waited for the next ferry. My mom and then I employed island people and introduced many workers to the island over the years as they made money for college. My grandma Ruth had a gift shop called the Island Cottage in the 1970's and my mom closed it in 1982. Over the years my dad and brother Mark put in golf cart and bike rentals. We increased the food service business to breakfast in 1988 (The Island Cafe) and to a 3.5 barrel Brewery, Kelleys Island Brewery, in 1999. Losing the Neuman family ferry operation in

2001 led to a catering business that was paired with rentals until that family chapter quietly came to a close in June of 2024.

Our family's business carried us—and many others—for a long time. And like many island stories, it reached its natural end. Not because we wanted more, but because what we had was enough, and it was time to let it change hands.

There has always been a careful balance here—between sharing the island and protecting it. Between growth and preservation. Between what is offered and what is kept.

For years, I stood in the middle of that balance through the work I did with the Chamber, with visitors, and with the rhythm of daily island business. I listened. I helped people find what they were looking for. And in doing that, I came to understand that what draws people here isn't just the ferry ride or the shoreline or even the history.

It's something harder to name.

It's the feeling of being here.

These days, my life on the island looks different. Doug and I have spent the last two summers putting in utilities, making plans, and slowly imagining what comes next. In the meantime, we've been held by neighbors and friends—meals shared, doors opened, stories exchanged, friends have reminded us that community isn't something you build from scratch. It's something you are welcomed into, again and again.

Without the structure of business, I've found myself returning to something quieter: paying attention.

To the way the island has changed.

To the ways it hasn't.

To the stories that live in conversations, in photographs, in memory.

Looking back through past island newspapers—preserved so carefully by those who understood their value—I'm struck by how much has been carried forward by simple acts of noticing. A name printed. A moment recorded. A photograph saved.

Not everything important announces itself.

Some of it lives in the small details. The ones that don't make it into brochures or headlines, but shape how a place feels to the people who know it best.

That's what Story Corner will be.

A place for the in-between moments.

For memories and reflections.

For the stories that don't always have a clear beginning or ending, but are part of what makes this island what it is.

I don't write this as a business owner anymore, or as part of an organization.

Just as Patti.

Someone who has spent a lifetime loving this place, and is now learning how to see it—and share it—differently.

There is more to come.

From the past, from the present, and from whatever we are becoming next.

For now, I'm simply grateful to begin again.

**43RD ANNUAL**  
**5 & 10K**  
**RUN/WALK**  
**KELLEYS ISLAND, OHIO**

**SUNDAY**  
**MAY 31, 2026**

SHIRT DESIGN COMING SOON!

HOSTED BY THE  
**Kelleys Island**  
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All ages and fitness levels are welcome!  
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VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR ISLAND  
 INFORMATION, MAPS & EVENTS!  
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*An All-American Summer - Celebrating America 250*

May's Events in Shores & Islands Ohio continued from page 3

**Mother's Day • Sunday, May 10, 2026 11 am-4 pm**  
 Schedel Arboretum & Gardens, Elmore  
 What better gift for Mom can you give but your time...come spend the day with us in our beautiful 17- acre garden setting! Holly's Homemade Street Eats, "Mom'osas (aka mimosas) and other fun drinks available. The first 100 Moms get an annual plant from Bench's Greenhouse in Elmore.

**Ned Talks Presents: Ned presents Mayflies, Damsel Flies, and Dragon Flies, Oh My!**  
 Thursday, May 14, 2026 • 5:30 pm  
 Shores & Islands Ohio Welcome Center - West, Port Clinton  
 Ned the Naturalist (Brian Shifflet) will present about Mayflies and other insects who begin their lives under water!

**Night At The Movies With Mr. Edison! • Friday, May 15, 2026 7 pm**  
 Milan Township Hall, Milan  
 Join Edison Birthplace for an evening of movies, great food, and great company. The Edison Birthplace is proud to host their 2nd Night At The Movies With Mr. Edison! with Edison impersonator, Mike Woloszyk. Edison Birthplace will be showing 5 of Mr. Edison's silent movies!! Reserve your free tickets at [www.tomedison.org/events](http://www.tomedison.org/events). Get yours today as there is limited seating!

**Sandusky Area Safety Expo • Sunday, May 17, 2026 10 am-4 pm**  
 Safe Harbour Marina, Sandusky  
 Come join Erie Islands Sailing and Powerboating School along with Safe Harbor Sandusky Marina to kick-off National Safe Boating Week. You will be up close with all of the various agencies across the region that provide educational resources and training and help keep us safe on Lake Erie. Open and free to everyone. Come by land or by sea (or Lake). Boats can receive a free vessel safety check from the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

**Walleye Festival • Thursday-Monday, May 21-25, 2026**  
 Waterworks Park, Port Clinton  
 The 45th Walleye Festival gets underway Memorial Day weekend 2026 at picturesque Waterworks Park on the shores of beautiful Lake Erie in Port Clinton. An array of free live concerts, Kids Fishing Derby, Grande Parade, educational programs and activities, carnival rides, and more than 130 vendors from around the nation, help make this event one of Ohio's premier outdoor weekend celebrations. Never in short supply, delicious food and beverages will be enjoyed by all. This is the perfect summer kick-off!

**Ohio Goes to the Movies • Thursday, May 21, 2026 7:30-9 pm**  
 Lakeside Chautauqua, Marblehead  
 "Ohio Goes to the Movies" is a statewide celebration of movies showcasing Ohioans-highlighting Ohio's contributions to America's film industry and moviemaking. Lakeside Chautauqua remains the last, and only, movie theater in Ottawa County. Purple Rose of Cairo celebrates local Marblehead native Loretta Nellie Clemons Tupper (1906-1990) whose appeared in Annie Hall and The House of God. She may be most remembered playing the elderly lady in the Fruit of the Loom television commercials during the 1980s.

**Memorial Day Weekend 2026! • Friday, May 22, 2026**  
 Put-in-Bay  
 Join Put-in-Bay for a meaningful Memorial Day weekend, a time to honor the service and sacrifice of our veterans and active-duty military personnel. Throughout the weekend, service members can enjoy special discounts at local businesses and

free ferry passage (Jet Express and Miller Ferry) on Memorial Day. The weekend culminates with the annual Salute to the Troops ceremony at Perry's Victory & International Peace Memorial. This event is not just about remembrance; it's also a celebration of the community, with an array of activities and experiences.

**Time Traveler History Talks: Before the Talkies: Silent Film Stars and Sandusky's Silver Screen • Tuesday, May 26, 2026 5:30 pm**  
 Shores & Islands Welcome Center - East, Sandusky  
 Continue our America 250 celebrations with Angie George of North Coast Narrative. Before the Talkies: Silent Film Stars and Sandusky's Silver Screen explores the golden age of silent movies and the stars who captivated audiences. Learn how early film pioneers like Thomas Edison helped launch the movie industry. Light refreshments will be served.

**Ohio Bike Week • Friday, May 29-Saturday, June 6, 2026**  
 Various Locations, Sandusky  
 Ohio Bike Week, held in Sandusky, with live bands, food trucks, and plenty of merchants. Activities at Mad River Harley Davidson, downtown Sandusky, and Barrel House Saloon.

**Put-in-Bay Dog Bowl • Friday-Saturday, May 29-30, 2026**  
 McCann Field, Put-in-Bay  
 Get ready for a high-energy dog-sports showcase as the Put-in-Bay Dog Bowl brings a DockDogs® competition to the Put-in-Bay! DockDogs® events feature trained canine athletes sprinting down a dock and launching into the water in three main disciplines: Big Air (long-jump distance), Extreme Vertical (high-jump bumper grab), and Speed Retrieve (timed dash to a suspended toy). This is a spectator-friendly event! Families and pets alike are welcome to visit and watch the action, cheer on your favorite canine, and enjoy the nonstop splashes and big jumps. Plus, although this is a DockDogs® showcase, if you have a canine who would like to participate in practice rounds or in the competition, a DockDogs® registration is required.

**43rd Annual Kelleys Island 5/10K Run/Walk + 1 Mile Fun Run!**  
 Sunday, May 31, 2026 • 9 am-3 pm • Kelleys Island  
 A family favorite for over 40 years, this annual event brings runners and walkers from near and far to enjoy the beautiful, friendly surroundings of Kelleys Island. Whether you're aiming for a competitive time or simply enjoying a fun day outdoors, this event is a perfect addition to your wellness goals. Participants of all ages are invited to run or walk the 5K, 10K, or 1 Mile Fun Run, with awards for 1st-3rd place and unique commemorative t-shirts—some participants have collected them for over four decades! Make a weekend of it! Stay in a cozy cottage, condominium, or large family home while soaking in the natural beauty of the island.

For even more spring fun, check out the full area events calendar at [SHORESandISLANDS.com/events](http://SHORESandISLANDS.com/events) - and get out enjoy spring!



**Kelleys Island Landowners Association**

*KILA works 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 you membership in KILA for 2026 (\$20)*

**KILA Membership Dues**

Description	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.

For your convenience, you can also pay by PayPal at: <https://kila.rocks/join-kila>  
 Click the "Join KILA" link at the top, scroll down and select New or Renew Membership and follow the instructions or Zelle via [drew@kila.rocks](mailto:drew@kila.rocks) or use QR code.

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

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

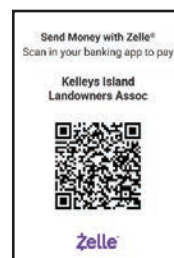
MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

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).



**KILA Korner**

**Melanie Bates**  
 KILA Vice President

Spring is here, and we are ready to start the season with a party!

The Kelleys Island Landowners Association (KILA) is hosting the annual Welcome Potluck on Saturday, May 16, 2026, at the VFW Pavilion from 5-7. Everyone is welcome! KILA will provide the meat, table service, ice tea, and water. Please bring a dish to share and soft drinks. The VFW is providing a bartender for the purchase of beer (Ohio law only permits alcoholic beverages purchased from an establishment that possesses a liquor license be consumed on their premises, so alcoholic beverages must be purchased from the VFW). We hope to see you there!

A new slate of officers of the KILA Board of Directors was appointed last fall. They are: Jim Coleman, President, Melanie Bates, Vice President, Drew Algase, Treasurer, and Jennifer Pieratt, Secretary. In addition, Candy Puma-Volz was appointed membership chair. KILA also appointed two new members to the Board of Directors: Jim Pijor and Holly Miller.

To learn more about KILA, go to our website [www.kila.rocks](http://www.kila.rocks). To pay your annual dues, please see the ad and application in



this issue of Life on Kelleys. You may mail in a check or pay by PayPal or Zelle. Renewals are \$20 and new member dues are \$25. KILA meets on the third Saturday of the month during the season through October at Estes School at 10. All are welcome to attend.

KILA's Board of Directors is in the process of accepting and reviewing proposals for supporting projects that improve and enhance life on our beautiful island. Most recently at the April 18, 2026 meeting the Board of Directors voted to donate \$2000 to the Kelleys Island Field Station as our first donation of 2026. Congratulations to Jackie Taylor and the Field Station!

Plans for the 52nd Homecoming festival and parade are underway, and it will take place August 7-8. Good news from our friends at Shores & Islands Ohio - they awarded KILA a \$1000 reimbursement grant for sponsorship of Homecoming. This grant in part helps support the transportation of the Edison High School Marching Band that provides entertainment during the Homecoming parade and after the parade at the Community Pavilion. KILA very much appreciates the support Shores and Islands Ohio continues to give our organization over the years.

We hope to see many of you on May 16 at the VFW and look forward to another great season on Kelleys Island.

**YEE-HAW!**  
Celebrating God's Greatest Gift

**ZION CHURCH** July 20-24, 9-Noon  
Children's Presentation: July 26, 10:30 a.m.  
A Christmas in July Program

**ST. MICHAEL'S** Ages: 4-14  
Contact: zionvbs2026@gmail.com

Music, Lessons,  
Comedy, Crafts,  
Snacks, and Games!  
Mission: Make-A-Wish  
Foundation



## KI Easter Egg Hunt

continued from page 1

Left: Pepper Wolfe granddaughter of Joe and Martha Wolfe



Top Right: Children lined up ready to start the egg hunt!

Bottom Right: The Village Pump Family setting up the Annual Easter Egg Hunt!



PHCR: Jodie Smith

Open March through December

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www.kiventuresort.com

441 W Lakeshore Drive Kelleys Island, OH 43438

**ohio shores** VACATION RENTALS



## Nature Camp 2026

Discover, Explore, And Adventure!

### Jackie Taylor

Looking for a summer experience your child will never forget? Kelleys Island Nature Camp offers an unforgettable week of hands on discovery, outdoor adventure, and island exploration in one of Ohio's most unique natural classrooms-Kelleys Island!

Designed for curious kids who love animals, nature, and being outside, Nature Camp brings learning to life through immersive programs led by some of the region's most trusted environmental experts.

introduce campers to incredible wild animals while teaching about conservation, adaptations, and how we can help protect wildlife.

#### • Birds of the Island & Beyond

Naturalist from Erie Metroparks will guide campers through bird focused activities, helping kids learn to observe, identify and appreciate the many feathered visitors that call the Lake Erie region home.

#### • Trees & Unique Habitats

The Ohio Division of Wildlife will lead engaging lessons on trees, forest ecosystems and the special habitats that makes Kelleys Island such an important natural area.

#### • Marine Debris Adventure

Campers will enjoy a Marine Debris Program that connects environmental stewardship with real world action. Campers will explore the impact of debris on Lake Erie, giving them a chance to explore the shoreline while learning how to care for our Great Lakes.



Learn from the Best

#### • Wild Animals Up Close

Educators from the Toledo Zoo will

Scan to Register



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**ohio shores** VACATION RENTALS



## 2026 Science Saturdays

### Jackie Taylor

Who is ready for another fun summer filled with Science Saturdays? We sure are at the Kelleys Island School Field Station!

Our schedule is hot off the press, we are looking forward to seeing everyone soon.

- May 23 Plankton and Macroinvertebrates State Park
- May 30 Salamanders State Park
- June 6 Trees - State Park
- June 13 Snakes State Park
- June 20 Bees State Park
- June 27 Marine Debris State Park
- July 4 Turtles State Park
- July 11 Fishing Tournament State Park to Register your child
- July 25 Turtles State Park
- August 1 Pollinators State Park
- August 15 Geology Glacial Groves



- August 22 Pollinators and Pancakes School 9am-11am
- August 29 Butterflies State Park
- September 5 Monarch Butterfly Tagging - School

Programs are 10am - 12pm Unless noted Program locations change weekly

# Classes on How Art Gets Made

**Carmen Smith**

For over 30 years The Charles Herndon Galleries and Sculpture Gardens has encouraged visitors to learn more about the artistic process and how the art gets made. Both Cindy and Charles are long time teachers, and both continue to be passionate



about teaching others.

Charles used to have students from The Columbus College of Art and Design to the Gardens to work alongside him, creating their own work and help him with his.

It is in this spirit that we offer you classes this summer in the Gardens! From Macrame, to Weaving, to Kinusaiga (a way of collaging fabric), to beading, there is a skill for everyone to learn. We kick off our schedule in late April, continuing through August. We also offer private classes on your schedule, at your residence or at The Gardens.

Check our facebook for information on when and where, or e-mail Herndongallerycts@gmail.com for our full schedule.

We are so excited to host you!



Left: Hanging Owl Macrame  
Above: Kinusaiga (a way of collaging fabric)

## Herndon Gallery's Class Schedule Summer 2026

**Saturday May 16th - Beaded earrings and FIRE!** \$75 - 2-4 pm  
Learn to heat silver wire with a torch to make head pins, add beads, make loops for connections, and make fish hook ear wires. Leave with a pair of finished earrings and instructions. Class limit of 6

**Thursday May 28th - Kelleys Island Embroidery** \$55 - 4-6 pm  
Learn 3 stitches to embellish a Kelleys Island outline drawn on fabric. Leave with a hoop, fabric, 2-3 colors of floss, and instructions to finish. Will not finish in class. Class limit of 8

**Saturday June 13th - OPENING DAY, 1-5 pm**  
Great fun, glass blowing demonstrations, music, collage station, America 250 celebrations!

**Thursday June 18th - Weaving for the wall** \$125 - 1-4pm  
This is a 3 hours class. Leave with a loom to make future projects on, instructions, and any fiber you need to finish your weaving if you have not finished in class. Class limit of 6

**Sunday June 28th - Make a Hair Wrap** \$50 - 1-3pm  
Learn to make hair wraps, just like you see at the beach! Leave with a finished hair wrap you can clip into hair and instructions. Class limit of 8

**Saturday July 18th - Macrame bracelet class** \$65 - 10 am-12 pm  
Leave with a finished bracelet, instructions, and materials to make a second. Class limit of 8

**Thursday July 30th - Kelleys Island Embroidery** \$56 - 4-6 pm  
Learn 3 stitches to embellish a Kelleys Island outline drawn on fabric. Leave with a hoop, fabric, 2-3 colors of floss, and instructions to finish. Will not finish in class. Class limit of 6

**Thursday August 6th - Kinusaiga** \$85 - 5-7 pm  
This is a fabric collage technique using foam board. Class limit of 8.

**Saturday August 15th - Owl Macrame** \$75 - 10am-12 pm  
Make a macrame owl with cord and wooden beads. Leave with a finished product and instructions. Class limit of 6

**Saturday August 22nd - MOODY BLUES MUSIC EVENT-** music, food, art, fun!  
Sculpt a snake in honor of our new land sculpture! Free class, time TBA.

**Sunday August 30th - Beaded earrings and FIRE!** \$75 - 2-4 pm  
Learn to heat silver wire with a torch to make head pins, add beads, make loops for connections, and make fish hook ear wires. Leave with a pair of finished earrings and instructions. Class limit of 6

**Thursday September 3rd - Weaving for the wall** \$125-1-4pm  
This is a 3 hours class. Leave with a loom to make future projects on, instructions, and any fiber you need to finish your weaving if you have not finished in class. Class limit of 6

**Sunday September 13th- PLEIN AIR event** - bring YOUR favorite art or craft and create on campus! Check our facebook for details.

**Saturday September 6th Kinusaiga** \$85- 4-6pm  
This is a fabric collage technique using foam board. Class limit of 8.

*Classes are age 12 and up. Contact me if your child is under 12 and particularly interested, good at paying attention and has small motor skills.*

*All supplies and tools are provided unless otherwise noted.*

*Please sign up at least a week in advance if possible.*

*Inquire for classes week of, but as we are on an island it depends on supplies.*

*30% booking fee due upon signing up.*

*Full refunds will be given if class has to be cancelled by instructor.*

*Please ask me about private classes, I can come to your home or host!*

Contact: Carmen Smith, Gallery Manager  
Charles Herndon Galleries and Sculpture Garden  
419.746.2249  
Herndongallerycts@gmail.com

**Gallery is open  
Thurs.-Mon,  
11-4**

Or, view the art by  
appointment:

(419) 746-2249

**New this season:  
Classes!**

Check fb for details



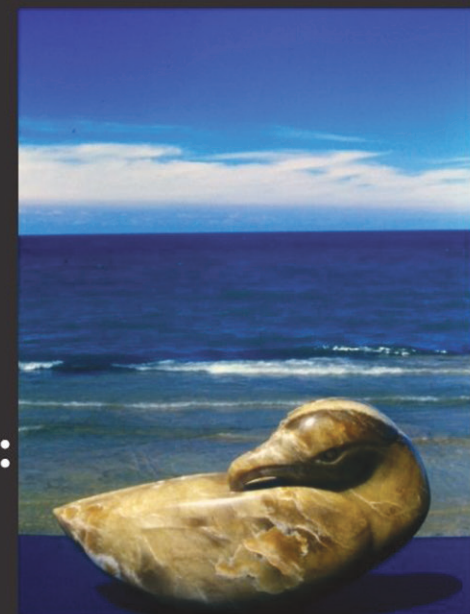
**Glass blowing with  
Double Dipped Studios  
Th, f and sat in  
season!**

Gardens are open  
Dawn-dusk every  
day

More information on Facebook: Charles Herndon Gallery

110 Laylin Lane KELLEYS ISLAND, OH.

**HERNDON**  
CHARLES HERNDON GALLERIES

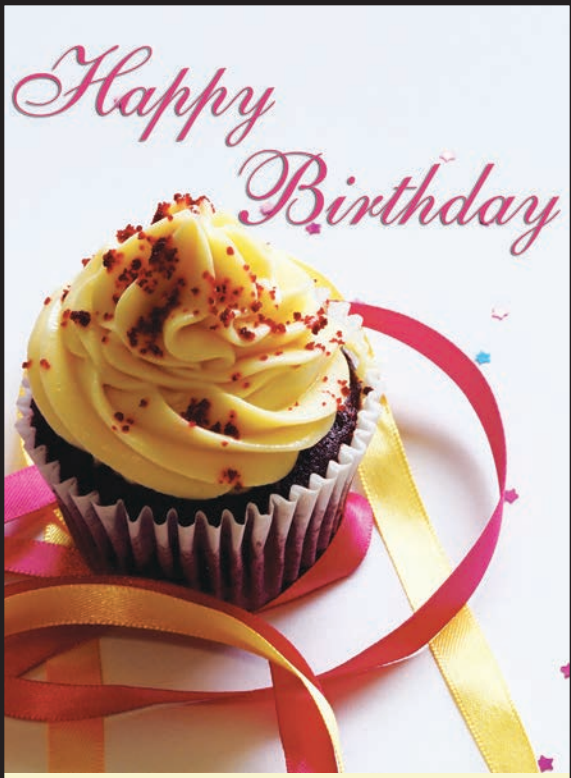


**June 13th:  
Season opener**

**August 22nd:  
Moody blues**  
An Afternoon of live music

**Sept. 13th:  
Plein air day**  
bring your materials and  
create your art in the  
Gardens!





Shakespeare once wrote, "There are many events in the womb of time" and I think of these words as I retire from my position at Life on Kelleys which I held for over ten years. During that time, I have had the pleasure of working with many of you and I truly enjoyed every moment. Having worked with Vicky, I found her to be a very hard working, dedicated person and I will miss her.

Please remember me in prayer from time to time and I shall remember you in prayer, also.

Caroline Jorski

*It has been a great pleasure working with you over these past three years, and previously on Kelleys Life. Your dedication and commitment have significantly contributed to the success of the paper. Throughout our collaboration, your professionalism and positive attitude have been truly appreciated, creating a productive and enjoyable working environment.*

*On behalf of Jerry and myself, I want to wish you all the very best in your retirement. This new chapter in your life is well-deserved, and we look forward to hearing about your new adventures and hope that it brings you many joyful moments and opportunities to enjoy your passions.*

Vicky Rovder

## MAY

- 1 - Molly Leckler
- 2 - Madeline Walker
- 3 - Barbara Feyedelem Donnelly
- 4 - Bill Campbell Sr.
- 5 - Eric Nedrow
- 5 - Jerry Rovder
- 5 - Jean Solomon
- 6 - Deb Haig
- 7 - Kirt Zettler
- 8 - Jodie Smith
- 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

If you have a birthday that you would like included please email [Lifonkelleys@gmail.com](mailto:Lifonkelleys@gmail.com)

## Fire

### Leslie Korenko

Monday - April 4 - The fire call came in at 8:56 about a fire at 932 W Lakeshore, home of Bill & June Campbell. It was called in by a neighbor and sirens were heard almost immediately. Photos show that by 9:09, the Fire Dept. was already on the scene. The fire, which started in the kitchen, had broken through the roof in the back of the house and just 5 minutes later, had spread almost across the entire rear of the second floor. Hoses were run to the back of the building, but to assure that enough water was available, two 500 gal.



pumps were put into the lake. While the fire was under control pretty quick, the Fire Dept remained on the scene for several hours to assure that the smoldering areas did not catch fire again.

Thanks to the Danbury Fire Dept. which sent a truck and three firemen to assist. The family was not at home at the time, and expressed their appreciation to their Island community for the outreach of sympathies and assistance. Temporary housing has been arranged while they decide what they will be doing with the site. June says she hopes to rebuild as the Island is her home.

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**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.

**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.

# Happiness Unleashed: The Story Behind Island Dogs

**Monica Sislan**  
(Co-Founder of Island Dogs)

Four years ago, we walked into our county dog shelter and took a leap of faith. Her name was Nina — a scrappy little Boston Terrier mix, about two years old, with an unknown past and a cautious heart. The only thing we knew for certain was that she seemed to like us. That was enough.

The first months were gentle ones. Nina had learned to be careful with her trust, and we respected that. She came around slowly, on her own terms — until the day we brought her to Kelleys Island.

She sniffed her way up and down the shoreline, ears up, nose working overtime. And then, without warning, she ran full speed into the lake. First swim. No hesitation. In that moment, we watched something remarkable happen — her fears simply washed away. Nina had found her freedom, and she never looked back.

We called it "Happiness Unleashed." And just like that, Island Dogs was born.

At Island Dogs, we believe every dog deserves to feel what Nina felt that day — the freedom, the joy, the pure unbridled happiness of being fully loved. And we believe every person deserves the kind of unconditional love that only a dog can give. Every dog deserves a best friend. Every friend deserves a best dog.

That belief drives everything we do. When you purchase Island Dogs apparel or original artwork, 15% of net proceeds goes directly toward our mission — supporting local organizations that help dogs find loving homes, funding programs that help people discover purpose through their bond with dogs, and inspiring our community to celebrate the happiness that our four-legged friends unleash in all of us.

We're proud to share that we've already made our first contribution to Island Safe Harbor Animal Sanctuary in nearby Port Clinton, supporting the veterinary care they provide to sick, elderly, disabled, and sometimes misunderstood dogs. They're doing extraordinary work and we're honored to partner with them.

Our collection includes t-shirts, hoodies, sweatshirts, and hats, alongside original wall art featuring 21 iconic Kelleys Island images by resident photographer Daniel Hazard. Rendered in the bold, timeless WPA art deco style made famous by the National Parks Service, these posters are as beautiful as the island that inspired them.

You can shop the full collection at [islanddogsstore.com](http://islanddogsstore.com).

In the company of our four-legged friends, happiness finds its most genuine expression — as boundless as the horizon before us.



## Kelleys Island Library Branch

Same Great Library Services,  
*Just On Island Time*

**Shea Allmont,**  
Community Engagement Manager,  
Sandusky Library

Nestled in the heart of Lake Erie's laid-back island life, the Kelleys Island Library Branch of the Sandusky Library offers a unique blend of relaxation and discovery. Located at 528 Division Street, this charming library is part of the larger Sandusky Library and CLEVNET system, bringing big-library resources to a small island community with access to over 8 million print and digital items. Whether you arrive by ferry for a summer getaway or call the island home year-round, stepping inside feels like slipping into "island time"—where learning, curiosity, and community flow as easily as the lake breeze.

Despite its cozy size, the branch is packed with opportunities. Visitors and residents alike can explore books, audiobooks, eBooks, and research tools, all supported by the broader Sandusky Library network and its shared digital services. Need Wi-Fi, a quiet place to read, printing resources, or help finding information? It's all

here—mainly powered by dedicated local volunteers who keep the spirit of the library alive. The result is a welcoming hub where knowledge meets neighborly connection, whether you're researching island history, catching up on your favorite novel, or simply escaping the midday sun.

What truly makes the Kelleys Island Branch special is its role as a bridge between locals and travelers—offering a shared space to learn, connect, and unwind. It's more than just a library; it's a slice of community life, where every visit feels a little like a mini vacation, and every resource opens the door to something new. Check out our special branch activities in our current newsletter and program guide. We look forward to seeing you soon and find us at [www.sanduskylib.org](http://www.sanduskylib.org).

Kelleys Island Library Branch Open Hours:

Monday & Wednesday: 5:00-7:00 P.M.

Tuesday & Thursday: 1:00-3:00 P.M.

Saturday: 10:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

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

## Sign Up for Village Alerts

The Village is working to improve its emergency notification system to keep the community informed of unexpected and emergency situations that may affect them. This will also assist the police in locating property owners when they find something wrong but the owners did not fill in a Winter Inspection Form.

For example, this list could be used in the event of a water line break where water needs to be shut off for an extended period of time, an unexpected road closure, or other situations that you might want to be aware of before

your next visit to the Island. The Village will contact you by email, text, or phone call to alert you to the unexpected situation.

Sign up at: [https://entry.inspironlogistics.com/erie\\_oh/wens.cfm](https://entry.inspironlogistics.com/erie_oh/wens.cfm) Erie County Notification System

This list will be used only for official Village notifications and will not be shared with anyone. We are striving to improve communications and to keep our citizens better informed (and a little less frustrated) when unexpected situations arise that will affect the quality of their Island time.

**KELLEYS ISLAND LIBRARY**  
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June - August

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

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419.746.9575

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Shop our collection of apparel and wall art at <https://islanddogsstore.com>

# Reflections on the 2025-2026 school year



**Hannah Kulka**

As we wrap up our 2025-2026 school year, we feel exceedingly grateful for another wonderful year full of academic adventures, opportunities to help others in our community, and time spent engaged in hands-on learning! We started our school year by taking advantage of the beautiful fall weather for outdoor learning. We set sail on the Appledore IV, a traditional tall ship that offered amazing science programming during our two hour trip out on the lake and also practiced our swimming and water safety skills in P.E. class at the Venture Resort pool. Our sixth grader visited ABC-13 News in Toledo to talk to Meteorologist Derek Witt about a potential future in weather-related careers. We all honed our golf skills at Thunderbird Hills driving range, visited Thomas Edison's birthplace museum, and attended the annual student concert of the Toledo Symphony at the Peristyle Theater in Toledo. Once the ferry opened in the spring, we attended a Mud Hens

baseball game and participated in some of our favorite outdoor island activities like fishing, kite flying and putt putt golfing. For our community service project this year, students held an island-wide sock drive. Students created advertising campaigns which included posters and a promotional video requesting donations of socks for our goal. At the end of our collection time, we collected 555 pairs of socks! Students used this opportunity in math and science classes to sort data and create graphs and visuals. We traveled to the Sandusky Salvation Army to drop off our donations and also volunteered our time in sorting toys for the upcoming holiday time. School board member Natasha Makarova-Skeans, highlighted this project as a standout moment of the year in her eyes. "I believe one of the most meaningful initiatives was the Salvation Army fundraiser involving the socks. Teaching children to be kind and mindful of their community, while connecting those values to math and research, is truly wonderful,"

Makarova-Skeans said. As a new venture this year, students were excited to begin attending cooking club! Overseen by Mrs. Virginia, our students learned basic cooking skills, a few fabulous recipes, and the proper steps to clean and sanitize a kitchen. Among the fun events, field trips, pageants, and special lunches, the day-to-day efforts of teachers, staff, and administration continue to make Kelleys Island School the amazing place it is. Skeans expanded on this idea: "I also think some of the main benefits of KI School as an additional learning resource for younger students include personalized learning, plenty of one-on-one support that helps each student stay on track, and a very warm, kind, and nurturing environment," she said. Superintendent Ben Ohlemacher echoed similar sentiments, highlighting the one-of-a-kind experience offered by Kelleys Island Local School. "Each year at Kelleys Island School is a journey shaped by curiosity, connection, and community. From hands-on learning on Lake Erie

to meaningful service projects that make a real difference, our students continue to show what's possible when education is both engaging and purposeful. I couldn't be prouder of the way our students, staff, families and community come together to create such a unique and meaningful learning environment," Ohlemacher said.



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 ✉ RealtorTeresaMaher@gmail.com




## Council Notes

**Leslie Korenko**

Since the last issue of Life on Kelleys, Council has acted on several significant pieces of legislation. As of July 25th, all construction must meet the standards set forth in the Ohio Basic Building Code. The City of Sandusky will manage the entire process including issuing permits, collection of building permit fees, inspections, and final occupancy. This means that any new construction that has not already been completed is required to apply for the appropriate permit through the City of Sandusky (on their website). Plumbing permits will continue to be obtained from the Erie County Health Dept. Ordinance 2025-O-10 added a new section to the schedule of fees to penalize people who begin unpermitted construction.

March 14 was the first meeting of 2026. With the new Council comes new transparency between the government and the public. It was refreshing to read the minutes of the first Finance Committee meeting of the year which contained much more information than the committee reports. The Village Home Page contains links to attend meetings, and on the Friday before a meeting, the full agenda (including all the items that the Councilpersons get) can be reviewed and downloaded. The Mayor's State of the Village address indicated the Village is all good financially and we look forward to a busy summer. He reported that a land swap that has been in the works since 1966, is finally approved and includes exchanging land next to cemetery with State land on Chappel (for the sewer plant). The Fire Dept. announced that they have 10 new firefighters awaiting certification. The Water Dept. is installing new backflow equipment and has implemented a new billing system for water users. The island has about 700 water meters, and there are plans to replace 50 outdated meters with remote-read technology to reduce water loss and improve billing accuracy.

April 11 meeting - The Police Dept. reminds everyone that if it is an emergency - call 911. If you are not sure, call the office number 419-746-2735, the call will roll to the officer on duty. Do NOT try calling personal phone nos. as this simply delays critical response times. Also, when using your cell phone - be sure to identify where you are located. Land lines do that but cell phones are not accurate if assistance is needed. There was one report and 54 phone calls (do not call the Police Dept. to see if the ferry is running!). Three warnings were issued. The Fire Dept. reports that the new pumps were used in a recent fire. Funding for the DRONE project was approved, which will be reimbursed under a grant program. EMS recommends an increase in the rate of pay for part-time paramedics. The 2023-24 Audit is complete and copies are available at the office. A meeting is scheduled to discuss and evaluate a Cybersecurity plan for the Village (a must-have by June 30). Lands & Buildings will be securing contracts to paint the Town Hall. The BZA approved two applications. Road work should start in May. Two ordinances from the Planning Commission had their first reading - changing the minimum lot area to build in R-1 from 25,000 to 50,000 sf and in R-2 from 15,000 to 30,000 sf. No explanation was given for these changes. New Ordinances (which can be found on the Village website) set forth new regulations for 'bicycles and motorcycles' and 'licensing; accidents' (2026-O-5 and 2026-O-4 respectively). These 2 ordinances incorporate much of the State verbiage and will allow the Village to deal with violations instead of citing under the State law and attending court in Erie Co. You can find these proposed ordinances in the Council packet and the State chapters under Ordinances on the Village website.

**The next Council meeting Saturday, May 9 at 10 am (online and at Kelleys Hall).**



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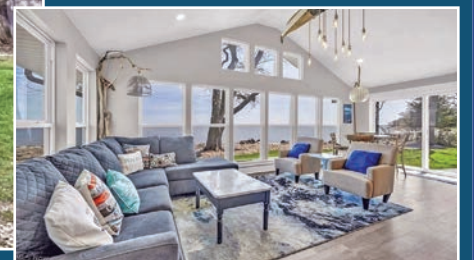
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**NEW LISTING**  
**104 East Point**

Rare opportunity to own true Lake Erie frontage with no road between you and the water! Completely rebuilt and expanded with a large open addition in 2024, the home features extensive updates including a new roof, siding, stone exterior, windows, HVAC, framing, subfloor and joists, kitchen, bathrooms, appliances, electrical, plumbing, and spray foam insulation. Every detail was thoughtfully upgraded for modern comfort and long-term durability. Inside, the spacious layout includes 4 bedrooms and 3 full baths, comfortably accommodating up to 12 guests.

**\$998,650**



**410 SWEET VALLEY**

Charming Ranch on Kelleys Island. Enjoy Easy, Single Floor Living in this Inviting 2-Bedroom w/ Office, 1-Bath Ranch Located in a Private, Family-Friendly Neighborhood. Perfectly Situated between Downtown Kelleys Island and Kelleys Island State Park and Sandy Beach. 2+ Car Attached Garage w/ Dry Storage Area. New Roof 2019! **\$424,750**



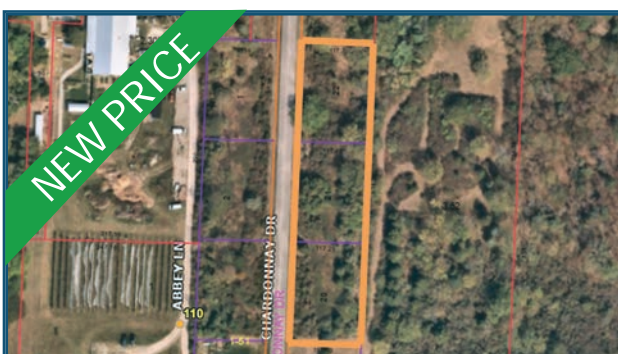
**211 ORCHARD**

Newly Renovated Island Retreat offering 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, and over 670 sq ft of comfortable living space. This Bright, Inviting Home features all new appliances and fresh finishes throughout, so you can move right in and start enjoying island life. Step outside onto a Large Wooden Deck, then down to a great poured-concrete fire pit area **\$356,950**



**110 PICKEREL**

A Peaceful Kelleys Island Retreat - Private Compound on 1.65 Acres! Tucked away on a quiet dead-end street just moments from downtown, this beautifully cared-for year-round home offers the best of island living, privacy, space, and comfort.



**LOTS 20-22 CHARDONNAY**

Three Parcel - 1.13 Acre Residential Lot Located In Desirable Vineyard Estates Subdivision! City Water Available at the Street. Site and Soil Performed! **\$189,000**



**Lots 15-18 HAMILTON**

Discover the perfect spot to build your family retreat on this spacious 4-parcel lot totaling 0.77 acres (200' x 168'). Tucked away in a peaceful part of family-friendly Kelleys Island, this property is just steps from the Boardwalk Trail leading to the Kelleys Island Nature Preserve and Sandy Beach, and close to Horseshoe Lake's hiking and biking trails. **\$134,900**



**LOT 10 CHARDONNAY**

Located in the Vineyard Estates Subdivision, this 0.38-acre lot (116' x 141') offers the perfect blend of privacy and convenience. Key improvements include a installed septic system, a paid water tap with line run to the property, and underground utilities are in place with a working electrical meter making this lot truly build-ready. High standard of quality stick-built homes required. **\$154,900**



**201 MORNING GLORY**

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!



**121 FAIRVIEW**

This 3 Bed, 2 Bath Ranch has nearly 1650 sq feet of Living Space with Additional Oversized Shed to Store Your Island Toys! Currently Used as Family Vacation Home and Income Property.



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Helping Buyers and Sellers from Westlake to The Erie Islands

# Spring Into a New Season with KI Audubon Club

**Barb Zeller**

Welcome spring and welcome back to our KI Audubon Club (KIAC) members and nature lovers. May is a beautiful month on the island, and we are excited to once again offer opportunities for all to explore the island and learn about the natural world it supports.

A favorite activity for many island visitors is to join Tom and Paula Bartlett at the Jones Preserve on Long Point as they band the many colorful warblers and other migrating birds on their journey from their southern habitats to their northern breeding grounds, using the Lake Erie Islands as a chance to rest and build their fat reserves. Banding will take place from May 17-21 from 6AM to 2PM and visitors are welcome at the banding station. The KIAC first event of the season is "Nest with the Birds" on Sunday, May 17 at the Jones Preserve banding station. Educational materials, bird adoption opportunities and a nature walk by KIAC President Pat Hayes at 10AM highlight the club activities.

The KIAC monthly meetings are held every third Thursday through

September with our kick off on May 21, when we will welcome Tom Henry who has been the environmental reporter for the Toledo Blade since 1993. Tom, known as the "Voice of Lake Erie", has won numerous awards for his excellent Great Lakes coverage, including climate change reporting. Held at the KI Schools Community Room, the evening starts at 6 pm with a potluck, followed by a brief meeting. Bring a dish to pass, own table service and beverages. His program starts at 7 pm. You can come for all or just the program.

On June 18, the program will be a guided hike led by Pat Hayes at the East Quarry. For this meeting, we will meet at the KI school at 7PM, with no potluck. The hike will explore the birds, plants and hidden lake history at the East Quarry and is a perfect hike for families.

Please consider joining the club for these activities and also consider becoming a member of the KIAC. You can follow us on our Facebook page, "Birds Kelleys Island" or on our website, <https://kelleysislandnature.org/>.



**Kentucky Warbler**

PHCR: Paula Bartlett

## 2026 KIAC Events and other supported Nature Events

*(KIAC Events in Bold)*

Please check "Bird Kelleys Island" on FB or [kelleysislandnature.org](https://kelleysislandnature.org) for updates.

### EVENTS:

- Nest with the Birds: Sunday, May 17, 6AM-2PM Jones Preserve**
- Science Saturdays: May 30-Aug 29
- Nature Camp (ages 4-8, time acc.to age): June 22-26
- Environmental Adventure Camp (ages 9-12, time acc. to age): June 29-July 3
- Homecoming Booth: Aug 9
- Glacial Glimpses: September 6
- Feathers and Foliage: Sunday, Sept 13, 6AM-2PM Jones Preserve
- Fall Songbird Banding: Oct 14-Nov 15, 6AM-2PM Jones Preserve
- Owl Banding: nightly from Oct 14 to November 22 at Scheele Preserve
- Owl Fest: November 6-8**

### MONTHLY MEETINGS:

Potluck at 6PM followed by an educational program at 7. Located at either the KI School or Community Park on Addison St. depending on the weather.  
May 21, June 18, July 16, Aug 20, Sept 17

## Kelleys Island Bird Watching Guide

### Kelleys Island State Park

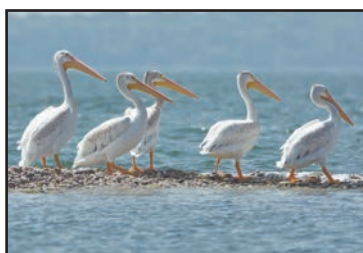
920 Division St., 419.746.2546, 866.644.6727, [parks.ohiodnr.gov](https://parks.ohiodnr.gov)  
Kelleys Island State Park offers great Lake Erie views, easy access to the shoreline. Boating, fishing, birding, and wildlife watching are just a few of the park's favorite activities across its 677 acres.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

### North Pond State Nature Preserve

Ward Rd. (off Division St.), 614.265.6419, [naturepreserves.ohiodnr.gov](https://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](https://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 Kelleys Island State Park. To protect plant life, please remain on trails. No pets.



New to the scene is the American White Pelican. This species breeds and nests on low rocky outcroppings off the north shore of North Bass Island. If you have access to a boat, head north to see the hundreds of White Pelicans that can be found there in season. If you do not have a boat, flocks of birds can be seen soaring above Kelleys along the lakeshore.



### 2026 Kelleys 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 Kelleys Island Audubon Club, PO Box 42, Kelleys Island, OH 43438**  
**Please make checks payable to Kelleys Island Audubon Club**

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

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

*The mission of the Kelleys 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 Kelleys Island; to further the knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of ecology and to cooperate with other organizations having similar objectives.*

Pat Hayes – President, June Campbell – Secretary, Jean Kuyoth – Treasurer,  
Chris Ashley, Virginia Coyne, Lori Hayes, Rachel O'Connor, Tom Pieratt, Julie Schuler, Jim Zeller

**Find us online at: [Kelleysislandnature.org](https://kelleysislandnature.org)**

## Kelleys Island Real Estate – A 2026 Market Check-In

**Steve Mack**  
**Century 21 Bolte Real Estate**

As we move through the early part of 2026, the real estate market on Kelleys Island is starting to take shape, and the first few months of the year are giving us a pretty good sense of where things stand.

So far this year, we've seen a total of four single-family homes close, with sale prices ranging from the upper \$300,000s to the mid \$800,000s. One thing that stands out is how pricing has adjusted along the way. On average, homes have sold for about 97% of their final list price, but when you look back at where they originally started, several sellers made price adjustments before finding the right buyer.

That tells an important story about today's market. Buyers are still willing to pay strong prices, but they're being more selective, and homes really need to be positioned correctly to generate that interest.

Timing is another big piece of the picture. Homes that have sold this year took an average of about four to five months to go from listing to closing.

That's a little slower than what we sometimes see during peak island seasons, and it reinforces the idea that buyers are taking their time and comparing options more carefully.

That said, one of the newer spring listings, priced just under \$630,000, went under contract in just 9 days. It's a good reminder that buyers are still active and just being more deliberate. When a home is priced right and comes to market fresh, they're still ready to move quickly.

At the same time, inventory has been building. There are currently seven single-family homes on the market, with one already in contract, and prices ranging from the mid \$300,000s up to just under \$1 million.

It's a wide range, and that variety is giving buyers more choices depending on what they're looking for, whether that's a smaller cottage or a newer, higher end home. Two of those homes were on the market last year, took a short break, and then came back on this spring, which is also contributing to the current inventory levels.

**Lots & Land – A Slower, More Patient Market**

The land market on Kelleys Island is telling a slightly different story so far this year, with activity moving at a slower, more deliberate pace.

There has been a mix of land activity spanning from buildable lots to larger and more premium parcels. One larger parcel, just over an acre with city water and some lake views, sold for just under \$180,000 after being on the market for a few months.

It originally came on the market a bit above \$200,000 and found its buyer after a price adjustment, which is something we're seeing more of right now with land.

At the same time, we saw two lot sales from late last season, including a roughly one third acre buildable lot in a subdivision with public water that closed in the low \$80,000s, and a lakefront parcel just under one acre, also with public water, that sold right around the mid \$400,000s.

Those two sales came very close to their final list prices, showing that once land is priced in line with buyer expectations, it tends to hold fairly steady through the negotiation process.

Currently, there are three lots available, with prices ranging from the mid \$130,000s up to around \$190,000. One of those has only just hit the market, while another has been listed since late last year, again reinforcing the idea that timing and pricing play a big role in how quickly land moves.

Overall, the land market feels a bit more patient than the home market. Buyers are often thinking longer term, planning for a future build rather than immediate use, and that naturally slows decision making. Well priced properties are still attracting attention, but in many cases, it takes time to find the right buyer.

From a boots on the ground perspective, the market feels like it's settling into a more normal rhythm. There's still interest and activity, but it's not moving quite as quickly as it can at peak times. Buyers seem comfortable taking a little extra time, and sellers are adjusting as needed to stay competitive. It's a healthy kind of balance, and one that tends to reward realistic expectations on both sides of the table.



## Getting Boat-Ready Starts with the Right Coverage

**Amanda Rhiel,**  
**Bolte Insurance**  
**Agency**

April showers bring May flowers, but on the Shores & Islands of Ohio, spring also signals that boating season is right around the corner. With longer days and rising temperatures, local marinas and waterways begin to fill with eager boaters ready to get back on the water.

As you prepare your boat for another summer of fun, whether that means power washing, waxing, or engine maintenance, don't forget to review your insurance coverage. Having the right protection in place can help ensure that one unexpected incident doesn't sink your entire season.

### Review Your Coverage Amounts

Liability coverage protects you financially if you're responsible for causing injury to someone else or damage to their property while operating your boat. It's an essential

part of any watercraft policy. Are your policy limits enough?

When it comes to protecting your own boat or personal watercraft, there are several coverage options to consider:

**Total Loss Replacement** – Replaces your boat with a new, previously untitled vessel of the same make and model, as closely as possible, with comparable equipment.

**Agreed Value** – Pays the value listed on your declarations page (minus your deductible), regardless of depreciation at the time of loss.

**Actual Cash Value** – Typically the most affordable option, this coverage pays based on your boat's market value, age, and condition at the time of loss, up to the cost to repair or replace it.

### Evaluate Your Deductible

Choosing a higher deductible can help lower your insurance premium. Consider whether you would file a claim for a smaller loss, such as under \$1,000. If not, increasing your deductible could be a cost-effective option.

### Don't Overlook Fishing Equipment

If you added new gear over the winter, make sure it's properly covered. Many policies include limited coverage for fishing equipment, so it's important to confirm your limits and ensure they reflect the value of your investment.

### Towing and Emergency Services

Breakdowns on the water can be costly. Many policies offer optional coverage for towing and emergency services, including jump-starts, fuel delivery, disentanglement, and soft

grounding. This coverage can provide valuable peace of mind while you're out on the water.

*If you have questions or would like a personalized review of your coverage, contact Amanda or one of the licensed agents at Bolte Insurance Agency at 419-732-3111. Proudly celebrating 90 years as a family-owned business in downtown Port Clinton, Bolte Insurance is committed to helping protect local residents on and off the water.*



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# That Scandalous Lawsuit - September 1878

Leslie Korenko

*Divorce was uncommon, but not unheard of; however, this case was a suit for alienation of affection, filed in an effort to head off a divorce. Descendants of Mary and John recall references to a domestic dispute in the family, but never heard the details. This just might explain the situation. It is important to remember that most German fathers ruled their families with a stern hand and accepted no challenges to their authority. A recently married son might have rebelled against his father, a situation that was not to be tolerated. You have to admire the gumption and courage for a young wife, just 20 years old, to take such a drastic action as this.*

Case No. 3334, was filed Sept. 25, 1878 -- Mary Schaedler vs. August

Schaedler. Mary claimed that "On or about the 6th day of September 1876, after a long and affectionate courtship, one John Schaedler who is a son of the defendant, intermarried with her and they, the said Plaintiff and said John have all the time since lived together as husband and wife, until the 24th day of September 1878, during all of which time she had in every way demeaned herself as an affectionate virtuous and dutiful wife, and she has borne to the said John Schiedler a son, yet a child, less than two months old. From the sickness of which with she has not yet fully recovered, and she further says that she is and since her marriage, has been, of delicate health principally caused by said marriage and maternity. Thus, rendering the services, care, protection and support



August Schaedler built his first home around 1856 (the wooden part on the right side). The stone portion was built in 1873. To the east is the Schaedler Winery, built in 1866.



of her said husband greatly necessary to her.

She says that the said defendant has ever since her said marriage, had great influence over her said husband, being his father.

[Her husband] being only of youthful age [around 23 years old] and dependent upon said defendant for employment, and said defendant [his father, August] being wealthy and the owner of a large landed estate, said John expects there from, and defendant expects and has promised to give to said John by deed or will, a large patrimony, and said John is dependent upon said August in large measure for the maintenance of himself and his family.

And plaintiff says that said defendant, taking advantage of his said paternal authority influence and patronage, has willfully, corruptly and maliciously, from the date of said marriage, been steadily alienating the affections of her said husband from her by denouncing her, reducing her character, slandering her, and threatening to withhold from said John any palimony to which he would otherwise be entitled until he has wholly succeeded in deducing and estranging the affections of her said husband from her.

And on said 24th day of September 1878, said John, being so influenced, entered, acted and commanded by the defendant along with said defendant, both acting together willfully and maliciously, turned her out of the house and home of herself and husband and compelled her to leave with her child and a large part of her

personal effects; and so ... influenced by the said defendant, the said John has wholly abandoned her ..." *The baby, mentioned above, was George Washington Schaedler, born just months earlier on July 25.*

*John's father, August, was apparently trying to get a divorce for his son, even though there was no cause or grounds.*

"She says that said estrangement and enticing away of her husband is active and effectual so that said John is continually cursing and abusing her and he will no longer live with her and she can no longer live with him and he utterly refuses and has cause to live or cohabit with her or support her.

She says that her health being so poor, the support which she is entitled to have from said John is worth \$500 per year and the attention to her child due from him is worth \$500 per year, that by reason of said wrongs, her health has been greatly shortened and reduced, that she has lost said John's affections. Her mind and body have suffered ...to her damage \$10,000.00, for which she asks a judgment against said defendant."

*A summons was issued for August Schedler on September 25, 1878, but no further information appears in the file. The case was marked as disposed on December 4, 1878. It appears that the case was either settled or dismissed as John and Mary continued to live together and had another child in 1881.*

*From the book, Kelleys Island 1877-1884 - The fire, the Great Grooves & a mysterious disappearance by Leslie Korenko*

## Serving Our Seniors Offers Out of Town Transportation To Health Care Appointments

Serving Our Seniors, a geriatric social service, unique to Erie County, Ohio. It provides services to help Erie County residents, aged 60+, to maintain their ability to function independently and maintain their health. The cost is an anonymous donation. If nothing is given, the older adult will still receive the ride.

Using a Serving Our Seniors' car, a volunteer driver, can transport older adults living on Kelleys Island to health care appointments as far away as Cleveland and Toledo and locations in between, including Port Clinton.

The volunteer driver will meet the Kelleys Island older adult in the parking lot of the Kelleys Island Ferry Service. The volunteer will drive the older adult to the health care provider,

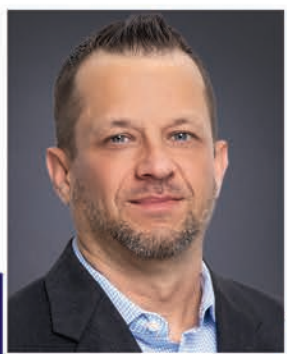
wait for the appointment to conclude and transport the older adult back to the Kelleys Island Ferry Service parking lot.

To use this service does involve an enrollment process. Additionally, each trip does require at least 7 business days of advanced notice for the ride to be scheduled. To enroll as a client, for the Out-of-Town Transportation Service to Health Care Appointments Call Serving Our Seniors (419-624-1856). Ask to speak with a Senior Advocate or Senior Advocate Assistant.

Sue Daugherty  
Director  
Serving Our Seniors  
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## Proud Member of the Hysterical Association

When I became a board member for the Kelleys Island Historical Association, a few islanders asked me why I would want to be a part of the "Hysterical" Association. "What?" I replied. "I don't understand what you mean." The response was "don't worry, you will!"

The definition of the word "hysterical" as it appears in the Merriam-Webster Dictionary is "showing extreme or unrestrained emotion."

Well, it will be my second season as a member of the Kelleys Island Historical Association (KIHA) and I can honestly say, we all just may be hysterical! Why? Because all of us have an extreme love and unrestrained commitment to Kelleys Island.

I can't remember how Ned Williams (KIHA Past President) got my name and number. All I remember was being asked about how I came to

Kelleys Island. That story began in 2000. My now husband Frank and I were supposed to go to Put-In-Bay with some friends. We live in Pennsylvania, and neither of us had never been to any of the Lake Erie Islands. After researching the area, we found Kelleys Island.

We decided to stay on Kelleys because of the Glacial Grooves. Frank is a Geologist. Since we were just dating at the time of our trip, I thought he would enjoy Kelleys Island more than Put-In-Bay due to its geologic history.

Our trip to Kelleys was incredible and we kept coming back...every year! Kelleys became our "go to" getaway! In 2021, we finally made our getaway permanent. We purchased a Kelleys Island home and are now seasonal islanders!

I started to volunteer at the Parsonage Resale Shop. It was a fun

way to give back to the island that gives so much in return. I guess that is how Ned found out about me. When he contacted me about possibly filling a seat on the KIHA Board of Directors, I felt honored.

As Vice President this year, I can honestly say the KIHA Board of Directors are working hard to make the history of the island accessible, fun and memorable for everyone that visits our island! We have a variety of events and special fundraisers coming this season - the Ferry Ride Raffle will be back along with an Arts Fest on August 1st. Be sure to watch our Facebook page for updates and news!

Will there be some hysterics? Possibly! But, remember an extreme love for Kelleys Island is and always will be what motivates us! Here's to a great 2026 season!

Lisa Lotito  
KIHA Vice President & Islander

along with the other Board Members:

Justina Loveless, President  
Michael Beatty, Treasurer  
Nancy Easton, Secretary  
Chad Waffan  
Donna Algaase  
Jackie Polofka  
Teri Betzenheimer

## New Scam: Your Home Can Be Sold Without Your Knowledge

The single largest asset for most older Americans is their home. This is important because at the root of all vulnerability is one thing... Lack of money.

With the advent of the internet and evolving information technology, there is a new crime taking place, which can sell your property without your knowledge. This type of crime has several names and is often referred to as "Deed Fraud," "Quit Claim Deed Fraud", "Home Title Theft," The Ohio State University Extension Office wrote about it on January 22, 2026, in a blog entitled, What is "deed fraud" and how can landowners protect themselves from it? <https://farmoffice.osu.edu/blog/deed-fraud> In simple terms, this means scammers are impersonating land owners.

On the website OhioRealtors.org, it reports deed fraud is on the rise and both consumers and realtors are at risk. It goes on to explain, "They use forged documents, fake identification to attempt to illegally transfer property titles and profit from the fraudulent sale." (<https://www.ohiorealtors.org/blog/2267/deed-fraud-is-on-the-rise/>)

In a WABI newsclip, <https://www.wabi.tv/2025/04/02/deed-theft-is-rise-fbi-says-heres-how-protect-yourself/> it is reported that the Boston bureau of the FBI stated Quit Claim Deed Fraud is on the rise. This is when scammers illegally transfer ownership of your land without your knowledge or consent. According to the reporting this appears to be occurring with vacant land or homes. In some cases, vacant homes are rented out by the scammers.

To protect yourself from this crime, the FBI recommends property owners do the following:

- Continually monitor online property records
- Set up online search alerts for your property
- Drive by and check on the property
- Report suspicious activity
- Take action if you stop receiving tax bills

(Note: *Serving Our Seniors* is a geriatric social service whose mission is to help residents, ages 60+, maintain their ability to function independently and maintain their health as they grow older in Erie County, Ohio. *Serving Our Seniors* is funded by the Erie County Senior Services Tax Levy.)

Sue Daugherty  
Director, Serving Our Seniors  
310 E. Boalt Street. #A  
Sandusky, OH 44870

Serving Our  
**Seniors**

### Getting Started - the Problem Solving Program

The Problem Solving Program is often the first call for help to access our other services. We are available by phone and for home visits to help Erie County older adults with questions, problems, or concerns.

If we do not have the answer, we will find the person who does. This is our most widely-used service and it is free to any qualifying Erie County older adult.

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OBITUARIES

**Garland Bradshaw**

February 23, 1940 - August 31, 2025



Garland Bradshaw, 85, passed away peacefully at his home, Sunday, Aug. 31, 2025, following complications of Parkinson's disease.

He was born Feb. 23, 1940, in Newton Grove, North Carolina, to Grace Langdon Bradshaw and Romey Garland Bradshaw.

He graduated high school in Portsmouth, Virginia, before enlisting in the U.S. Navy Reserve. Shortly thereafter, he entered active duty, where he was a typist and wrote reports at the U.S. Naval Aviation Safety (NAS) Center in Norfolk, Virginia. During that time, it was uncommon to find men who could type and write well, so he served an important role as a clerk.

After completing his term, he attended and graduated from Frederick College in Portsmouth, Virginia. After

college, he got a job as a newspaper reporter for the Pine Bluff Commercial newspaper in Pine Bluff, Arkansas. Thereafter, he worked as a reporter for the Ledger-Star newspaper in Norfolk, Virginia.

He married Ruth Marie Kutzke in 1973. A few years later, they moved from Virginia Beach to Warren, where he worked at Wean United Inc. in the marketing department as an editor, writing articles for company publications. Not long after, he started a job as director of public relations at Ira Thomas Associates in Youngstown.

Next, he stepped in as campaign director for United Way of Trumbull County, where he organized fundraising and gave presentations across the region. He retired from a 20-year career at United Way in June 2011.

Even in the years that he was not working as a reporter, he followed the news closely and would often call local newspaper editors to suggest stories they

should follow. He also wrote "letters to the editor" that were published in The New York Times and The Wall Street Journal. Garland also enjoyed playing trivia at Damon's, collecting coins, stamps and other mementos, watching nighttime shows like Jay Leno and "60 Minutes," and reading the news and magazines. He was a jazz enthusiast, collecting hundreds of CDs and attending concerts. He was immensely proud of his younger brother, Jan, who was a paratrooper and served in a combat role during the Vietnam War.

Garland enjoyed the family cottage at Kelleys Island and the wonderful circle of friends he had there. He looked forward to the Thursday night dinners and camaraderie at the Kelleys Island Winery. He loved traveling abroad to England and Switzerland. The visit with his daughter in Paris, France, was a highlight.

Garland was an active member of Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Warren, as well as an associate member of Zion

Methodist Church on Kelleys Island. At Emmanuel, he served in various leadership roles in the church council. He was a dedicated member of the Cortland Rotary Club.

Garland is survived by Ruth, his wife of 52 years; their beloved child, Rachael Lea Bradshaw Sullivan (Timothy Paul); and one cherished grandchild, Nora June Sullivan.

He was predeceased by his parents; his brother, Jan (London) Bradshaw; and his dearly loved in-laws, William Louis and June Lloyd Kutzke.

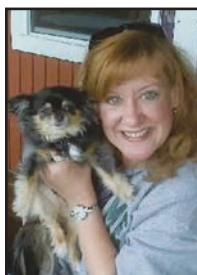
Funeral services were held Saturday, Sept. 6, 2025, at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Interment followed at Hillside Cemetery, Bazetta.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 140 Cherry Ave. NW, Warren, OH 44485.

Family and friends may send their heartfelt condolences by visiting [www.lanefuneralhomes.com](http://www.lanefuneralhomes.com)

**Tina M. Callari**

February 26, 2026



With heavy hearts, yet unwavering faith in God's promise of eternal life, we share that our beloved Tina Callari peacefully went home to be with the Lord on February 26, 2026, surrounded by her dearest friends.

For the past year and a half, Tina faced her battle with cancer with remarkable grace and courage. Even in her most difficult days, she carried her beautiful smile and positive spirit that defined her life.

Tina lived a life centered on faith, family, friends, and fun. She treasured her family and hundreds of friends. Blessed with a wide circle of loyal and

loving relationships, Tina had a gift for making people feel seen, welcomed, and valued. Her laughter was contagious, her humor quick and clever, and her presence unforgettable. Above all, Tina lived a life with a pure heart and soul. Her legacy is one of kindness, faith, laughter, and love a testament of a life fully lived.

Tina was a graduate of Holy Name High School Class of 1981. She then pursued her education at Kent State University, where she was one of 10 accepted into their musical theatre program, graduating in 1985 with a degree in Fine Arts. From there, Tina spent many years in New York City and Chicago pursuing her love for theatre as a talented actress and singer. During this time, she met more of her lifelong friends who became family.

Years later, Tina moved back to Ohio to be closer to her parents. This return home also opened the door for her to come back to her other home, Holy Name High School, where she became the Theatre Director, pouring her heart into her students both on and off the stage. Theatre and music were not simply talents; they were expressions of her joyful soul. She inspired creativity, confidence, and community in everyone she taught.

Tina also embraced her entrepreneurial spirit as the proud owner of Chicklet's Closet on Kelleys Island. Kelleys Island was her peaceful oasis, filled with treasured memories, laughter, lifelong friendships, and a spirit of giving back. She was lovingly known as the "Queen of Kelleys Island." Tina also cherished her babies (dogs)

and was a loyal fan of the Cleveland Browns, Indians, and Cavs.

Service was held on Friday, March 6, 2026, at Holy Name Auditorium, 6000 Queens Highway, Parma Heights, 44130. Interment Holy Cross Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Holy Name Theatre and The Kelleys Island Tina Callari Memorial. Details on how to donate will be posted separately.

While our hearts grieve, we rejoice knowing Tina is home with the Lord, reunited with her dad, Joe Callari; her mom, JoAnne Callari; and her brother, Jimmy Callari. The Callari family celebrates that their family is back together in Paradise.

Rest in peace, our beautiful and loving, lifelong friend, Tina.

**John Carrig**

October 24, 1933 - December 26, 2025



John C. Carrig, age 92 of Garfield Heights, passed away peacefully, Friday, December 26, 2025. Born in Cleveland, Ohio, October 24, 1933, he was the son of the late William and Julia (Rohal)

Carrig. John was the loving husband of Barbara Louise, née Zemko (deceased); cherished father of Timothy (Lisa) Carrig, Mary Beth Carrig Cassell (Edwin deceased) and Christopher (Barbara)

Carrig. Adored grandfather of Shaun (Cherie), Kelly McClellan (Matt), Mark (Madison) Cassell. Great-grandfather of Michael, Evie, Gabriel, Samuel, and Maxwell. Brother of William (deceased) (wife Michaeline), Patricia Sadowski (deceased) (husband Larry Sadowski), and June (Edward) Putka (both deceased). John is also survived by numerous cousins in County Clare, Ireland and Australia.

John was the Past President of the Instrument Society of America, Toledo, Chapter; Past Grand Knight of Garfield Heights Council 4130 Knights of

Columbus; 4th Degree member Knights of Columbus for over 50 years; Past President of Holy Name High School Dads Club and was instrumental in the moving of the school from Harvard and Broadway to the present site.

He was the winner of the Holy Name Hall of Fame Arata Award, former Scoutmaster Troop 361 St. Therese Church, altar server at St. Therese Church, U.S. Army Veteran Korean Conflict Helicopter Crew Chief, 5th Infantry Regiment; life member of the VFW Post 9908, Kelleys Island and American Legion Post 421, Korean War Veteran's

Association; the NRA, and the Ohio Rifle and Pistol Association. Past President of the Kelleys Island Landowners Association and Water Board member of Kellys Island. John was also the founder of Carrig and Associates Inc., and attended John Carrol University, Fenn College and The University of Wisconsin.

Mass of Christian Burial was held Monday, January 12, 2026 at St. Therese Catholic Church,

Interment All Saints Cemetery, Northfield.

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OBITUARIES

**Barbara K. Coleman**  
March 16, 1929 - February 21, 2026



Barbara Knebusch Coleman passed away peacefully on February 21st surrounded by her family at The Welsh Home, where she had resided since 2024. Mother to William Jr. (Lucy), Robert (Tina), James (Robin), Timothy (Amy) and Elizabeth Ritz (Dean); grandmother of 9; great-grandmother of 10, and special grandma to her many bonus grand and great-grandkids. Barbara was preceded in death by her loving husband William Sr.; parents Walter F. and Alice Knebusch; and five younger siblings Jack, George, Jim, Ruth, and Walter (Bud).

Barbara Knebusch Coleman was born in Cleveland, Ohio. Her father was an ambitious and hardworking man which required the family to move several times during her childhood, spending time in Cleveland Heights, South Euclid, Rocky River, Oakwood, and Ashland, Ohio. She enjoyed spending time with her family and spoke fondly of her memories of brothers Jack and George, with whom she played tackle football and went on double dates.

Barb attended Ohio Wesleyan University where she met the love of her life, Bill. They spent time together as

Zoology majors (Barb was a dual major of Zoology and Math) and married during their senior year. After graduation, they lived in Columbus while Bill earned his teaching degree at The Ohio State University, then moved to Portsmouth, Ohio, to begin his teaching career. Their family grew, with Bill, Bob, and Jim being born before leaving Portsmouth. In 1957, the family moved to Lakewood where Tim and Liz were born. Barb stayed at home with her children until the youngest went to school. She eventually became a Library Aide at Roosevelt Elementary School in Lakewood, but was encouraged to go back to school to earn her master's degree in Library Science. She then moved to Emerson Middle School, where she worked until she retired. After retirement, Barb began working as a docent at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History (CMNH). Her aptitude for identification was quickly recognized, and she became involved with Entomology in the Invertebrate Zoology department. This work led her to tagging Monarch butterflies, which in turn led to collecting butterflies, moths, and beetles for the Museum. In fact, this work, as well as both she and Bill's involvement at the CMNH, prompted Museum officials to name the parcel of land near their Kelleys Island home "The Coleman Tract."

Kelleys Island was the place where Barb and Bill were the happiest. In 1962,

they purchased a cottage there where they spent much of their time. Although their cottage was not equipped with electricity or running water, they felt this Civil War era house was their real home. The family spent many days exploring quarries, hiking in the woods, riding bikes, stargazing, boating, and fishing.

In the early 1970s, ODNR submitted a plan to appropriate two-thirds of the island by eminent domain, with Mackinac Island, MI as their prototype. Barb and Bill were two of the five founding members of the Kelleys Island Landowners Association (KILA) that successfully lobbied for the expansion to be stopped. At first Barb served as secretary, then as vice president, and finally as president of KILA. In fact, she remained active on the KILA Board of Directors until September 2025 when she "retired" and was named the first Board Member Emeritus for her 52 years of active service.

As avid environmentalists, the Colemans were "green" before the term existed. They were members of the Smithsonian, Cousteau Society, Sierra Club, Greenpeace, World Wildlife Fund (WWF), The Nature Conservancy, and Barb was a lifelong member of the National Geographic Society. After her retirement, Barb & Bill continued educating others by becoming more involved in the Kirtlandia Society at

CMNH, where they were especially active in the intern program.

The mother of five children, Barb loved each one unconditionally. As her family grew with marriages and births, she welcomed each new member with love and acceptance. She was the "Cool Grandma" who danced at weddings until she was 94 years old. She never spoke about her age and didn't allow aging to affect her state of mind until the very end. Barb had a deep love for her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. She believed that the best thing a mother could do was to raise children to be kind humans who understood their place in the world. Barb once compared raising children to nurturing a butterfly through its stages; with watching it spread its wings and fly away as the most fulfilling part. She will be sorely missed, but her family will carry her determination to make the world a better place, excitement for learning, and sarcastic sense of humor in their hearts.

A memorial service was held Saturday, April 11, 2026 at Zion United Methodist Church on Kelleys Island, followed by interment at Kelleys Island Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the Cleveland Museum of Natural History or The Kirtlandia Intern Program (CMNH).



**John "Jack" A. Erne**  
April 1, 1951 - April 10, 2026

John "Jack" A. Erne, 75, formerly of Huron and Sandusky, passed away Friday,

April 10, 2026, at Firelands Regional Medical Center. Born April 1, 1951. Jack's parents are both from Kelley's Island, and he spent some of his childhood living there.

Jack is preceded in death by his parents, Detsy Erne and Andy Erne, and his siblings, Bill Erne, Jane Erne, Jim Erne, and Joan Blade.

Jack is survived by his wife, Dayle Erne; daughters, Jocelyn Erne and Janelle (Chris) Bronish; siblings, BeAnne Petrick and Tom (Debbie) Erne; and numerous nieces, nephews and other relatives.

The family would like to extend a personal thank you to Jack's family,

close friends, business associates, and FRMC ICU staff.

Honoring Jack's wishes, there will be no service. The family plans to have a semi-private celebration of life ceremony at a later date.

Condolences can be shared online at [www.grofffuneralhomes.com](http://www.grofffuneralhomes.com).

**Bradley C. Pohorence**  
June 18, 1952 - February 6, 2026



Bradley Carl Pohorence, 73, residing in Sandusky, went to be with the Lord early Friday morning, February 6, 2026, at Stein Hospice Care Center after a brief illness.

Brad was born June 18, 1952, in Sandusky, to the late Frank and Laura Jean (Seeholzer) Pohorence. Brad grew up on Kelleys Island, where he helped his parents run the Island Market.

Brad retired as a sales representative of over thirty-five years, having started his career at George Canalos, Inc and ending with the Dr. Pepper Snapple Group.

Brad was a born-again believer in Jesus Christ and a devoted member of Calvary Baptist Church. In his spare time, he enjoyed fishing, bicycling, traveling, and going out to eat. Spending time with his family was the thing he cherished most.

Brad is survived by his wife, Patti

(Hutchinson) Pohorence, whom he married August 19, 1974 (after a six-week courtship). He is also survived by his son, Scott (Samantha) Pohorence of Sandusky; daughter, Autumn (Eric) Schneider of Woodville; son, Joe (Whitney) Pohorence of Sandusky; eight grandchildren, Macy, Emma, Cameron, Rylee, Isaac, Dawson, Sarah and Lucy; sister, LuAnn Swindell of Valley City; brother and sisters-in-law; and numerous nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

In addition to his parents, Brad is preceded in death by two grandchildren, Elijah Pohorence and Violet Pohorence; and brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law.

A Celebration of Life was held on Saturday, February 21, 2026, at Calvary Baptist Church, 1810 E. Perkins Ave. Sandusky, with Pastor David Hixson presiding. Burial will take place at a later date at Oakland Cemetery in Sandusky.

Those wishing to contribute to Brad's memory may do so to Stein Hospice Services, 1200 Sycamore Line, Sandusky, OH 44870.

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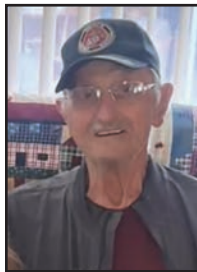
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OBITUARIES

**Floyd Righi**

October 14, 1937 ~ September 23, 2025



Floyd L. Righi, 87, of Huron, OH passed away early Tuesday morning, September 23, 2025, at his home surrounded by his wife and his children.

Born on October 14, 1937, on Kelleys Island the son of Louis and Josephine (Lombardi) Righi. He was a 1956 graduate of Sandusky High School. Floyd was a veteran having served honorably in the U.S. Marine Corp. having been stationed in Okinawa, Japan. He was a well known entrepreneur having owned several businesses in the local area for many years.

Floyd loved spending time with the family and the grandchildren, but he will

be especially remembered for how he enjoyed riding his motorcycles, going fishing, wintering in Florida with his wife and cheering for the Green Bay Packers.

He was a member of Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, the American Legion Post # 83 Color Guard, the V.F.W. Post # 2529 and the Sandusky Orioles Club Nest # 279.

Floyd is survived by his wife of 65 years, Mary G. (Franchetti) Righi, whom he married on January 9, 1960; his family, Debbe (Kevin) Fischbach of Grafton, Mark (Jane) Righi of Sandusky, and Dena (Charlie) McKillips of Sandusky; his six grandchildren and four step-grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; two sisters, Delores (Harry) Perdue, Sr. and Helen (Dean)

Scheel, both of Sandusky; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Floyd was preceded in death by his parents; a sister, Edith "Eda" Righi, two sisters in infancy, Ida and Darlene Righi; and three brothers, Guerino "Gene" Righi, Paschal "Pat" Righi and Mario Righi.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held for Floyd on Saturday morning, September 27, 2025, at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, Sandusky. Military honors were conducted by the

American Legion Post # 83 and the V.F.W. Post # 2529.

It was his wish to be cremated following the services. Interment will take place at a later date in Meadow Green Memorial Park, Huron, OH.

The family suggests that memorial contributions be made in his memory to Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, 510 Columbus Avenue, Sandusky, OH 44870 or to Cancer Tees Me Off, 117 Marshall Avenue, Sandusky, OH 44870.

**June Schodowski**

September 11, 2025



June K. Schodowski, age 89, peacefully passed away surrounded by her loving family on Thursday, September 11, 2025. She was born to Stanley and Gladys (nee Smith) Kole in Cleveland,

Ohio on June 1, 1936. June's family was her love & passion; daily home cooked meals for her family, impeccably maintaining 3 homes with joy, and her flower gardens were amazing. She made every holiday extraordinary. She loved spending her time at their family home on Kelleys Island and above all, her pride and joy were found in each of her 17 grandchildren. She served as a eucharistic minister at Our Lady of Grace Church and St. Michael's parish on Kelleys Island. June could also be found cooking for events at the church as well as funerals and neighbors. She was a devout woman with an amazing faith. She loved the Catholic church and was devoted to the Holy Rosary. She was a member of The Women of Hope Ministry at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church. She will be sorely missed by family and friends.

Left to celebrate June's life are her

loving children, Michael-dec (Claudia) Schodowski, Mark (Tama) Schodowski, Marilyn Schodowski, Michelle (Bruce) Dobbins and Melissa (Paul) Happel; her cherished grandchildren, Eric Schodowski, Evan Schodowski, Elaine (Peter) Tapolyai, Elyse (Joseph) Schodowski, Eve Schodowski, Jessica (Kevin) Schodowski-Shenker, Rachel (Brian) Hill, Jonathan (Hallie) Schodowski, Charles Dobbins, Angelina Dobbins, Shannon Dobbins, Justine Happel, Abigail Happel and Eva J. Happel; her adorable great grandchildren, Nora, Faye, Chloe, and 1 expected great grandchild in October, and many extended family and friends.

June is preceded in death by her husband, Charles Schodowski of 69 years, her son Michael, and her five siblings.

A Mass of Christian burial was held Tuesday, September 16, 2025, at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church Hinckley, OH 44233.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions in her memory be made to the Kelleys Island EMS, P O Box 11, Kelleys Island, OH 43438.

Online condolences and memories may be left for the family on June's guestbook at [www.WaiteFuneralHome.com](http://www.WaiteFuneralHome.com)

**Paul Douglas Warner**

April 5, 1951 - October 15, 2025



In the serene embrace of Kelleys Island, Paul Douglas Warner, a man of faith, love, and unparalleled craftsmanship, was called home by his Lord and Savior on the 15th of October in the year of our Lord 2025. Born in Sandusky, Ohio on the 5th of April in 1951, Paul was a beacon of light and strength to his family and friends.

Paul's early years were spent in the nurturing town of Castalia, Ohio, where he graduated from Margaretta High School in the year 1969. His hands, skilled and true, found their calling in the noble trade of construction. A skillful carpenter, Paul's artistry in finished wood was a testament to his meticulous nature. He was a jack of all trades, master of all, and the Warner household never knew the need of outside assistance, for Paul could mend and make whole all that was broken. He proudly served his country as a member of the Ohio National Guard.

Bound in holy matrimony to his beloved wife, Pamela L. Kellogg Warner, Paul was a loving husband and a guiding star to his children: his elder son Dustin Paul Warner and his spouse Kerlin; his daughters, Valeria and her husband Carlos Molina, and his younger daughter Victoria, of Flowery Branch Georgia. His younger son Seth Lawrence Warner with his wife Kata and his children Ariyah, Ana, Glade, and Ethyn of Sandusky Ohio. He always felt blessed by his grandchildren. He is also survived by his brothers, Larry and Greg (Denise) Warner; many special nieces and nephews, including Steve

Miller, who was like a brother; and numerous friends, including high school friend, David Edward, of Florida.

Paul's life was rich with the joy of angling alongside his sons, the quiet concentration of a golf swing, the laughter shared over a game of cards, as long as he could win. He hated to lose. He especially enjoyed the warmth of companionship on boating and fishing excursions and he was an avid reader. His talent also extended to the brewing of craft beer, an endeavor he lovingly undertook with his son. In every aspect of life, Paul's intelligence and handy nature shown through.

As a man of Christian faith, Paul lived a life that mirrored the love of Christ. He was grateful that God granted his carpentry talent enough to build his dream home and allowed him to find an everlasting peace on Kelleys Island. He called it Heaven on Earth. He enjoyed many mornings with his wife Pam, silently listening to the tranquility of birds singing or deer walking through the yard while having a cup of coffee.

Paul Douglas Warner lived as he died, with dignity, surrounded by love, and secure in the faith that guides us all to our final rest. His memory shall be cherished, his legacy enduring like the steadfast oak, and his life celebrated as one well-lived in the eyes of God and man. Let us hold fast to the love he shared, the wisdom he imparted, and the memories that bind us to him until we meet again in the glory of the world to come.

Funeral services were held October 21, 2025 at Toft Funeral Home & Crematory, Rev. Philip Gardner officiated. Burial at Kelleys Island Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Kelleys Island EMT or Back to the Wild.

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the island  
in bloom!*



321 Harbor Ln,  
Kelleys Island  
\$749,000

The Wigwam on Kelleys Island, a beautifully renovated historic cottage set on approximately .75 acre, featuring 4 bedrooms and 2 full baths in the main home, plus a separate guest suite with its own bath located in the outbuilding. Full of charm and flexibility, it's well suited as your own island home, a rental opportunity, or both.



186 Hamilton Rd,  
Kelleys Island  
\$479,000

Kelleys Island home built in 2022 offering 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, and an open kitchen/living layout. Set in a peaceful location backing to state land, with a path leading to East Quarry Lake. Lightly used and energy efficient.



### Kelleys Island Market Snapshot: January 1 - April 14, 2026

#### Land & Lots:

- Under Contract: 0
- Sold: 0

#### Homes & Condos:

- Under Contract: 1
- Sold: 3
- Sold Average Days On Market: 171
- Sold Prices From: \$380,000 to \$840,000

#### Currently Available:

- Active Homes Listed: 6  
Price Range: \$357,000 to \$999,000
- Active Lots Listed: 3  
Price Range: \$135,000 to \$190,000

All data from Firelands MLS as of April 14, 2026. Figures reflect MLS-listed properties only, deemed to be accurate but not guaranteed.

For property information please visit [Kelleysislandforsale.com](http://Kelleysislandforsale.com)

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