



LIFE ON KELLEYS

THE EMERALD ISLE NEWS

Nest With The Birds



Nest With The Birds Draws Record Visitors and a bonanza of birds at this year's Kelleys Island Audubon (KIAC) sponsored Nest With The Birds, held on Jones Preserve at Long Point May 17th. See story and additional photos on page 12.

International Museum Day on The KIHA Museum Campus

Jodie Smith

May 16, 2026, was International Museum Day and the Kelleys Island Historical Association Museum Campus held its soft opening of the season. The day began with a Welcome Back Brunch for the KIHA volunteers, employees and board members. Breakfast bread and vegetables with dip, along with mimosas and coffee were served while volunteers signed up for their shifts and welcome back greetings exchanged. The guests took self-guided tours of the museum and the newly re-organized Resale shop. Introductions of newer board members and of our new Resale Shop Manager, Sherry Eddy, were made. Excitement and anticipation were in the air for the official opening on Thursday May 28, 2026. The hours of the Museum Campus will be Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday from 12-4pm. The Campus will be closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. More volunteers are always welcome! Contact Justiina Loveless at 330-205-2285 or Sherry Eddy at 740-680-7200 to learn about volunteer opportunities at The KIHA Museum Campus.

The International Museum Day is coordinated by the International Council of Museums. This year's theme was "Museums Uniting a Divided World." This theme highlights the power of cultural spaces to foster dialogue and



Kelleys Island Village Council Member Chris Kipfer and his wife Bobbi-Joe, visited the KIHA Museum Campus for the volunteer brunch and FREE Museum Day.

peace across geopolitical and social boundaries. Museum Day at the KIHA Museum was FREE. The parking lot quickly filled with visitors taking

Please turn to page 2

Kelleys Island Prepares for an All-American Summer in 2026

Zoey Leonard-Vargo

The countdown is on for one of the most exciting summers yet on Kelleys Island as the Kelleys Island Chamber of Commerce prepares for two of the island's signature events — IslandFest 2026 and the 20th Annual FilmFest. Both events promise unforgettable family fun, community spirit, and a celebration of America's 250th birthday with the theme "An All-American Summer."

IslandFest returns July 17-19, 2026, at Memorial Park and will once again bring thousands of visitors to the island for a weekend packed with live music, fireworks, food vendors, artisans, games, a parade, and activities for all ages. Known as Kelleys Island's largest annual celebration, IslandFest has become a beloved tradition for residents and visitors alike.

Just two weeks later, the island will host the 20th Annual FilmFest on August 1-2, 2026, at the Ball Field on Addison Street. Families and visitors will gather under the stars for a free outdoor movie experience featuring a giant inflatable screen, classic summer concessions, and a nostalgic drive-in style atmosphere. The 2026 FilmFest theme, "An All-American Summer," will celebrate iconic American movies and summertime traditions.

These events are about more than entertainment! They bring our community together, support local businesses, create memories for families, and showcase everything that makes Kelleys Island special.

The Chamber is currently seeking corporate sponsors, local business partners, and community donors to help make both events possible. Sponsorship opportunities are available for fireworks, entertainment, individual movie nights, children's activities, event advertising, and more. Donations directly support free public programming and help maintain the tradition of family-friendly events on the island.

Kelleys Island welcomes more than 60 annual events and thousands of seasonal visitors each year, making these summer celebrations an important part of the island's tourism economy and community culture.

Anyone interested in becoming a sponsor, donating, volunteering, or learning more about either event is encouraged to contact the Chamber office at info@kelleysislandchamber.com or visit kelleysislandchamber.com for updates and event details.

Celebrate 125 years of Kelleys Island School!



Hannah Kulka

Kelleys Island Local School students wrapped up the school year with one of our favorite traditions: planting flowers at the Estes grave with Mrs. Kathey Phinney. We do this each spring because it was his one request when he donated the funds to build our beautiful school.

This year is especially significant, since we celebrate 125 years of Kelleys Island School! We are hosting this event on Sunday August 9 at noon and welcome all to join us!

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MAY EVENTS
4th - Derby Day
10th - VP Mother's Day Dinner
25th - Memorial Day
JUNE 3 - OH Bike Week KI Day

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www.VillagePumpKIOH.com

International Museum Day

—continued from page 1



Welcoming Brunch for The KIHA Volunteers offered by the KIHA Board (May 16)
The Photo shows volunteers, Board Members and employees.

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 museum
buy your raffle tickets \$1
each or 6 for \$5
The Campus is OPEN
Thursday-Monday 12-4pm
CLOSED Tuesday & Wednesday

advantage of the FREE admission and the privilege to get the first look at new exhibits. Visitors were treated to the newly re-organized Parsonage House and Sis's Cottage Resale Shops. A special treat in the Museum Gift Shop was the presence of Island author Bob Adamov! He greeted visitors and offered to sign his newly released book, "Island Shadows." With over 20 books published, Bob's latest book features some colorful characters and landmarks of Kelleys Island and Put In Bay. The book will be available in the museum gift shop all season!



Treasures at the Resale Shops



Kelleys Island Loves to Celebrate: A new Exhibit at The Kelleys Island History Museum.



The KIHA is a non-profit organization that depends on volunteers and donations to fund its work. The KIHA thrives to be a community supporter through its work in preserving the history of the Islands families that founded, and built, and continue to contribute to the thriving island community.

The Museum Campus buzzed with activity up until closing time. Visitors found treasures at the Resale Shops, and donations of more treasures were accepted and organized. If you have donations to make to the Resale shops, please contact Sherry Eddy, 740-680-7200, or Jodie Smith at 419-350-1082.



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 or use QR code.

NAME: _____

ISLAND ADDRESS: _____

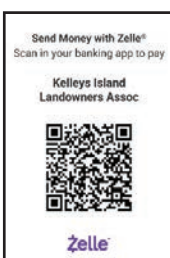
MAILING ADDRESS: _____

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Thank you.

If you have any questions or have comments,
please contact KILA at info@kila.rocks.



KILA KILa Korner

Melanie Bates
KILA Vice President

The season got off to a great start Saturday May 16 with the KILA Welcome Potluck dinner. The VFW hosted the group in their pavilion, and people enjoyed Bassett's fried chicken, many delicious dishes, and lots of good company and comradery. Kudos to Jennifer Pieratt for organizing this island tradition.

The same weekend KILA sponsored "Dumpster Days." Many KILA members were able to take care of disposing their scrap metal, mattresses, and other items. Chris Arnold, Frank Dodson, and Carl Scheu volunteered for the event and assisted landowners with unloading their "junk."

During the KILA Board of Directors meeting May 16 it was decided to extend the acceptance of proposals for assistance to fund island projects. See www.kila.rocks under the link "About" for details as to how to apply for funding.

Also, during the meeting Board of Directors member and Village Council member Chris Kipfer discussed the village ordinance regarding lot sizes. KILA wishes to thank Council for responding to our letter requesting clarification on the proposed

ordinance. The prompt response allowed us to get information to the landowners about Council's intent, and the subsequent wording change in the ordinance grandfathered lots purchased prior to the adoption of the ordinance.

The next KILA meeting is June 20 at 10:00am at Estes School, and it is open to the public. Don't forget to pay your annual dues to keep your membership active. Dues are \$25 for new members and \$20 for current members. Dues can be mailed to KILA, PO Box 22, Kelleys Island 43438. There is also a dues application with more options for payment in KILA's ad in this edition of Life on Kelleys.

Mark your calendars for the 52nd Homecoming festival and parade this August 7&8. Raffle tickets are now available for \$20 each from Board of Directors members. The highly accolated fish fry dinner will be at the Community Park Pavilion Friday August 7, and tickets will be sold in advance. Saturday will kick off with a parade, and the rest of the day at the Pavilion will include food, entertainment, games, and vendors. Many thanks to Shores and Islands Ohio for helping to sponsor this island event.

June Events

Jill Bauer, Public Relations Manager Shores & Islands Ohio

Ready for sun-soaked weekends, island-hopping, waterfront festivals, and unforgettable experiences? June is when the Shores & Islands Ohio comes alive! Whether you're craving live music, family fun, foodie favorites, outdoor exploration, or unique events you won't find anywhere else, this month's lineup delivers something amazing for every kind of summer adventure. From pirate invasions and wine festivals to classic cars, Pride celebrations, and lakeside traditions, here are 20 incredible June events worth adding to your calendar.

Ohio Bike Week

Friday-Saturday, May 29-June 6, 2026

Various Locations

Ohio Bike Week, held in and around Sandusky, with live bands, food trucks, and plenty of merchants. Activities at Mad River Harley Davidson and Barrel House Saloon. World famous block party is June 4-6 featuring concerts with Jackyl, Buckcherry, and Tom Keifer of Cinderella.

Birding by Kayak at East Harbor State Park

Friday, Jun 5, 2026, 9 am, 11 am, 1:30 pm

East Harbor State Park, Marblehead

Join H2Ohio for a FREE Birding by Kayak event at East Harbor State Park. Participants will learn water safety before a 1.5-hour scenic paddle focused on birds. Binoculars will be provided, though feel free to bring your own. This program is beginner-friendly and completely free. PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED DUE TO LIMITED SPACE.

Corvettes at the Museum Car Show, June 6th, 2026

Saturday, Jun 6, 2026, 9 am-3:30 pm

Liberty Aviation Museum, Port Clinton

Returning for a 13th year! Lake Shore Corvettes, Inc, Liberty Aviation Museum & the Tin Goose Diner invite you to: Corvettes at the Museum! Open to all Corvettes! (Need not be a club member to show) Public welcome! Music by FLP (Frank LaManna Presents) Free to attend car show. Only charge is to enter a car or to tour the museum. **A portion of the proceeds go to the Liberty Aviation Museum, a 501c3 non-profit charitable organization.

Huron Lake Front Market

Saturday, Jun 6, 2026, 9 am-3 pm

Lake Front Park, Huron

Huron Lake Front Market is a family-friendly event featuring vendors at one of Huron's beautiful beaches. Come treasure hunt, get a bite to eat, or enjoy the live music! Hosted by the Greater Sandusky Partnership.

Brews Cruise - Pirate Theme

Saturday, Jun 13, 2026, 2:30-10 pm

Goodtime I Lake Erie Cruises, Sandusky to Kelleys Island

Set sail on Lake Erie for an unforgettable Pirate Adventure! This isn't just a ferry ride — it's a high-seas party with your fellow modern-day pirates. Your ticket includes: round-trip ferry ride, full onboard cash bar access, 4 hours to explore Kelleys Island, pirate-themed atmosphere and entertainment. Entry into main raffle prize. Event Info: 21+ only. Valid ID required. Limited to 200 tickets — SELL OUT EXPECTED

Founder's Day at Put-in-Bay

Saturday, Jun 13, 2026, 11 am-4 pm

DeRivera Park, Put-in-Bay

Join in commemorating the 52nd Founder's Day, with this special event that honors the island's founding by Hispanic merchant Jose DeRivera. Immerse yourself in the rich history and vibrant community spirit that has shaped Put-in-Bay. Explore a variety of vendor stalls, enjoy engaging activities, and learn about the island's unique heritage. Whether you're a history buff, a local resident, or a visitor, Founder's Day offers a meaningful and enjoyable experience for all.

Welcome Back!

Saturday, Jun 13, 2026, 12-4 pm

Charles Herndon Galleries and Sculpture Garden, Kelleys Island

Come celebrate the start of the summer! The whole summer is Red, White, and Blue! Celebrate America 250 with Charles Herndon Galleries and Sculpture Garden at every event this summer.

Jackie Polofka with Double Dipped Studios will be blowing glass. Other great island artists will be doing demos. Enjoy art, nature, and music!

Benson Ford Shiphouse Tours

Sunday, Jun 14, 2026, 11 am-2 pm

Benson Ford Shiphouse, Put-in-Bay

Would you like to see the inside of the famous Benson Ford Shiphouse? Now is your chance! Tours are open to the public, with limited tickets available. The Benson Ford is one of the most unique and interesting homes in America, and since it is privately owned, it is rare to get a glimpse inside. There will be limited parking on site, please take a taxi, shuttle or golf cart. No cars please! Golf cart parking will be at Alfred Parker Park and guests can walk around the corner to the tour. Proceeds benefit the Put-in-Bay Chamber of Commerce, Alfred Parker Park & other island charities.

Sunday Sip & Shop

Sunday, Jun 14, 2026, 12-4 pm

Twin Oast Brewing Co., Catawba

Celebrate the season at Twin Oast Brewing's Sunday Sip & Shop, a laid-back afternoon combining local shopping, craft beer, and 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.

Cemetery Pioneer Walk

Sunday, Jun 14, 2026, 4 pm

Lake Erie Islands Historical Society Museum, Put-in-Bay

Our first Island Pioneer Cemetery Walk of the season focuses on Jose DeRivera in tribute to Founder's Day Weekend. Jose DeRivera was born in Barcelona, Spain, and built an import business in New York City. In 1854, he bought six Lake Erie Islands and had South Bass Island surveyed and subdivided into ten-acre lots. DeRivera traveled between New York and South Bass Island, initially turning Put-in-Bay into a sheep farm. He encouraged settlement on the island and its wine industry by helping German immigrants from Baden-Baden Germany purchase land to plant vineyards.

Ned Talks Presents: Screening of the Documentary "The Fish Thief"

Thursday, Jun 18, 2026, 5:30-8 pm

Shores & Islands Ohio West Welcome Center, Port Clinton

Join Ned and friends for a screening of the film "The Fish Thief," about the invasive lamprey in Lake Erie.

Vermilion Festival of the Fish 60th Anniversary

Friday-Sunday, Jun 19-21, 2026, Fri 3-11 pm, Sat 10 am-11 pm, Sun 10 am-4 pm

Downtown Vermilion

Vermilion Festival of the Fish Celebrating 60 Years! Theme: The Godfather - Sleeps with the Fishes! Downtown Vermilion is going full mobster as our favorite Please turn to page 5

ISLANDFEST
July 17-19, 2026
KELLEYS ISLAND, OHIO

2026 THEME: "The Pursuit of Happiness Starts Here!"
2026 Shirt Design, coming soon!

PARADE ★ FIREWORKS ★ FOOD ★ ARTISANS
GAMES ★ VENDORS ★ LIVE MUSIC & MORE

★ SAVE THE DATE ★

HOSTED BY THE
Kelleys Island
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

For more information, to sponsor the event, fireworks or become an event vendor please email the Chamber office at info@kelleysislandchamber.com

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR ISLAND INFORMATION, MAPS & EVENTS!
419-746-2360
info@kelleysislandchamber.com
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SHORES & ISLANDS OHIO

An All-American Summer - Celebrating America 250

20TH ANNUAL FILM FESTIVAL
August 1-2, 2026
KELLEYS ISLAND, OHIO

"AN ALL-AMERICAN SUMMER"
Movie Announcement Coming Soon!

★ SAVE THE DATES ★

For this family fun free event!

HOSTED BY THE
Kelleys Island
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For more information, to sponsor this event or one of the individual movies, please email the Chamber office at info@kelleysislandchamber.com

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SHORES & ISLANDS OHIO

An All-American Summer - Celebrating America 250

Marblehead will be missed and remembered fondly

I never would have thought I would fall in love with a rooster. This feathered bird was the best at his job, and the longest-lived rooster you would ever know.

Marblehead was hatched in an incubator on Kelleys Island in the capable hands of Viktoria and Nik Skeans and their parents. He came from a broody hen on the Herndon property, and was part of a spring tradition of the Skeans hatching eggs from the Herndon property. Within a few weeks, he came back to live at the Herndon's.

Thinking he may be a hen at first, as it is hard to tell with chickens until they are older, Vik named him Maria. Vik was very insistent that he was a she until one day the Skeans family came to visit, and Marblehead crowed, right in Vik's face! With that first crow, Viktoria came up with the name Marblehead.



Vik and Nik Skeans and Marblehead the top left fowl, white with the big comb.

Marblehead spent his young roosterhood hanging out and pecking at things with the rest of his Herndon flock, learning from and guiding other roosters along the way.

When I got to the island in 2020, Marblehead was already 8 years old. This old man, who lived until the ripe old age of 13, taught the many hens that passed through his care the fowl ways. He enforced pecking order with precision, always creating a great flock cohesion. When we added new roosters to the flock, he kept them in order and loved crowing back at them, making his voice the loudest, of course.

Marblehead will be missed greatly; our flock will not be the same without him.



Marblehead is the small, lighter colored Chick in Vik Skeans hands.

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

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Council Notes

Leslie Korenko

Island EMS reported 8 runs and 7 clinic calls. The Police Dept. received 6 reports and 74 phone calls and the Fire Dept. had 4 runs. Pilot training has begun on the Drone Program equipment. The Water Dept. will be hiring a contractor to complete the meter retrofits (about 708 meters). A new billing program was implemented but there were some problems. If they cannot be worked out, another system will be evaluated. Ordinance no. 9 adopts the mandated cyber security program. The two zoning ordinances had their second reading. They double the minimum lot size in R-1 and R-2 districts, but note that "All lots of record previously platted, recorded and accepted by the Village are hereby recognized as legal non-conforming lots of record." The ordinances indicated that the Planning Commission recommended the change "to better manage new development and provide clearer guidance for open space the density." Another Resolution had its first reading, accepting a grant for \$19,000 for the airport to be "used for the Phase II-Environmental Assessment to construct and extend safety area 09/27." The Finance Committee is recommending an increase in EMS part-time paramedic pay, purchase of a new laptop, evaluation of current water rates, and feasibility of providing council tablets to consolidate email and meeting packets, reduce paper, and support cyber security requirements. Towards the end of the meeting, the issue of feral cats was brought up to determine if the village had a solution that could be implemented. None was offered.

It's Finally open!

The Beacon

The new roundabout on State Route 269 north of State Route 2 is now open in Lakeside/Marblehead/Danbury Township.

The formerly confusing intersection is now safer and easier to navigate, providing one more reason to visit the lake this summer. The roundabout opened on May 19, just in time for Memorial Day visitors. (Photo provided by ODOT District Two)



June Events in Shores & Islands, Ohio

—continued from page 3

Vermilion Festival of the Fish 60th Anniversary, continued

events take on a legendary mafia twist, crazy craft regatta/race, lighted boat event, sandcastle building contest, and the festival parade, all inspired by the Godfather himself. Expect a weekend filled with live music, incredible food vendors, arts & crafts, family fun, fireworks, and nonstop entertainment along the shores of Lake Erie and throughout downtown Vermilion.

Ohio's Island Wine Festival

Saturday, Jun 20, 2026, 11 am-5 pm

Heineman's Winery, Put-in-Bay

Experience the essence of Ohio's rich winemaking tradition at the annual Island Wine Festival in picturesque Put-in-Bay. This vibrant festival, presented by the Ohio Wine Producers Association and Heineman's Winery, offers a unique opportunity to savor an array of exquisite wines from across the state. Indulge in wine tastings, enjoy live entertainment, and participate in a silent auction, all in the delightful setting of Heineman's Winery. Attendees can expect a diverse representation of the state's winemaking expertise. Past participants have showcased their finest wines, offering a taste of the unique flavors that define Ohio's vineyards.

Historic Walking Tour

Friday, Jun 26, 2026, 10:30 am-12 pm

Lakeside Chautauqua, Marblehead

Learn the 150-year history of Lakeside Chautauqua on a 90-minute walking tour of the downtown area. Registration is required and tours are \$5/person - call 419-798-5519. The tour starts at the Historic Chapel, now Heritage Hall Museum at 238 Maple Ave. Ask for Shopping & Dining pass at Lakeside gates for free admission to Lakeside.

Pyrate Fest XVIII 2026

Friday-Sunday, Jun 26-28, 2026

10 am-5 pm

DeRivera Park, Put-in-Bay

Set sail for an unforgettable adventure at Put-in-Bay's Pyrate Fest XVIII. This annual pirate-themed extravaganza promises a weekend filled with daring escapades and family fun. Engage in pirate antics, witness live cannon firings, and meet mermaids and legendary pirates. Discover a pyrate encampment and marketplace, where the era of buccaneers comes to life. Enjoy interactive activities, treasure hunts, and historical demonstrations, all set against the beautiful backdrop of Put-in-Bay. With unique events each day, including a spirited Pyrate Pub Crawl for the adults and a captivating antique car parade, Pyrate Fest XVIII is an extraordinary journey into the heart of pirate lore, perfect for all ages.

Cherry White and Blue

Saturday, Jun 27, 2026, 10 am-4 pm

Quarry Hill Orchards, Berlin Heights

Join at Quarry Hill Orchards for a delightful celebration of all things cherry with a nod to the America 250 celebration! At Cherry, White & Blue we embrace the all-American spirit with vibrant reds and luscious cherry sweetness. From pick-your-own cherry adventures, patriotic crafts and music, there's something for everyone. Vendors offer a variety of quality food options to enjoy at the orchard or to take home. Stop by the Scoop Shop inside the Market Barn for Quarry Cones, Quarry Hill's signature New Zealand-style ice cream blended with orchard-grown fruit! All are welcome to this summer spectacle. This event is free to attend but you are encouraged to pre-register online for an event ticket for \$15 which includes a small cup of ice cream, cherry and raspberry picking entry, admittance into the craft loft for patriotic themed activities!

Shoreline Pride Sandusky 2026 Parade + Festival June 27th

Saturday, Jun 27, 2026, 11 am-10 pm

Shoreline Park, Sandusky

Parade kick off is 11 am! Join in for the Parade, music, programming in the pavilion, food trucks, vendors, live music and more. Each year, we come together to celebrate identity, unity, and progress—and this year promises to be our most vibrant yet! Join us for a day filled with color, connection, and community. Opportunities to connect with people from across the region in a space that is joyful, welcoming, and safe for all. Whether you're a returning supporter or joining us for the first time—everyone is welcome. Come celebrate love, pride, and the vibrant spirit of Sandusky.

However, you fill your June, one thing's for sure—summer memories are waiting to be made in Shores & Islands Ohio. Mark your calendar, gather your crew, and start planning, because these can't-miss events are just the beginning of an unforgettable season along Lake Erie. Plan your getaway and find all the fun at SHORESandISLANDS.com.

2026 KELLEYS ISLAND CHAMBER EVENTS

Celebrating America 250

5/10K RACE/WALK
THEME: "THE GREAT AMERICAN SUNDAY RUNDAY"
SUNDAY, MAY 31ST

BIKE WEEK DICE RUN
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3TH

**BREWS CRUISE:
BLACK FLAG RISING**
SATURDAY, JUNE 13TH

ISLANDFEST
THEME: "THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS STARTS HERE"
FRIDAY, JULY 17TH - SUNDAY, JULY 19TH

FILM FESTIVAL
THEME: ALL AMERICAN SUMMER FILM FESTIVAL
SATURDAY, AUG. 1ST - SUNDAY, AUG. 2ND

TREASURE ISLAND DAY
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH

RESTAURANT WEEK
MONDAY, SEPT. 21ST - SUNDAY, SEPT. 22ND

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Shop. Dine. Relax.



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





Field Station Summer Programs and Dates

Jackie Taylor, Director Science Sundays!

Science Sundays is a partnership between Kelley's Island State Park, Kelley's Island Audubon Club, and the Kelley's Island School Field Station. This is a weekly series of events featuring interactive exploration centered on a particular wildlife topic. Families and learners of all ages are invited to explore hands-on science fun during this free drop-in event.

Times: 10am-12pm on Sundays through Labor Day Weekend

Meeting locations as listed, and some programs are on Saturdays, depending on the program.

- 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 as listed

School Tours

Have you ever wondered what we do at the Kelley's Island School & Field Station? Wonder no more!

Join us for School and Field Station Tours throughout the summer and discover the unique learning opportunities happening right here on Kelley's Island. Participants will enjoy guided tours of the school, field station, and gardens; hear a short history of the school; explore specimens under microscopes; and experience hands-on, up-close interactions with our island animal ambassadors.

Whether you are a visitor or a longtime island resident, these tours offer a fun and fascinating way to connect with the natural and cultural history of Kelley's Island.

Times: Meet at the KI School at the front door on Division St at 1PM

Dates: June 28, July 26

- My 1st Nature Camp(5-6yrs.)
June 22-26 11:30AM-12:30PM
- Nature Camp (7-8yrs.)
June 22-26 1-2:30PM
- Environmental Adventure Camp I (9-10yrs.)
June 29-July 3 10AM-12PM
- Environmental Adventure Camp II (11-12)
June 29- July 31 2:30-2:30PM

Scan to Register



Save the Dates!

Pollinators & Pancake Brunch

Join us at the Kelley's Island School for a fun and educational brunch celebrating pollinators! Bring your appetite—and your love for monarchs, bees, and butterflies. Enjoy a delicious pancake brunch while exploring hands-on learning activities, participating in monarch tagging, and receiving updates on the Kelley's Island Pollinator Habitats and Monarch Butterfly conservation efforts. Learn how pollinators support our ecosystems and discover ways you can help protect them.

Date: August 23, Time: Noon- 2PM

Kelley's Island School Field Station Celebration and Appreciation Day

Celebrate with us at the Annual Field Station Day and Appreciation Celebration! Join the Kelley's Island School Field Station as we recognize the many successes of the Field Station and thank the community members, partners, and donors whose support has helped make this a vibrant place for education, research, and conservation.

Guests will begin at the School before heading to the State Park for an afternoon featuring monarch butterfly tagging, hors d'oeuvres, and refreshments. Learn more about Field Station programs, connect with supporters, and celebrate the partnerships that continue to make hands-on learning opportunities possible for all ages.

Date: September 13
Time: 1PM



Nature Camp

Campers will explore different ecosystems through observation and experiments. Nature Camp goes far beyond the traditional classroom experience by stepping outside and getting up close and personal with the insects that surround us.

Dates & Times:

- Intro to Nature Camp (4yrs.)
June 22-26 10-11AM

Surprising Front Porch Stories

Cincinnati, Ohio - Step onto the front porch with Cincinnati Book Publishing as we proudly announce the release of Surprising Front Porch Stories by Peter J. Thinnies, Jr. Brimming with grit and warmth, these stories reveal Thinnies' dedication to a good life through heartfelt and humorous experiences, handpicked to bring smiles and laughter to all readers.

Peter Thinnies, also known as Jack Thinnies, recounts his childhood and the experiences that shaped the determined person he is today. He writes these stories as he presented them to his friends and family on the front porch of his historic 1840 home on Kelley's Island.

This is a non-fiction book about real occurrences. Most of the stories took place in many cities across the United States. However, all the stories in the book were told to his relatives, friends, and Kelley's neighbors on the Front Porch of our historic 1840 home on Kelley's Island in Lake Erie.

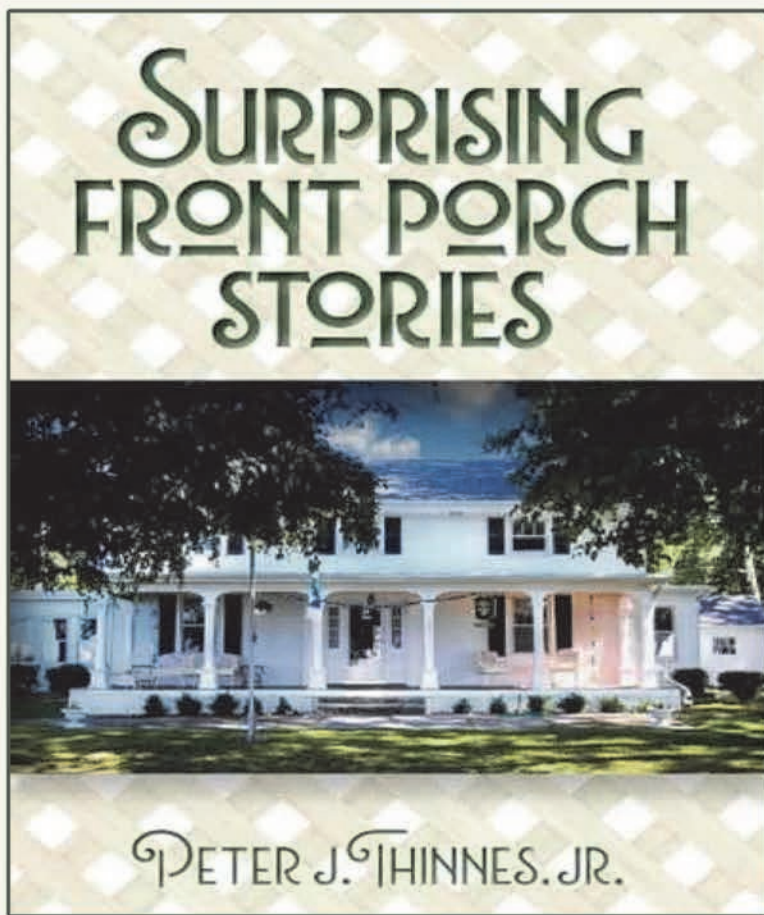
As you'll discover, many of these stories from Jack's life include "unexpected coincidences" or "Godwinks." Many are about famous people, such as John Wayne, Paul Newman, Bob Hope, Don Rickles, singers Paul Simon and Tony Bennett, animators Bill Hanna and Joe Barbera, and Chuck Jones, and so many more. But the people aren't the key focus. It's how, where, or when Jack met these people and the subsequent "coincidence" of that meeting.

I believe our lives are collections of stories made unique by circumstances and unexpected coincidences. I hope you find joy, laughter, and disbelief in my Surprising Front Porch Stories. People who hear my stories often share them with others—that's a sign of a good story. Go ahead, share them—Jack Thinnies.

Surprising Front Porch Stories is available at the Kelley's Island Museum Store and on Amazon.

New Book Release!

Available in the Kelley's Island Museum Store and on Amazon.



Recent Book Reviews:

"Just got your book. I love it"!

"I just finished looking over the book and reading the intro. I can't wait to read the entire book. You have such an easy-going, friendly way of writing."

"This book is outstanding! Your writing style is excellent—it is as if you are there telling the story."

"Your book is quite a joy! It's allowing me to rekindle my memories -- all due to your book. Chapter Seven, about how you and Mary Ellen met is one helluva Godwink© and a great story"!

"What a great tribute to your family and your wife. The stories were great! I had no idea the length and breadth of your connections"!

"I have started reading the book and it's a delightful read! You shared just the right amount of humorous and heartfelt stories."

"I have seen it in movies, but rarely have I read such an enjoyable book. I really took my time, slowly reading to the end. Why? Because I did not want it to end."

"Fun, true-life tales told by a master storyteller"!

"Just finished reading your book. I want to read more, hear more stories and, to that end, I intend to re-read it at least once this summer. Thank you."

"I love your stories!!! I love GODWINK©! Perfect."

"Your book is wonderful. Your writing is superb. You capture the moment and have a lightness of story. Quite the gift."

Wishes Last Forever

Kelleys Island Make-A-Wish 32nd Swim & Golf Cart Poker Run



Last year 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. Pictured is Cindra, Caylin, 2025 wish child & Jeni.

After 32 years of writing articles for the Kelleys newspaper I would like to announce we made over \$60,000 last year. 6 Wishes. One of our best years ever.

This year's events start on Saturday, August 1 with our Golf Cart Poker Run. Registration takes place at 9am at the Island House. A breakfast bar & drinks will be available. Continuing Sunday, Aug 2nd with Cindra, Caylin & myself swimming into the Casino around noon. Our starting point will be off the West End Club on Kelleys.

At this moment, we have not learned who our Make-A-Wish children are for this year. We are excited to see who we will be swimming for.

"T" shirts will be available at our newest shop on Kelleys "The Bridge off the Island" (where Chicklets Closet used to be). Donation of \$20. Cash or checks only (made out to Make-A-Wish).

See you soon!
Jeni & Cindra

Herndon Gallery's Class Schedule Summer 2026

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

KELLEYS ISLAND LIBRARY
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- Summer Reading Club
- Internet, computers, and printing
- Summer Programming

Summer Hours
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.

528 Division St.
Kelleys Island, OH 43438
419.746.9575

www.sanduskylib.org

Gallery is open
Thurs.-Mon,
11-4

Or, view the art by
appointment:

(419) 746-2249

New this season:
Classes!

Check fb for details

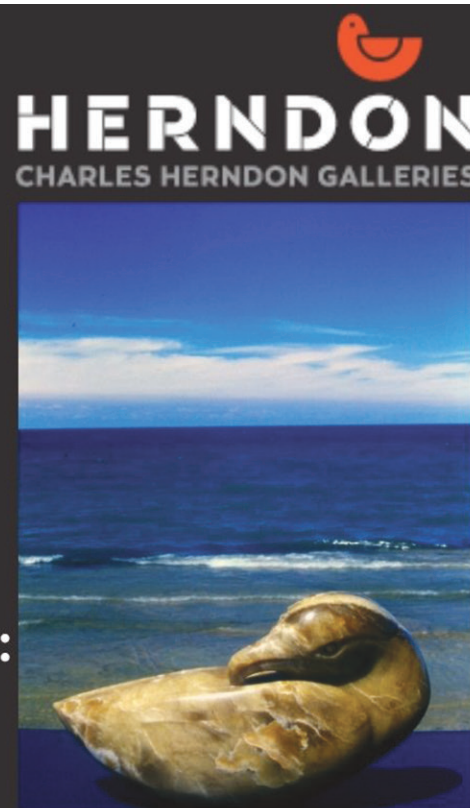


Glass blowing with
Double Dipped Studios
Th, f and sat in
season!

Gardens are open
Dawn-dusk every
day

More information on Facebook: Charles Herndon Gallery

110 Laylin Lane KELLEYS ISLAND, OH.



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!



Kelleys Island Safety Service Day

On Saturday, May 16, the community was able to meet our local Fire, EMS, and Police, as well as explore our emergency vehicles and equipment. Due to impending weather, the event ended a little early for everyone's safety.

"A huge thank you to our amazing community for coming out and supporting our safety services today! Your support means so much to all of us, and we loved having the opportunity to connect with everyone."

PHCR: Mary Gaither



Rescued from Lake Erie

Sandusky Register

KELLEYS ISLAND — Three southern Ohio men are alive tonight after being rescued from Lake Erie on Tuesday, May 19th. At about 6:30 p.m., Kelleys Island first responders were called to the Newman ferry dock in the 500 block of W. Lakeshore Drive for the report of people yelling for help. Kelleys Island police, fire and EMS arrived to find a boat that was capsized about 150 yards off the shore, according to Kelleys Island police Chief James Bartus. Members of the United States Coast Guard were able to pluck the men from the boat. They were transported to Firelands Regional Medical Center for treatment. The men told rescuers that a third man

was with them and unaccounted for. Before an effort to find the third man started, a powerful storm swept into the area rain and high winds. The man was eventually located halfway between Kelleys Island and Marblehead, according to Bartus. He had treaded water for four to four-and-a-half hours. The third man was taken to Magruder Hospital. Bartus credited the three men being alive tonight to the combined efforts of Kelleys Island safety forces, the Coast Guard, Tow Boat US and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. The three men, who departed from the Mazurik Access on the mainland, were on the lake to fish.



Kelleys Island Library Branch

Shea Alltmont, Community Engagement Manager, Sandusky Library

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.

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.

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.

We look forward to seeing you soon and find us at www.sanduskylib.org.

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

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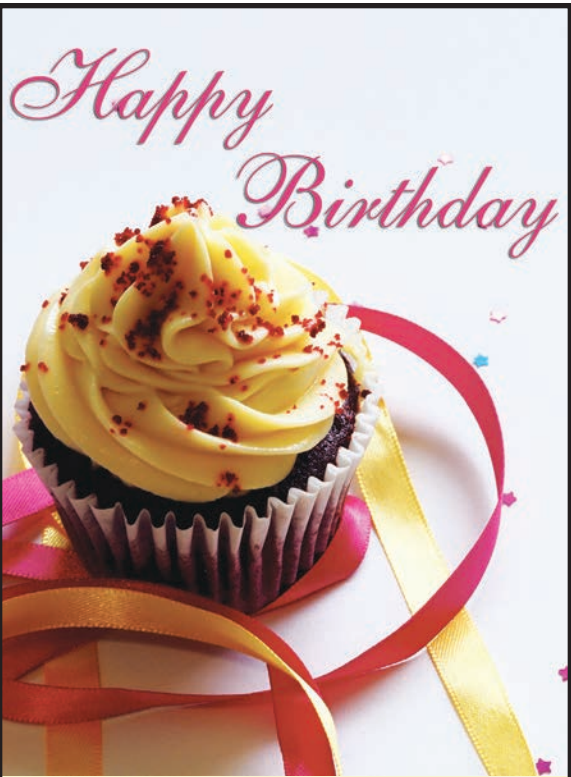
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Submissions to Life on Kelleys Articles, ideas, photos, letters to the editor and newsworthy items are welcomed. Provide email or telephone contact information for follow up or clarification of details.

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.



JUNE

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

If you have a birthday that you would like included please email Lifonkelleys@gmail.com

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Bugle Call: Kelleys Island Post 9908 of the VFW

Paul Burns, Quartermaster

Happy Semiquincentennial anniversary of the signing of the United States Declaration of Independence from your hometown VFW!

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 be sure to get your tickets sooner than later. Ticket price is \$25 for a wonderful meal and a great community social event.

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

On May 3rd Paul Burns was elected to an Ohio VFW District 9 leadership position of Surgeon. It is a fantastic process that the VFW uses for elections. There are twenty-three posts in our District, which consists of six north central counties of Erie, Ottawa, Lorain, Sandusky, Seneca, and Huron. Each post is given a number of delegates based on their membership as of a set date. Our post has two delegates, larger post may have sixteen. On that day there were 166 delegate votes available. A simple majority gets the position. Paul might be the first member of our post to hold a leadership in the District. Congratulations!

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.



A New Season of Island Stewardship

Patti Johnson

Hello fellow island lovers, I hope this finds you well. As I write this, I'm far from the island, on a cat-sitting adventure I never could have imagined a year ago — one of those unexpected "offers you

can't refuse."

The call came a few months ago: "We'll fly you to your old home in Fort Myers. You'll have a car. Groceries will be in the fridge." And just like that, here I am.

My charge's name is Skippy — my namesake, if you know, you know. He is 19 years old and needs two insulin shots a day. It has become my honor to care for him, knowing this family would never have been able to take their dream vacation without someone willing to stay behind and tend to all the little daily needs that love requires. So far, it has been a pleasure.

Since we have sold our final lot in Florida, officially closing a long chapter of our lives, we have no more ties here except dear friends and decades of memories. And oh, the memories this place holds.

The hardest part of accepting this trip was missing Memorial Day weekend on the island — the reunions, porch visits, and the beginning energy of another summer season. I'm also missing the building of our first vegetable beds at the orchard.

But I realized something: island summers are long and full, and there will still be time for gatherings, gardening, and sunsets. Sometimes stewardship simply means saying yes where you are needed.

The vegetable beds are not being built for perfection or productivity. They are being built so our family can continue learning how to grow food together. Ever since Doug planted the first peach and apple trees, the orchard has been a place of respite, reciprocity, and connection for our family.

Now it has become our homestead. We could not be prouder of Allisun and Jason and the work they are doing — and will continue doing — to help support the land while we navigate the next phase of building and preserving our little piece of island life.

And learning about building on the island has certainly been an education. Nowadays, you can research yourself into complete paralysis. There is so much information, so many rules, opinions, costs, and decisions that sometimes the creative spirit and executive function both decide to take a vacation at the same time. Still, we continue learning from those who have built here, and from those who chose existing homes instead.

If any of you have island building stories to share — the triumphs, the disasters, the lessons learned — I would truly love to hear them and perhaps share them here in future Story Corners if you like.

One of my earliest memories of island building was watching Dick and

Rosie Kadlec create their home many years ago. Like so many island friendships, ours began simply by walking down the street after getting off the boat on Fridays.

Dick was a Cleveland policeman. Rosie and my mom quickly became porch-visiting friends who could laugh for hours together. Back then, in the late 1960s and early 1970s, homes were often built the same way our Dairy Isle was built — with cinder blocks, determination, and a whole lot of helping hands.

Over time, Dick learned I had a deep fear of dogs after being bitten in the face as a child. Slowly and patiently, he introduced me to "the original Heidi," his white German Shepherd, always making sure I understood she was nothing like the dog that had frightened me years before.

Decades later, my love for dogs can still be traced back to those gentle porch visits.

Having Dick and Rosie as neighbors led to years of walks, waves, and "howdies" — a greeting Dick and Jay exchanged for more than fifty years. And passed on to hundreds of neighbors through those times.

Now I find myself taking those same daily walks, greeting new neighbors while carrying memories of the old ones beside me. Sometimes, as I sit quietly in the backyard listening to the birds, I realize how many lives and stories passed through our business over the years. Those memories now feel like part of the landscape of the island itself.

That may be what this new season of island stewardship really means.

Even though we no longer have the business, we still have our island mission: to nurture connection, gratitude, reciprocity, and care for both people and place. Stewardship is not only about ownership. It is about participation. About showing up for one another. About giving back when we can. Thank you to ALL the ISLAND STEWARDS!

This Story Corner is my hope for continuing to exchange — not only sharing our memories, but inviting yours as well.

If you have stories, memories, or pieces of island history you would like to share, I would love to hear from you at islandpj419@gmail.com.

Thanks for reading, and thanks for continuing to help keep the spirit of the island community alive.

A 20-year resident of Kelley's Island gives me the expertise to help direct you to the perfect island retreat. **Buying or selling I can serve you!**
Call me at 330-322-0992.



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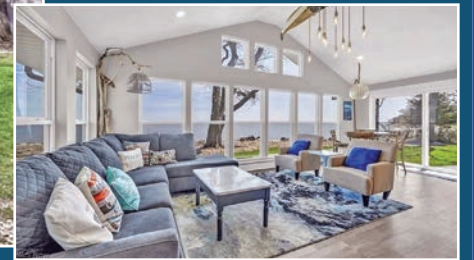


UNDER CONTRACT

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



NEW PRICE



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! **\$412,900**



SOLD

211 ORCHARD

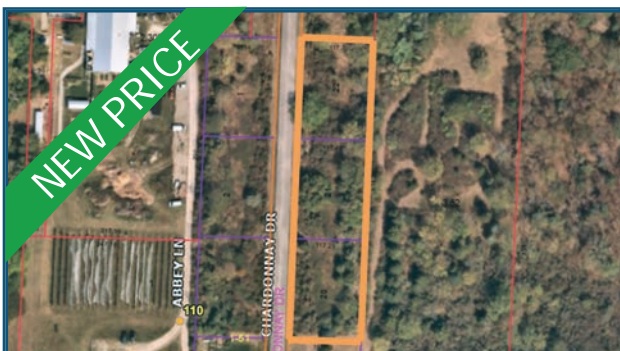
Newly Renovated Island Retreat offering 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, and over 670 sq ft of comfortable living space. This Bright, Inviting Home features all new appliances and fresh finishes throughout, so you can move right in and start enjoying island life. Step outside onto a Large Wooden Deck, then down to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



NEW LISTING

136 Sunset Drive

Tucked-Away in the Quiet, Less-Traveled Section of the Sunset Point Subdivision. This 2 Bd, 1 BA bungalow offers 720 sq. ft., with a 400 sq. ft. garage, perfect for storing your lake lifestyle gear. Both the home and garage feature durable Metal Roofs for Low-Maintenance ownership. Off the back of the house you will find a serene and tranquil area featuring a Wooden Deck and Pergola. **\$334,900**



NEW PRICE

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



NEW LISTING

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**



SEPTIC IN

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**



NEW LISTING

Lots 100-102 Orchard
Tucked away deep within the peaceful Sweetbriar subdivision, this oversized corner lot (0.437 acres) offers the perfect canvas for your Kelleys Island dream home. Located on a lightly traveled street, this 141' x 135' property provides the privacy and space a growing family needs. Lake Erie access at the end of both Melody and Cedar Lanes **\$112,500**



VACANT LAND

220 Melody Lane
Desirable Oversized Residential Lot (0.809 Acres) With Lake Erie Access at the End of the Street. Street Access (100' frontage on Melody, 150' Frontage on Memory Lane). Site and Soil Review Suggests Property Will Support a House, Pole Barn and 3-4 Bedroom Septic Waste Water Treatment System. City Water is Available on Melody Lane. **\$195,000**



SCAN ME

Helping Buyers and Sellers from Westlake to The Erie Islands

Nest With The Birds Draws Record Influx of Warblers – and Visitors

Julie Schuler



Enter for a Chance to Win a Handmade Owl Quilt held by KIAC President Pat Hayes and Board Member Julie Schuler

environmental contaminants (like pesticides) and manage species populations.

The banding site drew visitors young and old from nearby and out of state, including members from an Arizona chapter of the Audubon Society. In total the station banded 246 birds representing 29 different species.

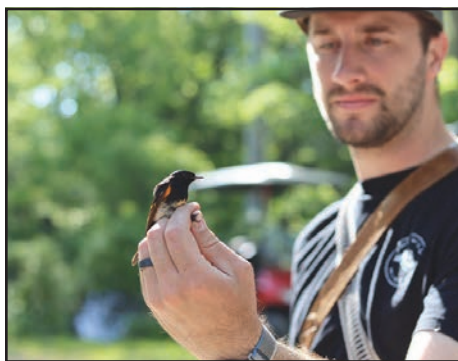


Bander Tom Bartlett gets help releasing a bird.



Visitors took part in a day of science and learning

It was a bonanza of birds at this year's Kelleys Island Audubon (KIAC) sponsored Nest With The Birds, held on Jones Preserve at Long Point May 17th.



Volunteer Tyler McClain holds an American Redstart

It was one of the top days ever on Kelleys Island or any island where the Bartletts conduct banding.

KIAC also offered birds for adoption during the event. Participants could sponsor a banded bird of their



Happy bird adoptive parents

The event includes a morning of bird-banding by Tom and Paula Bartlett. Bird banding is crucial for studying bird migration patterns, behavior, population size and survival rates. By placing unique, numbered aluminum bands on legs, researchers can monitor health, identify stopover sites for conservation, track

choosing. Any time that bird is recaptured or counted, the adoptive parent will receive notification.



New KIAC Board Members Rachel O'Conner and Julie Schuler

Support the KIAC! Become a Member

The Kelleys Island Audubon Club strives to bring people together who are interested in the study of wild birds and the conservation of natural resources of Kelleys Island. You can join by visiting KelleysIslandNature.org.

Join a Meeting

During the summer and early fall, the KIAC hosts monthly meetings at the Kelleys Island School or at the Community Park on Addison St. (weather permitting). Join us for an upcoming meeting:

JUNE 18
JULY 16
AUG 20
SEPT 17

Potluck at 6 p.m. followed by meeting and nature program at 7 p.m. Enter for a Chance to Win a

Handmade Owl Quilt

Jennifer Pieratt, Audubon member, handcrafted the a custom owl quilt that will be raffled off at this year's Owl Fest, November 6-8. Raffle tickets are available at KIAC's monthly meetings or events and are \$1 each or six for \$5.



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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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

2026 KIAC Events and Other Supported Nature Events

- 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

Please check "Bird Kelleys Island" on FB or kelleysislandnature.org for updates.

Kelleys Island Bird Watching Guide

Kelleys Island State Park

920 Division St., 419.746.2546, 866.644.6727, 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
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. No pets.

North Shore Alvar State Nature Preserve

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

Island Dogs Launches "The Happy Dog Photo Contest"

Monica Sislan

Do you have a photo of your dog that just gets them — the one that captures exactly who they are in all their goofy, soulful, irresistible glory? Island Dogs wants to see it.

Island Dogs is excited to announce The Happy Dog Photo Contest, open for submissions beginning Memorial Day, Monday, May 25th, through Sunday, August 9th. Winners will be announced on National Dog Day, August 26th.

The theme celebrates the Island Dog as a state of mind. We're looking for authentic moments that capture dogs being fully, unapologetically themselves. No geographic ties to the Island are required. Just your dog, exactly as they are.

How to Enter

Submit your photo at islanddogs.net/contest. Photos must be high resolution, taken within the last two years, and unaltered — no filters and no AI. Professional or studio photos will not be accepted. One entry per household, please.

Prizes

Three winners will be selected by a panel of judges and public vote.

- 1st Prize: \$200 Island Dogs gift card + a \$100 donation to Island Safe Harbor Animal Sanctuary made in the winner's name
- 2nd Prize: \$100 Island Dogs gift card
- 3rd Prize: \$50 Island Dogs gift card

President's Message: *A Billion Butterflies by 2126*

Pat Hayes

Over the last 32 years, the Kelleys Island Audubon has had a dynamic board of directors. Many have served since the first meeting. All have served the club and its mission. From Nature Camps to Natural Areas, our board has addressed the best paths to take to achieve these goals. This spring, I would like to welcome two new board members, Julie and Rachel, and thank one retiring member. Barb Zeller is stepping down after several years as Vice President. Her contribution to the board has been extraordinary. Just getting me to write the President's Message is remarkable! Barb and husband, Jim, who will remain on the board, have always been there for Audubon events and have sat for many hours at our booths from Homecoming to Bird Banding. Thank you, Barb.

We are lucky to welcome these board members to our club. The pay for this job is being a voice for the island and its resources. Let's not forget what an impact we have made on Kelleys Island. Hopefully our work to procure park lands and habitats will be remembered. The satisfaction from well attended events reflects the interest and caring of the islanders for our island.

Consider this an open invitation to attend our meetings and lectures. You'll get to hang out with a diverse group where you'll learn a little and share a little. Then, explore our natural areas. Find the rare Lakeside Daisy in the spring. Discover the nesting eagles. Look for evidence of our beavers. Head out to see Tom and Paula Bartlett band birds on Long Point at the Jones Preserve as the warblers will be moving through in May. Before I go, I want you to watch our prairie preserves each season. Monarchs and milkweeds are your rewards. Every year these pollinator areas are a new reason to be thankful. Chris Ashley and Jackie Taylor are largely responsible for this wonderful addition to Kelleys Island.

Many club members have donated money and time to this project.

I thank you and the entire island community.

As a thank-you, every participant whose photo is accepted will receive a special discount code to the Island Dogs shop.

About Island Dogs

At Island Dogs, we believe every dog deserves to feel the freedom, joy,

and pure happiness of being fully loved. That belief drives everything we do. With every purchase of Island Dogs apparel or original artwork, 15% of net proceeds supports organizations helping dogs find loving homes and people find purpose through their bond with them.

Don't miss your chance to show the world what makes your dog one of a kind. Submit your photo at islanddogs.net/contest and help us celebrate the happiness that only a dog can unleash.

For more information, visit islanddogs.net.



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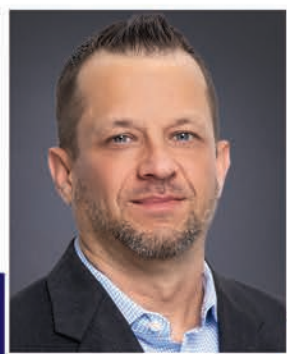
Retirement Suits Her!

Caroline Jorski is enjoying her retirement, as seen when she attended a Guardians game. Her absence is felt at Life on Kelleys, but everyone is pleased for her new chapter. Her happiness and well-being remain a priority for her friends and colleagues.



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The Island Advocate Dog Bite Laws in Ohio: What Every Dog Owner Should Know

Dogs are part of the family for many Ohio households. Most dogs are friendly and well-behaved, but bites and attacks still happen every year. When they do, Ohio law places significant responsibility on dog owners.

As a dog owner myself, I am often asked about what happens if your dog bites someone or if you are bitten yourself.

Ohio Uses a "Strict Liability" Rule

Ohio has one of the stronger dog bite laws for injured victims. Under Ohio Revised Code § 955.28, a dog owner, keeper, or harbinger can be held legally responsible when a dog injures someone.

In many situations, the injured person does not have to prove the owner was careless or knew the dog was dangerous. This is called **strict liability**. That means if a dog bites or attacks someone, the owner may be responsible simply because the injury occurred.

What Must an Injured Person Prove?

Generally, a person bringing a dog bite claim must show:

1. The defendant owned, kept, or harbored the dog
2. The dog caused the injury
3. The injured person was lawfully on the property or in a public place

Unlike some states, Ohio does not require proof that:

- The dog previously bit someone
- The owner knew the dog was dangerous
- The owner acted negligently

Defenses Available to Dog Owners

Ohio law does provide defenses in certain situations.

An owner may avoid liability if the injured person was:

- Trespassing
- Committing a criminal offense
- Teasing, tormenting, or abusing the dog

These defenses are highly fact-specific and often become major issues in litigation.

For example:

- A burglar bitten during a break-in may have difficulty recovering damages.
- A child teasing a dog may reduce or bar recovery depending on the circumstances.

What About "Dangerous Dogs"?

Ohio law separately addresses dogs classified as:

- Dangerous dogs
- Vicious dogs
- Nuisance dogs

A dog may be classified as "dangerous" if it:

- Injures a person without provocation, or

- Kills or injures another dog under certain circumstances

Owners of dangerous dogs can face additional requirements, including:

- Registration rules
- Confinement requirements
- Insurance requirements in some cases

Failure to comply can lead to criminal charges and increased civil liability.

Criminal Charges for Dog Owners

In serious cases, dog owners may face criminal penalties.

Depending on the facts, charges can involve:

- Failure to control a dangerous dog
- Violations of leash or confinement laws

Local ordinances may also impose additional penalties.

What Damages Can a Victim Recover?

A person injured by a dog may seek compensation for Medical Bills, lost wages, pain and suffering, and scarring and disfigurement.

Insurance Coverage Issues

Many homeowners and renters insurance policies cover dog bite claims. However some policies exclude certain breeds and dogs with bite histories. After a serious incident, insurance coverage often becomes a central issue

Practical Advice for Dog Owners

Ohio dog owners can reduce risk by properly training the dog, using leashing and fencing, supervising interactions with unfamiliar individuals and taking warnings of aggressive behavior seriously. Responsible ownership protects both people and pets.

Final Thoughts

Ohio law places substantial responsibility on dog owners when injuries occur. In many cases, an injured person does not need to prove negligence or prior aggression to recover damages.

For dog owners, understanding these laws is important not only to avoid liability, but also to promote safe and responsible pet ownership.

For victims, knowing your rights can help you determine whether compensation may be available after a serious incident.

Dean DePiero
DEPIERO LAW

(Attorney DePiero also serves as the Kelleys Island Mayors Court Magistrate and has been an "Islander" since 2002)

Kelleys Island Real Estate – Mid-April to Mid-May 2026 Market Update

Steve Mack
Century 21 Bolte Real Estate

As we move closer to summer, the Kelleys Island real estate market is starting to feel a little busier again, although things are definitely moving at a more normal pace compared to the crazy market we saw a few years back.

Right now, inventory is still fairly limited, but there's a nice mix of properties available. Active homes during this mid-April to mid-May period ranged from the mid \$300,000s up to just under \$1 million. Some homes came on the market and generated attention pretty quickly, while others have taken longer as buyers spend more time comparing options and watching pricing closely.

That's probably the biggest theme in the market right now, buyers are still out there, but they're being careful. They're paying attention to condition, updates, location, and whether a property feels realistically priced for today's market.

Even with that, we still saw some solid activity over this stretch. Two homes moved into contingent status, including a newer construction property in the upper \$400,000s and a smaller island cottage in the mid \$300,000 range. We also had a home on a large parcel close in the low \$600,000s after only about a month on the market, which shows that good properties are still finding buyers when they're priced appropriately.

Looking back at the same period

last year, the overall activity really wasn't all that different. During mid-April through mid-May of 2025, there were three home sales on the island ranging from around \$300,000 up to roughly \$1.25 million. So while the pace may feel a little slower than the peak market years, buyers are still very much interested in Kelleys Island property.

The lots and land market has been a little quieter this spring. There were two new land listings added during this period, but no lots moved into contract and no land sales closed. Current lot inventory ranges from smaller buildable neighborhood lots up to parcels just over an acre, with prices ranging between roughly \$112,000 and \$195,000. Some of the

newer listings are still early in their market time, while others have now been sitting for several months, which tells us land buyers are taking a slower and more patient approach right now.

Overall though, the market still feels healthy heading into summer. There aren't a huge number of homes or lots available, buyers are still actively watching for the right opportunity, and properties that are priced well continue to generate interest. It may not be the fast-paced market we experienced a few years ago, but Kelleys Island real estate continues to hold its value and attract steady attention as we head into the busiest part of the season.



Before you Renew, Review! What to Consider When Renewing Your Homeowner's Policy

Amanda Rhiel,
Bolte Insurance
Agency

Summer is the season for home projects, long-awaited renovations, and backyard gatherings, but before you dive into summer, don't forget to take a few minutes to review any changes to your home or lifestyle that should be reflected on your homeowner's insurance policy. As property values and rebuilding costs continue to rise, your annual renewal is more important than ever, and a quick review now can help prevent costly surprises later.

Your homeowner's insurance renewal should never be treated as just another bill. Coverage should be reviewed every year to make sure it still reflects the true value and condition of your home. Many homeowners are seeing premium increases, but understanding the reasons behind them can help you make informed decisions when renewing your policy.

One of the biggest factors affecting premiums is the rising replacement cost of homes. Inflation, labor shortages, and higher prices for building materials such as lumber, roofing products, and electrical components have significantly

increased the cost to repair or rebuild a home after a loss. Insurance companies adjust replacement cost estimates regularly to keep coverage aligned with current construction costs. While this can increase premiums, being underinsured could leave homeowners paying out of pocket after a claim.

Renewal time is the perfect opportunity to review any updates or improvements made to the property during the past year. Renovations such as kitchen or bathroom upgrades, finished basements, additions, or detached structures like garages and sheds may increase the value of the home and should be disclosed to your insurer. A new roof is especially important to report, as it can improve insurability and may qualify for better pricing.

Are your liability limits still appropriate for your lifestyle and assets? You may want to consider and increase if you have added a swimming pool, trampoline or something else that may increase your liability exposure.

Do you have high-value belongings such as jewelry, watches, art or collectables, or firearms that may require additional endorsements or scheduled coverage? There are often special limits of coverage within your

homeowner's policy that may not be enough to adequately cover higher value items.

When comparing renewal options or quotes from different insurers, it is important to compare deductibles carefully. Some policies use an "all perils" deductible that applies to most losses, while others may include separate deductibles for wind or hail damage. A lower premium may not necessarily mean better value if the policy includes higher or separate deductibles that increase out-of-pocket costs during a claim. Always compare policies on an equivalent coverage basis to ensure you are making an accurate comparison.

Homeowners should also ask about discounts for protective devices and

smart home technology. Many insurers offer savings for monitored alarm systems, monitored fire protection, motion-detecting security cameras, and automatic water shut-off devices designed to prevent water damage claims. These features can reduce risk and potentially lower premiums.

If you have questions about your homeowner's insurance renewal or would like a personalized coverage review, contact Amanda or one of the licensed agents at Bolte Insurance Agency at 419-732-3111. Proudly serving the community for 90 years as a family-owned business in downtown Port Clinton, Bolte Insurance is committed to helping homeowners stay properly protected with coverage that fits their needs.



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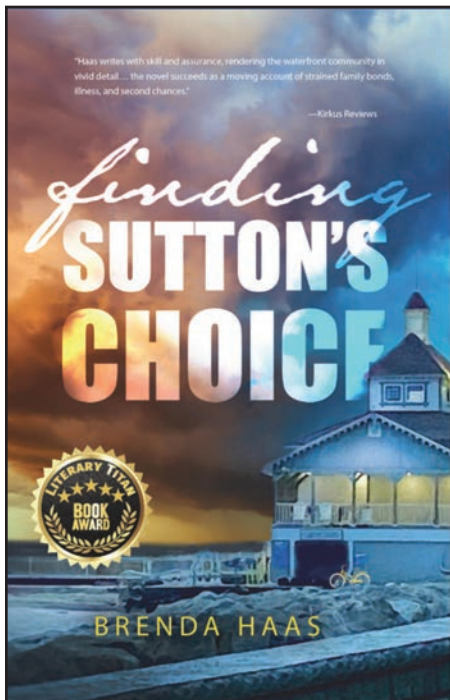
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Lake Erie Novel Supports Alzheimer's Awareness

"Memory is the treasury and guardian of all things." — Cicero

Lake Erie author Brenda Haas sorted through the "lost and found of childhood memories" to gain inspiration for her award-winning debut novel, *Finding Sutton's Choice*, a coming-home story about failing mental health, family secrets, fractured relationships and second chances.

Ultimately, how Alzheimer's disease impacts memory became one of the most important threads holding the plot together. "When the book came out, I wanted my story to spread a bit of Alzheimer's awareness just by hitting the shelves," Haas said, noting that May is designated Mental Health Awareness Month, and June is Alzheimer's & Brain Awareness Month. "I also wanted to spotlight the Shores & Islands Ohio area. Readers will recognize so many

regional references in the book."

The novel centers around the Sutton Family—specifically Charlotte Sutton, a 28-year-old writer who unwillingly finds herself back in her hometown of Lakeside, Ohio, after a decade gone. Her estranged father, Chuck Sutton, doesn't recognize her, and a surprise half-sibling has taken her place. A newspaper editor, retired Cleveland baseball player, and the town's most beloved celebrity, Chuck is thought to have Alzheimer's disease, an illness that leads Charlotte to revisit memories of her complicated past and reevaluate her own misconceptions about growing up in the small Ohio town that still holds her heart.

According to the Alzheimer's Association website, 55 million people are living with Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia, worldwide.

About one in nine people, aged 65+, have Alzheimer's. Early onset Alzheimer's, affecting people under 65, is becoming more common.

"Even on the best of days, family relationships can be complicated," Haas said. "In *Finding Sutton's Choice*, Alzheimer's actually has the rare opportunity to bring a fractured family closer... through memories. Despite the solemn content, there is so much humor and hope in my small-town story about second chances with the ones we love. That's really what is at its heart."

In its first year, it has proven popular locally and beyond, receiving a 2025 Literary Titan Gold Book Award, two International Impact Book Awards (Aging and Women's Fiction categories, 2025), and a PenCraft Best Book Award for Fiction (2026). Available @ ten16press.com, Amazon or B&N.

OBITUARIES

Ruth Verber

November 15, 1923 - May 14, 2026



Ruth Geraldine Verber, age 102, of North Kingstown, RI, passed away peacefully at Roberts Health Centre on May 14, 2026. She was the beloved wife of the late Rev. James L. Verber, with whom she shared 54 wonderful years of marriage.

L. Verber, with whom she shared 54 wonderful years of marriage.

Born on November 15, 1923, Kelley's Island, Ohio, Ruth was the daughter of Leslie Keeley Beatty and Henrietta Pearl (Dwelle) Beatty.

Ruth was active in her community serving in the Navy Wives League, the Womens' League and delivered for Meals on Wheels.

Ruth is survived by sons David Blatt of Sandusky, OH, Barry Blatt of North Kingstown, RI and Eric Verber of

Wausau, WI.

She is also survived by many loving grandchildren, great grandchildren, and great-great grandchildren as well as many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by three brothers, Clyde Keith Beatty, Donald Truman Beatty, and Karl Grafton Beatty, by daughter, Sharon (Verber) Whelan, son, Marc Verber and granddaughters Jennifer Whelan and Christian Verber.

Her Requiem Eucharist was held on Friday, May 22, 2026, at 10:30 AM in St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 55 Main Street, Wickford. Burial followed in the RI Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Exeter.

In lieu of flowers, gifts in her memory to Rhode Island Episcopal Charities, 275 North Main Street, Providence, RI 02903 will be appreciated. <https://episcopalri.org/episcopal-charities/>

Donald Lewis Koshla

February 6, 2026



Donald Lewis Koshla, age 93, passed away February 6, 2026. Beloved husband of nearly 70 years to Bernadette (nee Burik); loving

father of Karen (Chuck) Rossiter, Jill Koshla (Mark Schaeffer), Beth (Robert) Rafter, and the late infant son Donald Jude. Devoted grandfather of Michael (Brianna) Schaeffer, Zachery (Taylor) Rafter, Jeffrey Schaeffer, Anna Rafter, Kevin Schaeffer and Nathaniel Rafter. Great-grandfather to Henry and Theodore Schaeffer.

Donald proudly served his country in

the U.S. Navy on the USS Everglades (AD 24) during the Korean War. Following his service Donald worked for General Electric in the Lamp Division for over 35 years. Donald also served on the Mayfield Heights Volunteer Fire Department for 28 years, retiring in 1989 as a captain.

Donald loved to do woodworking in his barn on Kelleys Island, the place he considered home for 40 years.

Cremation arrangements have been handled by Brown-Forward Funeral Home. A Memorial Service took place at St. Michael's Church on Kelleys Island on May 9, 2026, Private interment at Kelleys Island Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers contributions in Donald's memory are suggested to: VFW Post 9908, PO Box 444 Kelleys Island, OH 43438

Kristy Lee Kull

February 7, 1971 - November 29, 2025



Kristy Lee Kull entered the world during a blizzard on February 7, 1971, born to Steve and Mary Kull, and fittingly left it during another winter storm on November 29, 2025.

Surrounded by family and friends, she spent her final day watching the Ohio State Buckeyes defeat Michigan while Steve lovingly called out each play. Later that night, wrapped in love, Kristy passed

peacefully.

Though her life feels far too short, it was full and beautifully lived. Kristy never met a stranger. She greeted everyone with a warm smile, open arms, and a heart that made people feel instantly welcome. Kindness, laughter, and connection followed her everywhere.

A gifted leader, scholar, and athlete, Kristy graduated from Westerville North High School in 1989 as class president, a 4.0 student, ten-letter varsity athlete, and Columbus Dispatch Scholar Athlete. She earned a scholarship to Denison University, where she played basketball

for four years, ran cross-country for two, and graduated summa cum laude. She then continued her education at the University of Kansas, where she fell in love with the Jayhawks and Kansas City Chiefs—without ever losing her devotion to her Cleveland teams and the Ohio State Buckeyes.

Kristy carried her leadership into her professional life as Vice President of Human Resources at Embassy Healthcare, where her compassion, integrity, and care for others left a lasting impact. She also shared her love of sports by coaching the Willowick Middle School eighth-

grade girls basketball team for three years, including one undefeated championship season, inspiring her players with encouragement and heart.

Her adventurous spirit took her across the country and the world, including Portugal, Mexico, the Caribbean, Ireland, and finally London, where she proudly cheered on her Browns. She especially cherished time on Kelleys Island with family, friends, and fellow Eastsiders.

Kristy loved fiercely and lived generously. Her legacy of warmth, loyalty, and joy will live on in the many hearts she touched.




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The 60+ Population is Perfect Prey for Abusers

The problem of elder abuse is epidemic, especially for financial elder abuse. The Ohio Attorney General's Office recently produced a great video everyone should watch.

<https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Individuals-and-Families/Seniors/Elder-Abuse-Resource>

Financial elder abuse — including scams is the most common type of abuse. In July 26, 2025, Newsweek reported older Americans were scammed out of a reported 645 million dollars in the first three months of 2025. That does not reflect all money lost by older unsuspecting Americans. It only reflects those losses that were reported from January 1, 2025 through March 2025.

Romance Scams. Romance scams is a common form of financial elder abuse. The advocates at Serving Our Seniors see it fairly often. Falling in love over the computer / smartphone can happen to men as well as women. Keep in mind, Serving Our Seniors will only hear from those who are beginning

to doubt / question if this romantic relationship is real. We don't hear from those who have fallen in love with their imposter and never question the relationship.

One may ask, "If someone would make harmful financial decisions to themselves can't they be deemed "incompetent"? Can't the court force them to have a guardian? The short answer is "No." In some cases, yes. To answer this correctly would require a separate article.

Adding to the complexity of reporting financial abuse is when there is no one to detect the signs/symptoms that the older person is being financially exploited. It is estimated that, nationally, there are 25% - 27% of older Americans are aging alone. Meaning, they have outlived their spouse and never had children, or they never married and never had children, or maybe they have children, but the relationship is poor or the distance prevents the abuse from being detected. Finally, There are cases when the older

adults out-lives their spouse and their children. It is older agers, in such circumstances, who tend to fall victim to their emotional affair, which is stealing them blind, and no one is there to see the signs and symptoms until it is too late.

According to the Newsweek article <https://www.newsweek.com/elderly-americans-lose-745m-scams-2025-so-far-2104605> the older a person is the greater the financial loss, for all types of financial elder abuse, not just romance scams. Here are the stats:

- Older Americans ages 60-69 reported 60,379 incidents of fraud. Resulting in an estimated loss of 355 million dollars
- Older Americans ages 70 - 79 reported fewer incidences, but lost a larger amount of money per incident. 45,000 reported incidences totaling \$299 million
- Older Americans aged 80+ reported 12,500 incidents of scams and lost \$91 million.

If you suspect you may be a victim

of some form of financial elder abuse, know this... Erie County has an Adult Protective Services unit with Adult Protective Investigators, 419-626-6781. All calls are anonymous and protected from the press.

Theft from an elderly person is a felony. Cases of financial elder abuse should also be reported to your local police department.

If you are an Erie County resident and would like the moral support of an advocate to help you call APS or your local police, Serving Our Seniors can help you, 419-624-1856. By calling Serving Our Seniors a Senior Advocate or a Senior Advocate Assistant will be with you by phone or in person, to talk with you and help you make your reports.

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

New Tanks are Filtering Phosphorus from Farm Runoff

The Ohio Newsroom/ Erin Gottsacker

As rainy spring weather washes phosphorus off farmfields, a series of new filters in northwest Ohio's Defiance County are working to catch the nutrient — before it gets into the streams and waterways that feed Lake Erie.

The project is part of a broader effort to prevent harmful algal blooms there.

"If we can just get to, say, 20% of the high phosphorus fields, that will be a big success and will have a big impact on removing the phosphorus that gets into Lake Erie," said Matt Fisher, vice president of the Lake Erie Foundation.

The nonprofit has installed five filters in the past couple of months and is monitoring their effectiveness.

How do the filters work?

"The phosphorus filters work like giant sieves, they're about 20 by 30 feet wide and around 12 feet deep, depending on the size of the area they serve. The fields drain into those filters on one side, flow through a series of pipes and media, and exit with what has turned out so far to be very clean water," Fisher said.

About a month in, he says the filters are removing nearly all of the dissolved

reactive phosphorus from the farm runoff they're collecting.

What makes the filters a useful tool?

There's been a big push in recent years to teach farmers about nutrient application and employ practices like cover crops.

Those are helpful strategies, Fisher says, but these new phosphorus filters are useful for capturing phosphorus in "legacy fields" where the nutrient has been accumulating over many decades.

"About 9% of the fields are responsible for 35% plus of what runs off into the Maumee," Fisher said. "So, we want to find as many of those 9% as we can, and try to work with leaders of the agriculture community to put filters in those places to try to catch as much dissolved reactive phosphorus as we can."

The filters are expensive: Fisher says each one costs about \$10,000.

But because they should last for about a decade and cover large areas, Fisher finds the solution encouraging.

He's hopeful more will be added across the region, and that they'll work to help keep Lake Erie clean.



Filters like this one in Defiance County remove phosphorus from farm runoff. They're part of a broader effort to reduce harmful algal blooms in Lake Erie

Courtesy of Matt Fisher and the Lake Erie Foundation



A worker helps install a phosphorus filter in northwest Ohio's Defiance County. A small fraction of farm fields in the region are disproportionately responsible for a lot of phosphorus pollution.

Courtesy of Matt Fisher and the Lake Erie Foundation

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School Yearbooks - Kelleys Island Style

Leslie Korenko

We've all seen them, the yearbooks from the 1970s when Kurt Boker had a hand in preparing them. They were hardbound and full of photos from the school and its students, but they also contained loads of historic pictures, stories and information.

One of the projects that I undertook for the KI History Museum was scanning all these old yearbooks and posting them to the website. These yearbooks contained quite a few surprises. The earliest complete yearbook we found in our files was from 1954 and came from Iola Riedy's house.

Iola Riedy lived in the stone building on Division St. that used to be the stone school house. After the death of her husband, Gilbert, Iola, who was a professional librarian, installed a

branch of the Sandusky library in a small room she added to the SW side of her house. The library served islanders and summer visitors until 1985 when she retired. The library then moved into the basement of Estes School. Islanders recall putting their returned books on the washing machine inside the back door. The Stone School House was built around 1853 and was the first permanent school on the Island. It was known as School District No. 1.

Along with this yearbook, Iola also had quite a collection of newsletters from the school - called the *Kelligian* which was published by the Kelleys Island School between 1951-1952. Only a few issues exist. These were donated by Iola Riedy. You'll note that many have the name Jay Norris written at the top. Jay lived next to Iola on



Iola Riedy's house on Division St.

Division St.

So, here is a brief look back at some of these early yearbooks - have some fun. Each yearbook is on the History Museum's website and has a list of the names, photos and/or activities appearing in the book as well as a link to the fully scanned book. These, along with copies of commencements notices and school photos dating back to the 1800s were also added to the visual display inside the lobby of the school.



1954

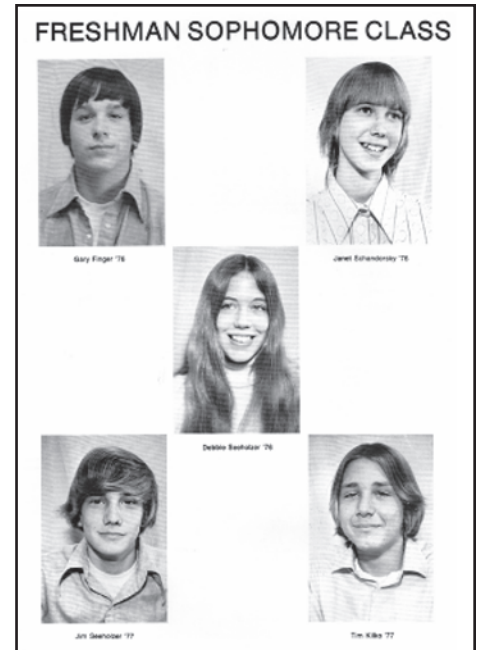


1926

1920-1930 - *The Erie Echo*, published between 1924 and 1931, often contained photos of graduating classes, including some from Kelleys Island.

1954 - *The Class of '54* - WOW, this one was handmade, obviously a rare, limited edition. The pages are typed and the photos, and there are lots of them, are glued to the page. This is a glimpse into school activities from over 70 years ago.

But our favorite one was from 1974 which featured some well-known names, like Gary Finger.



1974

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davetully.lake.erie@gmail.com



*Rylee says...
I'm excited
for summer on
Kelleys Island!*



**321 Harbor Ln,
Kelleys Island
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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**

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: April 15, 2026 - May 14, 2026

Land & Lots:

- Under Contract: 0
- Sold: 0

Homes & Condos:

- Under Contract: 1
- Sold: 1
- Sold Average Days On Market: 31
- Sold Prices: \$631,000

Currently Available:

- Active Homes Listed: 3
Price Range: \$412,000 to \$945,000
- Active Lots Listed: 5
Price Range: \$112,000 to \$195,000

All data from Firelands MLS from April 15, 2026 to May 14, 2026. Figures reflect MLS-listed properties only, deemed to be accurate but not guaranteed

For property information please visit Kelleysislandforsale.com

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