

# KELLEYS Life

Life on Kelleys Island



## Memorial Park Christmas Decorating Party



Annual Park Decorating Party: Thank you to everyone that participated. The park looks fantastic!

The Kelleys Island Volunteer Fire Department and numerous volunteers spent the afternoon decorating Memorial Park for the Christmas season. They did a fantastic job as always. This year, they were fortunate to have beautiful weather.

The Fire Department was provided with a generous donation, by Marvin Robinson, of a LED reindeer and LED American flag. George and Rory, O'Neil Mechanical, donated a LED light up wreath to decorate the Memorial in the park. With all the new additions, the park looked the best ever.

The decorations are put in place a couple of weeks prior, but not lit, in preparation for the Annual Park

Lighting Celebration on Friday after Thanksgiving when, upon Santa's arrival, the park lights up. This tradition gives the community something to look forward to and marks the beginning of the Kelleys Island Christmas Season.

Everyone is welcome to take part in the decorating. The Fire Department always welcomes islanders, visitors and their families to participate in the fun. Those who participate are rewarded by being included in the annual group photo.

Thank you to the Kelleys Island Volunteer Fire Department, Fire Chief Bobby Skeans and all of the volunteers that pitched in to create Christmas on Kelleys Island.

## Honoring Michael J. Feyedele



In August, 2019 the VFW Post 9908 dedicated their Pavilion on Division Street to honor Michael J. Feyedelem for his many years of service as he served as Quarter Master of the Post but also for his unselfish service to the Village of Kelleys Island. Mike is presently recuperating at Admiral's Point in Huron. Our best to you, Mike. Also, a big thank you to Kathy Maier for the beautiful lettering she did on the Pavilion sign. Your work was very much appreciated.

## From the Mayor's Desk

It is the start of a New Year. That being said, I would like to touch on some old business. I want to thank the voters for passing our two renewal levies in November. It is very much appreciated, and we will all benefit from it. I also want to thank Scott Smith for his service as a council person and welcome back council person elect Gary Finger. We have a new Clerk-Treasurer, welcome Lisa Klonaris, who will start April 1st.

Hope all had a good Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas and a good New Year's Holiday.

The Memorial Park Christmas Lighting was attended by many, including that special guest, Santa Claus, and I know we all had a great time. The park was beautifully decorated. Thank you to the Kelleys Island Volunteer

Fire Department and everyone that participated in the decorating. The Christmas Potluck was also a great success. It was a great time had by all.

With the New Year upon us, I am sure we are all looking forward to start planning for all the upcoming events. But during the planning, we all have to enjoy about three months of winter. There are those of us that really enjoy this time of year, from the quiet and peacefulness it brings, to getting projects completed that cannot happen during the summer months. I know not everyone enjoys the winter season so enjoy wherever you may spend it.

That is all I have for now, so let's hope for some cold weather, plenty of ice and lots of good fishing, enjoy the season!

Ron Ehrbar, Mayor

## Thanksgiving Weekend is an Annual Celebration of Friends, Family and Christmas

Thanksgiving weekend on Kelleys Island has become an annual tradition for islanders, seasonal residents and those that just love it here.



Santa with Ethan

After enjoying Thanksgiving dinner with our closest friends and family, Friday evening drew everyone downtown to celebrate the beginning of the Christmas season. The Village Pump hosted a Potluck dinner that was great fun for the family, good food, and conversation amongst friends.

Kelleys Island Volunteer Fire Department sponsored the annual Memorial Park Lighting. The lights and sirens of the fire truck brought families to the Memorial Park in anticipation of seeing Santa. Upon his arrival, the park lights were turned on, adding to the excitement and holiday cheer. Children of all ages rushed to

meet with Santa, excited about giving him their Christmas wish list. Kelleys Island Police Department distributed stuffed animals to all of the children. Sue Schmidt assisted Santa and handed out candy.

After the families visited with Santa and admired the Christmas light display, they headed to the Captain's Corner for some holiday fun. There was hot chocolate, cookie decorating, a holiday craft donated by Robin Benvenuto, and coloring provided for the children.



Santa's helper Sue Schmidt

The weekend was topped off with the Tail Gate Party at the Village Pump. The annual event featured plenty of food, entertainment, fun and, of course, the annual Village Pump Tail Gate Party photo.

Please turn to page 2

# Thanksgiving Weekend is an Annual Celebration of Friends, Family and Christmas

continued from page 1



Nolan, and Olivia Schneider and Charlotte Dipiero. Grandchildren of Ron and Mary Doe



Tailgate 2019 – Village Pump



Matt Kane and Danielle Klonaris

## Bring Some, Take Some: Seed Library Coming to KI

**Barbara Christy**

The Kelleys Island Library is now host to a seed library. What is a seed library? A place where gardeners, flower or vegetable, can bring their extra seeds and/or browse for seeds already there that they may be interested in taking.

How does it work? First, you don't need a library card and you don't need to check seeds in or out. Just browse thru the collection and take seeds you would like to plant. If you have seeds to donate, please label them, at a minimum, with the name of the plant, when and how

deep to plant, how big it will grow and what type of sun it needs. Add any additional information that may be necessary – such as the seeds will need to be soaked overnight before planting or the plants will need to be staked or trellised. Heritage plant seeds are especially welcomed as are seeds that are difficult to find.

The seed library can be found in a wooden box near the far wall of the library. To help seed patrons, there are envelopes for putting seed donations in. We have marked the envelopes with requested information for gardens but if you don't have all the

requested details, just put down what you know and we will be grateful for your contribution. Seeds that have already been donated are in envelopes, filed in alphabetical order by common name. If there are more seeds in the envelope than you want, just put the extra seeds in a new envelope and transfer the planting information. If you have seeds to bring, there are small plastic (pill) bottles to put your seeds in.

We have also started a notebook with some information about the plants to be grown. Gardeners should feel welcome to add information

and/or start new pages if needed. If you have a partially used commercial seed packet, you can just leave the opened packet with a paper clip to keep the seeds from spilling. And, of course, pictures of the grown plant and the first leaves are always welcome.

We hope you will bring in lots of seeds this fall so we are ready to go for a great gardening season in 2020.

The seed library will be open the same times at the book library. Enjoy!

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# Community Christmas Potluck

Santa visiting with Kelleys Island Children at the Community Christmas Potluck.

For more photos please turn to page 11.



## EMS News

Winter has arrived and staying safe and healthy is a top priority for island residents.

Ice fishing and crossing the water on snowmobiles and ATVs is a popular activity to avoid boredom on the cold winter days. The ODNR guidelines for safety on the ice serve as a reminder that no ice is 100% safe ice.

Test ice thickness: 4 inches is the minimum thickness for travel on foot; 5 inches for a snowmobile or ATV; while 8-12 inches is necessary for cars or small trucks.

Another important consideration is to not overdrive the headlights on your vehicle. At 30 mph it takes a lot longer to stop on ice than your headlight shines. Travelling too fast can cause you to fail to see the water before you can come to a safe stop.

Wear a life vest under your winter gear and carry a pair of ice picks. Should you have the unfortunate experience of falling into the water a flotation device will keep you afloat while ice picks help when trying to pull yourself out onto the ice. Once on the ice, roll to safety, don't try to walk.

Rolling will distribute your weight.

Water colder than 59 degrees causes a physical response, leading to gasping, an increase in heart rate and blood pressure. Panic sets in and it is possible to drown quickly. The window of opportunity for rescue is only a few minutes if not dressed for the water

conditions. Do not try to remove shoes or clothing. Clothing layers will trap air, allowing you to remain afloat longer.

Plan ahead, let someone know when you are going out on the ice and your intended time to return.

If the worst should happen, get help as soon as possible. If you witness

someone in the water, call 911 immediately. Pushing something out on the ice or throwing a rope to the person in the water rather than walking out on the ice is the safest option, but remember, there is no safe ice!

Stay safe, Sharon A. Devine, Paramedic Kelleys Island EMS

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

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

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



## 3rd Generation

Anne Sennish and Caroline DeBoard.  
3rd generation of Datus Kelley.



## January

- 8 - Collin Nunn-Strassner
- 9 - Nancy-Ward Patterson
- 11 - Carmen Theresa Smith
- 12 - Dave Mack
- 12 - Erin Elfers
- 16 - Jan Jorski
- 16 - Cathy Coffman
- 19 - Wayne Neumann
- 20 - Jena Peterson
- 20 - Ed Jorski
- 23 - Karen Vetovitz
- 24 - Adam Elfers
- 24 - Brad Newcomb
- 25 - Kristan Kaszei
- 28 - Patty Fresch
- 30 - Matt Kane

## February

- 2 - Katie Joyce
- 2 - Bill Vetovitz
- 3 - Jay Campbell
- 4 - Dianne (Elfers) Chopko
- 4 - Mary Gen McCafferty
- 4 - Sharon Schafer
- 7 - Wes Martin Elfers
- 7 - Mike Johnson
- 9 - Carla Cordaro Benvenuto
- 11 - Tamara Washio
- 12 - Brittany Schmidt
- 14 - Dean Mahar
- 12 - Sean Allan
- 17 - Park Schafer
- 21 - Marty McCafferty
- 21 - Harper Washio
- 22 - Katie Joyce
- 23 - Ray Washio
- 23 - Danielle Klonar
- 24 - Lance Marchky
- 25 - Mary Margaret Welly
- 28 - Leonard Elfers
- 28 - Heidi Smith
- 28 - Ann Stahl Lorenz

## Mr & Mrs Matt Stock

Matt and Mandy Stock were married on Kelleys Island on August 8, 2019. Matt is the son of island residents, John and Becky Stock.



## Serving Our Seniors & Kelleys Island Land Owners Association Partner on "Transportation Project"

Serving Our Seniors and Kelleys Island Landowners Association (KILA) are working together to experiment how they can help Kelleys Island residents, ages 60 and older, mitigate the financial burden of air transportation off and on Kelleys Island, when ferry service is not available, to access unanticipated, recurring medical treatment for up to 8 weeks.

The total funding available is \$3,000.00. Serving Our Seniors is providing \$2,000.00 and KILA is contributing \$1,000.00 to study the extent of the need.

### Examples of Eligible Conditions that Qualify for Airfare Reimbursement:

Those who are medically stable and do not require the services of emergency medical personnel.

Those who are medically stable and require recurring after care due to unexpected complications.

Those who are medically stable and require recurring after care following an emergency or unscheduled life-sustaining surgery, i.e., organ transplant.

Those who are medically stable and require short-term dialysis.

Those who are medically stable

and require cancer treatment.

Those who are medically stable and require recurring treatment due to a flare-up/change in condition of illness(es).

### Examples of Ineligible conditions for Airfare Reimbursement are:

Regular maintenance doctor visits  
Emergency medical attention  
Dental  
Planned elective surgery and after care.

Long term dialysis

Serving Our Seniors also has a group of volunteers who donate their time to drive Erie County senior citizens to health care appointments. The volunteers will pick up the client at the Erie-Ottawa airport, in a Serving Our Seniors vehicle. The volunteers will drive as far as Cleveland or Toledo to get the individual to their health care appointment.

For more information call Sue Daugherty, Director, Serving Our Seniors (419-624-1856).

Sue Daugherty,  
Director Serving Our Seniors  
310 E. Boalt Street,  
Sandusky, OH 44870  
Ph: 419-624-8173  
Fax: 419-624-8176  
www.ServingOurSeniors.org

## Own a Unique Piece of Kelleys Island!

By Anne and John Bauswein

There is a season for everything, and this season of our lives calls for simplifying. Thoughts of retirement dance in our heads. And so, we are seeking new ownership for this newspaper.

Kelleys Life began in October, 1999, and has become an integral part of island life. We lived on the island with our children during the 2000-01 school year so that we could explore the island in all seasons of the year. And when we returned to the mainland (because of our other newspapers), we left a piece of our hearts here. We hold the memories of that year close to us. (Johanna has two island t-shirts woven into her t-shirt memory quilt!)

This newspaper publishes year round and has built a strong advertising base on both the island and mainland.

If you are interested in owning this island venture, please call John at 440-478-6233. Serious inquiries only, please.

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# Kelleys Island 2020 Calendar of Events

<b>FEBRUARY</b>			
29	Leap Year Party	Village Pump	
<b>MARCH</b>			
17	St. Patrick's Day Party	Village Pump	
<b>APRIL</b>			
4	Early Bird Party	Village Pump	
18	Spring Wine Fling	KI Wine Co.	
19	Bio Blitz for Earth Day	KI Brewery	
<b>MAY</b>			
2	Derby Day	Island-Wide	
9	EMS Spaghetti Dinner	Peeper's	
16	Free Museum Day	Historical Museum	
16	EMS Safety Forces Day	Casino Parking Lot	
16-17	Nest with the Birds	Audubon Club	
27	Ohio Bike Week	Island-Wide	
<b>JUNE</b>			
7	<b>5 &amp; 10K Run/Walk</b>	<b>Memorial Park</b>	
12-14	Bacon Fest	KI Wine Co.	
13-20	Ohio Craft Beer Week	Caddy Shack & Island House	
19-20	Razzles Volleyball Tournament	Seaway Marina	
22	International Student Dinner	Village Pavilion	
27-28	Mad River Bike Tour	Island-Wide	
28	M-A-W Horseshoe Tournament	KI Wine Co.	
<b>JULY</b>			
4	Russ Wilson Cornhole Tournament	Ball Field	
11	<b>KI's Got Talent</b>	<b>Memorial Park</b>	
13-17	Vacation Bible School	St. Michael's Catholic Church	
16	KI Bartender Olympics	Peeper's	
17-19	<b>Island Fest</b>	<b>Memorial Park</b>	
20-24	Vacation Bible School	Zion United Methodist Church	
24-26	<b>Film Fest</b>	<b>Ball Field &amp; Town Hall</b>	
27-31	Nature Camp (4-11 years old)	KI Field Station	
<i>*Chamber Events listed in bold.</i>			
<b>AUGUST</b>			
1	Arts & Crafts Fair		Historical Museum
1	Make-a-Wish Golf Cart Poker Run		KI Wine Co.
2	Make-a-Wish Benefit Swim		TBD
3-7	Adult Nature Camp (21+)		KI Field Station
7	Justin Horseshoe Tournament		KI Wine Co.
7-8	Homecoming – KILA		Village Pavilion
12	International Student Dinner		Village Pavilion
22	Poker Run / Dice Roll		Peeper's
29	KI Outdoor Adventure Weekend		Island – Wide
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>			
5	Find the Apple of Your Eye		Herndon Galleries
5	Island Singers Concert		Town Hall
6	Glacial Glimpses		Audubon Club
12	<b>Treasurer Island Day</b>		<b>Island Wide</b>
12	Butterfly Fest / Yard Sale		Historical Museum
19	Wine, Art and Food Faire		KI Wine Co.
19	Feathers & Foliage		Audubon Club
26	Lobster Fest		Village Pump
<b>OCTOBER</b>			
3	<b>Harvest Fest</b>		<b>Memorial Park</b>
3	Oktoberfest		West Bay
10	21st Annual Chili Cook-Off		Peeper's
14	Owl Banding (thru Nov. 23)		Audubon Club
16-18	Murder Mystery		KI Venture Resort
17	Trunk or Treat – Seaway Marina		KI Wine Co.
17	EMS Pumpkin Carving		Peeper's
17	Kid's Halloween		KI Wine Co.
17	Family Hay Ride-KILA		4-H Camp
17	EMS Terror at Town Hall		Town Hall
24	Adult Halloween		Island-Wide
24	Day of the Dead Celebration		KI Wine Co.
<b>NOVEMBER</b>			
6 - 8	Owl Fest		Audubon Club
15	Half Marathon & 5K		Village Pump
27	Thanksgiving Pot Luck		Village Pump
27	Annual Park Lighting-KIFD		Memorial Park
28	OSU Tail Gate Party		Village Pump
28	Sights, Sounds, & Scents of the Holidays		KI Wine Co.

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# Kelleys Life in New Orleans

Fredo Policy and Erin Pinney enjoy time off at Jacques – Imo's in New Orleans

## Kelleys Island Bald Eagle Update

**H. Thomas Bartlett**  
Research Associate, Cleveland Museum of Natural History

For more than 12 years, Kelleys Island has had resident Bald Eagles. The current population is three nesting pair. The first "modern day" nest

was in the North Pond State Nature Preserve next to the Kelleys Island State Park. It was unsuccessful for 4-5 years and finally blew down. This pair then moved to the north side of the woods across from the Kelleys Island Ferry Dock. The first

two years they raised one young eagle. The third year they moved the nest more into the woods and were successful again. The next year they moved back to the original nest and have been successful ever since. This nest was best observed from Woodford Road between the Kelleys Island Winery and Gary Finger's barn, looking to the south. In early November of this year, the nest blew down. The pair began rebuilding the nest on the south side of the woods but returned to the north side and finished the new nest by mid-December. It is almost in the same spot as the nest which blew down.

The second "modern day" Kelleys Island nest was built by a new pair on Long Point. This is in a restricted area and is very hard to see, even by boat. They have been successful the last couple of years. But in October

of this year, that nest blew down. The pair have been observed carrying nesting material but the new nest has not been observed at this time. Maybe when more leaves fall, it can be found.

The third "modern day" Kelleys Island nest was built in the fall of 2018 on the edge of the North Pond. It may be observed from the north end of the cemetery on Division Street or the Kelleys Island State Park. They were successful this past year and continue to work on the nest this fall/winter.

There is room for more nesting pair on the island and one or more should pop-up in the next couple of years. Remember, they are still a protected species in Ohio and it is illegal to approach an active nest. Observe from afar!



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## KELLEYS island

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

# 2020 coming events

- June 7: 5 & 10k Run/Walk**
- June 27-28: Mad River Bike Tour**
- July 11: KI's Got Talent**
- July 17-19: Island Fest**  
"Summer Olymic Games"
- July 24-26: Film Fest**
- September 12: Treasure Island Day**
- October 3: Harvest Fest**

## America's Largest Lake Erie Island

**Visit our website for Island info & events!**

[www.kelleysislandchamber.com](http://www.kelleysislandchamber.com)

**419-746-2360**  
[info@kelleysislandchamber.com](mailto:info@kelleysislandchamber.com)

## 88 County Challenge

We started our journey in May and will complete our 88th and final county on November 30th in Meigs County. The race today was our 85th county running event. We have enjoyed traveling across the state, seeing many different sites and meeting great people along the way. We've participated in many events raising funds for charities ranging from Veterans and Hospice support to Church Missions and 4H fundraisers. Most of the runs have been 5K, but we've also participated in some longer runs, color runs, and some trail running events along the way. This adventure has been a great learning experience for my daughter and a unique opportunity for us to make memories together.

The event on Kelleys Island was well-run with friendly and supportive race coordinators and volunteers. Before the race, we stopped into one of the shops to get Palin a hot chocolate and they insisted it was "on the house" for her. We had a great time and will definitely encourage other runners to put this event on their calendar.

Greg Homan  
Coldwater, Ohio



## Serving Our Seniors to Send Out Kelleys Island Older Adult Needs Survey

With the encouragement of the members of the Kelleys Island School Board, Serving Our Seniors will mail out a questionnaire to Kelleys Island residents, ages 60+ in the month of November 2019. Its purpose is to identify the number of full-time (12 months/year) residents in this age group; and to determine what programs and services would be used – with regularity – if available. Serving Our Seniors is interested in learning how to help older adults maintain health, wellness and the capacity to function independently, through the use of organized group activities.

Serving Our Seniors is using the Kelleys Island phone book as its mailing list, which may not include all of the residents, ages 60+ currently living on Kelleys Island as full time residents. Those wishing to complete the questionnaire should contact Brenda Henry, Office Manager, Serving Our Seniors at 419-624-8173. Leave a message on the voicemail and provide the name and address of the person(s) wishing to receive the questionnaire. All questionnaires will contain a self-addressed, stamped envelope for responses to be returned to Serving Our Seniors. Questionnaires are to be returned anonymously.

For more information call Sue Daugherty, Director, 419-624-1856.

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# Kelleys Island Chamber of Commerce - An Update

## Jordan Killam, Director

We had a wonderful November on the island, didn't we?! It began with Owl Fest and closed with the annual Sights, Sounds, and Scents of the Holidays, and Scents of the Holidays at the Kelley's Island Wine Company. Throw in a half marathon, a post-Thanksgiving potluck, Christmas park lighting, and a highly anticipated tailgate party and you've got yourself one banger of a month! Thanks to all the member businesses that were able to stay open and host our late season crowd.

## KelleysIslandChamber.com 2.0

Let's get down to business, shall we? In case you weren't aware, the Chamber hired Perrysburg, OH based digital agency, Thrive Internet Marketing, to help us build our new website. The site is slated to launch in late January. The new version will feature the following, but is not limited to:

- New and improved member business/organization/events pages
- Lodging search with filtering so visitors can search for attributes they want in a vacation home
- More updated written, shareable content about the island

- Beautiful images and video prominently displayed
- Online forms for easy event sign-up and donation
- Integration with email marketing program to help our members stay informed

We will be posting more updates throughout January on social media so you can stay updated about the website's progress. We've really enjoyed working with Thrive on this project and so far, what they've come up with is FANTASTIC!

## December on KI

Did you know that the Parsonage Resale Shop on the campus of the Kelleys Island History Museum had its first annual holiday party? A nice crowd assembled on December 7 to celebrate the season. Denise Feasby baked scrumptious cookies and all who attended basked in the glow of the charming historic home's seasonal decor. We hope they make this an annual event!

As most islanders know, winter on the island may be a lot slower and quieter, but it certainly isn't dead. Many keep busy with book club, knitting group, exercise classes, art

classes, wii bowling, and more!

With that said, our social media audience is hungry for winter content! They want to see pictures of island life and read stories about what it's like to winter on the rock. Please feel free to share any and all images and anecdotes with us by emailing [info@kelleysislandchamber.com](mailto:info@kelleysislandchamber.com) or tagging us in your posts. We will share this engaging content!

## Island Fest 2020

There were a few strong candidates for Island Fest 2020's theme, but we finally made a decision! Island Fest 2020's theme will be: Summer Olympics! This year's festival promises to deliver a more interactive program complete with special games that are fun for kids of all ages (even adult kids).

As usual, Island Fest will feature local and regional artisans selling handmade wares in Memorial Park, street dances, a lively parade, and spectacular fireworks. Mark your calendars to find lodging with us July 17-19. This is going to be super fun!

## Great Lakes Islands Alliance (GLIA) 2020 Islands Summit in Lake Erie

Kelleys Island is a member of a truly impactful organization, the Great Lakes Islands Alliance (GLIA). GLIA is a group comprised of Great Lakes Islands-based elected officials, organization leaders, and private citizens dedicated to addressing complex, interrelated challenges. This includes: access to public services and quality education, supporting a diversified economy, managing natural, cultural, and historical resources across public and private boundaries, and changing demographics (size, age, seasonality, ownership, economic status, etc.). The goal is to discuss and implement best practices for tackling these challenges.

Back in October, I attended the 3rd annual Great Lakes Islands Alliance (GLIA) Islands Summit on beautiful Mackinac Island with Cindy Holmes, Pat Ahner, Kim and Julie Valentine, and Jackie Taylor. There, we continued to explore island-

specific issues such as water levels, wildlife preservation, access to healthcare and community services, tourism marketing, and setting up community foundations to fund various projects on our islands.

Most importantly, however, it was officially announced that the 2020 GLIA summit will take place here on our Lake Erie Islands, October 4-7. I am part of the core host committee, along with Peter Huston of South Bass Island, Mike Gora of Middle Bass Island, and Dave DeLellis of Pelee Island. The host committee consists of others hailing from these islands. At this time, we have composed our schedule - which includes visits to FIVE islands in four days (South Bass, Middle Bass, Gibraltar, Kelleys, and Pelee). We are grateful that the Jet Express will be transporting us on trips to Kelleys and Pelee. Special thanks to the Kelleys Island School for agreeing to host us on the Kelleys Island day of our trip - Monday, October 5.

The Kelleys portion of the conference will hopefully showcase our beautiful natural areas and ecotourism opportunities. We will be putting out a call to local businesses and individuals to help facilitate a potluck for the luncheon that will take place on that day, as all are invited to participate, regardless of Chamber member status. Stay tuned for that!

This unique event will certainly put our Lake Erie islands on a prominent national stage and we are excited to show the world who we are!

## Why not Winter on KI?

Have you ever thought about spending a winter weekend on Kelleys Island? The Chamber can help! Not only do we boast year-round cottage rentals, we count Griffing Flying Service among our members! Griffing is responsible for providing our island residents and visitors with a vital source of transportation after the ferry boat line shuts down for the season. Why not plan an ice fishing excursion, adventurous weekend of hiking, or just a cozy sojourn away from the rest of the world? Get in touch with us and we will assist you in the planning process.

## New Board Secretary

In November, we officially added longtime islander and friend of the Chamber, Isa Zettler, to the roster as our board Secretary! Most of you may know her from her work at the Kelley's Island Wine Company, so here are a few fast facts about our newest addition to the Chamber family:

- She is a student at Bowling Green State University, with a double major in Spanish and International Studies. She graduates this may!
- Her passions include cooking, reading, and traveling
- Isa, along with several island women, started a book club that meets once a month
- This past fall, she began facilitating a Spanish Club for the students at the Kelleys Island School

We chose to appoint Isa to this position due to her demonstrated enthusiasm and desire to give back to the island community. Not to mention, she's extremely bright and great to work with. Please welcome Isa to our Chamber board and extend your congratulations when you see her!

## One More Thing...

Our full events schedule is posted on the homepage of our current website, [www.kelleysislandchamber.com](http://www.kelleysislandchamber.com). Take a look and start planning your magical island trip!



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# Four Generations

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### 128 FERNWOOD

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### 113 MAPLE - TWO-4-ONE

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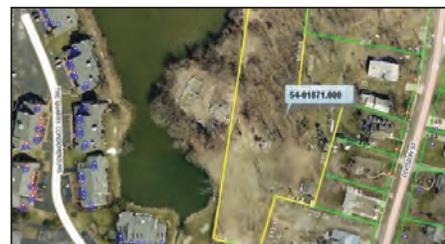
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### LOT #6 PHEASANT COVE

1 Acre Corner Lot With Lake Views and Private Beach Access! City Water Available at Street (water tap fee is paid, \$7000 value). **\$71,900**



### VACANT LOT #8 PHEASANT COVE

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### LOT 23 - SOUTHAVEN WOODS

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### LOTS 79-80 MEMORY LANE

100 x 141 Buildable Lot - 3 Bedroom SEPTIC SYSTEM Installed. **\$42,500**



### LOTS 100-102 ORCHARD

Triple-Wide Corner Lot Deep In the Sweetbriar Subdivision. This 141x135 Lot (.4371 Acres) Has Lake Erie Access at end of the street. **\$39,900**



### LOT #12 VALERIE LANE

100 x 176 Dead End Street (Water Tap Paid) **\$47,900**



### PJS BEACH HOUSE

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# 7th Annual Kelleys Island Owl Festival Another Success!



A photo taken by Ray Stewart when the Kelleys Island School had a field trip to the banding station. This was Caleb's first bird and he did release it finally...

### H. Thomas Bartlett

The weekend of November 1-3 was the 67th annual Kelleys Island Owl Festival sponsored by the Kelleys Island Audubon Club, Kelleys Island Field Station, Kelleys Island State park, and the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. The festival has been timed to occur at the peak of migration for Northern Saw-whet Owls. Tom and Paula Bartlett have

been banding birds on Kelleys Island since 1996 and they have been targeting Northern Saw-whet Owls since 2003. Since 2003 almost 800 owls have been banded. The primary banding location has been the Cleveland Museum of Natural History's Scheele Preserve. However, the last couple of years, the North Pond State Nature Preserve was added as well. This year marked a little



A group at the festival observing the processing of a saw-whet owl. Here we are checking the eye color for a graduate student at Purdue University.



Kids watching the banding of a songbird.

change in the festival activities. The speaker section which was stopped last year was picked up by the Kelleys Island Field Station and there were several excellent presentations given at the Kelleys Island School on Saturday afternoon. Topic included the new Pollinator Program on Kelleys Island and the Bats of Kelleys Island.

This year, songbird banding occurred at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History's Jones Preserve in the morning and owl banding at the Scheele and North Pond Preserves. In addition, Pat Hayes, of the Kelleys Island Audubon Club led an Owl Prowl at the North Pond Preserve on

Saturday night. Over 30 people attended this walk. This was a down year for migrating owls. At the owl banding activities, 6 owls (4 Northern Saw-whet Owls and 2 Eastern Screech-Owls) were banded and at the songbird banding 114 songbirds of 11 species were captured. In addition, 3 banded Eastern Screech-Owls were recaptured Friday night. Two were banded in 2018 and one was banded in March of 2012. Attendance was tough to keep but minimum numbers were 270 people at all the activities with over 75 people at each of Friday and Saturday evening events.



**4580 Marsh's Edge, Catawba \$459,900**

Gorgeous Catawba Island home in The Marsh's Edge! Located on a shady boulevard across from a pond and fountain, you have privacy but are still close to all the area attractions. Offering 4 bedrooms and 3.5 baths with a 3 car garage, there's room for a growing or extended family



**506 Wesleyan, Marblehead \$350,000**

Wow, what a home just steps from the lakefront Foundation Park and the gate to Lakeside. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths and over 2600sqft custom built home at the end of a dead end street. Seasonal lake views with rights to lakefront Foundation Park. Unique and must see.



**31-A Cedar Point Rd, Sandusky \$280,000**

If you are not familiar with Point Retreat, then here's your opportunity to own a condo in a very upscale and well cared for development. This first time offering from the original owner is an end unit offering additional views and natural lighting. 3 bdrms and 2.5 ba. Beautiful pool, marina and watercraft launch. Dock available for purchase.



**29-E Cedar Point Rd, Sandusky \$339,000**

Gorgeous Point Retreat condo with breathtaking water views from every window! Great condition and meticulously maintained, this condo is ready to move in and available furnished. 3 bdrms and 2.5 ba. Beautiful pool, marina and watercraft launch. Dock available for purchase.



**211 Cedar Point Rd, Sandusky \$399,900**

Looking for views? This outstanding home on the coveted Chaussee is a true Lake to Bay lot with water views from every window in the home! Just imagine sipping your morning coffee on the expansive covered front porch while listening to the waves splashing. 4 bdrms, 2 ba, boat launch and almost 2500 sqft. Did I mention the views?



**37 Marina Point Dr, Sandusky \$109,900**

Wonderful end unit condo with unbelievable views in a private, gated community at the entrance of the Cedar Point causeway. The spacious wrap around deck offers Castaway Bay and marina views. Leased dockage available through Castaway Bay. This is a great, central location in immediate proximity to the Cedar Point causeway and area attractions.



**2 Long Point, Kelley's Island \$1,150,000**

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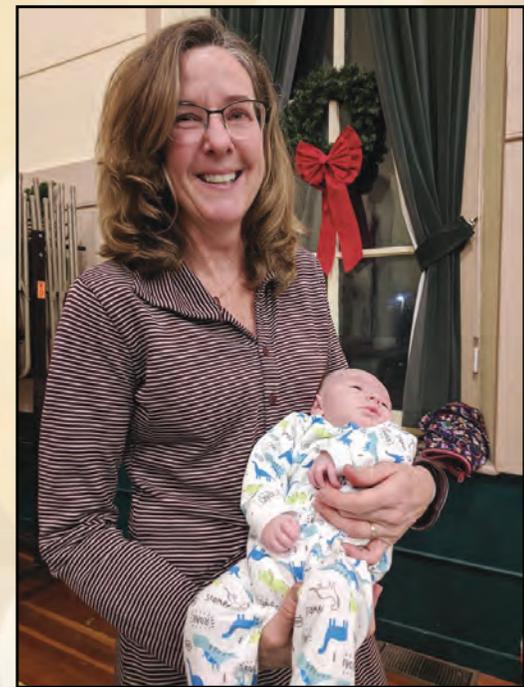
**509 W Lakeshore Dr, Kelley's Island \$395,000**

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## Christmas at Zion Community Church



## OBITUARY



**Roger Burton Williams Jr.**, age 93, born in Toledo, Ohio May 13, 1926, died in Columbus, Ohio, November 5, 2019. Roger was employed as an electrical engineer from Mettler-Toledo in 1991 after more than 25 years of diligent service. His work

with Mettler-Toledo and its predecessor, Toledo Scale, produced 26 US patents to his credit.

He was a graduate of DeVillbis High School (Toledo) in 1944, and Worcester Polytechnic Institute (Massachusetts) where he was a graduate of the Navy V-12 College Training Program and was commissioned an ensign in 1947.

Roger was a life member of IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers) and a life member of the Kelleys Island Historical Association serving terms as president and secretary.

Roger was preceded in death by his parents, Roger B. and Alice (Hills) Williams, and sisters Frances Toepfer and Margery Frick.

He is survived by his wife of 69 years, Madeleine /nee Dunne/, sons Ned (Linda) and Peter (Elizabeth), daughters, Sheila (Scott) Brockmeier, and Sally Williams (Steve Weary), grandchildren: Jason, David, Brian, Todd, Kathy, Anne, and Connor, and 7 great-grandchildren.

Roger's favorite place in the world was Kelleys Island, Ohio in Lake Erie. The Williams family built a cottage in 1930 and it has been a summer retreat ever since. He relished the beauty, the history and peacefulness of the island. After retirement he and his wife Madeleine would come up to the island in late May and made Kelleys Island their summer residence.

At a young age on the island Roger started "messing in boats" as he called

it. He had numerous boats and went sailing frequently from the island well into his 80's. He imparted a love of the lake and the outdoors to his children and grandchildren who cherish the island to this day. Everyone in the family and many friends have fond memories of "sailing with Roger". Roger was a member of the Nature Conservancy and Audubon demonstrating his belief that the environment and business must have a balance. In addition to sailing Roger enjoyed fishing, golfing, Dixieland jazz, and spending time with family and friends. All will miss Roger's smile and good humor.

A celebration of Roger's life and burial service will take place on Kelleys Island, Ohio in June 2020.

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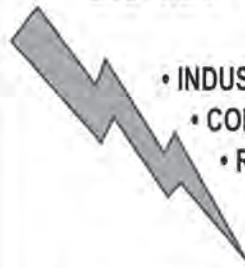
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# Zion Matters

Virginia M Park

2019 was a wonderful year at Zion Community Church here on Kelleys Island. The preparation for the Christmas season seemed very short this year with Thanksgiving coming as late as it possibly could (November 28). Advent bumped right up against the Thanksgiving holiday with the four Advent Sundays being Dec 1, 8, 15, and 22. We lit the candles on our Advent wreath on those Sundays and a very special time was on December 15 when Vick and Nick Skeans, our youngest members, lit not only our Advent candles but our altar candles as well.

Another memorable worship experience was on December 8 when we had soloist Mark Tolle and his wife Roxy from West Union, Ohio with us. Mark sang a wonderful version of "Mary's Boy Child" as the offering music and he and Roxy closed the service with "O Holy Night." We had guests that day from all around the island and topped off the service with a potluck meal hosted by our Outreach Committee. Among the special guests that day were ALL of the family of Dawn Soldner. What a treat for us to have them join us. Our service for the celebration was the usual Sunday morning worship except that instead of a homily we read portions of the Christmas scripture from the Gospels of Matthew and Luke and interspersed that with congregational singing of Christmas carols.

The island's Christmas party and potluck dinner was held at the Town Hall on Saturday, December 14. Great attendance - I think about 90 people were there. It is always fun to welcome Santa and watch as he talks to the kiddoes and hands out some

very nice gifts. And the older attendees receive fruit baskets, too.

Tama Schodowski is always on hand to play piano to accompany the singing of Christmas songs and carols.

This night is a great island tradition and I am grateful to the event planners who ask me to start it off with a prayer of thanks. That is surely the best way to begin a Christmas meal - the remembering to give thanks for the blessings of food to nourish us.

Looking back over the year we are grateful to see that our church continues to thrive in weekly worship attendance. The women who knit and crochet prayer shawls and other items needed by people who are sick meet on Wednesdays all summer long. Another warm-weather activity is an interdenominational Bible study, taught by Caroline Jorski. It meets in Zion's fellowship rooms and continues to be a popular attraction for people who are led to study the Bible deeply.

Zion's Sunday School class was taught by Wally Christy this past summer and focused on the Gospel of Matthew. We will continue that study when we pick it up again in the spring. All are welcome to join us at 9:15 on Sunday mornings.

Again, this past year, Zion Church assisted international workers on the island. Next year we hope to start out the season by giving a packet of information to each worker and then by continuing through the season in providing some personalized attention for them. We hope to do a good job of identifying their needs for assistance. And we will also host a meal at the church to which everyone will be invited. This will be in mid-June with date and more specifics to

be announced as the time grows closer.

Planning for Zion's Vacation Bible School is already underway and there are some additional activities to be connected with that this coming July. Stay tuned for more information. But right now I am able to tell you that VBS will be July 20-24 and with the VBS students participating in church worship on Sunday, July 26. Following the Sunday service there will be a church picnic and ice cream social. All children are invited to VBS and of course everyone is invited to the worship service and the meal. Also I take this opportunity to let you know that St. Michael's Church will host their Vacation Bible School this summer. So one way or another it is hoped that your children or grandchildren (or any child) can benefit by attending these learning and fun times at one or both of the island churches.

In 2020, it is Zion's "turn" to host the World Day of Prayer observation. This will be held in the church hall and sanctuary at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, May 3. All Kelleys Islanders are invited to that event and also to the annual community Thanksgiving service. We are trying a new approach to the Thanksgiving observation and will begin with a 9 a.m. breakfast on Saturday, October 3. More details will be available later on in the season.

By the time you read this newspaper, it will be the new year



Virginia M Park

2020. The Administrative Council and members of Zion Church hope that your year will be happy and prosperous and that good health is in store for you and your loved ones.

As the New Year gets underway, I urge you to worship weekly at the church of your choice no matter where you are. Here on Kelleys Island there are two wonderful churches and both of them are committed to providing year-round Sunday services and religious programming. These churches are St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church and Zion Community Church under the authority of the United Methodist Church. At either of these churches you will receive a warm welcome. I urge you to deepen your spiritual life by engaging in worship as you make your faith journey through this life and prepare for the rich rewards of eternal life.

May God bless you and all of your loved ones in the year ahead!

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**SUMMER: SATURDAY 4 P.M. MASS**  
**SUNDAY 9 A.M. MASS**

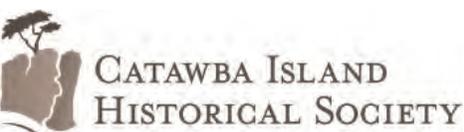
**WINTER: SUNDAY 9 A.M. MASS**  
*Sacrament of Reconciliation before Mass if requested.*

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# Kelleys Island Carolers

## Smith Family and Winery Support History Museum



Catawba Island, OH - December, 2019 – The Quintin Smith family and Historic Mon Ami Winery sponsor display at Union Chapel Museum

The interest of Quintin Smith in grape growing and wine production on Catawba Island has surpassed even his recent acquisition of the Mon Ami Winery! He and his family have elected to sponsor the Vineyards and Winemaking Exhibit at the Catawba Island Historical Society's Union Chapel Museum. Their participation is part of the Museum's "Windows in Time" naming rights program which encourages

sponsorship of prominent display sites.

Ten "Windows in Time" locations were initially offered by the program, each requiring an investment of \$10,000. Seven of the ten have now been spoken for. Tasteful bronze plaques honoring the sponsor or the sponsor's designee identify locations that have been selected.

There is no admission charge to visit the Museum. Thus, interest and dividends from the conservative investment of "Windows in Time" funds are needed to cover costs like researching, designing and mounting displays. The current Vineyards and Winemaking Exhibit location is one of the most educational and entertaining in the main gallery.

"The role of grapes was key to the

economic prosperity of Catawba Island for several decades beginning in the 1850's," said Craig Koerpel, President of the Historical Society. "Once Nicholas Longworth, often called the Father of American Winemaking, had proven in Cincinnati that the domestic *Vitis labrusca* genus could make an excellent fermented beverage, Fox Grapes – so named for their musky aroma - made their way north to the shores and islands of Lake Erie."

Three commercial wineries opened on Catawba. The first belonged to Benedict Furrer and was located at the junction of West Catawba Road and East Porter Street. The second was the Owen Wine Cellar on North East Catawba Road. And the last was home to a cooperative of local grape growers called the Catawba Island Wine Company... later to become Mon Ami.

By the late 1870's, however, our local wine industry was in serious decline. Competition from other parts of the nation, plant disease, and residual labor shortages from the Civil War had all taken their toll. Plus, Catawba was discovering that it could grow and market some of the best peaches in the nation. Orchards began to replace arbors.

Flash forward to 2019. After nearly a century and a half of modest activity, it appears that the fortunes of wine production on Catawba Island may be preparing for an encore performance. Drawing upon experience he has gained cultivating fruit orchards to supply his Twin Oast Brewery, Quintin Smith now plans to both raise and purchase grapes for producing wine in the antique stone cellars of Mon Ami, one of the largest and oldest wineries east of the Mississippi River.

"We intend to make more than just a very good wine," said Smith. "Our goal is to include some Catawba heritage and tradition in each bottle. We'll do that, in part, with what we've learned about early island winemaking from the Historical Society's Union Chapel Museum. Becoming a "Windows in Time" sponsor – particularly for the wine exhibit - is our way of expressing appreciation for the value the Museum offers us and the community as a whole."

Catawba Museum at Union Chapel is currently closed for the season. It will reopen in May. More information is available on the Historical Society website, [www.catawbaislandhistoricalsociety.com](http://www.catawbaislandhistoricalsociety.com)

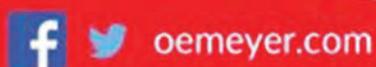


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## Fishing Tips

Here are a few other pointers to keep in mind. Try to fish around other ice anglers so if you do fall through, someone might be there to help you get out. Remember to dress appropriately to prevent hypothermia and wear a life jacket or flotation suit when walking around on ice. Many anglers also bring along an extra change of dry clothes just in case of an emergency. Keep your cell phone available, but protected from the elements.

One of the great things about ice fishing is that tackle can be very simple and inexpensive. Short rods, light gear, light line, and small baits are the ticket. Some anglers also like to use small bobbers as strike indicators since strikes can be subtle. Tip-ups are a common addition to many ice anglers' tackle, too. They come in a variety of designs, but essentially involve a spool of line hanging in the water with bait attached. Most store-bought versions feature a signaling device, such as a flag, that pops up when a fish takes the bait. In Ohio, anglers can have up to six tip-ups going at one time, and each must be labeled with the owner's name and address.

Because fish don't strike as aggressively in the winter, you'll want to use lighter tackle, 10 pound test or

less, and smaller baits. You can increase your odds by tipping artificial lures with live bait. Sluggish fish are much more likely to hit on a minnow-tipped jig as opposed to one with a plastic worm.

What's biting down below? Petering says you can catch the same species when ice fishing as you hooked during the summer months, including crappie, bluegill, bass and catfish, as well as perch, walleye and saugeye.

In fact, some of the most sought after ice fish are saugeyes (a cross between the sauger and a walleye), because they are so active in the winter.

Lake Erie ice fishing is definitely a different "kettle of fish." For a variety of reasons – including safety – many anglers hire a guide who sets them up in the protective shelter of a shanty and helps them locate the fish. The area between Green and Rattlesnake islands, just west of South Bass Island, usually offers some of the safest ice on the lake.

For those targeting walleye, use minnows on jigging spoons, blade baits and jigging Rapalas. Yellow perch can be caught with a spreader or crappie rig tipped with shiners. Some anglers include a bobber as a strike indicator.

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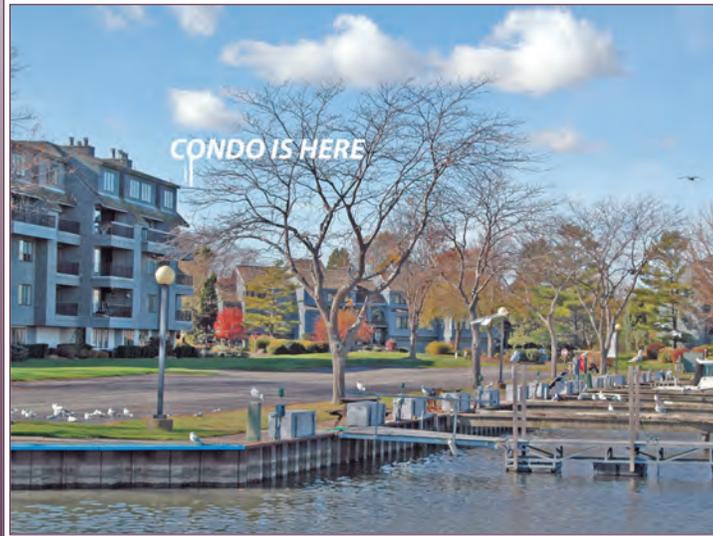
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