

Kelleys Island Christmas ~ Annual Park Lighting



Memorial Park Christmas Lights

phcr: Lisa Klonaris

Lisa Klonaris

The Kelleys Island Volunteer Fire Department and numerous volunteers spent the afternoon of November 22nd decorating Memorial Park for the Christmas season. The Fire Department annually sponsors this holiday event. The 2020 display was by far the best work of the lighting team! This accomplishment was aided by beautiful weather in which to work and a generous donation from Dave Marko, owner of Captain's Corner, of several new Christmas trees.



Christmas Light Decorating Crew phcr: Lisa Klonaris

The decorations are put in place for the Annual Park Lighting Celebration held on the Friday after Thanksgiving. Upon Santa's arrival for the annual celebration, the park lights up. This tradition marks the beginning of the Kelleys Island Christmas Season.

The 2020 event was altered to follow COVID-19 protocols but was still well attended and very much enjoyed. Santa arrived in the fire truck greeting visitors as he made two laps around the block. A fun new addition to the festivities was Mrs. Claus! She made a first ever appearance handing out treat bags and gifts as well as posing with children and families for photos. Justin Boswell represented the Kelleys Island Police Department and passed out stuffed animals to all the children.

The Fire Department welcomes islanders and visitors of all ages to participate in the annual decorating event. 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, the decorating volunteers, Robin Benvenuto, Dave Marko, Lizzy Granzier, and Mayor Ron Ehrbar for helping to create Christmas on Kelleys Island.

Here We Come A-Caroling...

Caroline Jorski

On December 18, 2020 Santa's sleigh (actually, the tram from Camp Patmos) driven by Dave Sellers, along with Jim Erne, Chuck Poston, Sam Beaty, Bob Maier, Eric Longbrake, Scott Smith, Scott Shaull, and Knut Lahrs visited 14 homes spreading good cheer and happiness with their melodious voices. They had 27 homes on their list to visit but due to mobility challenges posed by the size of the tram and some islanders not being home, all stops were not made.

This is the 22nd year the group, originally formed by Bob Behlen, has carried on this Christmas tradition. Knut Lahrs is keeping the tradition going and Islanders look forward to the carolers annual visit.

Thank you to all who participated. See you next year!

From the Mayor's Desk

The transition to MetroHealth is complete! The changeover from St. Vincent Charity to MetroHealth for our emergency medical services and life flight transport was completed without a hitch. A special thank you to the MetroHealth team of Dr. Jeremiah Escajeda, Natasha Meinert, and Dave Yarmesch for their assistance in this effort.

In conjunction with this change, I am pleased to introduce our new EMS Director, Russ Maust. Following a thorough search with resumes being received from candidates in Maine, Indiana, and Ohio, virtual interviews were held by a screening committee. Throughout the process, Russ came out as the top candidate. Russ, in just a few weeks, has made positive changes within the emergency medical service station and we expect nothing but the best going forward with him leading the pack. If there is a negative in all of this, Russ had to resign from his council position. Thank you to Steve Wermuth, Pat Seeholzer, Greg Ritchie, and Bobby Skeans for the countless hours spent on the selection process. Good Luck Russ and thank you Sharon Devine for your years of service.

Continuing the focus on health, the Village successfully secured a \$60,000 Cares Act grant. The monies, distributed to cities, towns, and villages, are to be spent on items to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. The Village used the funds to purchase new computers for village offices including police, fire, and EMS, disinfectant cleaning supplies,

air purifiers/sanitizers for municipal offices and buildings, automatic touchless faucets, toilets and dryers for the offices and public restrooms, and a shower for decontamination purposes at the fire department. This was handled by our Village administrative team, Steve Wermuth, Lisa Klonaris, and Sue Taylor. Thank you all!

The Village has been in contact with the Erie County Health Department concerning COVID-19 vaccinations for our residents. The Health Department is following the governmental guidelines for distribution. Island first responders received their vaccinations and next will be the first tier of people 75 and older. We will keep you posted as the Health Department makes vaccines available.

In other Village news, thanks to Councilperson Joe Wolfe for his persistence with Frontier as they recently announce a Kelleys Island internet service upgrade. There have been flyers posted both on the Village website and Facebook.

I would like to thank all who donated and helped in decorating our Memorial Park for Christmas. It was beautiful! Here's hoping you all had a great holiday season, and I am wishing for all a better New Year.

To make this a better New Year, let us remember to follow all the guidelines, wearing mask, washing hands, and social distancing to help diminish the effects of this pandemic.

Ron Ehrbar, Mayor

Kelleys Island Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau Update

Jordan Killam, Director

And here we are in 2021! There is something about the freshness of the new year that has left me feeling more motivated than ever to help facilitate a fantastic tourism season. Part of that has to do with the fact that the Chamber has elected 4 new board members, who began their term in November 2020. They have each brought new energy, years of experience, and fresh approaches to our work. In short, I feel so blessed to be able to work with such dedicated people and confident about facing the challenges that lie ahead.

Chamber work

As for winter activities at the Chamber, we will be participating in the Cleveland Boat Show's virtual event, redoing parts of our website to more prominently feature off-island members and adding a credit card payment option and blog to our site as well. This is also the time of year where we compose our island map (which is no small task), begin accepting vendor applications for Island Fest, and start planning the 5 & 10K Run/Walk in earnest.

Our Chamber board has also created 4 main working committees - Bylaws, Budget, Events, and Membership. Those committees meet (mostly) regularly and are actively working to improve our organization. If you are a member and would like

to be part of any of the committees (with the exception of Bylaws, as work will be finalized by the time this issue publishes), please send me an email at info@kelleysislandchamber.com.

In late 2019, we were awarded 3 event sponsorship grants from Lake Erie Shores & Islands (LESI) - \$1750 for the 5 & 10K, \$1050 for KI's Got Talent, and \$1850 for Island Fest. Of course, we could not use them in 2020, but they will roll over to 2021 and help us stage our 2021 events. Hancock Wood Electric Cooperative has yet again generously committed to donating \$5000 to our annual Film Fest.

Winter on the island

We also like to keep our social media audience happy, as they are always hungry for winter content! People love to see pictures of island life and read stories about what it is like to winter on the rock. Please feel free to share any and all images and anecdotes with us by emailing or tagging us in your posts. We will share this engaging content!

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 (should we get a freeze), 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.

Special announcement and important dates

Finally, I am pleased to announce that I have been appointed to serve on the Lake Erie Shores & Islands Marketing Committee, solidifying Kelleys Island as a very visible and important focal point of travel in our region. I plan to maximize relationships with neighboring shore communities to encourage better informed tourism to our area. I cannot wait to work with influential folks from other Lake Erie Islands and powerhouse mainland entities like Cedar Fair, the City of Sandusky, Kalahari Resorts, Erie and Ottawa County Commissioners, and more. Together, we will work on promoting our region's brand identity and telling the most compelling story about who we are and why we matter!

Upcoming Chamber Meetings,
Held virtually (please email info@kelleysislandchamber.com to be on our notification list)

Wednesday, April 14 @ 5:30PM
Wednesday, June 9 @ 5:30 PM
Wednesday, September 8 @ 5:30 PM

2021 Anticipated Chamber Sponsored Events Calendar

Ohio Bike Week Dice Run

Wednesday, June 2

5 & 10K Run/Walk

Sunday, June 6

Mad River KI Bike Tour

Saturday, June 26 &

Sunday, June 27

KI's Got Talent

Saturday, July 10

Island Fest

Friday, July 16 - Sunday, July 18

Film Fest

Friday, July 23- Sunday, July 25

Treasure Island Day

Saturday, September 11

Are we there Yet 2021???

...Here we come!

Patti and Doug Hayes

Kelleys Island Brewery has a great creative journey ahead of it. Doug and I are making plans that will take us to a level that we think the Island will be able to support for the next 22 years. We thank you for your continued sustenance of our business. Each time you walk in our door or up to our window matters to us; seeing your faces this summer was more important than words can convey.

This winter we will be recruiting employees, marketing locally and beyond, filling our cottage with happy renters, and writing stories that bring people to our shores to share in the unique home we call Kelleys Island.

We meet people from all over the country and they are always intrigued about our little place in the middle of Lake Erie. A story of a little brewery that still makes beer from grain and three other ingredients 200 gallons at a time.

In addition to filling our rentals, and the plans we make to fill our tanks, we will be drafting a new scavenger hunt including many of last year's participants additions. It is a unique way to interact with the Island and put your own twist on an outside activity. This year we will be adding a second act to the scavenger hunt. Stay tuned. It will be a game that you and your friends will love... we hope. Thank you for your exuberance and finding the treasure that is Kelleys.

We plan to come up the first week of boats and get beer in the tanks earlier than ever before. Stay tuned for menus, entertainment, and lots of opportunities for good times. Want to rent us for your private event? Send me an email at islandpj419@gmail.com We have some fun families planning their reunions already.



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Kelleys Island

Kelleys Island EMS News

Russel Maust, Director of EMS

I am happy to begin my service as the Village of Kelleys Island Director of EMS. Many Island residents and regular visitors will know me from my time spent as an EMS volunteer or from serving you with a smile at many of the Island restaurants. My wife Chrissy and I moved to Kelleys Island in 2004 from Canton, Ohio after I graduated from Stark State University with a degree in Fire Sciences. In 2004, I was hired as a full time Medic for Sandusky County EMS as I had earned my Paramedic Certification in 2003. Over the past sixteen years, I have served as a paramedic for both Sandusky County and in a volunteer capacity on Kelleys Island.

I look forward to serving my community in this new and exciting capacity in partnership with MetroHealth. The services provided by MetroHealth replaces the

services, including emergency transportation, provided by St. Vincent Charity Medical Center. The MetroHealth liaison to Kelleys Island, David Yarmesch, has shared the following as an introduction to their services and team.

MetroHealth Medical Center and Metro Life Flight will be integral in helping serve all residents and visitors of this beautiful island. This partnership brings forth a rare opportunity for the Island to adopt the Regional EMS Protocol that is the biproduct of emergency medicine, EMS, clinical, and thought leaders across 5 hospital systems: MetroHealth Medical Center, Cleveland Clinic, University Hospitals, Southwest General, and St. Vincent Charity Medical Center.

MetroHealth is home to the regions most experienced Level I Adult Trauma Center and Ohio's only adult and pediatric trauma and burn center. Metro Life Flight

is a not-for-profit, CAMTS-accredited, air and ground critical care transport service. With three helicopters, two critical care ground ambulances, and two ALS ambulances based throughout the region, Metro Life Flight is readily accessible to the communities we serve throughout Northern Ohio. We work closely with our pre-hospital partners and referring hospitals and strive to provide ease of access through our auto-launch and auto-accept programs.

My sincerest appreciation goes out to Dave Yarmesch and the Metro Team for helping to provide Kelleys Island with a modern emergency service.

We cannot move into the future without acknowledging the dedication and effort put forth by those who selflessly served Kelleys Island for many years. I would like to thank all past volunteers and a special acknowledgement of Sharon

Devine and Bernie Koshla. Retirement is much deserved, and your service will always be honored.

I would also like to take the time to thank the many businesses and private donors who generously donated to the EMS Association. The Island Market Family and patrons raised \$3,500.00. These contributions will be used to purchase needed equipment which will help us provide the best medical care possible. We will also be training new volunteer staff members who are eager to serve our community.

In closing, this is just the beginning. I am genuinely excited to start this new chapter in my emergency medical career here on the Island, my home, for which I care so deeply. Let us look forward to a happy and healthy new year.



KILA Korner

We look forward to 2021 and to resuming our community activities, such as:

WELCOME BACK POT LUCK on May 15th

HOMECOMING on August 13th and 14th

FAMILY HAYRIDE FESTIVITIES on October 23rd

Should there be any changes, we will let you know.

All the activities and community projects are made possible by membership dues, donations and fund-raising activities like merchandise sales, raffles, and Homecoming. So, please remember

to renew your KILA membership or why not become a new member and join the other 250 active KILA members.

We also accept donations to support our continuing improvement efforts on the island. Please make checks payable to KILA and mail to: PO Box 22, Kelleys Island, Ohio 43438. For your convenience, you may also pay by PayPal at www:kila.rocks.

You can join KILA for only \$25 for your initial membership. If you are or were a member, please take the time to renew your membership to KILA for 2021, it is only \$20 and helps support the Landowners activities to improve and enhance the Village which benefits all citizens, residents and guests of Kelleys Island.



2021 coming events

- June 2: Ohio Bike Week Dice Run**
- June 6: 5 & 10k Run/Walk**
- June 26-27: Mad River Bike Tour**
- July 10: KI's Got Talent**
- July 16-18: Island Fest**
- July 23-225: Film Fest**
- September 11: Treasure Island Day**

*Please note events are subject to cancellation or modification due to COVID-19.

Become a Friend of the Chamber
 Visit www.kelleysislandchamber.com/donate

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419-746-2360
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Kelleys Island Landowners Association

Please join KILA for \$25 for initial membership. If you are or were a member, please remember to renew your membership in KILA for 2021. It is only \$20.00 and helps support KILA's activities to improve and enhance the village to benefit all citizens, residents, and guests of Kelleys Island.

KILA Membership Dues

Date	Description	Amount Due
Now	New Member – initial dues	\$25.00
April 1, 2021	Annual KILA 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:
KILA.rocks

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

E-Mail Address _____

Thank you.
 If you have any questions or have comments,
 please contact KILA at info@kila.rocks
 Stay Safe & be well.

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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.



The Joy of Grandparenting!

Grandparents Dawn and Chris Gore of Harbor Lane, Kelleys Island welcomed Sydney to their family on October 14, 2020. Sydney was almost born on Kelleys Island as mom, Kate, went into labor in the middle of the night. The family calmly made it through the night and took the first ferry off the Island driving to Trumbull county for the birth.

Photo: Kate and Joe Sears with their new bundle of joy, Sydney



January

- 5 – Kylee Eager
- 8– Collin Nunn-Strassner
- 9—Nancy-Ward Patterson
- 11 – Carmen Theresa Smith
- 12—Dave Mack
- 12– Erin Elfers
- 16– Cathy Coffman
- 19– Wayne Neumann
- 20– Jena Peterson
- 23—Karen Vetovitz
- 24– Adam Elfers
- 24– Brad Newcomb
- 25—Kristan Kaszei
- 28 – Patti 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 – Janet Wermuth
- 9– Carla Cordaro Benvenuto
- 11 – Tamara Washio
- 12 – Ollie Ehrbar
- 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 Klonaris
- 24 – Lance Marchky
- 25 – Mary Margaret Welly
- 28– Leonard Elfers
- 28– Heidi Smith
- 28 – Ann Stahl Lorenz

Kelleys Island Graduation!



Liam and his parents, Trudy & Todd Neu

Phil Thiede and Janet Wermuth

Congratulations to Liam Neu on his graduation from the Kelleys Island School. Liam attended the Kelleys Island School his sophomore, junior, and senior years. During his senior year he also earned his Eagle Scout rank. This is the highest attainable rank in the Boy Scouts of America program. His Eagle Scout project centered on the Kelleys Island State Park, cleaning, scraping, and painting the rusted railings on the board docks. Liam plans to attend Ohio State University. Good luck Liam!

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33rd Annual Lake Erie Islands Christmas Bird Count

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

On December 20, 2020, the 33rd annual Lake Erie Islands Christmas Bird Count was conducted on four of the western Lake Erie Islands. This is one of the few counts which covers areas in two countries. Participants were on South Bass Island, Middle Bass Island, Kelleys Island, and Pelee Island. Normally, coverage includes North Bass Island and sometimes Green Island. However, the one counter on North Bass Island has moved off the island in the last year. The compiler and founder of the count, John Pogacnik of Perry, Ohio started the count in 1987 and it has been run annually except in 1994.

This year's count found 80 species and 40,992 individuals over the four islands. The count average has been 73 species observed and 27,971 individuals, so 2020 was above normal. As has been the case in many of the past counts, Kelleys Island had the highest count for species at 69 and number of individuals at 29,740. The range of species on the other islands was 39 – 46 with 975 - 5347 individuals. Kelleys had nine counters and



Killdeer

four feeders being watched. Unusual species on Kelleys were a surf scoter, three black scoters, four unidentified scoters, a killdeer, a purple sandpiper (a rare east coast species), five common loons, a late gray catbird, six purple finches, two common redpolls (at Kit Kilen's feeder), four pine siskins, a late chipping sparrow, and a late field sparrow. And for the record, 24 Bald Eagles were observed on the islands; each island had at least 4 individuals.

Kelleys Island counters were Chris Ashley,

Emily Beal, John Pogacnik, Shawn Pogacnik, Josh Coppen, Tom Bartlett, Paula Bartlett, Alexi Panehal, Tyler McClain, and Mariah Scherer. Feeder counters were Bruce & Leslie Korenko, Lee & Sandy Tkach, Chris Ashley, and Kit Kilen. We can always use more counters and feeder watchers. Think about helping next year; the count will be Sunday, December 19, 2021.



Purple Sandpiper

Kelleys Island Northern Saw-Whet Owl

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

The year 2020 was the 18th season of the Northern Saw-whet Owl research project on Kelleys Island. We knew this might be a good fall for the project for two reasons. First, the Saw-whet Owls are on basically a four year cycle of ups and downs. The bottom of the cycle was in 2019 with only 41 owls banded; our average over the 18 years of this project is 47 owls banded annually. The season did not disappoint with it being a record fall for the Island.



Northern Saw-whet Owl

We banded 174 northern Saw-whet Owls and seven eastern screech owls over 46 nights between October 10 and December 20. In addition, we had five foreign recaptures which are birds banded by someone else off Kelleys Island and one of our birds was recaptured. Of the five foreign recaptures two were from Gilford, Ontario a location north of Toronto, one from St. Ignace, Michigan, one from Lowell, Ohio, and the last from Port Rowan, Ontario. One of our owls was recaptured at Caesar's Creek State Park 22 days after we banded it. Also, we recaptured 37 of the owls we banded on the island. They ranged from one day after banding to 38 days after banding. So, some of the owls we banded decided to stay on Kelleys Island for the winter.

A look at the make-up of the ages of the owl population was what we expected. The vast majority of the birds, 92%, of the owls were hatch-year birds, meaning they hatched in 2020. Three percent of the owls were second-year birds hatching in 2019 which was a down year for the owls. Owls older than 2 years accounted for 4.5% of the population. And finally, 0.5% of the birds were after-hatch year birds meaning they were hatched before 2020 but a specific date was not determined. The year 2020 was a very good year for breeding of Northern saw-whet Owls up north.

Of the owls banded, females accounted for 78%, males 4%, and 18% were unknown sex. No adult male owls were captured which is understandable when you consider the biology of this species. In

any given year, the breeding territory of the owls cannot support all the owls in winter. It is known that only the males will stay on territory for the winter. The females and young migrate out to find areas with cover and food to get them through the winter before they head back north.

There is a group known as Project OwlNet of which we are a part. The group is comprised of owl banding stations across North America. Most stations in the eastern part of North America had

our same experiences in 2020.

Several years ago, I organized the Ohio owl banding stations in an informal group called Ohio OwlNet with their currently being 12 stations in Ohio. However, due to COVID-19 restrictions, only eight stations were run this fall. Of these eight stations, four had record years. In Ohio, we banded 487 Northern Saw-whet owls and had over 20 foreign recaptures. There are plenty of Saw-whet Owls in Ohio this winter.

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News from the Kelleys Island History Museum

Leslie Korenko

The holidays are over, and nothing has been the same. So many people, caught with unexpected holiday visitors, shopped for gifts at the resale shop – and found some great things. We closed the museum on October 12, having been open just 50% of previous years. There were 1426 people who signed in, almost exactly 50% from 2019. But due to the generosity of people during our November Appeal, it looks like the Museum will be able to cover expenses without going into the red. Thank you to everyone who bought quilt tickets, this helped immensely too. We are not sure how many more quilts Teri will be making for us. Her fingers are probably getting tired. We now look forward to a better 2021.

The Museum is in the middle of our Membership Drive. You can support us by becoming a member or renewing your membership. You can process your membership on line or by downloading the form to mail in.

Looking for something to do this winter – be sure to check out our History Blog (www.KelleysIsland.us click on BLOG) to discover some interesting articles on this Island's historical site, and our interesting

people and places. So far, posts have been about the Titus Road statue, stone fences, the Influenza epidemic of 1920, and the Island's telegraph cable. Remember to explore our video section too – lots of walking tours, and a new tour of the museum which includes quite a bit about our origins. We have hit 2000 Followers on our Facebook page which is quite a milestone for a little island museum. The Kelleys Island History Museum does post some interesting stuff.

Read our newsletters which are also on the website. Items which were donated are listed. These donations are much appreciated, and we cannot thank people enough for thinking of us when they are cleaning out those dusty corners of their houses and outbuildings. We have received some lovely, interesting, and incredibly rare items, including this remarkable treadle sewing machine.

The Free No. 5 treadle sewing machine is black with a gold floral and wing design, c1913, with full art deco cabinet of laminated wood. Two doors are hinged on the side, and open from the front, the doorknob unlocks with a push button. Inside there are 3 covered compartments and one open shelf in the doors.



Free No. 5 Treadle Sewing Machine

Advertisements for the period show a similar version of this full cabinet model. This one is likely pretty rare. Our thanks to Diane Nickles for this donation.

The Parsonage Perspective

Janet Killam

Though the summer tourism season ended long ago, The Parsonage Resale Shop never gives up or gives in. We pride ourselves on the fact that we are rarely ever closed and always available by appointment. Though our devoted staff may not physically be there each day, we are just a phone

call away! Jodie Smith, Sonia Taylor, or Janet Killam will be delighted to make time to open the shop for you and help you find what you need.

Valentine's Day is fast approaching, and you can count on The Parsonage for cute one of a kind, presents and other gift ideas. Let us help you acknowledge how much

you care for your loved ones! Our inventory is vast and eclectic. We are certain you will find the perfect gift for that special someone in your life.

The Feyedelem Family has generously donated all the inventory from Vi's Island Treasures, including clothes, which we have marked down to almost 1/3rd of the price! We have every kitchen gadget imaginable from coffee makers to toaster ovens to crock pots, not to mention utensils, pots, and pans.

Thanks to your generosity, The Parsonage is now equipped with heating and air conditioning, so you can shop in comfort all year long!

We regularly carry items that are

difficult to find on the Island like greeting cards for all occasions, including Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, and Halloween as well as sympathy, get well, and birthday cards. We even carry gift bags of all sizes so you can make your present extra special!

Come in and browse anytime! If you mention you have read this article at check-out, you'll receive 25% off your entire purchase! Make an appointment to shop today! We love hearing from you. Never hesitate to call about donating too. Contact people and numbers: Jodie Smith 419-350-1082; Sonia Taylor 419-202-8083; Janet Killam 419-304-3095

Happy
2021
New Year!



Your Parsonage Resale Shop is OPEN!
We are NEVER closed to you!
We are and will always be open to you when you call:
Jodie Smith 419-350-1082
Sonia Taylor 419-202-8083
Janet Killam 419-304-3095

We will resume our regular 12 to 4 pm hours in the Spring so until then, we would love and look forward to hearing from you.

Valentine's Day is fast approaching!
Come in for Valentine cards, clothing, decorations and a plethora of unique gifts for you to give your Valentine.
We gift wrap and sell gift bags and wrapping paper

The Parsonage is a part of the Kelleys Island History Museum

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See you there!

Kelleys Island School Running Club Supports Field Station

Jackie Taylor, Director of the Kelleys Island Field Station

On November 14th, the Kelleys Island School's Running Club teamed up with Jackie Taylor and Emily Beal to raise awareness and money needed to sustain the pollinator habitats on Kelleys Island.

Jackie and Emily both have a love for running and pollinators, so they took it upon themselves to run 10 miles while raising money at the same time. With the help of running coach and school board member Jodie Smith, the team raised over \$2,500! The money raised went towards the Kelleys Island Pollinators and Partnerships to promote the health of pollinators critical to the Lake Erie Island's ecosystems through conservation, education, and research.

The students in the KI running Club met weekly with Jackie and Emily working together to be ready to meet their goals and to learn more about the cause they were supporting. When the weather was nice the team ran outside to integrate nature with running. They ran to pollinator habitats providing more of a hands-on connection and understanding of the mission.

The official run day of November 14th was beautiful, sunny, 45 degrees, with a slight breeze out of the

southeast. Jackie and Emily started their run at the State Park and when they ran by the school on Woodford Road, the KI Running Club joined them for approximately 2 miles. The students connected back up with the Jackie and Emily for the last mile crossing the finish line together as a team. The kids, Jackie and Emily, Coach Jodie, parents, and supporters were all excited that we completed our goals and made a difference.

Thank you to everyone who supported us. We could not have been successful without the kind help!

See photos on next page.

Please
KEEP KELLEYS SAFE



Thank you all for helping keep Kelleys safe.



Kelleys Island School Running Club Supports Field Station

Left: Pollinator Club Runners with Jackie Taylor;

Right: Runners Nik Skeans and Charlie Poston



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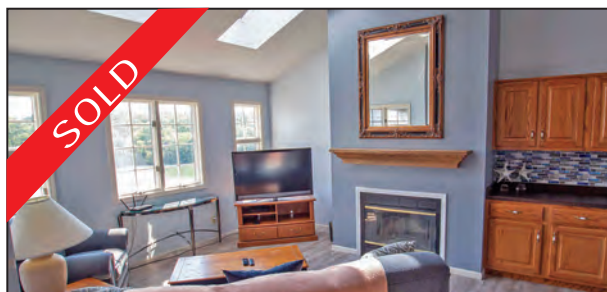
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Winter is for the Birds!

Not all the birds in your area migrate (move away) for the winter. Some stick around all year. And others move in from other places. It may be cold and snowy where you live. But birds still find seeds, grains, nuts, and berries on winter plants. Or they peck away for creepy-crawlies hiding under tree bark or in other protected places. And birds of prey swoop down on small animals that are out and about looking for food themselves.



Even though winter birds can usually get by just fine on their own, some people give them a break by putting out feeders and keeping them filled. Many birds drop in for the free treats. And the people get to enjoy the live show through their windows. You can make your own backyard show, too!

WHERE TO FEED

Some birds find their food on the

ground. Some look for food while clinging to and creeping along tree trunks or branches. And some prefer to perch and peck. So it makes sense that different types of feeders attract different kinds of birds. Here are some common ones:

1. A tray feeder is great for ground-feeders such as doves, sparrows, and juncos.
2. Chickadees, finches, and titmice will often flock to a tube feeder.
3. A hopper feeder attracts birds such as cardinals, grosbeaks, and jays.
4. Woodpeckers and nuthatches are common visitors at a suet feeder.

WHAT TO FEED

You can't go wrong with seed! Bird stores, feed stores, garden stores, and even grocery stores carry bird seeds of all kinds. Many sell seed mixes, but you might want to use a single type in each feeder. Probably the most popular bird food is black-oil sunflower seeds. Lots of birds go for those, as well as safflower seeds (which squirrels don't like). Finches like nyjer seeds (sometimes called "thistle"). Ground-feeders go for cracked corn or millet. One high-energy food is suet (SOO-it), which is beef fat that may be available at your grocer's meat department.

Insect-eaters especially love it, and it helps birds stay warm in winter.

FEEDING TIPS

Be patient. If you're just getting started, the birds might not come right away. Give them time to find your feeders. Once one or two show up, others will follow.

Keep cats away. Free-roaming cats will think a feeding station is a good place to stalk. Leave them inside.

Avoid crashes. Place feeders either right against windows or far enough

away that birds don't slam into them if they have to scatter quickly.

Consider cover. Trees or shrubs near feeders offer birds protection, in case of icy wind gusts or incoming predators.

Don't forget water! A heated birdbath will keep water from freezing. Or just remove any ice that forms and refill with fresh water daily.

Feeders and birdbaths can spread bird diseases. Bring them in to clean every couple of weeks.



FEEDING FUN

Make your own winter treat. Ready-made suet cakes are available at stores. You might also try this easy recipe: With an adult's help, melt 1 pound (2 cups) of suet or lard with 1 cup of natural peanut butter in a pot on low heat. Stir in 2 cups of yellow cornmeal. If you like, you can also stir in some bird seed. When the mixture has cooled down, you can use it to stuff into pine cones to hang up. Or spread it into pans or molds and let harden overnight in the refrigerator. Then pop out the shapes and hang them outside.

Decorate for the birds. Use your hands to poke, punch, or draw patterns in the snow's surface. Then sprinkle in seeds of different kinds and colors to form pictures or designs. Later on, watch from inside as the birds thankfully destroy your artwork!

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OBITUARIES



Joan J. Chopchinski

On November 2, 2020, the world lost a loving wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, sister, aunt, friend, and teacher. Joan J. Chopchinski, beloved wife of Donald C. Chopchinski, was born April 23, 1936 in Columbus, OH. Joan and Don met in Columbus at the Newman Center at Ohio State University in 1956 and they were married June 14, 1958.

Joan enjoyed her career as a Title 1 teacher in Lorain, OH and a supervisor of Title 1 in Elyria, OH. She was honored to have received the Outstanding Young Educator Award

during her career. She was a woman that loved her family more than anything else in her life. Whether she was partaking in her love of reading, crocheting, traveling, cooking, or flying, she would place everything on hold to tend to anyone who needed it. Joan was many things in her life, but first and foremost she was a mother and friend to all. The impact that Joan had in this world will forever be felt, remembered, and missed by all those that knew her. Most importantly, by the family she leaves behind.

Joan is survived by her husband Don with 62 years of marriage, her son

Donnie, her daughter-in-law Jean, her grandchildren Heather and fiancé Tony, Zach and his wife Layla, Cassie, and her great grandchildren John Sebastian and Lydia-Renée. She is also survived by her sister June Hard of Columbus, OH and her brother Gene Pfeifer of San Francisco, CA. She was preceded in death by her sister Phyllis Borghese.

In our hour of loss, we remember this amazing woman and all the good times. She would not have had it any other way. Joan will forever be in the hearts and minds of her family and friends that survive her.



Sandra Lee Sun Smith

Age 84, Buladean, NC, passed away Tuesday, December 1, 2020 at the Johnson City Medical Center. She is a daughter of the late Gustave and Dorothy Himmelein Sun. Sandra grew up on Kelleys Island, Ohio. She moved to Tennessee in 1998 and has lived in Buladean for the last seven years.

Sandra was a Christian and attended Centenary United Methodist

Church in Erwin. She was a retired LPN. Sandra was an avid gardener and a wonderful cook. She was a happy individual and loved the mountains of North Carolina.

Sandra leaves behind to cherish her memory, her husband of twenty years, R.O. Smith; one son, Daniel Evans of Cleveland, OH; one daughter, Kerry Evans of Ashville, NC; two granddaughters: Shannon Leeann Calhoun and Amanda Mary Calhoun

both of Elizabethton; one great granddaughter, Teana Leeann Shae Colston; one brother, Gustav Terrand Sun, III of Kannapolis, NC; her pets, Howie, Lilly and Cricket.

Graveside service will be held at Kelleys Island Cemetery at a later date.



Joseph; great granddaughters Laura Shank and Evelyn Adkins.

Shirley is survived by her siblings; Laura Jean Pohorence, Robert (Jean) Seeholzer, and Coletta Walters. She is survived by her in-laws; Raymond Schreiner, Charles (Pat) Schreiner, Kenneth (Jane) Schreiner, and Allan (Shirley A.) Schreiner and many special nieces and nephews. Shirley is preceded in death by her siblings; Mary Betzenheimer, Ruth Perruchon, Rita Betzenheimer, Dawn Kekelik, Alice Olwill and Lyle Seeholzer.

A funeral mass will be held at 10:00 AM on Saturday, January 23 at St. Gaspar del Bufalo Catholic Church, 16209 County Rd 46, Bellevue Ohio 44811 (www.stgaspar.com) with additional seating in the church hall. The mass will be livestreamed at www.stgaspar.com. We ask if you attend to please wear a mask and follow COVID protocols.

Our very special thanks to her caregivers at Seidman Cancer Center, Dr. Bo Zhao, Stein Hospice and all the clinicians who lovingly supported her.

Foos and Foos Funeral Service, Bellevue is in care of arrangements.

Memorials may be made to:
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Web: <http://stgaspar.com>
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Memories and condolences may be shared at www.foosfuneral.com

Shirley Jane (Seeholzer) Schreiner

February 12, 1938 ~ January 13, 2021 (age 82)

Shirley Jane (Seeholzer) Schreiner passed away peacefully at the age of 82 in her home surrounded by family on January 13, 2021 after being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer at Thanksgiving. Shirley was born on Kelleys Island, OH to Carl and Laura (Martin) Seeholzer on February 12, 1938. She was raised on Kelleys Island and graduated from Estes School. On May 5, 1962, Shirley married the love of her life Leo G. Schreiner in St. Michael's Catholic Church on Kelleys Island. She worked at Hinde & Dauch in Sandusky and Mack's Market in Attica where she made many lifelong friendships. She also provided childcare for her grandchildren up until her diagnosis as well as many other children whom she loved dearly. She was devoted to her kids and grandchildren and loved attending their sporting and music events. Shirley was actively involved in the Catholic Church as a member of the Rosary & Altar Society and former CCD teacher. Many will also remember Shirley for her small acts of kindness such as frequently sending a thoughtful card or generously giving away homemade kitchen scrubbers to people she would meet over the years.

Shirley is survived by her husband, Leo Schreiner; her children, Patricia (Arthur) Page, Jani (John) Blum, Theresa (Dennis) Shank, and Scott (Kimberly) Schreiner; her grandchildren, Jennifer Blum, Jacob Blum, Hannah (Brandon) Hull, Jalissa (Austin) Markwell, Gavin, Olivia and Claire Shank, Leo, Carmen, Grayson and Landry Schreiner; her great grandchildren, Melanie Blum and one arriving in February. She is preceded in death by her infant son

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A New Year's Celebration and a Wedding

Leslie Korenko

JANUARY 1861 - A. S. Kelley reported: "New Year's Day. Pleasant. Had lottery at the Store, Henry Worden drew first prize, bbl flour. Chas. Nelson also had lottery at Himmeleins. Dance at the Island House last night, 28 couples." This dance was described in detail by another writer. "We more than half made up our minds to stay in our sanctum and let the Senior go to dance the old year out and the New Year in; but valor got the upper hand of discretion. [The Editors of this issue of the Islander were M. K. Holbrook (Senior) and E. Huntington (Junior).] So we finally concluded to go also inasmuch as we had heard all about the wedding and as how the happy pair would be there." [Homer Woodford and Rosetta Moore were married on December 30.]

A New Year's dance and wedding celebration were held at the Island House and a lottery was held at The Store on the Corner the next day. We were reliably informed that a gold ring and a 5¢ piece would be placed in the bride's loaf, which as we interpreted it, meant happy is the one who should get the ring and woe be to him or her who should be so unfortunate as to get the 5¢ piece. [Baking a ring into the wedding cake is an English tradition, said to be a symbol of bliss and happiness. The guest whose piece of cake contained the ring could look forward to a year of uninterrupted happiness. The 5¢ piece apparently represented an end to matrimonial aspirations.]

Got to the scene of action just in



The Store on the Corner

time to see the bridal party drive up to the gate in a two horse vehicle. Couldn't say positively how many there were in it, but when they commenced spilling out, it put us in mind of the picture accompanying the old melody, which runs somewhat as follows, "There was an old woman that lived in a shoe (we will not repeat the remaining lines as they are doubtless familiar to most of our readers).

The dance soon commenced in which we, of course, participated

after having procured a small piece of yellow pasteboard with the two words 'Admit One' on one side and the number 211 on the other. Didn't like to expose our ignorance by asking what it was for, so put it in a safe place to wait for something to turn up. In a short time found that it was number 21 in the ring and five lottery.

About 11 o'clock and 45 minutes, saw the crowd marching in the ball room and wishing to do as the rest did, formed into the ranks and marched too. Pretty soon the head

couple started for the dining room, and human nature like all the rest followed. The man at the door took our ticket and we passed in, where to our infinite delight and gratification, a long table was spread with everything that was beautiful to the sight and sweet to the taste.

The bride's loaf occupied a prominent position among the good things and looked very tempting withal. In a short time the frosted loaf was called to its maker and carved into sections about the size of a piece of cheese, more or less, which inasmuch as the whole cake was about the size of a full moon, made our chances of getting the ring look rather slim. Waited with breathless anxiety for it to be passed around. Pretty soon performances commenced, watched each piece that was taken off with an ever wakeful eye, and to our greatest conceivable joy, the lucky one was not taken when it reached our abode. Selected a piece very cautiously and forthwith

commenced looking for the prize. Pulled it all to pieces and turned them over and over again but all to no purpose.

The excitement being now over, went back to the ball room and danced [our] cares away. Just as we were getting ready to go to our parental abode, were requested by a friend to come to town in the morning and invest 50¢ in a lottery. Told him rather short that we didn't believe in lotteries as much as he did."

The 60+ Population is Being Scammed by Love

Sue Daughtery, Director,
Serving Our Seniors

Aging alone can be hard. Compounding these emotions, among the 60+ population, is the social isolation brought on by Covid-19.

People who are experts at gaining the confidence of strangers are capitalizing on lonely and trusting retirees, then taking their money. It is happening everywhere – including in Erie County.

Looking for Love in All the Wrong Places. As more lonely and unsuspecting older Erie County divorcees/widows/widowers are using the internet with hopes of finding a caring person for a mature relationship, they are losing their retirement savings and investments. This is not

unique to Erie County.

Those who are aging alone are meeting individuals through their computer. When they stumble upon "Mr. or Ms. Right," they exchange numerous e-mails and texts over the course of weeks or months. The unwary Erie County older adult is convinced this new "sweetheart" may be their soulmate, and therefore, worthy of being trusted.

This never-before-seen "boy-friend/girlfriend" now asks the Erie County resident for money. The story usually goes like this...the long-distance sweetheart had an emergency and needs some quick cash as he/she is out of the country on business; or they ended up in the hospital and are in a life or death situation. The Erie County older adult is asked to send money. Of course, there is always a pledge to pay the money back as soon as they get home.

Another common theme is the con artist tells the new "love of his life/love of her life" that they are going to fly in so they can meet in-person. One excuse after another will take place; and so, will the requests for more money.

Elder fraud is at epidemic proportions. If you are age 60+ and flirting with the idea of meeting someone over the internet, I encourage you to watch the TV 5 video news report about Julie Erickson. She was duped out of \$500,000.00 in a romance scam. Just google these words, ROMANCE SCAM VICTIM LOST \$500,000.00 SHARES STORY FOR THE FIRST TIME.

When you watch the video, you will see one doesn't have to be of advanced age or "incompetent" to

become a victim. Erie County has healthy victims who are in their 60's, none of whom are suffering from mental illness or cognitive impairments.

It is unfortunate that there are so many predators stalking people age 60+ to exploit a relationship and taking the life savings of another. Just know that it is happening with regularity. Because the culprits are doing their dirty work from another country, it is highly unlikely the older victim will ever recoup their money.

Let Serving Our Seniors Help. If you think you may have been scammed and do not know what to do, call Serving Our Seniors (419-624-1856) for moral support and direction. Although you are not likely to get your money back, you are a victim of a crime and it needs to be reported. We would like to help you through these steps.

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721 CEDAR POINT ROAD, SANDUSKY \$549,000

Cedar Point Chaussee



Amazing Lake Erie and Sandusky Bay views from this 3,112 SqFt 2 story home with an open floor plan. Land consists of a .98 acre lot with optional adjacent .87 acre lot for \$200K.



2310 W. CLEVELAND RD, SANDUSKY \$183,000

Commercial property located on the Cleveland Rd corridor between Sports Force Parks and the Cedar Point Causeway. 3 parcels being sold together totaling just under 1 acre with 193 feet of frontage on Cleveland Rd



107 VALERIE TRAIL HOME WITH A LAKE VIEW

Views of the lake, quiet setting with lots of shade, Custom built home with 3 BR's, 2 full baths, attached finished 24 x 28 garage. Relax and enjoy!



LOTS 49 - 50 MEMORY LANE

2 parcels totaling about .336, 100 feet of frontage, beach access at the end of Cedar Ln and Melody Ln.

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Professional Realty

A premier Ohio-based full service real estate brokerage which handles residential sales, commercial sales and leasing, relocation assistance, and property management. Professional Realty is in the top 25 BHHS affiliates nationwide and has been recognized as one of the top 500 real estate brokerages in the nation.

BHHS Professional's network of 600 agents and 35 offices that service the Ohio major markets of Cincinnati, Columbus, Cleveland, Akron, and Dayton as well as the surrounding areas and also Northern KY and Parkersburg, WV and now the Sandusky office with Steve Mack and David Tully. Steve as an Associate Broker and home owner on Kelleys Island. Steve also has NAR designations of Certified Residential Specialist, Secondary Resort & Property Specialist, ePRO and Certified Negotiation Expert and David Tully is the only Realtor in the Firelands Association of Realtors with NAR's designation of Certified International Property Specialist.

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Professional Realty Statewide Footprint



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 - * Vermillion
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 - Green
 - Columbus
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We are the largest BHHS affiliate in OH, with over 475 real estate professionals and 25+ offices across the state.



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