



The Perchie Press

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Volume I, Number I

Covering the World from Kelleys Island, Ohio ©

May 1, 1991

Three Millage Issues on May 7 Ballot

Voters on May 7 will get to decide the fate of three additional tax levy issues they are being asked to approve.

The largest, and, in the view of many, the most important, is a request for an additional four mills in support of police activities on the island. This money would be used for the paying of salaries and benefits, maintenance on cruisers and other equipment, and other miscellaneous police expenses.

One of the biggest reasons given for the need of this

levy is the cost of obtaining a replacement for former Police Chief Charles Moore who re-

tired effective May 1, 1991. Chief Moore's salary was \$3,000 a year, (his

wife was also remunerated \$6,000 for acting as dispatcher), and it is expected that a salary in the range of \$25,000 will be needed

to attract a qualified person to take the position. Advertisements were carried in publica-

tions requesting applicants for the position, and it is reported there were three responses.

No job offer has been extended to any of the applicants, pending outcome of the

results of the levy. If an offer is made, there is no guarantee it would result in a "full time" resident police chief. (Ohio law apparently requires a village police chief to become a resident of the village within six months of the appointment, unless exempted by ordinance).

In addition to paying the salary of a police chief, funds are needed to pay for the services of deputies for weekends during the summer.

The proposed police levy

See "Levies" on Page 2...

*Monies Sought for
Police, Fire, and
Airport Grant*

HAIL TO THE CHIEF!

After 7 years and 4 months with the Kelleys Island Police Department, Chief Charles Moore resigned his post effective May 1, 1991. Chief Moore was also the driving force behind the establishment of the island EMS squad.

During his time in office, he says the police department was pretty much self-sufficient, generally earning its keep through fines and collections.

Charlie "retired" from Ford where he worked at the Sandusky plant in Quality Control. He became involved in the law enforcement part of life about 28 years ago when he began work as a part time sheriff's deputy.

His plans for the future currently revolve around

operating "The Patio", the walk-up window area of the Village Pump. He will be opening early in the morning with coffee and donuts for the early risers. His wife Kit will work afternoons and Charlie will return in the evening. Daytime and evening offerings include hotdogs and a wonderful shredded beef sandwich. They plan on being the last option for many late night revelers.

The "Patio" will also sell beer for carryout.

Once the summer season is over the Moores plan on an extended trip that will take them in a great loop around the country. Headed east from the island, they plan to visit Cape

See "Hail to the Chief" on Page 2...

A New Lady Comes To Town

The newest ferry on the Lakes, the MV Shirley Irene, arrived at the island precisely at noon on Saturday April 27, 1991. While passing along the south shoreline the vessel turned a complete circle in place, much like an ice skater spinning on her skates, as curious people observed from shore.

The boat was greeted by a mostly impromptu gathering of people at the Seaway Marina and was, no doubt, the largest gathering on the island since the Fireman's ball. The first "passenger" off the boat was Opi, Captain Joe Nesta's dog.

After docking, the assembly was allowed to board and inspect the bright orange boat.

The ferry, capable of carrying 44 cars or five semi-tractors was built in the Mobile, Alabama area. Its journey to the island took it up the Mississippi, through the Chicago area and around the lower peninsula of Michigan in the Great Lakes. Two motor homes were used as temporary living shelter for the crew and passengers which included several islanders.

Police Protection after May 1 provided by Sheriff

Police protection on the island, from May 1 until a new police chief has been appointed will be handled by the Erie County Sheriff department, according to Mayor McCullagh.

The boat, named after James Palidino's mother, is 160 feet long and 41 feet wide. Its

See "New Lady" on page 2

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SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING SHAKES UP APPOINTED POSITIONS

Several personnel changes were made at a special meeting of the village council on Tuesday April 23, 1991.

Jack Terry was appointed to the position of zoning inspector, replacing Don St. Julian. Don had held the job since L.J. Greek vacated the position last year. Jack, a native of the Cleveland area, is in the construction business and is on the island most weekends through the year.

The cemetery committee was also the subject of staffing changes. Carl "Buddy" Yoscovits, who had served for 8 years on the cemetery board, as well as Jim St. Julian were removed from the committee and replaced by Ila Dick and Charles "Jake" Martin. Don Haas resigned his position on the committee.

The cemetery committee is normally composed of three people: a citizen, a councilperson, and the village clerk, but had been operating with four individuals.

Hail to the Chief

Continued from Page 1... Code and travel the eastern seaboard to Florida. Westbound to California, they will visit the southwest and up to Washington State before heading east through the northern tier of states. While on this trip they will have the opportunity to visit with the children.

In spite of all this activity Charlie plans to find a few minutes or days to practice the Heimlich maneuver on some Walleyes that swallow his hook.

A little party in Charlies honor will be held at the VFW on Friday May 3, 1991. The public is invited.

School Board Drops Teacher's Contract

In a surprise move, the Kelleys Island School Board voted not to renew the contract of Donna Farmer at its meeting on April 10, even though contract renewal was recommended by the superintendent. Ms. Farmer has been a teacher on Kelleys Island for the past fourteen years.

No reason was given for this action. According to published reports in the Sandusky Register, the school board is making no comment, on the advise of its legal counsel. Ms. Farmer would not discuss the case, except to say that she is exploring all her options at this

The New Lady....

Continued from Page 1 two sets of engines are independently steerable through 360 degrees of freedom, giving it the capability of moving literally in any direction. The vessel's design and engine configuration make it, currently, the only one of its kind. Top speed is 17 mph.

In addition to hauling passengers and their vehicles to the island, the boat will carry freight and equipment during the entire year, when weather permits.

No date has been set for the beginning of service between the island and Marblehead. The company is awaiting permission to build its dock in Marblehead from the Corp of Engineers, but Jim Richmond, a company spokesman, said service could start as soon as June 1 if timely approval is obtained.

When asked if a rate schedule has been finalized, he responded that it had not, but that fares would be "competitive."

Levies....

Continued from Page 1 will produce approximately \$40,000 in revenue if approved. The term of the levy would run 5 years.

A 1.5 mill levy is also being sought to provide required matching funds for acceptance of a grant from the Ohio Department of Transportation that would widen the east/west runway and improve some drainage at the airport. The village must contribute \$10,000 to the project in order to receive the \$100,000 grant, and the levy will raise approximately that amount.

Currently the runway is only 25 feet wide and this grant would add 12.5 feet on each side for a total runway width of 50 feet. For comparison, the east/west runway at the Griffing Sandusky airport is 60 feet.

The airport levy also has a term of 5 years, with the moneys in the out years to be used for airport improvements or as matching funds for additional grants if approved.

The State, through no act or failure to act by the village, cancelled an additional grant that would have been used for expanding the airport tarmac and moving the airport building for accommodating the parking planes.

The smallest levy being presented is a 1 mill request for support of fire fighting activities. The term of this levy is also for five years, although another local newspaper apparently incorrectly reported it was for a term of one year. Uses of this money, which will be under \$10,500/year will vary from paying volunteers a small fee for responding to alarms, to providing turnout equipment, such as raincoats and oxygen. It would also cover other items as maintenance and certification of the firetruck.

In discussing the need for the additional levies, Village Mayor Robert McCullagh

pointed out that the millage rate for Kelleys is considerably lower than even nearby mainland municipalities even though it costs more to operate an island. As examples, he indicated that the millage rate on Kelleys is 43.5, while Bayside has a rate of 58 and Put-in-Bay's millage is 62. As an example of the precipitously rising costs associated with running the village, he noted that the village's insurance costs have risen from \$8,000 to \$80,000 in five years and now constitute roughly one third of the general fund budget. During that same five years there have been no levies passed that have benefited the general fund.

Council Hikes Fees for Transportation Vehicles

In its regular session on April 11, the village council approved an ordinance to raise the annual fees it imposes on commercially available island transportation. These include golf carts, mopeds, and bicycles rented by island businesses. It also raised the rates for trams and buses operating on the island.

The annual fees were raised, in some instances by a factor of 10. Golf carts and mopeds, which had been taxed at \$5 each last year, will cost \$50 this year. Fees for bicycles increased from \$1 to \$5 each, while a similar increase was imposed on buses and trams who will pay \$5 for each seat in the vehicle. That is up from \$1 last year.

Upon payment of the required fees, a sticker signifying compliance with the new ordinance will be issued to be affixed to each vehicle.

The annual fee for coin-operated amusement devices, such as video games and pool tables was not raised from its last years level of \$25.

TRANSFER STATION FEES AND RULES CHANGE

The method of charging for the Kelleys Island Transfer Station, formerly known as the landfill and still almost universally referred to as "The Dump", has been modified for the coming year. A new fee structure has been established that includes an availability fee assessed to all island residents and businesses and a usage fee will also be charged based on the amount of refuse taken to the transfer station. Thus, those who choose not to use the facility will only have to pay the availability fee.

The availability fee is designed to cover the fixed expenses involved with the operation of the transfer station. These include the labor cost needed to staff the transfer station, the cost of utilities for operating the equipment, rental fees for the compacter, license fees for the facility and testing of the old landfill site and other miscellaneous expenses. Fixed costs for 1990, including fees, labor, and rentals amounted to approximately \$36,000.

The usage fee is designed to cover the variable costs associated with the storage and disposal of refuse. This includes such items as rental of the storage dumpsters, transportation expenses to take the dumpster to the mainland and "tipping fees" at the Erie County Landfill.

The basic rate for a resident is set at \$85 dollars. Businesses that serve food and drink, as well as island camps, will pay an availability fee of \$375, while other business will be charged \$250. In addition to the availability fee, residents

taking refuse to the transfer station will have buy and affix a sticker to the disposal bag. These stickers, available at both the Island Market and the General Store, will cost \$.50 each. This sticker will permit the deposit of one "Large" Kitchen garbage at the transfer station. "Large" Kitchen size containers are rated at 13 gallons. The

It is estimated this fee will be under \$10.

Businesses will be permitted to deliver truckloads of refuse to the facility, but will be charged \$.06 per pound. They will be required to have the contents weighed. As a temporary measure, the scales operated by the quarry will be used. There-

Claims Court by the village solicitor. Unpaid bills from last year, which amounted to about \$12,000 are also being pursued in Small Claims Court.

Information obtained in a January meeting indicated that approximately 510 bills would be sent out, which included 12 restaurants and camps and 14 other businesses. Thus the total revenue from the availability fees would amount to approximately \$49,000. Any money collected for the Transfer Station can only be used for that purpose and can not be transferred to the general fund.

Don Haas, village councilman and chairman of the Transfer Station committee, indicated several alternatives are being considered to help defray transfer station costs. He noted that a good amount of the variable costs associated with the facility involves the rental of the dumpsters and compacter from BFI, as well as transportation cost for BFI to take the dumpsters from the island to the mainland. The transportation costs amount to \$510 per dumpster, which includes the charges for the ferry fee. In addition to this, a tipping fee is charged at the landfill which has increased from just under \$11/ton last year to over \$18/ton this year. The fees for pickup for the year 1990 amounted to approximately \$28,600, compared to about \$24,000 for the year 1989.

One of the proposals under consideration, according to Haas, would have the village purchase a compacter and dumpsters of its own. An advantage to this is that the fees currently being paid to BFI as rental could be used to offset the cost of the new equipment. Owning the equipment would allow for competitive bidding

See "Transfer Station" on Page 7...

RECYCLING'S FINEST HOUR

One sure way to break your dependence on the \$.50 bag of trash, is to recycle. The ecological and environmental advantages, the conservation of resources and energy saving attributes of recycling are well known. Now a direct economic benefit will accrue to those willing to take the time to separate their refuse into different categories.

All recyclable materials brought to the Transfer Station may be disposed of free of cost (of course this will not eliminate the need to pay the availability fee). Those items currently being accepted at the Transfer Station are paper, cardboard, tincan, aluminum, and glass.

The collection of this material was posing a problem for the village in that a suitable structure was needed to house and protect the container for recycling materials. But a novel approach has been found through recycling itself- convert a beer truck into a mobile container for recycling bins. The truck has eight access doors to the internal compartment, and by installing partitions between appropriate doors, collection compartments for the recycling material can be set up. The truck can then take the material directly to a mainland recycling center without using a transportation agent.

The used beer truck, which should be ready for use after formal acceptance at the May 9 council meeting, was donated by the Thornburgh Sales Co. of Sandusky. So hoist and recycle a can of Hamms, Weidemans, Rolling Rock, Genesee, or Old Style as a salute and a thank you.

structure of the usage fee is based on the assumption that an average 13 gallon bag weighs 10 pounds. If larger bags are used, they will be weighed and subject to a \$.06/lb fee.

Large items, such as appliances, will have a flat rate charge associated with them but will most likely include pickup.

fore businesses will be required to go to the quarry prior to going to the transfer station.

This fee structure will be applicable to all island businesses and residents. Failure to pay within 30 days of the receipt of the bill will cause a penalty charge of \$5.00 per month to be added. Severely delinquent accounts will be pursued in Small

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The Things That Spring Brings

Every new beginning has its difficulties. A venture such as this little newspaper is not without its crises, many brought on by either ignorance or procrastination. But each new beginning brings with it the opportunity to use that newness as an excuse for any inadequacies or inaccuracies that may have crept into these pages. So we will take advantage of that ephemeral alibi, knowing that its utility is limited to a single instance.

We hope to improve and change the appearance of this publication. Naturally we would like to see these pages punctuated with advertisements attesting to a vibrant island economy. Of course if that change isn't made, then the format will revert to what it was prior to this issue - nothingness.

We would hope for more white space surrounding pictures and illustrations displaying the events as well as telling about the events. We love the graphics arts as much as we hate the typing they can eliminate

We also hope coverage will expand to include regular attention to not only government and business affairs, but also liesure and sports topics, a dose of amusement, a tale adventure on somebody else's island, and a stab at weather in a more macro sense. Seasonal variations will also be apparent as we follow the needs, wants, topics, and events that the calendar imposes.

There is a whimsical ring to the name of this product, and its origin and meaning will be divulged with the passage of time. Perhaps not all issues will have to deal with as many weighty matters as this one, so its character will become more playful.

It would be nice if this medium could be a conduit for bringing a community a little closer together through open communication. It would be nice if this medium could be an ambassador to our neighboring communities and help promote exchanges about common problems.

There are great and good things going on around this island, and great and good things about this island. We hope we can brag about them to a larger audience with an ever increasing frequency.

We actively solicit the exchange of ideas through submission of letters for publication, once we decide what our letter policy is.

And we actively solicit suggestions and comments, criticism and praise, but they should be given before we get belligerent, set in our ways, change our minds, or go under. What with postage these days we are, after all, only a local phone call away.

Thoughts along the way....

Reprinted with permission, The Continental Congress, in the hope the unity of community prevails over grudge politics. Just because it seems appropriate.

"We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and out posterity...."

If you eliminate some of anomolies of being a governmental entity such as the propensity to be sued and the attendant costs associated with them, such as defense and insurance, there are people on this island that couldn't run their household on the income the village receives.

For those who think they shouldn't have to pay the Transfer Station availability fee because they never use it, we wonder if they think the same way about the polce department: they shouldn't have to pay because they never break the law.

WHEN THE WELL RUNS DRY

THE QUESTION HAS OFTEN BEEN ASKED "WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A VILLAGE CAN NO LONGER MEET ITS OBLIGATIONS". WHAT FOLLOWS IS A SIMPLIFIED VERSION OF SOME OF THE PROCEDURAL ASPECTS OF STATE STATUTES ON THE SUBJECT. SINCE THE ISSUES ARE COMPLEX AND CODE COMPREHENSIVE, MANY ASPECTS HAVE NOT BEEN PRESENTED.

The procedure for the resolution of a situation where a municipality in the state of Ohio is operating with insufficient funds is contained in Chapter 118 of the revised code and is titled "Local Fiscal Emergencies".

The opening section says "... it is hereby declared to be the public policy and a public purpose of the state to require fiscal integrity of municipal corporations so that they may provide for the health, safety, and welfare of their citizens, pay when due principal and interest on their debt obligations, meet financial obligations to their employees, vendors, and suppliers, and provide for proper financial accounting procedures, budgeting, and taxing practices."

The existence of a financial emergency is determined by the auditor of the State acting on his own initiative or on a written request from the governor, the county budget commission, the mayor of the municipality, or the president of the Village Council (in the case of Kelleys Island) when authorized by a majority of the council. Some, but not all, of the conditions that are considered to constitute a fiscal emergency are:

- 1) A default, at the time of the auditor's determination, on any debt obligation for more than 30 days.
- 2) Failure to make all

payroll to employees for lack of funds for more than 30 days, unless extended for up to 90 days by the written consent of at least two-thirds of all the employees affected.

If the auditor determines that indeed a fiscal emergency exists, then a seven person agency of the state is created called the "Financial Planning and Supervision Commission" of the municipality. Four of the members of the commission are the treasurer of the state, the state director of budget and management, the mayor and the president of the Council.

"THE INTENTION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, UNDER THIS CHAPTER, IS TO ENACT PROCEDURES, PROVIDE POWERS, AND IMPOSE RESTRICTIONS TO ASSURE FISCAL INTEGRITY OF MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS..., WHILE LEAVING PRINCIPLE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE AFFAIRS OF A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION IN THE CHARGE OF ITS DULY ELECTED OFFICIALS AND LEAVING TO THEIR DISCRETION THE CHOICES FOR AND MANNER OF EXPENDITURES OF AVAILABLE REVENUES, CONSISTENT WITH THE REQUIREMENTS FOR SATISFYING THE PUBLIC POLICY AND PURPOSE HEREIN SET FORTH."

The remaining three are appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent of the senate, from a list of five nominees selected jointly by the mayor and the president of the council. These nominees are individuals who either live or work in the municipality, who have not held any elected public office in the preceding five years, who have had at least five years experience in financial matters or other qualifying skills. This commission in turn shall retain a "financial supervisor", which is defined as a CPA firm competent in matters relating to fiscal emergencies. Although the members of the commission

receive no pay for their service (other than direct expenses), the Financial Supervisor is compensated under a contract approved by state controlling board. All expenses of the the Commission will be paid from funds approved by the general assembly.

Within 120 days from the first meeting of the commission, the mayor is required to submit a detailed financial plan, approved by the council, that contains the actions to be taken to eliminate the fiscal emergency, pay all past due obligations, eliminate any fund deficits, as well as providing assurances that the

include reviewing all tax budgets, tax levy ordinances, bond and note ordinances, appropriation measures to ensure they are consistent with the plan. They can also require justification of any item of expenditure or revenue, and approve and monitor monthly expenditure and encumbrances.

The Fiscal Emergency laws allow the municipality, with the approval of the commission, to issue numerous bonds and notes in an effort to eliminate the fiscal emergencies. Some of these bonds can be used to borrow up to half of the revenues expected to be allocated to the municipality from the local government funds of the state income tax. Upon receipt of the anticipated funds, however, they must be used to retire the outstanding bonds. Thus those funds will be unavailable in future years.

All of the actions taken to cure the fiscal emergency remain the obligation of the municipality. Thus, the municipality does not become a ward of the state or the county, but is forced, through the Financial Supervisor and the Commission to adopt a plan and take required actions to provide for fiscal integrity while providing for the health, safety and welfare of the citizens. In the event that the municipality should default on bonds issued with express promises to levy, charge and collect property taxes and that does not happen, holders of the bonds have the right to go to court to force those promises to be upheld.

So in spite of what some people think, a fiscal emergency is not a simple solution where some other agency comes in and takes over. It is a long, arduous process where a certain amount of home rule and self determination is forfeited.

New Motel Given Green Light by Planning Commission

The planning commission has approved an application for building a combination motel and retail store on land adjacent to the city owned Dwelle house. The project will be owned, developed, and operated by Dave and Sharon VanAuken.

Tentative plans call for the motel to have 18 units, which would make it the largest place of accommodation on the island as well as the only downtown place of lodging.

The retail segment of the development will most likely feature a gift shop and a eating establishment patterned after the Southwinds and David's respectively, currently operating in the Village Plaza complex.

It is anticipated the project, which still needs approval by the village council, will be started in the fall and be ready for the 1992 season.

Third Condo Building to be Started

The start of the third building in the Condo development of Bob and Pat Gruly will soon be underway. A total of six buildings could be developed on the site.

The new building will house six new units, with each one already committed.

Construction of the new pool for the condos will begin soon and completion is scheduled prior to Memorial Day weekend. A new driveway is also under construction which will provide access to the Gruly house in front and give a dedicated driveway to the condos. Renovations on the house itself include a new garage, a new kitchen, conversion of the current garage to guest quarters, and the addition of a large party room. Also the exterior of the house will be redone to make it compatible in appearance with the Condo buildings.

Water Line Expansion Finally Underway

After languishing over a year in the court system because of a lawsuit contesting the manner in which the contract was awarded, work on the water system extension and plant expansion will begin soon.

The "assessment" portion of the water line extension, will start in the southeast corner of the island. A tapin will be made at Harbor Lane and the line will run north along McGettigan. Another portion of the system will be expanded east along Woodford Road from Harbor Lane to the lake and then north to provide service to the so called "Martin" subdivision.

An extension will also be made into the Sweetbriar subdivision which includes Cedar and Melody Lanes, among

See "Waterline" on Page 7...

Construction of State Park Boat Launch Set to Start

The construction of the \$1.2 million boat launching facility for the Kelleys Island State Park was set to begin May 1, 1991. The two lane concrete ramp will be constructed near the spot of the old launching ramp that has deteriorated with time. A 700 foot breakwall will also be constructed to provide protection for the launching site.

The funding for the project was approved in November of 1990 and should be completed in late fall. There will be no charge associated with using the facility.

A companion activity associated with the construction project is an archeological dig currently underway and scheduled to be completed in about two weeks. The purpose of the dig is to uncover and measure the remains of the company store for the quarrying operations that were conducted on the north side. The store was built in the 1903-1905 timeframe and was the center of a community of about 300 individuals in the immediate area. Stone kilns were also located around the site, as well as commercial fishing docks.

Future plans call for the possible building of a visitor's center on the location with a scale model of the village and artifacts from the period.

THE WICKED WINDS OF APRIL

There are apparently no new leads concerning an unusual event that occurred at the airport on April 6 at approximately 4 PM. An arriving aircraft apparently wound up in distress and clipped the vertical stabilizer of a parked aircraft. The offending aircraft was apparently still in the air and attempting to abort the landing when the incident occurred. The aircraft did not return to the site for landing.

The plane on the ground was rendered unflyable by the accident which bent the tail section over. Although there were several eyewitnesses to the event, there was no certainty about the identity of the offending plane. It was describe as a high-wing plane, probably a Cessna 172, but no one could capture its FAA registration or "N" number, the identification marking on aircraft. Additionally is was described as being either Red and White or Blue and White.

Winds during that period were brisk but not overly strong and generally favored the north/south runway which the pilot was attempting to land on. The Piper was parked in front of the Fly Inn Bed and Breakfast and the point of impact was approximately 50 east of the north/south runway.

The plane finally left the island on April 26th after parts and mechanics came to the island for the repair.

Several recent storms also delivered knock-down punches to two downtown docks. The first of the storms occurred on March 28 and the resulting high winds and waves did damage to the docks at Popeye's and the Anchor Inn. The damage done on that date was confined to the end of the "L" on both docks.

On Monday, April 15, fierce winds once again visited the area and knocked down the remainder of the perpendicular portion of the dock at Popeye's. No additional significant damage appeared at the dock at Anchor Inn, but damage was reported to Navorska's docks.

There were reports of wind gusts of 85 mph and waves were estimated at 15 feet.

Porthole to Treat Mom

The Porthole will open for the duration on Wednesday May 8, except they will be closed on Mondays during May. A Mother's Day dinner is being planned, with free dessert for mom.

Entertainment will start on Memorial Day weekend.

A Retreat For Women - Only

The **Kelleys Island Inn Association** is sponsoring two retreat weekends for women, the first May 31-June 2 and the second October 9-11. The retreat will be run by Sacred Space, a Cleveland group which promotes friendship and bonding between women via workshops on poetry, dance, art, and movement. Workshops will cover topics such as self-awareness, creative writing, yoga exercises, therapeutic massage, and health issues.

Participants will stay at these member establishments: **Cricket Lodge, The Eagle's Nest, The Inn on Kelleys Island, Fly Inn, Sweet Valley Inn, and Zettler's Lakeside Cottage.**

Other activities planned include wine tastings, tours of the island, and dietary counselling.

Costs for the weekend package are \$150, which includes two nights lodging, continental breakfast, and workshops. Reservation must be received before May 1 for the May retreat and September 9 for the second retreat. A late charge of \$20 will be added for reservations made after the deadlines. For more information, contact **Bev Johnson** at (419) 746-2750, **CeCe Miller** (216) 843-7378 or **Kay Eaton** (216) 885-4020.

Welcome Back Fish Fry

Those who were on the island for the Welcome Back Fish Fry were made to feel quite welcome indeed - all 87 of them. This compares with an anticipated turnout of about 250.

The weather conspired against a large attendance at the event, with air and sea service being limited for a good part of the entire weekend of April 20. Neuman's ferries stopped running on Friday afternoon when waves on the lake, agitated by a strong north wind, prevented safe docking at Marblehead. Service was not resumed until Sunday morning. Griffing also curtailed flights to the island on Saturday because of poor visibility, winds, and low ceilings.

When it became obvious that the crowd would be rather small, the decision was made to switch the location from the old Village Hall to the Village Pump, according to Dave Van Auken, who along with his wife Sharon headed the annual event for the Chamber of Commerce. The fish dinners were prepared at the Pump, as was the case last year.

Those who purchased advance tickets for the event, but were prevented from attending, can receive a refund from the Chamber of Commerce.

Garden Club Holds First Meeting

The **Kelleys Island Gardening Club** held its inaugural meeting on April 24 at the Municipal Building. Club sponsor **Bruce Korenko** explained that the club was formed to encourage gardening on Kelleys Island, to allow members to pool their plant orders for lower costs, and to become a network for sharing plants and discussing common problems.

The Gardening Club is sponsoring a raffle this summer, with the proceeds paying for a lilac walk and mixed shrub border near the baseball field. The prize is unique, and one to be treasured: a Friendship Garden. The Friendship Garden will be planted in the fall in a spot of the winners choosing (anywhere on Kelleys Island), and many of the plants will be favorites donated from members' own gardens. Or, if the winner chooses, they may opt to receive a 4' by 8' asparagus bed, planted by the Club members. Tickets are \$2, or 3 for \$5, and are available at club meetings or at Matso's.

Other activities are planned throughout the year. Members will have plant exchanges twice a year, and hope to hold meeting on bird watching, wildflower planting, and tree identification. Korenko says Kelleys Island has more natural varieties of wildflowers than all of England, and hopes to encourage more people to enjoy the resources around them.

The Kelleys Island Garden Club will meet again on May 11 from 2:00 to 3:00 at the Municipal Building. All are welcome to attend.

Engagement Announced

Beth Schmitz and **Mark Naufel** of Kelleys Island are pleased to announce their engagement. Their wedding is planned for April 25, 1992 at Holy Trinity Church in Avon, and they are looking forward to celebrating this happy occasion with friends and family. The wedding party will include several of their brothers and sisters, as well as a ring-bearer and flower-girl.

Beth is working in the office of the Village Clerk and will also be working at the Island House. She is originally from Avon, and has been coming to the Island for several years. Mark is from Sandusky, and currently works for Kellstone Quarry. Both Beth and Mark have worked several summers on the Island.

TRANSFER STATION.... Continued from Page 3

for transporting the dumpsters to the mainland. He also noted that the startup of a new ferry line would also allow competitive bidding for that portion of the cost.

Another proposal being investigated would have the village purchase its own truck and provide "curbside" pickup of refuse. He estimated the cost of a truck would be close to the \$40,000 currently being spent on equipment rental and pickup fees. There are numerous questions to be answered before the feasibility of this arrangement can be determined. As Haas describes it, the truck would be a mobile compacter and would eliminate the need for either purchase or rental of a compacter on the island. The truck could deliver the collected refuse to the County facility, thus eliminating the a middle-man function currently performed by BFI.

Water Line

Continued from Page 7... others.

The plant expansion portion of the project will nearly double the capacity of the systems filtering and storage capacity.

The grant portion for improving distribution will allow for the extension of the system along Titus Road from the Minshall property to the Sennish property at Divison.

The system will also be extended east along Woodford

road from where it now terminates near the Haas property to link with the system at Harbor Lane.

In a separate project, the watertower tank is being metallized on the interior. The work should protect it for another 20 years and will be completed in ten to fourteen days. During this time the system will run exclusively on pumps.

A future project will involve moving the intake line to deeper water for protection against Zebr Mussels

Letter Form The Planning Commission

The following is the text of a letter from the Planning Commission and addressed to the citizens of the island.

"The Village of Kelleys Island is in the process of working on a Master Plan for the Island which will be the guide for future decisions concerning development of the island. A Planning Team consisting of Island residents and members of the Village Planning Commission have been meeting regularly since November 1990, with planning consultants from Poggemeyer Design Group of Bowling Green to identify issues and concerns related to the development of the Island.

"This plan is currently being prepared and presented, section by section, to the Planning Team for their review and input. Goals from The Plan for the Future, which was prepared by the Village in 1989, are being incorporated into this Master Plan which will address protection and preservation of the shoreline, the floodplain, erosion areas and wetlands. In addition, traffic-related issues and the future uses of residential, commercial, industrial, recreation and open space areas will be analyzed. Local historic preservation will also be addressed, as well as future infrastructure needs.

"A Shoreline Zoning Ordinance is being prepared to regulate the build-

ing of structures in Lake Erie so as to comply with new coastal management regulations. Once this ordinance is in place, the Village will be eligible to receive one-half of the fees collected for submerged lands leases as regulated by Ohio's Coastal Management Program.

"The funding for the preparation of this Master Plan has been made possible by a grant from the Ohio Department of Transportation Port Assistance Program.

"The overall goal of the Master Plan for Kelleys Island is to preserve those quality of life factors that attracted all of us to the island and to determine the best ways to control growth and development in the future.

"If you have any questions regarding this plan please contact a member of the Planning Commission or Mary Bielen, Poggemeyer Design Group, at (419) 352-7537 "

Master Plan Presentation to be Announced

It is anticipated that the results of the Planning Teams efforts to develop a Master plan will be ready for presentation in the June/July timeframe. When dates have been determined they will be posted.

A Medley of Ideas and Proposals

The following items are taken from the minutes of the February 23, 1991 Planning team meeting. The selection is meant to indicate the diversity of ideas and proposals that are being considered when trying to develop a Master Plan for the island.

Discussions concerning Commercial Development

- * Airplane hangars and an auto repair service are needed year round

- * A convention center sponsored by a University which would offer short-term educational programs as well as lodging could be developed as a year-round operation. The peak demand times for lodging are the week-ends. This is true for the summer as well as year-round. A more pro-active approach could be taken to encourage "weekend retreats" to the Island similar to a recent Health retreat held at Lakeside. This could be done through the local Bed and Breakfast Association.

- * The Town Hall could be rehabilitated and developed into a Community Center for year-round residents.

- * More overnight tourist lodging is needed during the tourist season as well as year round.

- * Services that might be needed during the tourist season include boat repair, a livery, banking and some construction services.

- * Restaurants are crowded on weekends. Existing restaurants need to be upgraded and hours extended.

- * The future of golf carts on the Island is questionable due to the high insurance rates. Therefore the village does not want to invest in a separate lane for carts since they may be phased out. Carts are not so much a problem in the downtown but on other parts of the island where they cannot be passed by faster moving vehicles. Possibly, pull-off areas for golf carts could be developed in conjunction with lake "vistas".

- * A one way traffic pattern around the downtown was suggested.

- * Passenger boats dock at the Casino and Portside Marinas. Should bathrooms be provided Marinas or should the Village provide these facilities? They could be a potential income source. There is disagreement amongst the Planning Team on this issue