



LIFE ON KELLEYS

THE EMERALD ISLE NEWS

IslandFest 2026 Set to Celebrate America's 250th

Zoey Leonard-Vargo, Executive Director

One of Kelleys Island's most beloved summer traditions is just around the corner as IslandFest 2026 returns to Memorial Park July 17-19, bringing three days of family fun, live entertainment, food, vendors, and one of the largest fireworks displays on Lake Erie. Hosted by the Kelleys Island Chamber of Commerce, IslandFest continues to be the island's signature summer celebration and is expected to welcome thousands of visitors to Ohio's largest Lake Erie island.

This year's theme, "An All-American Summer - The Pursuit of Happiness Starts Here," The weekend will showcase patriotic pride, community spirit, and the unique charm that makes Kelleys Island a favorite destination for visitors from across the Midwest. America250 celebrations are taking place nationwide throughout 2026, making IslandFest a special part of this historic milestone.

Festival-goers can look forward to a packed weekend featuring artisan and craft vendors, delicious food, live entertainment, evening street dances, children's activities, and the always-popular IslandFest Parade. Saturday's festivities will culminate with the spectacular fireworks display over Lake Erie, a highlight that draws



residents and visitors alike to the waterfront each year. Registration for the parade is now open. Please scan the QR code in the graphic on page 4 to sign up!

As excitement builds for the event, organizers are asking for community support to help make this year's fireworks show bigger and better than ever.

Help Light Up the Sky at Islandfest 2026

The IslandFest Fireworks Committee has launched a fundraising campaign to raise \$20,000 to support this year's display. Donations and sponsorships help ensure that the fireworks remain one of the premier attractions of the festival and

Please turn to page 6

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



2026 Make-A-Wish Tee shirt logo

If ever you wondered what 32 years of swims looks like, here is our list. All swims are from a different starting point and end on south side of Kelleys Island.

1995 Marblehead - 2 hrs.

*one week later from Put-in-Bay - 3 hrs.

1996 Pelee Island, Canada - 6 hrs

1997 Cedar Point - 3 ½ hrs.

1998 KI to Marblehead & back - 4 ½ hrs.

1999 Around Kelleys - 7 ½ hrs.

2000 Catawba Island - 3 ½ hrs.

2001 Middle Bass Island - 3 ½ hrs.

2002 Around KI again - 8 hrs.

2003 Cedar Point to Marblehead Lighthouse - 4 ½ hrs.

2004 KI to Lakeside and back - 5 1/2 hrs.

2005 Middle Island, Canada - 6 ½ hrs.

2006 Perry's Monument - 5 hrs.

2007 Barnum Shipwreck - 3 ½ hrs.

2008 East Harbor - 4 hrs.

2009 Bay Point Sandbar - 4 hrs.

2010 ½ way around Kelleys - 3 ½ hrs.

2011 Gem Beach - 4 ½ hrs.

2012 Mazurik Access - 3 ½ hrs.

2013 Palladino's mainland dock - 4 ½ hrs.

2014 North Point - 4 ½ hrs.

2015 ½ round Kayaking (due to Algae bloom) - 3 ½ hrs.

2016 Marblehead - 3 hrs.

2017 State Park - 3 ½ hrs.

2018 Fun swim - 1 ½ hrs.

2019 Coast Guard, Marblehead - 3 hrs.

Please turn to page 5



Kelleys Island: Let's Make History Again

Kelleys Island has never stood on the sidelines of history.

In 1813, the waters surrounding our islands witnessed one of the most important naval victories in American history as Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry secured control of Lake Erie and helped preserve the freedoms first declared in 1776. In 2013, Kelleys Island proudly welcomed the nation during the Bicentennial of the Battle of Lake Erie, hosting a tall ship and participating in a spectacular celebration remembered by thousands.

Now America is returning to Lake Erie. On August 1 and 2, 2026, residents of Kelleys Island are invited to join thousands of Americans at Perry's Victory & International Peace Memorial in Put-in-Bay for Declaration 250—one of Ohio's largest celebrations of America's 250th Anniversary and the largest public commemoration of the signing of the Declaration of Independence in our region.

Most Americans associate America's birth with July 4, 1776. While July 4 marks the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, the actual signing of the Declaration began on August 2, 1776, when members of the Continental Congress stepped forward and personally pledged their lives, fortunes, and sacred honor to the cause of liberty.

July 4 announced America's independence to the world. August 2 was the day America's founders committed themselves to it. Declaration 250 commemorates that historic moment exactly 250 years later, giving Americans the opportunity to gather at Perry's Victory and symbolically sign on to the same enduring principles of freedom, self-government, opportunity, and personal responsibility that created and sustained our nation.

The setting could not be more appropriate. Perry's Victory commemorates the War of 1812, often called America's Second War of Independence, when the freedoms established in 1776 were defended once

again, on the waters of Lake Erie.

A Weekend Unlike Anything Ever Presented on the Islands

- Hugh Hewitt serving as Master of Ceremonies

- Lee Greenwood and his iconic patriotic music

- Two major national concerts
- The United States Army Old Guard Fife & Drum Corps

- The Bristol County Fifes & Drums
- Military Color Guard presentations
- Participation by The Ohio State University Marching Band

- Participation by the Bowling Green State University Falcon Marching Band
- Freedom Village featuring living-history exhibits and reenactors

- Distinguished guests from across Ohio and the nation
- One of the largest fireworks displays ever presented on Lake Erie

Most importantly, thousands of Americans will gather for a National Signing Ceremony honoring the 250th Anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

This is not simply a Put-in-Bay event. It is a Lake Erie Islands event. It belongs to every resident who understands the importance of preserving our history, honoring those who came before us, and inspiring those who will follow.

America's 250th Anniversary comes only once. Bring your family. Bring your children and grandchildren. Bring your American flags. Join your friends and neighbors from throughout the islands and become part of a historic celebration that future generations will remember.

For complete event schedules, concert announcements, ferry information, special guests, lodging recommendations, and continuing updates, visit LakeErieHeritage.org. Event schedules are continuously updated as additional performers, activities, ceremonies, and attractions are confirmed.

August 1-2, 2026 • Perry's Victory & International Peace Memorial • Put-in-Bay, Ohio

Jet Express and America’s 250 Celebration

Andrea Wagner

As America celebrates its 250th anniversary in 2026, the Jet Express will help connect visitors to key historic destinations across the Lake Erie Islands. With service to Put-in-Bay and Kelleys Island, it provides convenient access to America 250

events and patriotic celebrations throughout the season.

A centerpiece of the year will be Declaration 250, taking place August 1-2, 2026, at Perry's Victory & International Peace Memorial. The two-day celebration will include living history reenactments, keynote

speakers and civic leaders, performances by The Ohio State University Marching Band and Lee Greenwood, master of ceremonies Hugh Hewitt, nationally syndicated radio host, and a ceremonial signing by invited members of the U.S. Congress. The event will conclude with a fireworks display over Lake Erie.

For more than three decades, the Jet Express has connected people and communities across the islands. During America's 250th anniversary, that role becomes even more meaningful as visitors gather to reflect on the nation's past and celebrate its future.

Jet Express Inter-Island Service Connects the Best of Lake Erie in 2026

The Jet Express inter-island service between Kelleys Island and Put-in-Bay continues in 2026 as one of the most important transportation links in Ohio's Lake Erie Islands, giving visitors an easy way to experience both

destinations in a single trip.

The connection allows travelers to enjoy Kelleys Island's natural beauty and relaxed pace in the morning, then head to Put-in-Bay for dining, entertainment, and attractions—creating a more complete island experience that benefits businesses on both islands.

Known for fast, reliable service and convenient dock locations, Jet Express reduces travel time and makes island-hopping simple for day-trippers, vacationers, and seasonal workers.

In addition, Jet Express also provides service to Cedar Point, giving visitors an easy way to add one of the nation's premier amusement parks to their Lake Erie Islands experience.

Together, these connections reinforce a simple truth: the Lake Erie Islands are strongest when connected, and the Jet Express helps make that connection possible.

JET EXPRESS

Inter-Island Service between Kelleys Island and Put-in-Bay



RIDE INTO HISTORY

- Reserved Tickets
- Ride in Luxury
- Scenic Views

JET-EXPRESS.COM

- Late Night Service
- Group Rates
- Kids 5 & under FREE

The Island’s “Not-So-New” Boutique

Robby Zettler

People often ask how an interior designer ended up opening a fashion boutique. For me, the transition felt completely natural.

For years, I traveled the world in search of inspiration for my interior design projects, discovering beautiful craftsmanship, unique textiles, and one-of-a-kind treasures along the way. Whether I was exploring a bustling market, a charming village shop, or an antique-filled street tucked away in a foreign city, I was always drawn to items with character, history, and a story to tell.

of women’s fashion, swimsuits, stylish cover-ups, jewelry, handbags, accessories, and unique finds that reflect both timeless style and individual expression. From designer labels and vintage treasures to everyday favorites, each item is selected for its quality, beauty, and character.

Unlike traditional retail stores filled with mass-produced merchandise, Dejavu offers the excitement of discovery. No two visits are ever the same. Visitors never know what hidden treasure they might uncover, and once a piece is gone, it’s truly gone.

Located on the grounds of The Kelleys Island Wine Co., Dejavu was created with sustainability in mind. Beautiful clothing deserves more than one life. Our collection features quality that has been thoughtfully selected for their craftsmanship and timeless appeal.

For me, Dejavu is about more than fashion. It’s about sustainability, creativity, and giving beautiful things a second life. It’s about celebrating quality over quantity. I’ve combined my love of travel, design and fashion with the thrill of the hunt to create a fun and unique shopping experience.

I update the collection about every 10 days so new merchandise is always available. Best part, our pricing can’t be beat. We price match. If you find what we have at a lower price, we’ll match it...but not likely you will.



What I eventually realized is that great design is great design—whether it’s a room or an outfit.

As an interior designer, I learned how to combine color, texture, scale, and personality to create spaces that felt beautiful and authentic. Fashion follows many of those same principles. The perfect jacket, a statement necklace, a vintage handbag, or a beautifully tailored dress can transform a person’s confidence just as thoughtfully chosen furnishings can transform a home.

That passion led to the creation of Dejavu Boutique, Kelleys Island’s “not-so-new” boutique.

At Dejavu, every piece is thoughtfully curated. The boutique features an ever-changing collection



Welcome to Dejavu—where timeless style is thoughtfully chosen and every piece has a story.

Open 7 days a week.
Mon-Thursday 12-5
Friday-Sunday 12-7



DÉJÀ VU

Sustainable Style Thoughtfully Chosen



@DEJAVU_KELLEYS

On the grounds of The Kelley’s Island Wine Co

Next to the Child Play Area Animal Barn



MAKE YOUR WAY TO PUT-IN-BAY!
JULY 31 - AUG 2, 2026



Join us at “*DECLARATION 250*,”
a national signing ceremony in recognition of
AUGUST 2, 1776 THE TRUE DATE
THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE
WAS SIGNED.



CELEBRATE
A HISTORIC WEEKEND
AT PUT-IN-BAY

EVENTS HIGHLIGHTS
INCLUDE:

National Signing Ceremony



OSU Band



Bowling Green Band



US Navy Band



Liberty Village
with Living History
Demonstrations



Descendants of the Original
Signers of the Declaration
of Independence



Fri 7/31 and Sat 8/1
Major Evening Concerts



Sun 8/2
Lee Greenwood Concert



The United States
Army Old Guard Fife and
Drum Corps



Bristol County Fifes
and Drums Corps



Tall Ship on Lake Erie



Spectacular
Fireworks



AND MORE!



Events are subject to change,
visit LakeErieHeritage.org for
updates and current information.



Declaration 250 is brought to you
by the **Lake Erie Heritage Foundation**
in partnership with the **Perry Group**.

LAKE ERIE HERITAGE.ORG
a 501c3 non-profit

MARK
YOUR CALENDARS!



KILA Korner

Melanie Bates
KILA Vice President

KILA is gearing up for the 52nd Annual Homecoming festival, August 7&8. This is a weekend you will not want to miss! All are welcome - landowners, residents, and visitors.

The celebration kicks off on Friday at 5:00 pm at the Community Park Pavilion on Addison Road with snacks and refreshments, and beginning at 5:30 crowd favorite Frank and Dean play classic favorites. Our famous Fish Fry will be served from 6:00-8:00; tickets are \$30 per dinner; kids eat a hot dog dinner free with paid adults. Each person receives a half pound of perch, and there are generous servings of sides. Tickets are sold in advance by KILA Board members, and the dinner sells out at 200 (and it always sells out!). Contact KILA at info@kila.rocks

to let us know if you want tickets; Active KILA members get an advance sales option, and then tickets will become available for members of the general public.

On Saturday at 11:00 am come downtown for the Homecoming Parade. This year we are celebrating the 125th Anniversary of Estes School, and the Grand Marshall will be Superintendent Ben Ohlemacher and the Estes School Students. "Green Devil" t-shirts will be available for purchase, and a part of the proceeds from the sales will be donated to the school. KILA is also supporting the Estes School Anniversary Celebration on Sunday at noon at the school.

Stay at the Community Park after the parade for the festival and refreshments and music by Fat City Band. Back to the Wild will be bringing

their display of awesome creatures, and you will have fun shopping the vendors for not to be duplicated treasures.

KILA Board members are currently selling raffle tickets for \$20 each; proceeds to be donated for island projects. Cash prizes!!! Winners will be announced Saturday at 5:00 pm at Homecoming, and you do not have to be present to win. To get in touch with a board member to get your tickets, email info@kila.rocks.

Many thanks to our sponsor, Shores & Islands Ohio, who have generously awarded us a sponsorship grant to help us put on Homecoming. We greatly appreciate this support.

If you have a project that benefits the island that needs financial support, apply on the KILA website, www.kila.rocks.com, drop down "About." We

have extended the deadline for requests for donations.

There is still time to renew your membership in KILA; \$20 for renewals and \$25 for new members, by mail to KILA, PO Box 22, Kelleys Island 43438. Besides raising money for island projects, organizing social events such as Homecoming, the Welcome Potluck, and the Family Hayride, organizing a fall Candidates Forum, and providing "Dumpster Days" for landowners' spring cleaning, we stay current with the agendas of the Village Council and Park Board so we can advise landowners and represent landowners' interests. Our Membership Chair, Candy Volz-Puma, emails newsletters regularly during the season to keep KILA members updated on goings-on.

Have a great season on our beautiful island!

Wishes Last Forever

continued from page 1

- 2020 Westbay Inn - 1 ¼ hrs.
- 2021 Westbay - 2 hrs.
- 2022 KI North Loop - 3 hrs.
- 2023 Carpenters Point - 2 hrs.
- 2024 Marblehead - 2 ¼ hrs.
- 2025 Carpenters Point - 2 ¼ hrs.

Want to participate this year and help make more Wishes come true?

This year's events start on Saturday, August 1st with our Golf Cart Poker Run. Registration takes place at 9am at THE ISLAND HOUSE. (\$10 per hand, no limit.) A breakfast bar and drinks will be available. Finishing at the KI WINERY & CANTINA for dealing of hands & raffles. Lots & lots of basket raffles! Bonus raffles to be announced soon. Check out our Facebook pages Kelleys Island Make-A-Wish Benefit Weekend & Kelleys Island Make-A-Wish Benefit Poker Run.

Sunday, August 2nd, Cindra Mielke, Caylin Mielke & Jeni Hammond will be starting off the West End Club side of Kelleys and swimming into the CASINO around noon. Come celebrate when we swim in & meet our Wish children past & present. Then a party at the KI Pavillion 12:30. The Balloon Vibe will be there to amaze your children with balloon animals & more. Plus, a bonus visit, all the way from the north pole, Santa Claus & Mrs. Claus!

We thank you for your generous donation. Let's see how many Wishes we can grant this year. Last year we raised over \$60,000, 6 Wishes. Let's top that.

'T' shirts will be available at our newest shop BRIDGE OFF THE ISLAND (Chicklets Closet). Donation of \$20, cash or check only. Stop in at the Monarch Winery and check out Jeni's Stones. Happy faces waiting to bring you luck and a smile. Proceeds go to Kelleys Island MAW Swim. Donation, cash or check only.

Please make checks to:
Make-A-Wish
Send to: US Bank
205 W. Perkins Ave
Sandusky, Ohio 44870
or P.O. Box 517
Kelleys Island, Ohio 43438
Looking forward to seeing you this year. Blessings,
Jeni & Cindra

52nd Annual

Kelleys Island  Landowners

Homecoming Celebration

Friday & Saturday
August 7 & 8

2026

Kelleys Island
Community Park Pavilion
121 Addison Road

Theme: Celebrating the 125th Anniversary of Estes School

Parade Marshal: Superintendent Ben Ohlemacher & the Estes School Students

GRAND PRIZE
\$2500

2nd Prize \$1000

3rd Prize \$ 500

4th Prize \$ 250

5th Prize \$ 100

Raffle To Benefit
Kelleys Island Projects

Drawing Saturday
5:00pm at the Pavilion.

Winner need not be present.
Only 600 tickets sold at
\$20 each and can be
purchased before
Saturday from any
KILA Board Member.

FRIDAY

5th Annual Fish Fry 6-8 Pm
Pre-Sale Ticket \$30
(Only 200 Tickets Sold)

Snacks and Beverages 5pm-9pm

Music By 'Frank & Dean' 5:30pm-8pm

SATURDAY

Pie Contest - Judging at 9am,
Register & Drop Off 8.30am

Parade - 11am
Enter your "Estes School" or
"All American" float or golf cart (prizes)

Food & Refreshments - 12noon-4pm

Music by Fat City Band

4th Annual Corn Hole Tournament

Photo - 1pm at the basketball court:
For Estes School Alumni & Ki Summer Kids Alumni

MUSIC • ENTERTAINMENT • FOOD • PARADE

SILENT AUCTION • FAMOUS PIE CONTEST

KIDS GAMES • BALLOONS • BEER SLIDE

CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT • CRAFTS & VENDORS

EVERYBODY WELCOME

SHORES&ISLANDS_{OHIO}

For More Information Or Tickets E-Mail: Info@Kila.Rocks

Sandusky Bay Carts Expands into Lakeside-Marblehead

Alison Iverson

LAKESIDE-MARBLEHEAD, Ohio — Visitors and residents in the Lakeside-Marblehead area now have a new option for golf cart sales, rentals, and service with the arrival of Sandusky Bay Carts.

The company opened its newest location in May at the former Fire Station building, located at 150 Bridge Road (State Route 269), after reaching a lease agreement with Terry Properties. The expansion comes after a successful year of operations in Sandusky and reflects growing demand for golf cart transportation throughout Ottawa County's vacation and resort communities.

Owner Kerry McCullough said the decision to establish a location north of the Sandusky Bay bridge was driven by both customer demand and changing transportation conditions in the area.

"When the state and Marblehead worked together to reduce the speed limit along State Route 163 to 35 miles per hour, it just made sense," McCullough said. "We wanted to better serve vacationers traveling to the islands, East Harbor, Lakeside, and Marblehead."

Sandusky Bay Carts offers a variety of services, including golf cart sales, rentals, maintenance, and repairs. The company specializes in electric golf

carts and works with StarEV, a manufacturer based in Simpsonville, South Carolina. Customers can also take advantage of the company's "Rent on Demand" program, which allows users to rent carts through a mobile app by simply scanning and riding.

In addition to rentals and sales, Sandusky Bay Carts provides consignment services for owners looking to sell their carts. McCullough said the goal is to create a trusted marketplace where buyers can find quality used carts and sellers can gain greater exposure than they might receive through online listings alone.

"We want to be the place people think of when they're looking for a quality used cart," McCullough said. "Consignment helps sellers reach more buyers while giving customers confidence that they're purchasing a dependable vehicle."

The company has also developed a reputation for its expertise in lithium battery conversions. While lithium technology continues to grow in popularity among golf cart owners, McCullough cautions that proper system compatibility is critical.

"It's not just plug and play," he said. "There are many factors involved in choosing the right battery for a golf cart.



If the controller isn't designed to handle what the battery is producing, it can create performance issues, affect warranties, and potentially damage other components."

Another feature that sets Sandusky Bay Carts apart is its commitment to customer service after the sale. McCullough said that every cart sold by the company is backed by access to a loaner cart should service or repairs become necessary, helping customers stay mobile while their vehicle is being worked on.

Sandusky Bay Carts operates seven days a week and plans to offer limited winter storage services for customers during the off-season.

With golf carts becoming an increasingly common mode of transportation throughout the Lake Erie shoreline communities, the new Lakeside-Marblehead location positions Sandusky Bay Carts to serve both seasonal visitors and year-round residents across the peninsula.

IslandFest 2026

continue a tradition that has delighted island residents and visitors.

Whether you're a resident, visitor, business owner, or simply someone who loves Kelleys Island, your contribution helps create lasting memories for thousands of people who gather to celebrate IslandFest each year.

Community members are encouraged to become a fireworks sponsor, make a personal donation, or help spread the word about the fundraising effort.

Donations can be made through the QR code featured on page 4 or by mailing a check payable to: Celebrate KI, P.O.

Box 783, Kelleys Island, OH 43438

IslandFest is more than just a summer festival—it's a celebration of community. The event has become a gathering place for families, friends, seasonal residents, and visitors who return year after year to experience the beauty, and traditions of Kelleys Island.

continued from page 1

The Kelleys Island Chamber of Commerce invites everyone to mark their calendars, gather their red, white, and blue, and join in a memorable weekend celebrating America, community, and summer on Lake Erie.

Together, we can make the skies over Kelleys Island shine brighter than ever.

SAVE 10%

CALL US TO BOOK YOUR RENTAL TODAY

Sales · Service
Rentals
Consignments

\$100 off of Lithium Conversion Packages Under \$2000 and \$250 Over \$2000

SANDUSKY BAY
GOLF CART
SALES & RENTAL

419-357-2583 | GolfCart4u.com

WE DELIVER!

Kalahari Resorts & Conventions Brings Popular Food & (Not Just) Wine Festival to Sandusky

Amanda Davis

Food lovers, beverage enthusiasts and anyone looking for a unique late-summer outing will have a new event to look forward to this August as Kalahari Resorts & Conventions brings its popular Kalahari Food & (Not Just) Wine Festival to the Sandusky, Ohio property. Scheduled for Aug. 29, the festival promises an afternoon dedicated to great food, exceptional beverages and lively entertainment, all under one roof.

The event showcases the best of Kalahari's award-winning dining, giving guests the opportunity to sample culinary creations from the resort's signature restaurants and eateries. Alongside the food offerings, attendees

can enjoy tastings from a wide variety of regional and national beverage brands, including wines, craft brews, spirits and specialty drinks, living up to the festival's "Not Just Wine" name.

This year's theme, "Stars, Stripes & Spurs," adds a playful country flair to the festivities, encouraging guests to embrace their inner cowboy or cowgirl while exploring tasting stations, live entertainment and interactive experiences throughout the afternoon. The festival is designed to be more than a traditional tasting event, creating an atmosphere where guests can mingle, discover new flavors and celebrate the region's growing food and beverage scene.



Kalahari's Food & (Not Just) Wine Festival has become a popular attraction at other Kalahari destinations, drawing crowds with its combination of chef-inspired cuisine, beverage tastings, cooking demonstrations and entertainment. The Sandusky debut brings that successful concept to Ohio for the very first time.

For those seeking a memorable way to close out the summer season, the Kalahari Food & (Not Just) Wine Festival aims to deliver exactly that! For more information and to purchase tickets, visit <https://www.kalahariresorts.com/ohio/food-and-wine-festival/>.

The Museum Campus

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



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

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

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

Join Us for Our July 4th Celebration

Make history with us as we celebrate America's 250th birthday at Kalahari KABOOM! Spend the evening splashing, sliding, and soaking up the fun with exclusive extended hours in our outdoor waterpark. Plus, enjoy a live DJ, games, contests, delicious treats, and an unforgettable fireworks spectacular that lights up the night.

Resort Guests & Day Pass Holders: FREE Admission
Event Only Access: \$24.99/Person (7:00pm - 10:00pm)



Kalahari FOOD & (Not Just) WINE FESTIVAL

SAT, AUG 29 • 12-4 PM

TASTE. TOAST. REPEAT.

You're invited to join us for our first annual Food & (Not Just) Wine Festival! Savor delectable bites and sip on your favorite local, and national, brand beverages for a day full of good food, live music, cooking demos, and more!

TICKETS ON SALE NOW • [KalahariResorts.com](https://www.kalahariresorts.com)

Use Code **KELLEYS** for \$15 OFF your General Admission ticket.

July Events

continued from page 7

World's Largest Rubber Duck
Friday- Sunday, July 10-12 • Put-in-Bay
Mama Duck, standing an incredible 61 feet tall, is returning to Put-in-Bay for a free, family-friendly weekend of fun and smiles. Joined by her 10-foot duckling Timmy, Mama Duck continues her mission to spread joy and wonder across the Great Lakes. Enjoy games, photo opportunities, and duck-themed souvenirs — including the limited-edition “Don’t Give Up The Ship” collectible duck.

All Washed Up: Vermilion's Driftwood Art Contest
Saturday, July 11 • Exchange Park, Vermilion
Driftwood creations draw a crowd who enjoy the creativity of amateur artists and skilled crafts persons! Entries are created primarily of driftwood and (other washed-up items) collected from the shores of Lake Erie.

3rd Thursday: Music, Flowers & A Sunset
Thursday, July 16 • Downtown Vermilion
This free community event invites you to enjoy evenings filled with live music, local shopping, dining, and beautiful Lake Erie sunsets in downtown Vermilion. Featuring multiple bands and musicians throughout downtown, it’s the perfect way to spend a summer evening while supporting local businesses.

Tommy Want Wingy Throwdown
Friday, July 17 • Downtown Sandusky
Join for the ultimate chicken wing showdown! Sample some of the area’s best wings, vote for your favorites, and enjoy live entertainment. All proceeds benefit Ability Works, supporting individuals with developmental disabilities.

Fat Guy in a Little Race 0.5k
Friday, July 17 • Downtown Sandusky
Tommy Boy Fest took Sandusky by storm in 2025 and won't return until 2030. BUT, the Fat Guy in a Little Race 0.5k is coming back during the IRONMAN 70.3 Ohio as a "Shake-out Run" for athletes, their families and anyone else that would like to join! The participants will start behind a SANDUSKY CITY SCHOOLS BUS and make their way to Jackson Street Pier, plus will receive fun swag.

Boardwalk Nights
Friday-Sunday, July 17-August 16 • Cedar Point, Sandusky
When the sun goes down, the Cedar Point Beach and The Boardwalk area electrify with larger-than-life entertainment, over-the-top food and drink, games for the entire family, music, dancing, lights, and sounds that inspire the best summertime dance moves.

Island Fest
Saturday, July 17-19 • Kelleys Island
Island Fest offers Ohio artisans, local crafters, food vendors, beer tent, and evening street dances. Saturday kicks off with an exciting parade plus live entertainment, traditional games for children, and fireworks at dusk.

Johnson's Island "Pop Up" Museum
Saturday, July 18 • Confederate Cemetery, Johnson’s Island
The Friends and Descendants of Johnson’s Island Civil War Prison will host its annual event, showcasing artifacts from the prison and Civil War era. Tours of the cemetery, as well as the former prison site, will be hosted at various times.

Waffle Iron Run
Saturday, July 18 • Downtown Sandusky
The second annual kids’ event, held on the day before the IRONMAN 70.3 Ohio event. Three age divisions (0-3, 4-7, 8-12) will start on Columbus Avenue for a run along the Sandusky Bay waterfront. Registration includes a race shirt, race medal, and a waffle from Wake Up & Waffle.

IRONMAN 70.3 Ohio
Sunday, July 19 • Downtown Sandusky
The fifth year of the IRONMAN 70.3 Ohio! Leap from a ferry into Lake Erie for a 1.2-mile swim, a fast-flat 56-mile bike through farmland roads, and a 13.1-mile run through historic downtown Sandusky. All this while being supported by spectators in this exciting coastal destination.

Cleveland Ballet
Saturday, July 25 • Harbourtown Fine Arts Center, Vermilion
Enjoy a public performance in the Village Green Park, in front of Harbourtown Fine Arts Center, which serves as the summer residence for the Cleveland Ballet.

Time Traveler: Shores & Islands History Talk - Crossing Lake Erie to Freedom
Tuesday, July 28 • Shores & Islands Welcome Center - East, Sandusky
Molly Sampson from the Maritime Museum of Sandusky explores the important role the region played in the history of the Underground Railroad. After, attendees are invited on a short walk to Facer Park, where sculptor Susan Schultz will share the story behind her sculpture, "Path to Freedom."

"1776" The Musical
Thursday-Saturday, July 30-August 1
McCormick School, Huron
In honor of our nation’s 250th Anniversary, Huron Historical Society and Alumni of The Huron Playhouse proudly present the Tony Award-winning musical 1776 — a stirring and entertaining retelling of the birth of American independence. 1776 brings history to life with sharp wit, moving drama, and a rousing score that captures the passion and debate behind the creation of the Declaration of Independence.

RAID ERIE
Friday-Sunday, July 31-August 2 • Middle Bass Island
RAID ERIE is an annual gathering of small craft enthusiasts, traveling around the southern islands of Lake Erie, and camping along the way. A Raid is described as a sail, paddle and oar adventure. It's a leisure pursuit that involves a fleet of small boats exploring a coastline or inland waterway over several days. Kayaks, Canoes, Dinghies, Trailer Sailers and all other small craft are all welcome.

Great Lakes Rockabilly Road Trip Music Festival
Saturday, August 1 • Downtown Port Clinton
Great Lakes Rockabilly Road Trip Music Festival™, the Midwest’s premier festival celebrating all things Rockabilly with multiple acts on 3 stages, vendors, car show, pin-up pageant and more!

Declaration 250 Commemoration
Saturday-Sunday, August 1-2 •
Perry’s Victory & International Peace Memorial, Put-in-Bay
Declaration 250 is a national commemoration recognizing the true signing date of the Declaration of Independence — August 2, 1776. While July 4 marks the adoption of the Declaration, it was on August 2 that the majority of the 56 signers formally affixed their names, risking their lives and livelihoods in defense of liberty. This two-day program will feature living history, guest speakers, concerts, and a ceremonial reaffirmation of the ideals that shaped the nation.

Kelleys Island Film Fest
Saturday-Sunday, August 1-2 • Kelleys Island
Relax outdoors to watch popular box office movies, drive-in style, in front of a large inflatable screen. The free outdoor movies are a double-header, beginning at dusk. If the weather affects the viewings, there will be indoor showings at Town Hall. Snacks and drinks will be for sale during all showtimes.

Start planning your summer schedule at SHORESandISLANDS.com/events!

RENTALS
Homes, Condos,
Cabins, Cottages

StayOnKI.com

THE VILLAGE PUMP
KELLEYS ISLAND, OHIO

DINE IN ~ CARRY OUT

Award Winning
Perch & Brandy Alexanders

ORDER ONLINE!
Food-To-Go & Gift Cards

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

103 W. Lakeshore Drive • 419.746.2281
www.VillagePumpKIOH.com

WELCOME TO KELLEYS ISLAND

VILLAGE PEDDLER
FINE APPAREL
GIFTS & MORE

America's 250th
1776-2026
Birthday Swag Available Soon!

130 Division Street • 419-746-2377 • VillagePeddlerKIOH.com

AMERICAN POWERSPORTS

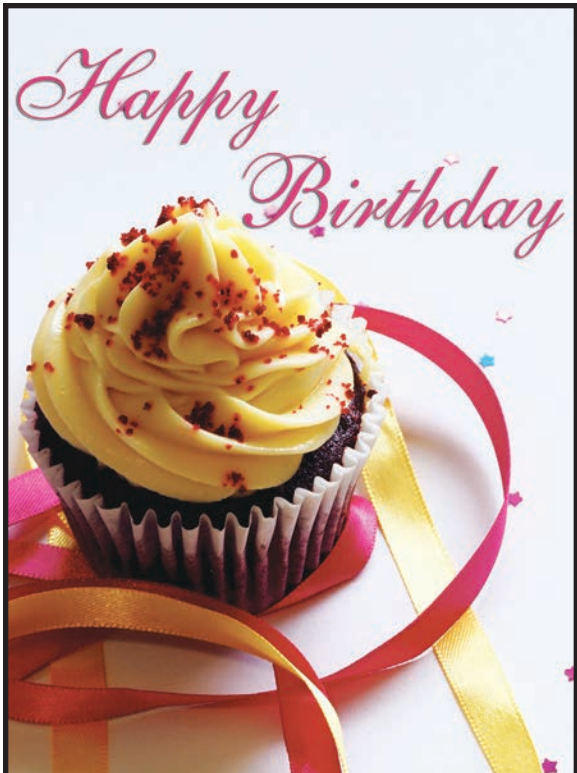
J & Sales
Huron
Port Clinton

Ohio's Premier Dealers for PWC's - Jet Boats - Tri-Toons - ATV's - Side By Sides - Motorcycles - Snowmobiles

Huron 1001 Sprowl Rd 419-433-2523	Port Clinton 475 SE Catawba Rd 419-734-2754	Sandusky 4922 Milan Rd 419-625-9253	Findlay 3690 Speedway Dr 419-422-9253
--	--	--	--

AmericanPowersports.com • J-JSales.com

Celebrating Em Gruettner on Kelleys Island



JULY

- 1 - Colleen McCafferty
- 1 - Kim Schroer
- 2 - Julian Janota
- 2 - Noah Hassinger
- 2 - Cindy Herndon
- 2 - John Allan
- 2 - Pam Haig Lynch
- 3 - Matthew Haig
- 3 - Jenna Stevenson
- 6 - Joey Kitzmiller
- 5 - Bobby Coulon
- 7 - Rob Watkins
- 8 - Gabby Stevenson
- 9 - Jane Allan
- 9 - Chad Seeholzer
- 10 - Amy Krajnak
- 10 - Phil Thiede
- 11 - Debbie Schmidt
- 12 - Dan Weaver
- 12 - Abigail Knight Smith
- 13 - Gus Avarello
- 13 - Amanda Elfers
- 14 - Crystal Krzynowek
- 15 - Steve Mack
- 15 - Zander Maher
- 16 - Sharon Leidheiser
- 16 - Isabella Zettler
- 18 - Robby Quinn
- 19 - Mike Krafty
- 19 - Marcy Mielke
- 19 - Melanie Bates
- 20 - "Coach" Tom Taylor
- 20 - Cork Vetovitz
- 21 - John Kennedy
- 24 - Bret Maiers
- 25 - Glenn Adair
- 25 - Julie Millott
- 26 - Meghan Kranyak
- 26 - Judy DuShane
- 27 - Adam Krafty
- 27 - Susan Bruner
- 29 - Paul Burns
- 29 - Sofia Zeilmann
- 30 - Donna Cordaro
- 30 - Katie Mack

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



Olivia McCafferty
The weekend of June 5 was one to remember as family and friends gathered on Kelleys Island to celebrate bride-to-be Em Gruettner before her upcoming marriage to Joe Weaver, son of longtime Kelleys Island resident Dan Weaver. Emily and Joe will be married on August 1st in Cleveland.
A special thank you goes to Bobby and Nataliya of The Island Ride for providing transportation throughout the weekend and getting everyone around the island safely. We would also like to recognize DJ Marky Mark and the staff at The Casino, along with DJ Blake and the

staff at The Groove for taking our requests, keeping the music going, and ensuring the dance floor stayed full all weekend long. A heartfelt thank you goes to Uncle Joe O'Malley for generously opening his home to many of the girls during the celebration.
The weekend was a perfect reminder of why Kelleys Island is such a special place. A sincere thank you to the Kelleys Island community for welcoming our group and helping everyone experience firsthand why it has always been Em's favorite place on Earth. We can't wait to celebrate Em and Joe on August 1!

Council Notes

Leslie Korenko
The Fire Dept. had 4 runs and reminds everyone about the August 1 steak fry. The Police Dept. received 8 reports, fielded 147 phone calls, had 17 arrests/citations, issued 10 parking tickets and 9 warnings. There were 2 accidents. Mike Kaufman was presented a plaque honoring his 20 years of service to the Island. Our EMS had 17 runs and 10 clinic calls. The drone program is progressing as they await the delivery and installation schedule. The Water Dept. will be undertaking some distribution work upon receipt of an excavator. The Airport/Monaghan Rd. project is still plodding along. There have been some meetings and planning is still ongoing. Four Village roads have been paved and bermed, crack sealing is underway and striping completed. Pot holes are being filled. The Verizon installation at the transfer station is almost complete.
Several ordinances have been passed: No. 11-accepting a loan from the Ohio Water Development Authority for the water dept; No. 12-eliminates the

annual sticker for commercial golf carts (but registration is still required); No. 13-Stop signs are going up on the west end of Maryann Ln. and the south end of Fairview; No. 19-Rate of pay for part-time paramedic; and No. 17-adopting the 2027 tax budget. Of particular interest are two ordinances renaming four roads in the Village. The similar sounding names has created problems for our safety services response teams. Ordinance No. 15 renames Beech Rd (Airline Subdivision on the North side) to N. Beech Rd. and Beach Rd on the west end will become S. Beach Rd. Ordinance No. 16-renames Cedar Ln (in the Sweetbriar Subdivision) to E. Cedar Ln. and Cedar Dr. (in the Sunset Subdivision) is now W. Cedar Dr. Current subdivision regulations prohibit duplicating street names to avoid this happening today. Resolution No. 2 accepts a grant from the ODOT in the amount of \$19,300 for the airport. Adoption of the two ordinances doubling the lot sizes for R-1 and R-2 has been postponed pending a zoning hearing.

Kelleys Island Sirens

There are two active sirens on the Island - each serve a specific function.
ERIE COUNTY EMERGENCY SIREN - This siren is located on a pole by the school on Division Street and serves as a tornado warning. Most people hear it when it is TESTED ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE MONTH AT NOON. It sounds for three minutes and sounds like it is

fading in and out, loud to soft and back again. That is because it rotates to that it broadcasts in all directions across the island.
FIRE SIGNAL - The other siren is located on historic Kelley's Hall right downtown. This siren is TESTED ON THE FIRST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 7 p.m. and sounds much like the traditional sirens on fire trucks.

Life on Kelleys Staff

EDITOR		CONTRIBUTORS	
Victoria Rovder 440-591-0343 E-mail: savoy@windstream.net Lifeonkelleys@gmail.com		Shea Alltmont	Zoey Leonard (Vargo)
ADVERTISING ACCOUNT REPRESENTATIVE and GRAPHICS DESIGN: Victoria Rovder 440-591-0343 E-mail: savoy@windstream.net		Melanie Bates	Steve Mack
WEB DESIGN: Daniel Hazard		Jill Bauer	Olivia McCafferty
CIRCULATION E-mail: Lifeonkelleys@gmail.com		Sue Daugherty	Cynthia Nowak
PUBLISHER: Gerald and Victoria Rovder 440-384-7279 E-mail: Lifeonkelleys@gmail.com		Amanda Davis	Amanda Rhiel
		Dean DePiero	Julie Schuler
		Jeni Hammond	Carmen Smith
		Alison Iverson	Jodie Smith
		Patti Johnson	Jackie Taylor
		Leslie Korenko	Robbie Zettler

Life on Kelleys Distribution: Kelleys Island, Pt. Clinton, Catawba, Lakeside-Marblehead, Sandusky, Put-in-Bay.
Circulation: 7,000
Submissions to Life on Kelleys Articles, ideas, photos, letters to the editor and newsworthy items are welcomed. Provide email or telephone contact information for follow up or clarification of details.
Photos: We want and welcome your photos for Life on Kelleys, please send them. The photos should be 300dpi and sent via e-mail in a jpeg format to the editor.
Editor's Note: Stories written without a by-line are written or compiled by *Life on Kelleys* editor. *Life on Kelleys* is not responsible for the views of its writers or editor.

We Move the Islands

Across the
country, across
town or across the
lake, our experienced
team ensures a smooth,
stress-free move only a true
Shores & Islands mover can offer.



We provide first-class local and long-distance
packing & moving services including
climate-controlled warehouse storage.

Contact us today for a free quote!

EYRING MOVERS
S I N C E 1 8 9 7

info@EyringMovers.com
419-752-9306





Field Station Summer Programs and Dates



Jackie Taylor, Director
Science Sundays!

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

Times: 10am-12pm on Sundays through Labor Day Weekend
Meeting locations as listed, and some programs are on Saturdays, depending on the program.

July 4	Turtles / State Park
July 11	Fishing Tournament State Park to Register your child
July 25	Turtles / State Park
August 1	Pollinators / State Park
August 15	Geology Glacial Groves
August 22	Pollinators and Pancakes School 9am-11am
August 29	Butterflies / State Park
September 5	Monarch Butterfly Tagging - School

Programs are 10am - 12pm Unless noted, Program locations as listed

School Tours

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

Join us for School and Field Station Tours throughout the summer and discover the unique learning opportunities happening right here on Kelleys Island. Participants will enjoy guided tours of the school, field station, and gardens; hear a short history of the

school; explore specimens under microscopes; and experience hands-on, up-close interactions with our island animal ambassadors.

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

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

Date: July 26



Pollinators & Pancake Brunch

Join us at the Kelleys Island School for a fun and educational brunch celebrating pollinators! Bring your appetite—and your love for monarchs, bees, and butterflies. Enjoy a delicious

pancake brunch while exploring hands-on learning activities, participating in monarch tagging, and receiving updates on the Kelleys Island Pollinator Habitats and Monarch Butterfly conservation efforts. Learn how pollinators support our ecosystems and discover ways you can help protect them.

Date: August 23, Time: Noon- 2PM

Kelleys Island School Field Station Celebration and Appreciation Day

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

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

Date: September 13, Time: 1PM

Kelleys Island Historical Associations FUN FUNdraising Events

Jodie Smith

Brush up on your Kelleys Island History for Sunday, September 6, 2026, Bingo & Bourbon Trivia event from 2-4pm, at the KI History Museum on The KIHA Museum Campus. Play Trivia Bingo, grab a bite to eat, and a chance to win our gift basket! Did I hear there will be a Bourbon Tasting bar!? This FUNdraising event as well as the now very popular Ferry Ride Raffle Ticket for a \$500 Ferry Gift Card (it never expires), helps The KIHA support many ongoing projects, like continuing conservation efforts and new exhibit creations! The Ferry Ride Raffle Ticket may be purchased at the Museum Gift shop or at the Resale shop. Board members are selling the Raffle Tickets, and they will be available at Island events! The chance is based on the Ohio Evening Lottery Pick drawing on Monday August 3, 2026.

The cost is \$10.00 per ticket. There are 2 numbers/chances per ticket and only 500 tickets will be sold. Our sponsor, Ray Schaefer Construction, thinks that this is a solidly built chance to win!

Other ways you can support the Kelleys Island Museum Association is to purchase your Quilt Raffle Tickets in the museum gift Shop. The beautiful quilt is hand made by long time KIHA Board member Teresa Betzenheimer Behrends. The tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Memorialize an event or a loved one by having a brick engraved and laid in the Memorial Walk on The KIHA Campus. Go to kelleysisalandhistorical.org to order your brick.

Of course, the best way to support any Island organization is to visit and then tell others what an interesting and fun experience you had there!

On Saturday, August 1, 2026, from

10am-4pm there will be an Arts & Crafts Show on the grounds of The Museum Campus. Vendors will be selling their handmade items. You will see jewelry, woven and material goods, as well as some crafty Island themed gifts! Stop by to support these artists and to visit the Museum Campus.

The Museum Campus includes the Museum and gift shop, The German Reformed Church and the Parsonage House and Sis's Cottage Resale Shops.

They are OPEN Thursday-Monday from 12-4. The Resale Shops accept donations during business hours or contact Sherry Eddy 740-680-7200, or Jodie Smith 419-350-1082. It is possible to make an appointment to come to your home to accept items, just give us a call to schedule.

Thank you for supporting YOUR Island's History and the KIHA's efforts to tell the story!

Save the date

KELLEYS ISLAND
HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
PRESENTS

KI Trivia
BINGO & Bourbon!

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 6TH
2:00-4:00 PM AT THE KI MUSEUM

How well do YOU know Kelleys Island? Play our TRIVIA BINGO, grab a bite to eat, and a chance to win our gift basket! Enjoy our Bourbon Tasting Bar too!

KIHA KELLEYS ISLAND
HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

FERRY RIDE
RAFFLE FUNDRAISER
\$10 EACH

ON SALE AT
PARSONAGE & MUSEUM

WIN A
\$500
KI FERRY
GIFT CARD!
It Never Expires!

2 NUMBERS
PER TICKET
ONLY
500 SOLD!

THANKS TO OUR SPONSOR
RAY SCHAEFER
CONSTRUCTION

**BASED ON OHIO EVENING LOTTERY PICK 3
DRAWING MONDAY AUGUST 3, 2026**



Jason A. Smith
Realtor

Direct/Text 419-503-0604
JasonOnKi@gmail.com



SBR
SIMPLY BETTER REALTY

Visit me at KelleysIslandRealEstate.com



MLS
MULTIPLE LISTING SERVICE



NEW LISTING

1036 W. LAKESHORE

4 Bedroom, 2 Bath Lakefront Ranch
(2100 Sq Ft) Rests on Sprawling 1+ Acre
Lot w/ Nearly 300 Feet of Frontage
(Most Frontage Ever Offered to Market
on Island's West Side).

Take Advantage of this Properties Shoreline
and Build your own Private Dock and
Outdoor Living Space along the Waterfront!

\$1,295,000



NEW PRICE



410 SWEET VALLEY

Charming Ranch on Kelleys Island. Enjoy Easy, Single
Floor Living in this Inviting 2-Bedroom w/ Office, 1-Bath
Ranch Located in a Private, Family-Friendly Neighborhood.
Perfectly Situated between Downtown Kelleys Island and
Kelleys Island State Park and Sandy Beach. 2+ Car Attached
Garage w/ Dry Storage Area. New Roof 2019! **\$412,900**



UNDER CONTRACT

136 SUNSET DRIVE

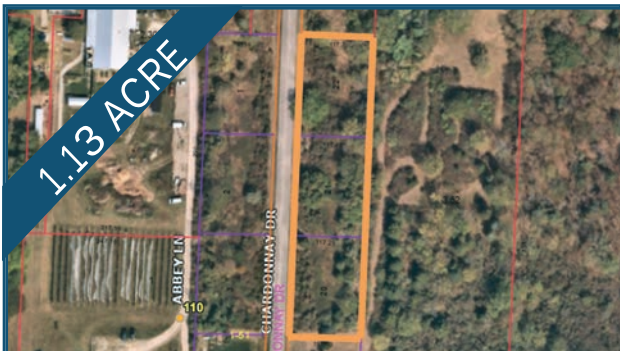
Tucked-Away in the Quiet, Less-Traveled Section of the
Sunset Point Subdivision. This 2 Bd, 1 BA bungalow offers
720 sq. ft., with a 400 sq. ft. garage, perfect for storing
your lake lifestyle gear. Both the home and garage feature
durable Metal Roofs for Low-Maintenance ownership. Off
the back of the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



SOLD

104 EAST POINT

Lake Erie frontage with no road between you and the water!
Completely rebuilt and expanded with a large open addition in
2024, featuring extensive updates including a new roof, siding,
stone exterior, windows, HVAC, framing, subfloor and joists,
kitchen, bathrooms, appliances, electrical, plumbing, and spray
foam insulation. Inside, the spacious layout includes 4 bdms
and 3 full BA, accommodating up to 12 guests. **\$998,650**



1.13 ACRE

LOTS 20-22 CHARDONNAY

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



REDUCED

LOTS 15-18 HAMILTON

Discover the perfect spot to build your family retreat on
this spacious 4-parcel lot totaling 0.77 acres (200' x 168').
Tucked away in a peaceful part of family-friendly Kelleys
Island, this property is just steps from the Boardwalk Trail
leading to the Kelleys Island Nature Preserve and Sandy
Beach, and close to Horseshoe Lake's hiking and biking
trails. **\$124,900**



REDUCED

LOT 10 CHARDONNAY

Located in the Vineyard Estates Subdivision, this 0.38-
acre lot (116' x 141') offers the perfect blend of privacy and
convenience. Key improvements include a installed septic
system, a paid water tap with line run to the property, and
underground utilities are in place with a working electrical
meter making this lot truly build-ready. High standard of
quality stick-built homes required. **\$147,900**



VACANT LAND

220 MELODY LANE

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



SOLD

LOTS 100-102 ORCHARD

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



SCAN ME

Helping Buyers and Sellers from Westlake to The Erie Islands

Memorial Day, May 25, 2026

Jodie Smith
Island cemetery. A tradition: an inherited or established way of thinking, feeling, or doing (Merriam-Webster Dictionary). Other words that describe this “norm,” are rule, values, custom, legacy, culture, lifestyle, standards. All of these can be used to describe the legacy being honored in this customary ceremony. The community came together on a beautiful May morning. Golf carts and vehicles overflowed the VFW parking lot to line Division Street. Islanders and visitors’ families, happily gathered to express their standards of respect for those who served our Nation.

Kelleys Island Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9908, fellow veterans and active-duty visitors stood together and displayed the culture, values and lifestyle of military service in their presentations and readings. With somber remembrances and prayers delivered by Island Pastors, the purpose of the ceremony was delivered to the respectful community, there to honor the military heroes. Music in song was delivered by The Island Singers under the direction of Anna Lee. As hats were removed and the flag shown its rightful respect with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance, young and old alike stood their tallest



Annalee directs the Island Singers.

PHCR: Jodie Smith



The Kelleys Island VFW Post 9908 and guest military stand together.

PHCR: Jodie Smith

with eyes focused on Old Glory. As we celebrate the 250 years of being The United States of America, we, as a community, value our traditions of

recognizing those who came before us and those among us, who serve, in all ways to make the Nation, State, and our island community a blessed place to live.



The exceptionally large crowd attended The Memorial Day ceremony.

PHCR: Jodie Smith

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

Teresa Maher
with Red One Realty-
your Realtor for All Seasons!

RED ONE
REALTY

330-322-0992
RealtorTeresaMaher@gmail.com

INSPECTION SERVICES

- Residential
- Commercial
- Transient Rental
- Real Estate Transactions

BOOK NOW

FIRELANDS
PROFESSIONAL INSPECTIONS LLC

MORE INFO
(419) 202-2524

firelandsp inspections@gmail.com

Firelands Professional Inspections

www.firelandsp inspections.com

OHI License # 2023001160

The Island Advocate

If you are like most Islanders (like me) you love to go out Boating on Lake Erie in Ohio. However, it is important to know the rules of the Road or in this case the rules of the Lake!

The laws and regulations come from the **Ohio Revised Code, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Division of Parks and Watercraft**, and federal navigation rules.

Here are some Key Ohio Boating Laws for you to know to keep you and your family safe and legal.

- 1. Life Jackets**
 - Every vessel must have a U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket for each person on board.
 - Children under 10 years old must wear a life jacket while underway on vessels less than 18 feet long.
 - Personal watercraft (Jet Skis, Waverunners) operators and passengers must wear a life jacket.
- 2. Alcohol and Boating (BUI)**

Operating a boat under the influence is illegal.

 - Ohio's boating BAC limit is 0.08%, similar to driving. You also cannot operate a boat or watercraft under the influence of drugs. The laws are generally the same as operating a motor vehicle.
 - ODNR officers, Coast Guard, and local marine patrols actively enforce BUI laws on Lake Erie.
- 4. Navigation Rules**
 - Follow federal "Rules of the Road."
 - Maintain a proper lookout.
 - Operate at a safe speed.
 - Give way as required by navigation rules.
 - Display proper navigation lights between sunset and sunrise and during restricted visibility.
- 5. Registration**
 - Most motorized boats must be registered with Ohio.
 - Registration numbers and validation stickers must be properly displayed.
- 6. Personal Watercraft (Jet Skis, Waverunners)**
 - You must be 16 years of age or

older to operator.

- Must have an attached engine cut-off switch (kill switch).
- No operation between sunset and sunrise.
- Reckless maneuvers and wake jumping near vessels are prohibited.

7. Reckless Operation
Prohibited activities include:

- Excessive speed in crowded areas.
- Operating too close to swimmers, docks, or other vessels.
- Creating hazardous wakes.
- Weaving through traffic.

Go Slow in No-Wake Zones! No Wake means No Wake!

Safety Equipment
On Lake Erie, because conditions can change rapidly, boaters should carry:

- Visual distress signals (required in some circumstances under federal law)
- Sound-producing device (horn or whistle)
- Fire extinguisher (if required by vessel type)
- Marine radio recommended

Penalties
Violations can result in:

- Fines
- Suspension of boating privileges
- Criminal charges for serious offenses such as BUI or reckless operation

For boaters around Kellys Island, Law Enforcement officers pay particular attention to **BUI, no-wake zones, and interactions with ferry traffic**, especially during summer weekends and holiday events. These are the violations that most often lead to stops and citations.

Ensure that you and your loved ones and friends are safe if you are boating this summer by following these simple safety laws and guidelines.

Dean DePiero
DEPIERO LAW
(Attorney DePiero also serves as the Kelleys Island Mayors Court Magistrate and has been an “Islander” since 2002)

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

Steve Mack
Century 21 Bolte Real Estate

As we moved from mid-May into mid-June, the Kelleys Island real estate market continued to feel steady and pretty balanced. Things are definitely moving, but still at a more normal, healthy pace compared to the faster, more intense market we saw a few years ago.

Inventory remains fairly limited, but there’s still a nice mix of homes available across the island. During this period, active residential listings generally ranged from the mid \$400,000s up to a little over \$1 million. Some homes are still generating interest quickly, while others are sitting a bit longer as buyers take their time and really compare condition, updates, and pricing before making a move.

That continues to be the biggest theme right now - buyers are active, but they’re careful. They’re looking closely at whether a home feels priced right for today’s market, and they’re not rushing decisions the way they might have in past years.

Even with that more measured pace, we still saw some solid activity. One lakefront home closed at approximately \$945,000 after moving through a typical contingent to pending process, showing that well positioned waterfront properties still attract strong attention. In the mid-range, a home closed around the \$450,000 level, which continues to act as a pretty steady benchmark for the core of the market. At the more affordable end, a smaller inland cottage style home closed in the upper \$200,000 range, which is consistent with ongoing demand for entry level island properties when they’re priced well.

Buyer activity also stayed consistent in the cottage segment, especially with smaller inland cottage style homes under 1,000 square feet. One inland cottage came to market in mid-May just under \$350,000 and moved into contingent status fairly quickly, which is always a good sign when pricing lines up with the market. As mentioned, another similar inland cottage closed in the upper \$200,000 range after spending more time on the market and going through a couple of price adjustments. It continues to show steady demand for smaller homes,

while also reinforcing how much pricing and timing still matter in how quickly things move.

On the active side, inventory stayed limited. A more affordably priced inland home that recently adjusted its price is still on the market, which continues to reflect some buyer sensitivity at that entry level. At the upper end, a larger inland home with four bedrooms and over 3,000 square feet remains available and represents one of the larger homes currently on the market.

The lots and land market was a bit

quieter during this stretch. Activity is still there, but it’s not moving quite at the same pace as residential. Active listings are generally positioned between approximately \$112,000 and \$195,000, with some larger parcels taking longer as buyers think through long term plans, usability, and buildability. We did see a smaller buildable parcel move into pending status, but overall land activity remains more selective and patient compared to homes.

Overall though, the market still feels healthy heading into summer.

There aren’t a large number of homes or lots available, buyers are still watching closely for the right opportunity, and well-priced properties continue to draw attention. It’s not the fast moving market we saw a few years ago, but it is steady, stable, and very active in a more intentional way. As we head deeper into summer, that pattern is likely to continue.

ZION CHURCH & ST. MICHAEL'S

July 20-24, 9-Noon
Children's Presentation: July 26, 10:30 a.m.
A Christmas in July Program
Ages: 4-14
Contact: zionvbs2026@gmail.com

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

Kelleys Island Bird Watching Guide

Kelleys Island State Park
920 Division St., 419.746.2546,
866.644.6727, parks.ohiodnr.gov

Kelleys Island State Park offers great Lake Erie views, easy access to the shoreline. Boating, fishing, birding, and wildlife watching are just a few of the park’s favorite activities across its 677 acres. Year-round, daily dawn-dusk.

North Pond State Nature Preserve
Ward Rd. (off Division St.),
614.265.6419, naturepreserves.ohiodnr.gov

Containing a variety of rare plants and animals. Accessible via the trailhead at Ward Rd., opposite the parking lot. Consisting of 30 acres of wetlands with the estuary leading into Lake Erie, which is famous for the tremendous numbers of waterfowl migrating through in the spring and fall. No pets.

North Shore Alvar State Nature Preserve
920 Division St., 614.265.6419,
naturepreserves.ohiodnr.gov

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

Affordable Roofing Windows Siding

Call Now for a Free Estimate
419- 467-7659

Members First!

**HANCOCK-WOOD
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

**Proud to be a
part of the
Kelleys Island
community!**

Report an outage:
800-445-4840

On Kelleys Island:
PO Box 429
Kelleys Island, OH 43438
419-746-2533
419-746-2261 Fax

Main Office:
PO Box 190
North Baltimore, OH 45872
800-445-4840
419-257-3024 Fax

**Info and Call
to Action |
Hancock-Wood
Electric Cooperative**

LICENSED, BONDED, FREE ESTIMATES

FRESCH ELECTRIC, INC.

CONTRACTORS, ENGINEERS OF
LITE - HEAT - POWER



- INDUSTRIAL
- COMMERCIAL
- RESIDENTIAL

1414 MILAN ROAD
SANDUSKY, OHIO 44870

(419)626-2535

Where is The Bridge Off the Island?

Jodie Smith

Welcome to one of the newest shops on Kelleys Island! This fine establishment is located at 113 Division Street, Kelleys Island, Ohio. It is in the beloved space once flourishing with the energy of Islander Tina Callari and her business Chicklet's Closet. To keep her memory alive, the owner, Islander Pam Warner, keeps a memory book for friends, acquaintances, family and grateful clients to share a fond memory and to help others through this grieving process.

The idea for The Bridge Off the Island originated with an encounter between the owner, Pam Warner and her now deceased husband, Paul, with a couple of "lost tourists." The visitors sped by the Warner's home on Ward Road looking for the bridge off the



island. Once they discovered that Ward Road ends at the lake (with no bridge), they returned down Ward Road stopping at the Warners to ask for directions to the bridge off the island. Pam and Paul had been in the front lawn burning out a tree trunk. They could hardly contain themselves as the tourists swore they arrived on the island by crossing a bridge. Pam kindly explained that possibly they crossed the Edison bridge, but to get here (to KI) they boarded a big Orange Boat. Pam reminded them to look for the tickets they would have purchased. The young man looked, found the tickets, and exclaimed, "Oh that's what these are for!" After the Warners gave them directions to the boat and how to board the boat, the couple departed. You can imagine the laughter that followed and the fun the Warners had recalling this story. Paul and Pam said on that day that if they ever had a shop, they would name it The Bridge Off The Island!

It was not under the happiest circumstances that the new shop evolved. Paul Warner, Pam's husband, passed away recently after her retirement from Ehope Career Center as the lead instructor of the school for Cosmetology.

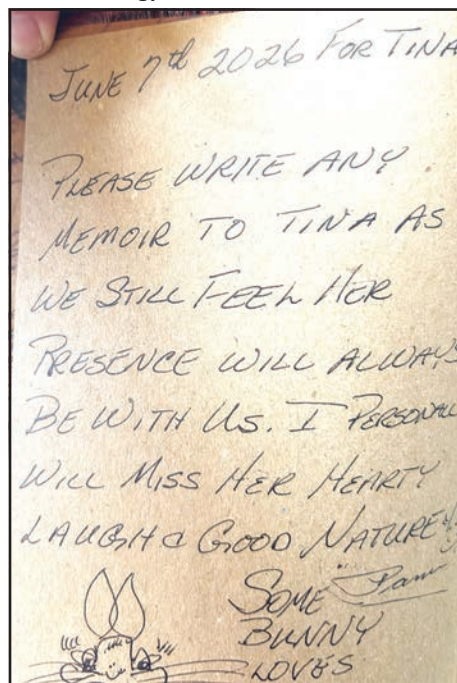
Pam told me that her shop is a little bit Tina (Unsalted, MonaB and Clear Ray Bags, OSU and KI glass ware and insulated mugs, themed tea towels, Men's and Women's casual beach wear), a little bit Vi (garden décor, leather journal books, jewelry) and a little bit Pam! Pam will continue to carry the seasonal Island ornament that we all love! Stop at the Bridge Off The Island to pre-order your holiday ornament and to check out the items Pam has to offer.



As her website expresses; "Our goal is to create a welcoming space in downtown Kelleys Island where every visitor feels at home. We strive to offer thoughtfully chosen pieces that bring joy, comfort, and a touch of island charm into everyday life. Through our collection, we hope to create lasting memories and help you carry a little piece of the island with you wherever you go!"



The website for The Bridge Off The Island is WWW.thebridgeofftheisland.com. The phone number for the shop is 419-746-3113. The hours are currently Wednesday-Monday from 10am to 8pm or varies. Pam has valued support from her son Seth and his family, including Glade Phon Phong, other loved family members and employee Lori Boniface. Welcome and Good luck to Pam and her supporters in their new business venture on Kelleys Island.



Sadly, the space occupied by Chicklet's Closet became available for the new shops' location, after the passing of beloved islander Tina Callari. Although Pam had worked for Tina and they had communicated about a business transfer, it was unable to happen. Although Tina could not sell her business, she was able to verbalize that Pam gets the first opportunity at the shop space. Pam was informed of this and gratefully accepted. The Bridge Off The Island was found! As they say, one door closes and another door opens!



Low Rates. Smart Options. Local Experts.

- Investment Properties
- Vacation Homes
- Construction into Permanent Financing
- Jumbo Loans
- Physician Program
- Lot Financing



CIVISTA[®]
BANK
Focused on You



Tim Ott
419.239.8615

tdott@civista.bank
185 SE Catawba Road,
Port Clinton

NMLS# 4446158

civista.bank

Member FDIC
NMLS# 412766
EQUAL HOUSING LENDER



Don't Put Your Auto Insurance Renewal on Cruise Control: A Quick Review Could Save You Money

Amanda Rhiel,
Bolte Insurance
Agency

When your auto insurance renewal arrives in the mail, what's your first reaction? Like many people, you may groan, glance at the premium to make sure it hasn't increased too much and then move on with your day. Renewal time is one of the best opportunities to review your coverage, identify potential savings, and make sure you're getting the protection you need at a price that still fits your budget. What made sense for your auto insurance a few years ago may not be the best fit today.

What's Changed Since You Last Reviewed Your Policy?

Maybe you've retired, started working from home, added a teen driver, or simply aren't driving as much as you once did. Even small life changes can affect both your insurance needs and your premiums. That's why it's important to periodically review your policy instead of simply letting it renew year after year.

Simple Ways to Lower Your Premium

If you're looking for ways to save money, your deductible is a great place to start. A deductible is the amount you agree to pay out of pocket before your insurance coverage helps pay a covered

claim. In many cases, increasing your deductible can lower your monthly premium. For example, increasing your deductible from \$500 to \$1,000 may result in meaningful savings over the course of a year. However, the right deductible depends on your personal financial situation. The goal is to find a balance between affordability today and financial protection tomorrow.

Renewal time is also a good opportunity to compare your current coverage and pricing with what's available in today's market. Insurance companies regularly adjust rates and underwriting guidelines, so it's worth making sure you're still receiving competitive value for the protection you're purchasing.

Are You Paying for Coverage You No Longer Need?

Many drivers continue carrying the same coverage for years, even though their vehicle's value has changed significantly. If you drive an older vehicle, it may be worth reviewing whether comprehensive and collision coverage still make sense. Depending on your vehicle's current value, adjusting these coverages could help lower your premium while still maintaining the protection you need. Every situation is different, which is why having a conversation with a trusted insurance professional can be

valuable.

Don't Forget About Discounts

Many insurance companies offer discounts that policyholders don't always realize they're eligible for. You may qualify for savings by bundling home and auto insurance with the same carrier, insuring multiple vehicles, completing defensive driving courses, good student performance, having low annual mileage, and adding paperless billing or automatic payments. Some insurance companies also offer usage-based or safe-driving programs that reward responsible driving habits. If you're a safe driver who doesn't spend a lot of time on the road, these programs may provide additional savings. A quick policy review can help uncover savings opportunities you may be missing.

Protection Matters Just as Much as Price

While everyone wants to save money, focusing only on the premium can sometimes leave gaps in coverage. Adequate liability limits, uninsured/underinsured motorist coverage, and other policy features can make a significant difference if you're involved in a serious accident. As the cost of vehicle repairs, medical expenses, and legal settlements continue to rise, it's important to ensure your liability limits still provide the protection your family

needs. The goal isn't necessarily to find the cheapest policy, it's to find the best combination of coverage that protects what matters most with a premium that still fits comfortably within your budget.

When was the last time someone sat down with you and reviewed your auto insurance?

Auto insurance isn't something you should set and forget. A quick policy review at renewal time could uncover savings opportunities, identify coverage gaps, and give you confidence that your protection still matches your needs.

At Bolte Insurance Agency, we believe insurance should be more than a bill that arrives every six months. Our team takes the time to review your coverage, answer your questions, and help you understand your options so you can make informed decisions about your protection.

If you'd like a complimentary auto insurance review, contact Amanda or one of the licensed agents at Bolte Insurance Agency. We would be happy to help you determine whether your current coverage is still the right fit and if there may be opportunities to save.

Bolte Insurance Agency is proud to be celebrating 90 years as a family-owned business serving Port Clinton and the surrounding communities.



Shea Alltmont, Community
Engagement Manager, Sandusky Library
Located at 528 Division Street, this charming library is part of the larger Sandusky Library and CLEVNET

system, bringing big-library resources to a small island community with access to over 8 million print and digital items.

Visitors and residents alike can explore books, audiobooks, eBooks, and research tools, all supported by the broader Sandusky Library network and its shared digital services. Need Wi-Fi, a

quiet place to read, printing resources, or help finding information? It's all here—mainly powered by dedicated local volunteers who keep the spirit of the library alive.

What truly makes the Kelleys Island Branch special is its role as a bridge between locals and travelers—offering a shared space to learn, connect, and

unwind.

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

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

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

Saturday: 10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

www.sanduskylib.org

Bolte Insurance Agency

For All Your Insurance Needs



Bolte Insurance Company



Family Owned
Downtown Business

Home Auto Medicare Health Life



**Chuck
DeVore**

**Amanda
Rhiel**

**Steve
Gulas**

**Jake
Gulas**

(419) 732-3111

Call the number provided to speak with a licensed insurance agent.





KELLEYS ISLAND LIBRARY
A BRANCH OF SANDUSKY LIBRARY

Same great library services,
just on island time.



Access to 8+ million print & digital items



Hundred's of Books on the Libby App



24/7 Access to Digital Library



Summer Reading Club



Internet, computers, and printing



Summer Programming

www.sanduskylib.org



Summer Hours
June - August

✓ Mon & Wed: 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

✓ Tues & Thu: 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

✓ Sat: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

528 Division St.
Kelleys Island, OH 43438
419.746.9575

New Book Release: Surprising Front Porch Stories

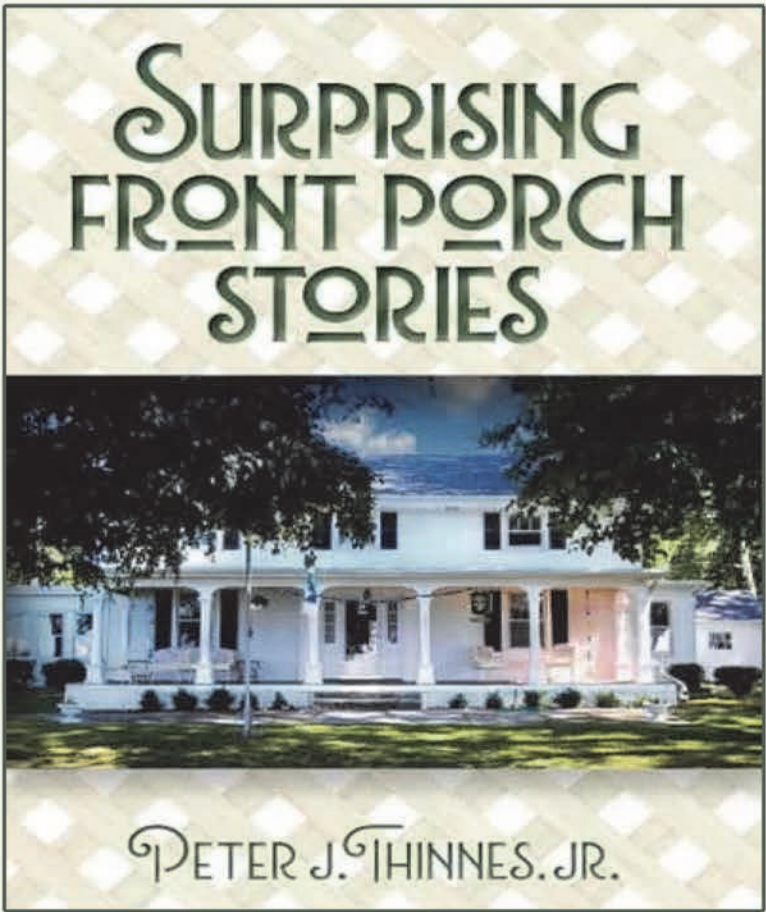
RECENTLY RELEASED: Surprising Front Porch Stories – a new book by Peter J. Thinnes, Jr. (also known as 'Jack'). Brimming with laughter, grit, and warmth, these stories reveal Thinnes' dedication to a fascinating life through heartfelt and humorous experiences, handpicked to bring smiles, laughter, and 'WOW' to all readers. Jack recounts his childhood and the experiences that shaped the determined person he is today. He writes these stories as he presented them to his friends, family, and Island neighbors on the front porch of their historic 1840 home on Lakeshore Drive on Kelleys Island. This is a non-fiction book about real occurrences. Most of the stories took place in many cities across the United States. However, all the stories in the book were told on their Front Porch over the years. As you'll discover, many of these stories from Jack's life include "unexpected coincidences" or "Godwinks." Many are about famous people, such as John Wayne, Paul Newman, Bob Hope, Don Rickles, Ted

Turner, lunches with the casts of MASH and ALL IN THE FAMILY, unbelievable meetings with singers Paul Simon and Tony Bennett, working with animators Bill Hanna and Joe Barbera, and Chuck Jones, and so many more. But the people aren't the key focus. It's how, where, or when Jack met these people and the subsequent "coincidences" of those meetings. As Jack says, "I believe our lives are collections of stories made unique by circumstances and unexpected coincidences. I hope you find joy, laughter, and even disbelief in my Surprising Front Porch Stories. My wife, Mary Ellen, often said, 'you've led an enchanted life.' Readers' reviews seem to agree with that viewpoint. People who hear my stories often share them with others—that's the sign of a good story. So, go ahead, share them."

Surprising Front Porch Stories is available at the Kelleys Island Museum Store and on Amazon.

New Book Release!

Available in the Kelleys Island Museum Store and on Amazon.



Recent Book Reviews:

- "Just got your book. I love it"!
- "I just finished looking over the book and reading the intro. I can't wait to read the entire book. You have such an easy-going, friendly way of writing."
- "This book is outstanding! Your writing style is excellent--it is as if you are there telling the story."
- "Your book is quite a joy! It's allowing me to rekindle my memories -- all due to your book. Chapter Seven, about how you and Mary Ellen met is one helluva *Godwink*© and a great story"!
- "What a great tribute to your family and your wife. The stories were great! I had no idea the length and breadth of your connections"!
- "I have started reading the book and it's a delightful read! You shared just the right amount of humorous and heartfelt stories."
- "I have seen it in movies, but rarely have I read such an enjoyable book. I really took my time, slowly reading to the end. Why? Because I did not want it to end."
- "Fun, true-life tales told by a master storyteller"!
- "Just finished reading your book. I want to read more, hear more stories and, to that end, I intend to re-read it at least once this summer. Thank you."
- "I love your stories!!! I love *GODWINK*©! Perfect."
- "Your book is wonderful. Your writing is superb. You capture the moment and have a lightness of story. Quite the gift."



Twin Oast is a Farm-to-Fermenter Brewery located at 3630 NE Catawba Rd, focusing on serving the best beer possible in a venue that is uniquely Catawba. We are a 60-acre family farm featuring orchards, a cave, and a beautiful water feature sitting below two hand-built oasts. July is shaping up to be a busy month at Twin Oast, featuring weekly recurring events, live music, and several special events throughout the month.

- WEEKLY EVENTS**

Mondays – Trivia Night
Hosted by LoudJoy Games
Begins at 6:30PM
Free to play general trivia with prizes for winning teams.

Tuesdays – Musical Bingo
Hosted by FreeN' Fun
Begins at 6:30PM
Free to play with music, prizes, and plenty of friendly competition.

Wednesdays
Main Stage Movie Night
Begins at 4:30PM
Our family-friendly double feature movie nights return to the main stage lawn each week. Guests can enjoy special concessions at the lawn bar while taking in the show.
More details: www.twinoast.com/movie-night

Saturdays – Rock the Oast:
Summer Concert Series
Begins at 6:30PM
Free full-band concerts on our main stage featuring regional artists, plus cocktails, beer, yard games, and plenty of space to spread out on the lawn.

Live Music
We also host live music (typically acoustic sets) every Thursday through Sunday:

 - Thursday: 6:30-9:30PM
 - Friday: 6:30-9:30PM
 - Saturday: 2-5PM (before Rock the Oast)
 - Sunday: 1-4PM

Full schedule: www.twinoast.com/live-music

Happy Hour
Available Monday-Thursday from 1-4PM featuring select food and drink specials.
Learn more: twinoast.com/food

- JULY TAPROOM EVENTS**

Apricot Fest
July 10-11
Friday: 3PM-10PM
Saturday: 11AM-10PM
Apricot Fest is our first festival of the season, bringing family-friendly summer fun to Catawba Island. The two-day event features a vibrant vendor market spotlighting local artisans, food trucks, live music, and activities for all ages—including a petting zoo, bounce house, and our fan-favorite Apritrot 0.5K fun run. Guests can also enjoy performances from Friday headliner Alan Carl and Saturday headliner Nick Walker. The festival celebrates the release of our signature Apricatawba beer, brewed exclusively for the occasion. Admission required.
Tickets and details: www.apricotfest.com

Sunday Sip & Shop
July 19 | 12-4PM
Our monthly pop-up vendor market featuring local small businesses throughout the brewhouse and patio. Guests can shop handmade goods, enjoy beer samples, and spend a relaxing Sunday afternoon at the brewery. Rotating lineup of vendors each month.

Name That Tune
July 24 | Begins at 6:30PM
Our free monthly music trivia night hosted by DJ Eben in the Pergola. Two rounds of play with prizes for top teams—perfect for anyone looking to show off their music knowledge.

Behind the Brew
July 25 | 5PM
An intimate behind-the-scenes brewery experience featuring a guided tour, stories from our team, curated beer samples, and a commemorative taster glass. This is a monthly ticketed event.

You can always find additional event details at www.twinoast.com/events, and for a calendar-style overview of everything happening at the brewery, visit www.twinoast.com/calendar.

The Island’s Oldest Inhabitant – Jacob Hayes



This is the Hayes Block – Hayes carpentry shop is on the right and Koster's Winery on the left.

Leslie Korenko
George Huntington, in his presentation to the Fire Lands Historical Society on October 30, 1862, offered this about the man. “Jacob Hay, then as now a bachelor, and one of our oldest residents, was boarding with Mrs. Knowlton at the afore-said boarding house in front of where the Island House now stands. If, as political economists assert, that man is to be considered a public benefactor who causes two spires of grass to grow where but one grew before, then Mr. Hay is certainly deserving great credit, since he has performed a much greater amount of physical labor than any man now living on the island, almost the whole of which was tended directly or indirectly towards the general improvement. For 15 years his time was devoted almost exclusively to clearing land, building fences, putting up small tenements, &c. and since that date he has been employed in making and repairing agricultural implements, &c., and other mechanical pursuits, all tending the same general result. Besides this, there is not a dock on the island but what he has had a hand in the building of it.”
Jake’s many adventures were chronicled in the early days of the island through stories shared in the Islander. Jake was reported to have been born in 1804 making him one of the oldest inhabitants at just 34 years old when the island was settled. He did finally get married, at age 62, to Miss Ellen Fallon, who was 40 years younger than he was. He lived on Kelley’s for almost 20 more years.
In 1836, Jake first visited Kelley’s Island. “Jake Hayes was crossing Cunningham’s Island and on the way he met in the road Mr. Addison Kelley, who at that time was the business agent of D & I Kelley in charge of their Island property and who proposed he should stop and go to work for him. But Jake’s mind, with his late experiences of supporting another man’s family and living himself on smoked sturgeon during the winter [on Pelee Island] fresh in his recollection, at first declined. But Mr. Kelley, assuring him that no such contingency could occur under his administration, showing him by that he had one barrel of flour for every man on the Island, and further that if he should die during the winter, he (Mr. K.) would have him decently buried and would charge him nothing for it. Hayes concluded to accept such generous terms and remain.” It looks like the community fulfilled Mr. Kelley’s promise. Jacob was given a cemetery lot by the Village, he being unable to pay for same, and the Clerk was ordered to make out a deed to Jacob Hay for the cemetery lot donated to him.
His monument, however, would not be installed until 1901 by one of his daughters. Genealogy records simply state that the girls left the Island, and that should be the end of the story. However, in 1901 Anna S. Hayes, the older daughter, purchased a granite cemetery monument for her parents. At that time she was boarding with the Christmann family in Waterville

Township near Toledo. There is no record of where her sister Lucy ended up.
Death Records indicate that Jacob died at the age of 73 of apoplexy on October 30, 1887. He died in Sandusky at the Infirmary. His wife must have continued to live on the property but she died a few months later, leaving her little girls destitute.
 Jacob Hayes 1804-1887
 Ellen Fallen-His Wife 1844-1888
 N. Alberty Grant Hayes 1874-1883



“The McNight-Smith Monumental Works of Norwalk, O., are erecting some handsome memorials at Kelley’s Island in memory of some of the earlier settlers who have passed away and now rest in the beautiful cemetery. A large Barre Granite sarcophagus design with polished panels and trimmed in rock face is placed upon the family burial lot in memory of the late Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Hayes. This monument was erected by their daughter, Miss Anna Hayes of Toledo, O.”
C. B. Quinn was named administrator when Jacob died without a will. His family was listed as wife Ellen Hayes, and two minor daughters, Annie and Lucy, both of Kelley’s Island. Minor children were those under the age of 14 years of age. Jacob’s personal goods included in part; one cook stove and furniture worth \$10, and one heating stove worth \$8. His various household items included a table, chairs, sink, dishes, sewing machine, feather ticks, wash stand and washboard, among other things. There was also listed a lot on the Island and \$263.21 owed to various creditors.
In August of the next year, 1888, Jacob’s widow, Ellen Hayes died of consumption. Ellen’s death would bring the community together, almost. . “Mrs. Jacob Hay [Hayes] died last week leaving two little girls in destitute circumstances. Mrs. Hay had been receiving \$6 per month from the county infirmary directors which with the rents derived from an old barracks of a building managed to support herself and the two little girls [Anna age 12 and Lucy age 9]. Upon the death of Mrs. Hay, two young ladies, Misses Nettie Cameron and Freddie Kelley, made it their business to see the girls and ascertain their wants, if any. They found them destitute of clothing and immediately canvassed the Island for donations. They succeeded admirably and yesterday quite a number of the ladies met at the assembly rooms of the church and made up a lot of clothing. A few heartless men refused

to give anything but told the ladies to send the girls to the poor house. I am glad to say that any such proposition would meet with a storm of indignation from most of our people.
The ‘old barracks of a building’ was the carpentry shop of Jacob Hayes, commonly called the Hayes Block. It is unclear when Jacob closed up his shop, but nothing had been written about his business for several years. The rents referred to would likely be from boarders or possibly renting out a portion of the building for commercial use.
In December, Quinn, acting as administrator of the estate of Jacob Hayes, sold Jacob’s small lot, containing 25 square rods, excepting 2/100 acres sold to Koster in 1884, to Catherine Koster. The court approved the sale and Catherine was the highest bidder at \$1180. This is part of what is now known as Koster’s Dock.
From the book Kelleys Island – the courageous, poignant & often quirky lives of island pioneers 1810-1861

Open Year Round
Minutes from Kelleys Island Ferry

We have a wide selection of:

- Handcrafted Organic Soap &; Body Products
- Local Honey &; Delicious Pantry Items
- All Natural Items for Four-Legged Friends
- Art and Craft-work from Around Ohio
- Essential Oils/Jewelry, Candles and More!

TO ORDER: orders@marbleheadsoap.co
We deliver to Kelleys Island!

Marblehead Soap Company
 417 W. Main St.
 (Across from the Boatline)
 Lakeside-Marblehead, OH
 419-702-7488

SCAN TO SHOP

LOVE
Your Water!

PeacockWater.com
800-333-6312

Water Softeners | Drinking Water Systems
 Sulfur Filters | Iron Filters
 Salt & Water Delivery

OBITUARIES

Chad Robert Seeholzer

June 4, 2026



Chad Robert Seeholzer, 35, of Ashland passed away peacefully due to complications from sepsis on June 4, 2026 surrounded by the love of family, friends and caretakers. Chad will be deeply missed by his “Mommy”, Nancy Ward-Patterson and “Daddy” Jeff Patterson, Marco Island Florida and Kelleys Island, Ohio. Chad was a sixth generation Seeholzer from Kelleys Island.

Chad touched the lives of many people in Ashland and on Kelleys Island. He attended Dale Roy School, Ashland County Board of Developmental Disabilities Day Program and the Link Day Program. He loved attending church services, community events, singing and dancing, playing basketball, watching Ohio State Football, local sports teams, and attending Cleveland Indians games. He loved being around

people and accepted everyone the way they were. He enjoyed time swimming, boating, jet skiing and taking rides on Kelleys Island in addition to visiting Marco Island, Florida. Chad finished second in the State of Ohio Special Olympics swimming. Chad loved all animals especially his service dogs Parnell and Lamar and therapy cat Cruiser.

Following his graduation from high school Chad entered a group home in Ashland. His “second family” of caretakers and house “brothers” Chris Beechy, Randy Sharick and Nehemiah Barrett were very special to Chad. During his life’s journey Chad had a profound way of inspiring others to laugh, sing and dance with him. He personally turned others to a life of service and to be followers of his savior, Jesus Christ. Anyone that had contact with Chad knows he made a personal difference in their life.

Chad will be deeply missed by his parents, brother Todd Patterson

(Jacquie), sister Libby Fichtelman (Steve), nieces and nephew Ardyn, Mayci, Quynn and Hayze Patterson & Ella Fichtelman, Uncle Rob and Aunt Mindy Ward,, Uncle Bill and Aunt Polly Chandler, Aunt Sally Ledbetter, Aunt Sue Coffman (Jack), Aunt Pam Pape, Uncle Bill Patterson (Pat) cousins Bill Chandler (Erin), Ryan Chandler (Kaitlin), Rob Ward (Katelyn), Maggie Moss (Eli) and Johnny Ward; Flynnne, Ezra and Greer Chandler, Payton and Letti Chandler, Robby Ward and Adlee Moss.

Chad will also be missed by Aunt Deborah Phillips, Uncle Jim and Aunt Jude Seeholzer, Aunt Karen and Uncle Frank Baker; Biological father Christopher Seeholzer, cousins Patrick Phillips (Melissa), Devin Phillips, Kathleen Phillips, Ryan Baker (Danielle), Kyle Baker (Katie), Kelley Martin (Cody), Dana Meily (Berkley), Abbey Manion (Scott); Jackson, Brooklyn and Cayden Phillips, Trevor, Brody, Myles and Wyatt Baker, Finn and Sophie Baker, Henry

and Auggie Martin, Ava and Oliver Meily, Max and Hugo Manion.

Chad was preceded in death by his grandparents Robert and Margaret Ward, William and Bernice Patterson, Don and Jan Rinehart, William and Shirley Chandler and James and Patricia Seeholzer, Uncles Rick Ledbetter, Gary Phillips and Michael Seeholzer.

A Celebration of Life was held on Thursday, June 11, 2026 at Trinity Lutheran Church (Jack’s Place) in Ashland with Reverend Kevin McClain presiding. A private family interment will take place in the Ashland Cemetery and at Kelleys Island Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you honor Chad’s memory by contributing to Ashland Special Needs Ministry, 19 West Main Street, Suite 1, Ashland, OH 44805. Please put in the check memo that the donation is in the memory of Chad.

Online condolences may be shared on the funeral home's website at denbowfh.com.

Paul Schnittker

July 19, 1956 - May 29, 2026



Paul D. Schnittker, 69, of Berlin Heights, Ohio, passed away on May 29, 2026, surrounded by his family, following a year-long battle with cancer.

Born on July 19, 1956, in Sandusky, Ohio, Paul graduated from Sandusky High School. He dedicated his life to law enforcement in Erie County, embarking on a career that spanned over 35 years. Throughout his decades

of service, Paul worked across multiple teams, including the Sheriff’s Department, the Erie County Drug Task Force, and the Erie County Underwater Recovery Team. He concluded his career as an Investigator for the Erie County Prosecutor’s Office, leaving a lasting impact on the community he protected.

Beyond his professional life, Paul was known for his generous spirit, practical skills, and one hell of a powerful handshake. He was always building, fixing, or creating something. An avid outdoorsman, he found his greatest enjoyment spending time with family and friends at Kelley’s

Island. He was a kind, dependable man who was always willing to lend a helping hand to a friend in need.

Paul will be dearly missed by his surviving family and friends. Paul is survived by his wife, Jan Schnittker, his children, Ryan Schnittker (Erin), Mike Schnittker (and partner Erin Notestine), Brandon Schnittker (Nikki), and Kelly Sims (Thomas); and a very special niece, Jessica George (Chuck). He was a proud grandfather to Kennedy, Paige, Gianni, John, Jimmy, Sam, Rylee, Jamison, and Emilia. He is also survived by his brothers, Dale (Lana) and Ron (Barb), along with many nieces, nephews,

extended family members, former colleagues, and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Robert P. and Carol J. Schnittker.

A gathering to celebrate Paul’s life and honor his service took place on Friday, June 26, 2026, at Pfeil Funeral Home, 617 Columbus Ave., Sandusky, OH 44870. As we say goodbye, we honor Paul's kindness, service and dedication to others, which we know will be remembered by all who knew him.

Condolences may be shared with the family at pfeilfuneralhome.com.

Frederic Collin Walcott

January 3, 1939 — May 29, 2026



Frederic Collin Walcott, 87, of Huron, passed away May 29, 2026 at his home following a lengthy illness.

Born January 3, 1939, in New York City, Fred’s love of the water began early in life and remained the steady current that carried him through his 87 years. He made his home along the shores of Lake Erie for much of his adult life, living in Sandusky before settling in Huron 20 years ago.

A graduate of Wilmington College in 1962, Fred enjoyed a successful 35-year career as an engineer with Ford Motor Company in Sandusky, retiring in 1995.

While he was dedicated to his profession, it was on the water where he felt most at home. Sailing was not simply a hobby-it was his lifelong passion. Fred appreciated the competitive nature of the sport, but celebrated even more the community he built through racing and sharing his wisdom. His quick wit and charm made him a trusted sailor, friend, mentor, and neighbor.

He was a proud member and devoted Commodore of the Sandusky Sailing Club, where he was honored with Life Member status remaining deeply committed to fostering the next generation of sailors. He was also a member of the Sandusky Yacht Club and served as past president of the Sandusky Jaycees.

His summers were often spent sailing the waters of Lake Erie, fishing, and

enjoying treasured time at the home he built on Kelleys Island-a place that perfectly reflected his love of lake life and family. Fred quickly became an islander and was proudly involved in many aspects of the community specifically with the school board and historical society. He especially loved his porch, where he and his dog Sally welcomed every passing bird and kept watch over the boats going by.

Above all, Fred cherished his family. He is survived by his children; Kimberly (Jeff) Hartnett, Patricia (Ron) Hopkins, and Christopher (Judy) Walcott; grandchildren, Collin (Emily) Scheid, Allison (Tyler) Caudill, Ann Walcott and Samantha Walcott; his great-grandchildren, Harper and Cooper Scheid and Beckley and Brooks Caudill; and his companion of 15 years, Ramona Roberts.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Elizabeth “Betsy” (née Levy) Walcott in 2006, and by his parents, Alexander and Catherine (née Dominic) Walcott.

Private family services will be held with inurnment at Kelleys Island Cemetery.

The family suggests memorial contributions to the Sandusky Sailing Club Junior Sailors program, continuing Fred’s enduring legacy of sharing his love of sailing with future generations.

Donations can be made online through www.sailsandusky.org scroll to bottom for donate button and leave an optional note. Additionally, by check SJSI (Sandusky Junior Sailors Incorporated) C/O : SSC/SYC High School/Junior Race team PO Box 254 Huron Ohio 44839



Zion United Methodist Church

Our Mission:
**"Reflecting
God's Love
To All People"**

Worship With Us
SUNDAY MORNING
10:30 AM

CORNER OF CHAPPEL & DIVISION STREETS
419-746-2514 • kelleysislandumchurch.com
Pastor Tom Jones



St. Michael's Catholic Church

Corner of Chappel & Addison Streets

Chaplin: Rev. John Missler
Pastoral Leader: Deacon James O'Donnell

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

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

Large Banquet Hall Available for Rent
Call for Information: 419-341-9441

Mailing Address:
P.O.Box 179, Put-in-Bay 43456-0179
419-285-2741
email: jodonnellpl@gmail.com

“While on the road to this island, Fate took them on a detour to eternity.”

Cynthia Nowak

The tragic story behind this inscription marking a gravesite in the Village Cemetery goes back to a freezing morning on January 17, 1971, when Robert ‘Bobby’ and Janie (Wasserman) Bokerman — married just three months earlier — were on their way from Toledo to the Addison Street house they’d been renovating. Bobby’s family roots on Kelleys complemented Janie’s love for the island. Now a friend had called, saying that a broken water pipe was flooding the house’s basement. They were determined to see the damage for themselves.

They got as far as the Touissant Roads on Route 2. That’s where Bobby lost control of their compact car that went skidding off the icy pavement, overturning several times before hitting a utility pole. Janie died at the scene, Bobby a few hours later in the hospital.

Grieving family members laid the couple to rest in the Village Cemetery, close to the fence on Division Street. Bobby’s father, Marshall, was an island resident and took charge of the gravesite, marking it with a slab of native stone and a bronze plaque inscribed in Old Persian text that was never translated — though “The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam” has been offered as the possible source.

With no names identifying the site as the final resting place of Bobby and Janie, their grave maintained an air of mystery, though family members — including those from Toledo — made periodic visits. Then somewhere around 2022, the bronze plaque went missing. Was it lost to a seasonal mowing, or was it pried up and stolen?



Robert ‘Bobby’ and Janie (Wasserman) Bokerman

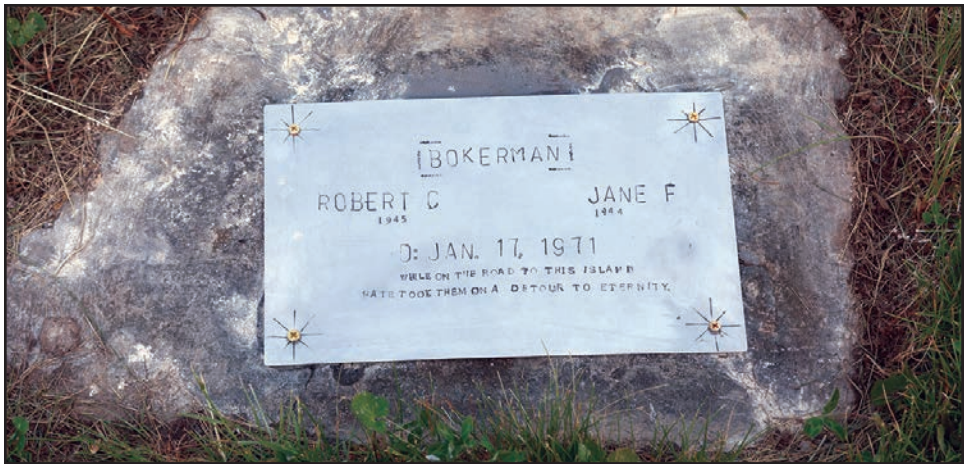
One more mystery.

Enter two Toledoans with a link to the Bokermans. Jim and Cynthia Nowak are related by marriage to Janie’s sister, Ruth. When they discovered that the grave was now marked only by an overgrown stone, Jim began thinking. After obtaining permission from the village, he fashioned a simple aluminum plaque marked with the couple’s names, date of death and the inscription composed by Janie’s siblings Ruth and Mike. This past May, using a power drill borrowed from a local innkeeper, he made the installation that finally puts Bobby’s and Janie’s names on the island they loved.



Above: Picture of the now-lost grave marker
Below: New grave marker made by Jim Nowak

PHCR: Jim Nowak



RANSOM FUNERAL HOME

Serving the Island’s Needs Since 1974

Robert Ransom

Funeral Director

610 S. Washington, P.O. Box 530
Castalia, Ohio 44824

Business: 626-6666
KI Home: 746-2306

OBITUARIES

Jennifer L. Koba

November 4, 1949 - October 26, 2025

Jennifer L. Koba, 76, of Elyria and Kelleys Island, passed away Sunday afternoon, October 26, 2025, at Autumn Aegis Nursing Home, Lorain, following a lengthy illness.

She was born November 4, 1949, in Elyria, and graduated from Elyria High School in 1967. Jennifer earned her bachelor’s degree from Lorain County Community College. She worked various jobs over her career, including Piano Teacher, Organist and Choir Director for Emanuel Lutheran Church, Elyria, over 20 years at Ohio Edison as a Marketing Specialist, and office administrator for her husband’s business, Electrofying EDM. Jennifer

was a private pilot, and she also started the Kelleys Island Singers, on Kelleys Island. She was a member of the Lions club and Rotary.

She is survived by her husband, Timothy Koba; and several nieces and nephews.

Jennifer was preceded in death by her parents, Fredrick and Jean Meng; and two brothers, Fredrick and Darrel Meng.

A Celebration of Life will be at Zion United Methodist Church on August 29.

FRANKLIN

Sanitation, LLC

Life in the Fast Drain

419-433-5169 franklinsanitation.com

Septic • Sewer • Drain

- cleaning
- repair
- servicing
- inspection
- installation

NORWALK HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

NOW SERVICING KELLEYS ISLAND FOR ALL YOUR NEEDS.

CALL 419-668-2639

HVAC

Electric Heat

Fuel Oil Furnace

Air Conditioning

Geothermal

Boilers

Mini-Split Systems

Services You Can Trust

NORWALK
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING
419-668-2639

HURON
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING
419-433-6099

Janet Wermuth Joined the Staff of Serving Our Seniors



In March 2026, Kelleys Island resident, Janet Wermuth, joined the staff of Serving Our Seniors as a grant writer/grant manager/fund-raiser.

Serving Our Seniors is a geriatric social service. It is unique to Erie County, Ohio. It was founded by a local group of Erie County senior citizens in 1996, who wanted one place to call when an older resident needed help and didn't know where to turn. That was 30 years ago.

The mission of Serving Our Seniors: To empower Erie County residents, aged 60+, to maintain their health and ability to function independently by addressing unmet needs. social service.

Serving Our Seniors funds the **Kelleys Island lunch group**, which is coordinated by Kelleys Island residents, Kathy Reddinger and Sharon Herman, two times per week. Lunch is made available to residents of Kelleys Island, who are age 60 or better, at the cost of a donation. Its purpose is to

foster social connections and friendships and prevent social isolation in later life. For the lunch group schedule contact **Kathy Reddinger, Lunch Group Coordinator at 419-746-2755 or Sharon Herman, Substitute Lunch Group Coordinator at 440-864-0497.**

Serving Our Seniors also funds and provides: Out of Town Transportation to Health Care appointments, for Kelleys Island residents, age 60+. The older adults must be functionally independent and able to walk, independently to and from the car to the health care appointment. A volunteer driver will meet the Kelleys Island residents at the Kelleys Island Ferry service parking lot, in a car marked with Serving Our Seniors logo. The volunteer will drive him/her to the health care appointment, wait for the appointment to conclude and drive the older adult to the Kelleys Island Ferry Service parking lot to return home. The volunteer can also pick up at the Port Clinton airport, if that is preferred. The cost of this service is an anonymous donation. **For more information, call Serving Our Seniors at 419-624-1856.**

Ramps - Serving Our Seniors funds ramps at the permanent residence of an Erie County older adult, aged 60+.

Serving Our Seniors buys the ramp and the older adults pays for the installation. If the cost of installation is unaffordable, Serving Our Seniors will share the cost with the older adult and pay the portion of the installation fee that is unaffordable. **For more information call Serving Our Seniors 419-624-1856. Ask for Wendy.**

Handyman Program - Serving Our Seniors can send a Handyman, who has been carefully vetted, to the home of an older adult aged 60+, whose permanent residence is on Kelleys Island. The handyman can perform basic small home repairs (no electrical or cosmetic improvements), for the purposes of keeping small repairs from becoming major home repairs and to keep the home safe. This program can also install railings and grab bars to prevent falling. The resident must also be the owner of the home to be repaired. A small home repair is defined as a repair that is \$450 or less. Plumbing repairs are up to \$600 for a small plumbing repair.

Cost-sharing for the Handyman Program is available for those who qualify. **For more information about the Handyman Program call Serving Our Seniors 419-624-1856. Ask for a Senior Advocate or a Senior Advocate Assistant.**

Medicare Counseling - Serving Our Seniors is a consumer advocate, which provide Medicare counseling to prevent consumer ignorance from being exploited. Serving Our Seniors does not care from whom an older adult purchases their Medicare supplement or your Medicare Advantage Plan. Serving Our Seniors wants to help older consumers to make informed decisions about their Medicare insurance. Failure to understand can easily result in paying higher premiums / deductibles / co-pays, than would otherwise be necessary. Worse, it can result in the Medicare Advantage Plan consumer's health care provider or hospital of choice not being covered by the Medicare Advantage Plan insurance. **For more information call Serving Our Seniors at 419-624-1856. Ask to speak with a Medicare Counselor.**

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



Ph: 419-

624-1856

Fax: 419-624-8176

www.servingourseniors.org

Serving Our
Seniors

*No Longer Driving
Long Distances?*

**You Can Still Travel Ohio
with the GoBus!**

Did you know you can travel throughout Ohio on The Ohio Go Bus? The Go Bus provides affordable, comfortable transportation between cities, making it easier than ever for older adults to visit family, enjoy a day trip, or simply see new places. The GoBus is Ohio's statewide public transit service. Riders travel in a comfortable motor coach equipped with a restroom and plenty of room for luggage. As with any form of public transportation, it is recommended passengers arrive 10 to 15 minutes before departure rather than at the last minute.



For example, if you wanted to travel to Toledo or Cleveland this is how it would work....

Travel from Sandusky to Toledo

A convenient option for Sandusky residents is a trip to Toledo. The bus departs the Sandusky Amtrak Station, 1200 N. Depot Street at 1:41 p.m. and arrives in Toledo at 3:30 p.m. Riders can return the next morning by leaving Toledo at 8:30 a.m. and arriving back in Sandusky at 11:30 a.m.. The cost is just \$20 round trip (\$10 each way).

The bus stops at the University of Toledo Transit Hub, where riders can connect to local transportation and travel throughout Lucas County.

Travel from Sandusky to Cleveland

Another popular destination is Cleveland. The Go Bus leaves the Sandusky Amtrak Station at 10:30 a.m. and arrives in Cleveland at 12:46 p.m. For the return trip, riders can leave Cleveland the following day at 11:30 a.m. and arrive back in Sandusky at 1:40 p.m. The cost is also just \$20 round trip (\$10 each way).



In Cleveland, passengers are dropped off at the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (RTA) station, where they can connect to the Red Line train and several bus routes to reach destinations throughout the city.

Whether you're planning a shopping trip, visiting friends and family, attending a medical appointment, or simply enjoying a change of scenery, the Go Bus offers an affordable way to stay connected and continue exploring Ohio.

For more information or to book a trip, visit www.ridegobus.com or call GoBus customer service 888-954-6287.

Sue Daugherty, Director
Serving Our Seniors
310 E. Boalt Street #A
Sandusky, OH 44870
Ph: 419-624-1856
Fax: 419-624-8176
www.servingourseniors.org

OEM MEYER CO

Employee Owned



Residential & Commercial Propane Service • Grill Cylinders • Supplies

Your Island Partner for Safe & Reliable Propane

3303 Tiffin Avenue Sandusky, OH 44870
Monday - Friday • 7:00am - 4:00pm

419-621-4201




oemeyer.com




CHARTERS

**The Fastest Way to Downtown
Kelleys Island and Put-in-Bay**



Skip the Line! Book online: Jet-express.com

CAPTAIN PARK'S CHARTERS



Captain Nate Riker
419-306-1595

Charters available from Kelleys Island
Families and Children Welcome

Captain Park Schafer & Captain Nate Riker
CaptainParksCharters.com
nate@CaptianPark.com



**Kelleys Island
AdvenTours**

Guided Kayak
and Bicycle
Adventure
Tours



(419) 708-4228 • KelleysIslandAdventours.com

REAL ESTATE

CENTURY 21 Bolte Real Estate



Steve Mack CRS, RSPS, CNE ePRO
ASSOCIATE BROKER, REALTOR®

Call/Text: 419-503-0712
stevemack.ki@gmail.com
www.kelleysislandforsale.com

    Serving Northern Ohio and
the Lake Erie islands

Mary's Blossom Shoppe

**125 Madison Street
Downtown Port Clinton**

419-734-4442
www.marysblossomshoppe.com
Servicing Kelleys Island

Special Arrangements for Your Special Occasion



Island Market

Island Headquarters for
Groceries • Beer • Wine • Ice
Ohio Lottery Tickets
A friendly, welcoming store.

Located across from Memorial Park
Downtown-Division Street • 419-746-2292

CENTURY 21 Bolte Real Estate



David S. Tully CIPS
REALTOR®

Call/Text: 419-341-2122
davetully.lake.erie@gmail.com
www.kelleysislandforsale.com

   Serving Northern Ohio and
the Lake Erie islands

Frank Sales Inc.

T.V.'s, Appliances, and Service

**2627E. Harbor Road
Port Clinton, OH 43452**

419-732-3165

Village Hardware Co.

802 W. Main Street, Marblehead, OH

**Winterizing and Summarizing
Cottages and Homes**

WE DELIVER TO THE FERRY DOCK

Call For Details

Open 7 Days A Week
Ph. Orders **419-798-4456**



SERVICES

Wedding Officiant

Island Weddings

Mike 440-241-5944

REPAIR • RELAX • REJUVENATE

 **ISLAND WELLNESS
CENTER**

The Little Healing Room™
Acupuncture | Massage Therapy | Reiki
by appointment: **954-330-9425**

caddyshacksquare.com - DOWNTOWN KELLEYS ISLAND, OH

Steinemann-Hafner Insurances Services
Sandusky, Ohio

Proudly serving the insurance needs of
the Lake Erie Islands for over 30 years.
Auto ♦ Home ♦ Yacht ♦ Business

Call us for more information.
1-800-832-2881 ♦ 419-626-6432
stein-haf.com



HERBST EXCAVATING LLC

Specializing in:
Excavating/Trucking
Site Preparation
Sewer & Water Lines
Demolition
Underground Utilities
Concrete Removal &
Replacement

PHONE 419-656-2251

Bob Herbst, President
Sandusky, Ohio 44870



 **Pest Control**

Locally Owned and Operated
Call or Text Jeff
330-323-7274

kelleysislandpestcontrol@gmail.com

 **SPORTING
ENTERPRISES**

Personalized Clothing Apparel
for Business, Schools & Organizations

John Cullen
P.O.Box 49
3000 Maple Ave.
Castalia, Ohio 44824
jcullen@sportingenterprises.com

Ph: 419.684.5399
Fax: 419.684.6222
Cell: 419.656.0101
www.sportingenterprises.com

 **OHIO**
Tree & Excavating

Casey Dellisanti Fully Insured
Owner/Operator Cell: 419-577-2882
ohiotreeandexcavating.com

LIFE ON KELLEYS
THE EMERALD ISLE NEWS



Stay in Touch with Kelleys Island!

Subscribe at
Lifeonkelleys.com

For all your Advertising Needs Contact
440.591.0343 • Lifeonkelleys@gmail.com

CENTURY 21®
Bolte Real Estate

Kelleys Island
www.kelleysislandforsale.com
www.facebook.com/SteveMackRealtor



Steve Mack
ASSOCIATE BROKER, CRS, RSPS, CNE ePRO,
REALTOR®
419-503-0712
stevemack.ki@gmail.com



David Tully
ASSOCIATE BROKER, CIPS
REALTOR®
419-341-2122
davetully.lake.erie@gmail.com



321 Harbor Lane, Kelleys Island
\$749,000



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



Kelleys Island Market Snapshot: May 15, 2026 - June 14, 2026

Land & Lots:

- Under Contract: 1
- Sold: 0

Homes & Condos:

- Under Contract: 2
- Sold: 3
- Sold Average Days On Market: 58
- Sold Price Range: \$275,000 - \$945,000

Currently Available:

- Active Homes Listed: 2
Price Range: \$447,500 - \$945,000
- Active Lots Listed: 4
Price Range: \$134,900 - \$195,000

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

For property information please visit Kelleysislandforsale.com

Steve 419-503-0712 • Dave 419-341-2122

