

**FEBRUARY  
2018  
Vol. 38  
No. 2**

# The Put-in-Bay GAZETTE

**25¢**

## In the News....



ABOVE: Natalie Ontko Price (PIBHS Class of 1994) and her family met up with Suzanne Pattison (PIBHS Class of 1993) in Melbourne, Australia, over Christmas holidays. Suzanne was an exchange student and lived with Patti and Tom Greiner on the island that school year.

### 2nd HGTV Show Filmed on Islands to Air Feb. 18th

For those who missed the first HGTV show featuring Rudy Cooks from Howard Hanna Realty and Bass Island properties on January 28th, there will have another chance to see a second program featuring our islands on February 18th. Last month, we listed a different date and time for the show, but that has changed since then. The new time on that date is 10 p.m. This could be subject to change, too, so keep that in mind.

The HGTV segment can be found on most cable and satellite stations.

### Tech Help

The Put-in-Bay High School's Computer Club will again be sponsoring 'Adult Computer Help Days' this year. We welcome all islanders to come to the school's Computer Lab with the devices that are giving you trouble. We can help with iPads, smart phones, lap tops, and more. The dates are: February 7th, March 7th and April 11th, from 3:15 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Hope to see you there!

### Who's at Your Feeder

Join the Lake Erie Islands Conservancy at the Put-in-Bay Town Hall at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 6th, for a program on Who's at Your Feeder? We will take a look at how to identify common birds that visit or stay on the island in winter and grace our bird feeders. Identification skills will help with the upcoming Great Backyard Bird Count Feb. 16th -19th, and next year's Audubon Christmas bird count. Peterson Feeder Birds books will be for sale that night.

For those who want to participate in another birding citizen science event, the Great Backyard Bird Count is coming up on February 16th -19th. Details can be found at <http://gbbc.birdcount.org/>.

### Next Pancake Breakfast

The Put-in-Bay Volunteer Fire Dept.'s next pancake fundraiser breakfast will take place at the PIB fire station on Sunday morning, Feb. 18th

Come down and enjoy a hardy breakfast meal prepared by the volunteers which will include pancakes, eggs, sausage, orange juice and coffee.

## Winter Fun Best in Years!



TOP LEFT: Ice boating - Tom Thanasiu and Piper Koehler. TOP CENTER: Ice boating - Julene Market and Rich Myers' dog Tug. TOP RIGHT: Ice fishing - Loren Dages. CENTER LEFT: Island hopping - Browns Backer group starting at Tipper's for a trip over the ice to J.F. Walleye's on Middle Bass. CENTER RIGHT: Ice fishing - Marie Schroeder with 12-pound-plus walleye. LOWER LEFT: Island hopping - Middle Bass group at Tipper's after coming across the ice early in January. LOWER RIGHT: Ice skating - Nora and Macy Ladd on the smooth ice in the Back Bay.

## Island loses a treasure!

Robert Alfred "Bob" Schmidt, 97, a man who epitomized the meaning of "islander," passed away on Friday, December 29th, at the Ohio Veterans Home in Sandusky.

Bob was born in Cleveland on August 22nd, 1920. His father, Gustave August Schmidt, was born on Kelleys Island in 1888, and his mother, Emily Fuchs, was the daughter of South Bass Islanders Henry and Caroline Fuchs.

Sadly, Bob's father passed away before Bob was two years old, and his mother, Bob and his two older sisters, Gertrude and Regina, moved back to the island. His mother married Anton Proch and the family lived in the home now owned by Kelly and Martha Faris next to St. Paul's. The couple had two children, John and Mary.

When Anton died, Bob had to drop out of Put-in-Bay School to help support the family. He worked for Miller Boat Line and later moved off the island and was working in Cleveland when World War II broke out.

The day after the attack on Pearl Harbor, Bob enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served on a 173-ft. patrol craft, the PC-477, in the South Pacific, the Solomon Islands and New Guinea. A chief with the rank of CMOMM in the engine room, he met Admiral Nimitz who told him he had started his career in the Navy in an engine room, too.

Bob was fortunate, as he was one of those who could eat anything while those around him were green from seasickness. Some years later, he helped with tales for a book which was written by Art Bell about the ship Bob served on. The book, Peter Charlie: The Cruise of the PC-477, is available on Amazon.

Bob served until November, 1945, and returned to the island to work as a captain for Lee Miller on the ferries. He later married Jane Herold and moved to Cleveland where he worked at his father-in-law's company, Herold Manufacturing, an industrial brush company. The couple had two children, a daughter, Michael, and son, Robert (Dinny). He later worked for Howell Industries.



Bob Schmidt (1920-2017)



Continued on page 2



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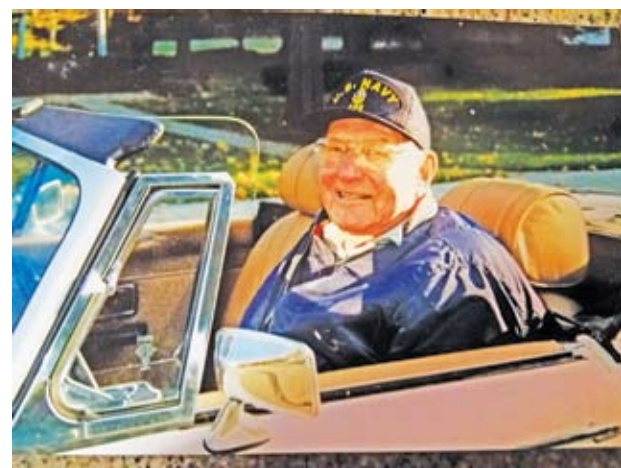


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ABOVE LEFT: Bob Schmidt just before leaving the Navy in 1945. ABOVE RIGHT: Enjoying driving around the island in his MGB island transportation in his nineties.

## Island loses a treasure!

Continued from page 1

After divorcing, Bob returned to the island in the early 1960s and started Bass Island Supply in a small garage behind the Episcopal Church. His knowledge and ability to fix things and do woodwork were perfect in the day when wooden boats had not yet been replaced by fiberglass ones.

In May, 1966, he married Winifred Zawodni and the couple settled in at Back Bay, their beautiful home on the water at the end of Toledo Ave. After Bob sold his business to his employee Bob Glauser, he and Winnie travelled abroad, especially to England where they loved to acquire antiques for their home here on the island. If Winnie saw a chest or table she really liked, but were not for sale, Bob could return to the island and make it for her in his shop.

Bob always had an affinity for boats and ships. He and Winnie were accomplished sailors and enjoyed going out on their sailboat, "Friend." He was Commodore of Put-in-Bay Yacht Club in 1963. He also was a member of the United States Power Squadron and was awarded the "N" Award in 1968 for his work on rewriting its navigation course. He was later awarded the Lifetime "N" an honor which is rarely given.

Bob also served several years on the Put-in-Bay Village Council.

Bob was one of the rare people whose natural abilities took him farther than a formal education. He was woodworker, machinist and carver, all on-the-job skills he learned over the years. Although leaving high school prior to graduation, he continued to learn and he and Winnie were avid readers.

In 1970, Bob completed his high school education and graduated from Put-in-Bay High School along with his son Dinny. Some years later he was commencement speaker at the Put-in-Bay Class of 2013's graduation ceremony at Perry's Monument. Bob was well-entitled to give the graduates plenty of good advice after his years of real-life experience. Unlike at some commencement addresses, there wasn't a person in the audience who wasn't glued to what he had to say.

If you spent any time at all with Bob, you knew him to be a gracious host, a wonderful conversationalist, a master at telling jokes and a raconteur of island stories. His island experiences alone would have made a best seller.

Bob, a devote parishioner of Mother of Sorrows, was the first altar boy when the church was built and was part of the procession from the old Catholic Church on Put-in-Bay Rd. to the new when the change was made in the 1920s. Bob, who attributed his woodworking ability to St. Joseph, made many pieces for the church. He served his last Mass at Mother of Sorrows at age 92.

Billy Market, purchased Bob's iceboat, a DN named "Ice Box," some years ago when Bob could no longer indulge in the sport. Bill recently got the boat back into good shape and tells us it will be renamed "Holy Schmidt," a name Bob would surely have loved.

In his later years, Bob could be seen driving around the island in the little white MGB sports car that he and his stepson Jim had restored. On Memorial Day, you could find him, along with fellow American Legion member Louis Heineman or some of the older veterans at the island cemetery recounting the stories of the island servicemen who were buried there.

Several years ago, Bob took up residence at the Ohio Veterans Home in Sandusky, but would always return to Put-in-Bay to spend time at his island home and visit with island friends.

Survivors include daughter Michael (Carl) Price of Medina, OH; son, Robert Jr. of Petaluma, California, stepsons, Larry (Cathy) Herold, Put-in-Bay, and Jim Zawodni, of Bowling Green, Kentucky, step daughters, Robin Bird and Cathy (Gary) Wickman of Sedro-Woolley, WA; five grandchildren, Chris (Coree) Price, Kate (Dan) Price and Sheri (Eric) Bailey, and Dinny's two children, Tara and Ryan; ten step-grandchildren; and three great-grandsons Gideon, Blake, and Kodah;

An island funeral and reception are planned for later this spring. Funeral arrangements are pending at Neidecker, LeVeck & Crosser Funeral Home & Cremation Service, Port Clinton, Ohio.

Eight bells to you, Bob. The islands will miss you. Fair winds and following seas.

### Village loses court battle over license fees for road use

The Ottawa County Common Pleas Court ruled against the Village imposing a license fee on rental vehicles that was earmarked for the street repair fund.

Judge Bruce Winter's decision hits the Village hard in the pocketbook. The Village will lose revenue of more than \$30,000 a year it collects on the busses, tour trains, taxis, and rental bikes, mopeds and golf carts.

### Nothing yet

There has been no word yet from the State of Ohio Attorney General on the investigation which lead to the Bureau of Criminal Investigation's coming to the island last September with search warrants for several places, including the offices of the Village of Put-in-Bay. Some of the confiscated records, however, have been returned.

## THE PUT-IN-BAY GAZETTE

### EDITOR

Kendra Koehler

### ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Jeff Koehler

### ADVERTISING

Kendra Koehler

### COPY EDITORS

Phoebe Koehler

### GRAPHIC & TECHNICAL CONSULTANTS

Brian Cultice Consulting

### CONTRIBUTORS

Leslie Korenko, Christie Ontko, Woody Widmar, Steve Poe, Larry Schrader, McKenna Stacy, Paul Bolden, Peter Huston, Barry Koehler, Sue Duff and Susan Byrnes - Put-in-Bay Studios

The Put-in-Bay Gazette ISSN #1083-1169 is published monthly by Kendra Larcey Koehler, 414 W. Bayview Ave., Put-in-Bay, OH 43456 and mailed Periodicals Postage Paid at Put-in-Bay, OH 43456 and additional mailing offices. Subscriptions are \$20/year.

Postmaster: Send Address Changes to Put-in-Bay Gazette, P.O. Box 384, Put-in-Bay, OH 43456. Tel. (419) 285-3645 Email pibgazette@frontier.com

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# The Ray Fogg Show

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7	Wed, Key West, FL, 5:30pm @ Sloppy Joe's Bar Corner of Duval and Greene. Twas The Night Before PIB Fest Jam: Ray Fogg, Bob Gatewood, Pat Sheppard and Pete Jarvis together on stage
8	Thu, Key West, FL, 4:45pm @ Sloppy Joe's Bar Corner of Duval and Greene. Put-in-Bay Music Fest
9	Fri, Key West, FL, 4:45pm @ Sloppy Joe's Bar Corner of Duval and Greene. Put-in-Bay Music Fest
10	Sat, Key West, FL, 2:30pm @ Sloppy Joe's Bar
10	Sat, Key West, FL, 7:30pm @ Sloppy Joe's Bar With Bob Gatewood, Put-in-Bay Music Fest
13	Tue, Key West, FL, 4pm @ Rick's, 202 Duval St
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ABOVE: Heidi Ladd recently watched this guy walking by himself across the South Bass Passage from the mainland to the island. He turned back when he got to a spot where it was just open water the day before. He walked the area testing it with a spud bar, smoked a cigarette and then headed back to the mainland. - Photo by Heidi Ladd

## Moss on the Rocks

### Traveling Islanders

Island Club's Paul Jeris, the newest PIB Chamber of Commerce Board Member, just made the Chamber's January meeting in the nick of time. He was on a three-week vacation with stops in Thailand, Cambodia, Singapore, Vietnam, the Maldives and Malaysia. Joan and Roger Rhoad from Cameo Pizza were in Belize and Honduras for a few days. Jill and Steve Cooks from Shore Villas were also in Belize. Kevin Cody flew to Las Vegas on business. Jennifer Yaw was in San Diego and Mike Catey was in Southern California, too, visiting family in Laguna Beach. Ed Gudenas from St. Hazards on Middle Bass was in Gustavia, Guadeloupe. Justin Curtis came to Put-in-Bay with family in January. Also travelling to Put-in-Bay in late January were West Shore summer home owners Raymond and Pati Arth who enjoyed a few days of an island winter in late January.

### Christmas in July Update

We started seeing the social media posts about this year's Christmas in July before the real holiday season. Last year, there were more than two dozen busses that, according to many, brought a crowd whose behavior was questionable to say the least. Many boaters and cottage owners don't come to the island that weekend, plus some islanders even leave the island that weekend. Some unhappy business owners have seen dramatic decreases in business compared to a normal summer weekend. After last year's weekend, the property owners group even met with law enforcement officials to discuss what could be done to curtail the pot smoking, open containers and other unlawful behavior. We're not sure what has been planned to curtail things in 2018, but we did find out that there are at least two companies promoting the Christmas in July trips from Detroit, plus busses also come from other cities. In January, the website for one company showed 992 people going, and there are still six months to go. The coast of trips range from about \$40 to \$100. The trips from Detroit usually start early in the morning and return by about 10 at night. Some of the trips come on Miller Boat Line and others on the Jet Express. Some have their people buy their own ferry tickets and others have the boat fare included. One trip offers \$1 Jello shots, wine shots and Mimosas. One company recommends BYOB and bringing your own cooler (medium or small with wheels or back strap) among other things. A post on Facebook for one tour group says, "Grab all your ratchet friends & friend who you can't take nowhere, this is the trip you wanna be on...."

### Jer Bear & Kurt Ice Fishing Tournament

If you're an ice fisherman, you won't want to miss the Jer Bear & Kurt Ice Fishing Tournament on Friday, February 16th, and Saturday, February 17th. To sign up for fishing, please contact Dan Petro at 419-341-2274 or come to Topsey Turvey's at 5 p.m. on Friday to register. Fishing will take place all day on Saturday, with a weigh in at Topsey Turvey's at 4 p.m. The banquet will be at Tipper's starting at 6 p.m. Again this year, there is a 10-gun raffle. A pre sale for five of those guns going on now. The five guns are a Ruger 556 AR, Kimber 2tone .45 1911, Kimber Micro Carry, 38, Marlin 45/70, and a Walther PPQ. 40. All tickets are \$20 and only 100 for each gun will be sold. There will be a 50/50 and a Chinese Raffle as in the past. If you have a donation for the event, please contact Dan Petro, Lindsay Petro, Barb Rohrbacher, Jeff Rohrbacher, Kiel Rohrbacher or Katie Wertenbach. Here at Put-in-Bay, contact Kayla Johnson at Topsy Turvey's. All proceeds will be going to support the scholarship in Jeremy's and Kurt's names. Think Ice!! Pre-sale tickets are officially available now.

### AmeriCorps Intern for the Island-Please Donate

The Lake Erie Islands Conservancy, Put-in-Bay Township Park District, and Lake Erie Islands Nature and Wildlife Center will be sharing an AmeriCorps intern for the summer to assist with our land preservation and educational programs. We have had great experiences with our interns providing new energy and ideas to our programs in the summer when we are all the busiest. However, it is not without cost, so we are looking for donations toward this expense. If you are interested in donating, contact Lisa Brohl at 419-366-2087, leiconservancy@gmail.com, or sending a check to LEIC, P.O. Box 461, Put-in-Bay, Ohio 43456 with AmeriCorps on the memo line. You may also use our PayPal at www.lakeerieislands-conservancy.org but designate for the AmeriCorps intern program. We have had wonderful interns- Colleen O'Brien, Leah Bilski, Carmen Levand, Jackie Taylor, Chloe Nostrant, Jenna Prahst, and Samantha Newhouse-and wish to continue this program!

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Sat. 3: Firehouse Grill 8:30 PM  
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Sat. 24: Mullarkeys Irish Pub 10 PM  
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### APRIL 2018

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Sat. 28: Sully's Irish Pub  
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## New event coming to PIB in 2018

Tim and Josh Niese are promoting a new event this summer. It's PUT-IN-PLAY CON. It's scheduled for the second weekend in June. We guarantee it will be really different. More details in next month's Gazette.

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## Island Wide Wreaths Across America Ceremony

On Saturday, December 16, 2017, twelve members of the Island community placed 160 wreaths on veteran's graves on South Bass, Middle Bass, and North Bass Islands. Bernie Myers, Jill Cooks, Steve Cooks, Dave Gundlach, Bob Hilt, Barb Chrysler, Sue Duff, Melody Many, Kelly Faris, and Marty Faris place wreaths at Crown Hill and Maple Leaf cemeteries. Jim Roesch placed 16 wreaths at Middle Bass, and Dale Burris placed 9 wreaths on veteran's graves at the North Bass cemetery.

Due to weather, the 10 a.m. Put-in-Bay wreath laying ceremony was delayed until 1 p.m. Griffing Flying Service flew the wreaths to the Islands. We are grateful for their kind participation. The Ottawa County Wreath Committee provided the wreaths.

Each December the national Wreaths Across America has a mission to Remember, Honor, and Teach by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as over 1,200 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea, and abroad.

Before the ceremony at Put-in-Bay, Kelly Faris stressed that the group was not there to "decorate graves," but were there to remember not their deaths, but their lives. "A person dies twice: one when they take their final breath, and later, the last time their name is spoken." Each volunteer who placed a wreath on a veteran's grave was encouraged to say that veteran's name aloud and take a moment to thank them for their service to our country. It's a small act that goes a long way toward keeping the memory of our veterans alive.

In 1992, Morrill Worcester, the owner of a wreath business, had surplus of 5,000 wreaths. He placed them on graves in Arlington National Cemetery and did so quietly for over ten years. National interest in his tribute grew and Wreaths Across America was created. Today the non-profit 501(c)(3) organization continues its mission to Remember, Honor, and Teach.



ABOVE: Among those laying wreaths on the graves of island veterans in December were (top row l to r) are Steve Cooks, Bernie Myers, Bob Hilt and Marty Faris. In the front row (l to r) are Jill Cooks, Dave Gundlach and Barb Chrysler. Photo by Kelly Faris

## Island Diary January 2018

**Mon., Jan. 1st** - While many islanders are just getting up and enjoying a cup of coffee, one of the Crew's Nest workers is out checking the bubblers on the docks to keep the ice from heaving them.

**Tues., Jan. 2nd** - In the morning the temperature is 5 degrees with windspeed at 25 mph out of the southwest. That translates to a windchill of -20 degrees. At 11 a.m., the real temperature was -1.7 degrees. On this date in 2006, air-

line and airboat service were curtailed due to low visibility and lake conditions.

**Wed., Jan. 3rd** - At the beginning of the first Village Council meeting of 2018, Tip Boyles is sworn in as its newest member. Forty-five minutes are spent discussing an ordinance which would permit golf carts to be driven on village streets.

**Thurs., Jan. 4th** - Scott Jackson, owner of the Goat, enjoys his first time ever ice fishing with Pinky Batt. The ice is 8 to 10 inches thick.

**Fri., Jan. 5th** - Put-in-Bay School is closed due to weather conditions. All weekend basketball games are also cancelled. The windchill factor out on the ice is -27 degrees. Barbara Cooper returns to the island after attending the gift show in Atlanta. WPIB's Patrick Myers is airs a one-hour LIVE TV program talking about life on the islands in winter.

**Sat., Jan. 6th** - A Browns Backers group riding ATVs and snowmobiles leaves Tipper's and heads to J.F. Walleye's on Middle Bass shortly after noon to watch game. There are about 50 people from PIB there. Today is the last day of single digit and below zero temperatures for the island. The first snowmobilers from the mainland show up at Tipper's. Long-term forecast for the rest of January is for about normal January temperatures. Tom Thanasiu is attempting to ice boat with Barry and Piper Koehler, but conditions aren't the best. Ice skaters ate on the frozen rink in Squaw Harbor. Mark Wilhelm and his son Doug plant a shanty and report the ice is nearly 16 inches thick.

**Sun., Jan. 7th** - Temperatures are predicted to be in the mid-20s during the day breaking a string of 13 days for readings below 20. The Stonerook brothers, Dale and Sheldon Stonerook come from North Bass to have lunch at Put-in-Bay. Also showing up on the island is a cut down Model A driven all the way from Marblehead.

**Mon., Jan. 8th** - Due to weather conditions, Put-in-Bay School is on a two-

hour delay today and starts at 10 a.m. PIB's firemen are toned out at 10:25 a.m. after a fire sprinkler at Put-in-Bay Resort goes off. Marie Schroeder who runs the kitchen at Hooligans catches a nice 12.2-pound walleye. Brian Roche is Life Flighted off the island.

**Tues., Jan. 9th** - Scott Ferrell is fishing with his brother-in-law Robbie LaPlante. The catch walleye, yellow perch and white bass.

**Wed., Jan. 10th** - Fishermen are starting to pull their shanties due to forecast weather of 23 mph-north wind, freezing rain and sleet. Matt Fuchs and Jeremy Koebel begin with some renovation work at the former Schnoor/Knabusch home on Bayview Ave.

**Thurs., Jan. 11th** - The temperature hits 54 degrees. Up on North Bass Island, Dale Burris spends the morning working on the snow plow getting it ready for the big snow that's coming. Tim and Jeanette Luecke take down their Christmas decorations. The ones around the Gazebo in DeRivera Park also come down.

**Fri., Jan. 12th** The weather changes from rain to snow. The hospitality room opens at 4 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Express in Westlake. where the Put-in-Bay Yacht Club Winter Doldrums party is being held. Gina Trebilcock, this year's Commodore from the West Shore, heads up the fun weekend. Put-in-Bay School's Senior class holds a pizza fundraiser to raise money for their class trip later this spring. There's a rowdy group at Topsy Turvey's! Someone mentioned "The Sheriff" and that the Iott's were on the island.

**Sat., Jan. 13th** - The storm is barely over and the ice fishermen are already replanting their shanties. There's even one lone shanty on the ice off the south side of East Point. There are a few open water holes near where fishing has gone on.

**Sun., Jan. 14th** - It's a beautiful sunny day and islanders are out ice fishing, sledding and snowmobiling. There are several fish shanties between Middle Bass and Ballast Islands.

**Mon., Jan. 15th** - The Put-in-Bay Chamber of Commerce holds its first meeting of 2018 at the Town Hall. It the beginning of Spirit Week at PIB School and students are encouraged to wear school colors. The theme at the library storytime is "Snow."

**Tues., Jan. 16th** - Joan Booker and Judy Berry busy cleaning at Mother of Sorrows church on this snowy morning.

**Wed., Jan. 17th** - If you were on the last Griffing flight off Put-in-Bay heading for the mainland, you would have first had to fly to Middle Bass to drop off the school kids.

**Thurs., Jan. 18th** - Put-in-Bay's Crew's Nest, Boardwalk, The Keys, Chamber of Commerce, Banyan Cove II and the Sun-glass Ladies all have booths at the Cleveland Boat Show starting today through the weekend.

**Fri., Jan. 19th** - Among those flying to Put-in-Bay is Skip Morrisson who will be heading to the Caribbean for a little sailing later in February on a 40-ft. catamaran with his wife, Kim, and other island friends.

**Sat., Jan. 20th** - Rob Hard from the Island Bike Shop and Black Squirrel B&B has an "ice cafe" shanty on the ice off the West Shore and is selling snacks and such to the ice fishermen. Among those enjoying the fun on the ice is Kevin Cody driving his golf cart. Jeff Bykowski catches two walleye and Karen Klein catches a perch. Both the boys and girls Panther basketball teams have a great day. Both teams beat the Woodward Polar Bears in exciting games. Put-in-Bay students hold their homecoming dance in the evening.

**Sun., Jan. 21st** - If you were planning to fly over to the island to attend the PIB Volunteer Fire Dept.'s fundraiser pan-

Continued on page 5

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Jacob Market  
Belinda Barnhill  
Angela Brown  
Matt Miller  
Sophia Marie Schroeder
- 2nd Lisa Wrobbel  
Linda Parker  
Nancy Bane  
Wayne Weber  
Paul Corey Brown  
Antoinette Ware  
Raymond Kowalski III
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- 18th Chris Ladd • Liam Market  
Anne French  
Kristin Altoff
- 19th Don Dunn • Janine Cerny  
Kaitlynn Hilsinger  
Pat Mangas
- 20th Abigail Breier  
Justin Gorski
- 21st Keith Blumensaadt  
Sarah Toole
- 22nd Elizabeth Morrow  
Joan French  
Natalie Fate Pendell  
Jan Bindokas  
Everett Parker Luecke  
Judy Leahy
- 23rd Ken Fox  
Mette Anne Blumensaadt  
Craig Hilsinger  
Tom Greiner  
Troy Ontko  
Dave Washtock  
Jarred Dress • Jake Batt  
Oyu McGlothlin
- 25th Pam Stephens  
Ben Parker
- 26th Connie Drake  
Diana Kartheiser  
John Chervenak  
Max & Stephan Stietz  
Bud Ohlemacher  
Jen Divico Morrow  
Melissa Ohlemacher  
Amanda Ohlemacher  
Sue Zura Moxley  
Marilyn Paselsky  
Michelle O'Donnell
- 28th Katie Carty • Dave Petro  
Joan Kempf  
Isabella James  
John Batt • Hailey Olson
- 29th Elizabeth Snodgrass  
Justin Wilhelm

**ANNIVERSARIES**  
5th Ken & Caryl Fox  
7th Ed & Michele Heineman  
Bob & Andrea Gatewood  
8th John & Carol Rees  
12th Ray & Connie Kowalski  
14th Denny & Sue Hill  
16th Rob & Kelly Mohn  
Jeff & Kendra Koehler  
Karl & Penny Schmidlin  
18th Kelly & Marty Faris  
Bill & Lois Jellison  
28th Don & Connie Nowak

Email your Birthdays & Anniversaries to [pihgazette@frontier.com](mailto:pihgazette@frontier.com)

# Island Diary January 2018

Continued from page 4

sunshine and smooth ice on the Bay. Ice fishermen are bucket fishing off the West Shore. There are no shanties to speak of on the ice.

**Sat., Jan. 27th** - Tom Thanasiu is ice boating on the wet ice in the Bay before rain arrives. for the afternoon.

**Sun., Jan. 28th** - Anyone interested in seeing a national TV show featuring the islands is glued to their sets to watch the HGTV segment which was filmed on the islands last September. Island Realtor Rudy Cooks from Howard Hanna Realty shows a Michigan couple who were married on the island several homes so they can fulfill their hopes of relocating on the islands. The couple wants to find a home with outdoor space and water views on Lake Erie.

**Mon., Jan. 29th** - It's dockmaster Jim Drushel's birthday. On this date in 2011, there was a party on the ice off the Boardwalk. No party this year!

**Tues., Jan. 30th** - The National Honor Society at PIB School is scheduled to meet.

**Wed., Jan. 31st** - PIB School is dismissed at noon so parents and teachers can get together for conferences.

**Wed., Jan. 24th** - The Safety/ Streets and Rules/Ordinances Committees of the Village of Put-in-Bay meet to discuss categorizing various types of vehicles, ATVs, 4-wheelers, golf carts, under-speed vehicles, mini utility trucks, snowmobiles, all-purpose vehicles, etc. PIB Twp Trustees Matt Miller and Eric Engel are in attendance to discuss island-wide under-speed vehicle usage, regulations and inspections. Patrick Myers broadcasts the Put-in-Bay Panther basketball team's away game at St. Joseph Central Catholic High School in Fremont for WPIB.com. PIB Vol. Firemen are training on their airboat after dark on the lake.

**Thurs., Jan. 25th** - Island astronomy expert Gene Zajac presents a "Red Super Blue Moon Program" in the evening at the Town Hall. He explains the different names for moons - Super, Red, Blue, New, Black, etc. The full moon each month has different names. Some are based on Native American names and others on Colonial America. Gene predicts there will be a Blue Moon on January 31st which will cause a total lunar eclipse.

**Fri., Jan. 26th** - The Village Council holds a special meeting to discuss staffing and litigation issues with its solicitor, Susan Anderson, on speakerphone for almost an hour and a half. Three ice boaters take advantage of the mid-40s temperature, bright

## The Return of the Lawrence?

*Editor's Note: This is the fourth in a series about the history of the Perry Group written by Jack Bergan from Victory Ave. If you would like to join the group, please use the form on the lower right of this page.*

The dream of constructing a new Visitor's Center turned out to be a real challenge. We were informed that the U.S. Department of the Interior had a long list of historical sites that were in need of repair. The Washington Monument, the Martin Luther King home in Atlanta, and dozens of others. Our project was around 30th on the list and the Federal budget was strained! With a lot of hard work our friends, Congressmen Paul Gilmore, Ralph Regula, Hon. George Smith, and other influential people we were moved up on the list. We scaled back to a \$3,000,000 project. Perry Group members and sponsors raised \$100,000 and congress agreed to provide the rest of the funds. The Park Service agreed to provide new housing for the rangers and their families, a vast improvement to say the least!

Harold Heidenreich shared another idea he had. He wanted to reconstruct the Lawrence. This was the vessel Commodore Perry sailed into the Battle of Lake Erie before abandoning to the Niagara. Harold, a former industrial arts teacher, had all the tools and talent to undertake this project. The gazebo in the backyard of the Dollar House is a good example of Harold's work. The columns, railings, and all the parts held together with dowels only, he had used no nails. Also, the carriage under the carronade used at the reenactment at the monument grounds. Harold would use island volunteers and especially the Put-in-Bay School children to perform the constructions. The vessel would be moored in front of the Dollar House and open to the public.

It took all I had to con-

vince this gentleman that there was no way we could afford to maintain this vessel. It would take hundreds of thousands of dollars per year. We had to put all our efforts into getting our own visitors center.

### Dedication of the Visitor's Center

On a beautiful sunny afternoon during Historical Weekend in September 2002, we dedicated our very own visitor's center. The building provides ample room for the displaying of artifacts, paintings, a bookstore, and a small theater, a short film provides excellent history of

the battle in this theater. Park rangers are provided on hand to answer any questions the visitors may have. There is a wonderful display of photos showing the construction of the Perry Monument.

Sadly, Harold Heidenreich, Paul Gilmore, and some of our original trustees had passed away. Harold's widow, Ann did a great job as Master of Ceremonies, and the founder of the Lake Erie Islands Historical Society, contributed much to our success! After the ceremony, I placed a snip from the ribbon cutting on Harold's grave at the Maple Leaf Cemetery. I



# THE PERRY GROUP 2018 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership in The Perry Group offers a unique opportunity to work directly with The Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial in supporting its mission and carrying out its educational and peacekeeping goals.

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 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Seaman \_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00 Lieutenant \_\_\_\_\_ \$30.00 Commander \_\_\_\_\_ \$50.00 Captain \_\_\_\_\_ \$100.00  
 Admiral \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Lifetime \_\_\_\_\_ \$1,600.00  
 I am currently a Lifetime Member \_\_\_\_\_ Other Donation \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in becoming more involved in the following:  
 Volunteering \_\_\_\_\_ Fundraising \_\_\_\_\_ Membership \_\_\_\_\_

The Perry Group is a volunteer, non-profit organization working with the National Park Service and the local, national and international community to commemorate the Battle of Lake Erie and celebrate the long-lasting peace between Britain, Canada and The United States.

Please mail your application and check to: The Perry Group, P. O. Box 484, Put-In-Bay, OH 43456

You:  
I need a place to live  
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summer season.

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Let's talk...  
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Christie Ontko:  
[freshwatersensations@yahoo.com](mailto:freshwatersensations@yahoo.com)



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offered a prayer for all his man had done for the Perry Group. Our island is a much better place because of him! Later that afternoon, a rainbow appeared over the Perry Monument. Perhaps this was Harold's way of thanking us.

I wish to thank all who volunteered their time, money, and support over the past

years. You have made a difference! I encourage others to become a member of the Perry Group. Also, make an effort to attend the biannual naturalization ceremony held on July 4th. The next will be in 2019. Take your children and grandchildren to see what becoming a new citizen of the United States is all about!





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## News from St. Paul's St. Paul's Annual Meeting – January 21st

Members of St. Paul's gathered for worship and our Annual Meeting following our worship service. The annual meeting approved the budget for the coming year, elects new officers for the church vestry. Officers of the vestry can serve up to two consecutive three year terms. Then, they take a year off before becoming eligible to serve again. At the Annual Meeting the congregation thanked Kira Hubner for serving on the vestry for the past six years. She served three years as the Senior Warden. The congregation commended her for the myriad activities which occurred in that time frame. She coordinated with a stained glass company for a review and inspection of the windows to ensure they are in good condition. In addition to serving on the vestry, Kira is a regular leader for our Tuesday Afternoon Bible Explorers program. Kira was actively involved in the 200th Diocesan Anniversary Celebration activities which included collecting 39 pounds of pull tabs and planting 200 bulbs at the church.

The Annual meeting also commended Mella Davies our Bicentennial Missioner who ensured the 200 pairs of socks we collected reached a homeless shelter and the 200 x 10 pill bottles from our community reached the Diocesan medical mission in Belize.

## PIBIO - By Peter Huston Who are we?



PETER HUSTON

However, on my dad's side of the family it was much harder to know who we were because my grandfather, Henry Huston, had run away from home in Chicago during prohibition and decided to never divulge our family tree, for reasons only he knew.

So when I took the DNA test it provided me with many revelations. Not only was I more Irish and Western European than I had guessed, but I was also 10% ethnic Jewish heritage. Ten percent is quite significant in terms of identifying members of your tree and ethnic make up.

These well advertised DNA tests, one by "Ancestry.com" and the other called "23 and Me", are building their data base daily which gives us a continually expanding look at our family tree as the data grows. One of the cool aspects of this testing is that after getting your results you can reach out to others that have taken the test that have very similar DNA. These folks often turn out to be second, third and fourth cousins and share common ancestors.

When other people in your family tree take the test, it allows everyone connected to better understand the genetic lineage and key family traits. This once mysterious aspect of our individual genetic make up is what makes us unique and determines specific traits like a nose, hairline, color of the eyes, hair or disposition for medical conditions like

RIGHT: Mella Davies with 200 pairs of socks.



heart disease or diabetes.

These DNA tests point out a more significant fact when you realize that we all are much more diverse and complicated than we might have previously guessed. DNA allows us to identify other ethnic groups like African, Middle Eastern, Latino and Asian in our genetic mix. That's why the way we "present" to others can be quite different from one family member to the next or from one limb of the family tree versus another.

Back in the 1850's when the Irish had started coming to the US in large numbers, they were segregated into impoverished tenements and ghettos and often singled out for being "Identifiably" different due to language, religious affiliation, and other physical attributes. Later this same profiling was used against the Italians, Japanese and the Germans.

Thomas Jefferson, one of the founding fathers and our 3rd president, was a slave owner in Virginia. According to "Monticello.org" (an official Thomas Jefferson website source) Sarah "Sally" Hemings was an enslaved woman of mixed race owned by President Thomas Jefferson. Most historians believe Jefferson was the father of her six children, all born after the death of his wife, Martha Jefferson.

Today there are descendants of Thomas Jefferson that present both "Caucasian" and "African American". DNA tests were conducted that showed that Jefferson Family DNA lineage was evident in both sides of the larger family tree.

For many today when we see a person, regardless of their true ethnicity, we may find ourselves stereotypically classifying that person as part of an ethnic group or culture. But really we are all so complex in our genetic make up these days that observation alone is not a reliable way to identify someone's heritage.

Before DNA testing we might have said that Put-in-Bay was a pretty non-diverse community. The fact is with available DNA testing learning "who we are" is now possible and quite illuminating. What we learn from this is that we really should not assume that any person we meet is all that different from us. We all need to embrace our broad spectrum of diversity and those that visit us here in Put-in-Bay. It's "who we are" now more than ever.

## Bass Islands Audubon Christmas Bird Count

By Lisa Brohl

Each year a band of hardy souls join together on the Lake Erie Islands to take part in the annual Audubon Christmas Bird Count. Some take to the woods and shorelines to count waterfowl, woodpeckers, sparrows, and more while some watched their feeders for winter visitors. This year's event was held Sunday, December 17, 2017 on South Bass, Middle Bass, North Bass, Kelleys, and Pelee Islands counting 39,063 birds of 81 species!

Highlights of this year's count were a surf scoter, long-tailed duck, northern saw whet owl, and chipping sparrow at Kelleys, a snowy owl, eastern phoebe, northern shrike, and western palm warbler at Pelee Island, red-breasted nuthatches on Middle Bass found by Nancy Welter, and the only tufted titmouse on South Bass at Kit Knaser's feeder.

The most numerous bird counted were European Starlings at 16,013 were seen in large flocks feeding on the shoreline or near feeders that day. A good variety of waterfowl were counted including lots of scaup, red-breasted mergansers, common goldeneye, mallards, and Canada geese but numbers were down overall as there were a number of duck hunting boats working the island shorelines that day. On South Bass Island, some feeders were quiet while others were busy-there were pockets of activity in the woods that day. We enjoyed watching many bald eagles on the water or ice in the bay, yellow-rumped warblers looking for insects and spider bits in the eaves of buildings, and woodpeckers feeding on poison ivy berries.

On South Bass Island, Lisa Brohl, Elizabeth Heineman, and Karen Wilhelm, and Richard Gump surveyed the shoreline by car and the woods on foot. Jean Hilt, Ruth Scarpelli, Carmen Trisler, Mary Ann McCann, Brian and Sandy Hovey, Pam and Rosie Stephens, Barb Chrysler, Susan Harrington, Kit Knaser, Sandy and Brian Hovey, Sue Amrine, Gene and Pam Zajac, Russ Brohl, John Ladd, and Michelle Heineman all spent some time watching feeders that day.

On Middle Bass Island, Nancy Welter and Tedi Pertner surveyed the island. On Pelee, participants were Graeme Gibson, Debbie and Fred Billard, Sumiko Onishi, Ron and Lynn Tiessen, Rob Tymstra, Paul Carter, Lori Clancy, Brian and Lisa Kipp, Mat and Alyssa Staples, Grant and Deb Crawford, Patrick Kramer, and Harvey Johnson. On Kelleys Islands Tom and Paula Bartlett, John and Shaun Pogacnik, Jim Smallwood, Tom Behlen, Vera Ioannou, Chris Ashley censused the island while Chuck Herndon, Shelly Stein, Lee and Sandy Tkach watched feeders.


Thanks to John Pogacnik for his work as the Lake Erie Count Circle Compiler and to Tom Bartlett for helping us organize.

For those who want to participate in another birding citizen science event, the Great Backyard Bird Count is coming up on February 16-19. Details can be found at <http://gbbc.birdcount.org/>.

## We'd like to hear from you!

If you would like to comment on things in the Gazette or anything that is happening around the islands, you can email your letters to the editor to [pibgazette@frontier.com](mailto:pibgazette@frontier.com).

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ABOVE: Having fun at St. Paul's are (left to right) Mary Ann Myers, Aaron Hill, Rev. Mary Staley, Jessie Greene, Caleb Kowalski, Lizzy Many, Cody Kowalski, Melody Many (one of the Teen helpers), Meredith Cooper, Alan Many, and Olivia Christensen.



RIGHT: Kira Hubner is shown with her "200 Years" cup she received in gratitude for her recent church activities.

## St. Paul's Episcopal Church News

### St. Paul's Youth Activities

The Youth (6th-12th grades) and the "Bible Explorers (5th and younger) have been busy, even in the extreme cold in January. The Bible Explorers participated in our annual "ugly prayer book" contest. Each year we go on a scavenger hunt in the church to locate the "ugliest" prater boos – the ones with the covers falling off and pages looking worn and torn. Rev. Mary L. Staley is showing the youth how to identify all the prayer books which are more than 40 years old! Most of the oldest books were finalists in the ugly book contest. The youth looked at more than 110 prayers books and found the winners which were retired from active use. New books will be ordered to replace the older ones.

The Bible Explorers focused on two stories from 1st Kings where commander of the Israelite Army learns about following directions. The monthly "Diner Day" where youth come to the church for lunch was January 24th. Our bell choir continues on Thursday at noon with lunch provided to the participants.

Our Youth Group for older members met with the youth from several other nearby churches in late December. The group will gather at Kalahari Feb 2-3 with dozens of youth as well as several hundred adults for the Diocesan Convocation The youth will attend one workshop discussing the Beloved Community, continue to work on plans for the two mission trips being offered and (of course) enjoy the water park.

### St. Paul's holds conversation about racial understanding

St. Paul's invited people from PIB to join in conversation about Racial Understanding and Reconciliation on Sunday, January 7th. This was the first conversation leading us toward awareness and skills that help us identify and undo racism. Additional conversations will take place on the Sundays in Lent at 4 p.m. in St. Paul's Undercroft.

The conversation was guided by Shaunte Rouse from Akron, Amy Huston and Rev. Mary L. Staley who are all part of the Diocese of Ohio's Commission for Racial Understanding (CRU). The mission of the CRU is to work for healing and transformation in ourselves, our church, and society. The commission offers a number of opportunities for Episcopalians and their friends to gather together to have a conversation about Racial Reconciliation. Shaunte Rouse is a higher education professional in Academic Advising and a Ph.D. student in Cultural Foundations at Kent State University. Her academic interest is in rethinking cultural, social, institutional, and systemic inequalities that influenced historic educational policy. Shaunte has a passion for facilitating intergroup dialogue and a love of providing spaces for all voices to be heard. Her visit to Put-in-Bay is a step in her spiritual commitment to growing Beloved Communities

St. Paul's sign proclaims "All Are Welcome" on our sign in front of the church. We invite all island residents and visitors to join us for a dialogue which is inspired by the Episcopal Church's program called "Becoming the Beloved Community. Several church members will attend a weekend conference at Kalahari on Feb 2-3 where Heidi Kim, the Episcopal Church's Staff Officer for Racial Reconciliation, will lead us in exploring Becoming Beloved Community, the Episcopal Church's long-term commitment to racial healing, reconciliation, and justice. Becoming Beloved Community represents not so much a set of programs as a journey, a set of interrelated commitments around which we as Episcopalians may organize our many efforts to respond to racial injustice and grow a community of reconcilers, justice-makers, and healers. It builds around four long-term commitments: 1) Telling the Truth, 2) Proclaiming the Dream, 3) Repairing the Breach, and 4) Practicing the Way of Love. [https://www.episcopalchurch.org/files/becoming\\_beloved\\_community\\_summary.pdf](https://www.episcopalchurch.org/files/becoming_beloved_community_summary.pdf)

"The 78th General Convention of the Episcopal Church did a remarkable thing: the General Convention invited us to ... made a commitment to live into being the Jesus Movement by committing to evangelism and the work of reconciliation — beginning with racial reconciliation ... across the borders and boundaries that divide the human family of God. This is difficult work. But we can do it. It's about listening and sharing. It's about God." ~ Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry

Jesus laid out the fundamentals for any who would follow him when he said, "The first [commandment] of all is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself'" (Mark 12:29-31). The Beloved Community is the body within which we promote the fruits of the spirit and grow to recognize our kinship as people who love God and love the image of God that we find in our neighbors, in ourselves, and in creation. It provides a positive, theologically and biblically based ideal toward which we can grow in love, rather than framing our justice and reconciliation efforts as fundamentally "against" (as in antiracism, anti-oppression, etc.).

The Executive Council of The Episcopal Church (TEC) reaffirmed the importance of ongoing anti-racism training at its meeting in April 2012, stating "The Episcopal Church continues to struggle with a legacy of segregation and racism. The 1990s saw a renewed call for racial equality and cultural diversity. Becoming the Beloved Community, launched in 2017 this is the foundation for current dialogue on Racial Understanding within the Episcopal Church..

"For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us...that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. In Jesus the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God."

~ Ephesians 2

# FEBRUARY | 2018

## PUT-IN-BAY SENIOR CENTER

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p><b>*SPECIAL EVENT*</b> SUN. FEB. 4TH @ 6PM SNACKS &amp; SUPERBOWL TAIL GATE SOCIAL...</p> <p><b>SUPER BOWL</b></p>			<p>1 9 am Aquamotion 12pm Sr. Lunch @Tippers 1pm Mah Jongg 4pm Yoga</p>	<p>2 *Happy Groundhog Day! 8am Aerobic Dance/Walk 9am Strength Training 10am Coffee Social 1pm Bridge</p>
<p>5 8am Aerobic Dance/Walk 9am Strength Training 10am Coffee Social 10am Blood Pressures</p>	<p>6 9 am Aquamotion 4 pm Yoga 7pm Dupl. Bridge</p>	<p>7 8am Aerobic Dance/Walk 9am Strength Training 10am Coffee Social 10am Advisory Board Meeting</p>	<p>8 9 am Aquamotion 12p Sr. Lunch @Tippers 1pm Mah Jongg 4 pm Yoga</p>	<p>9 8am Aerobic Dance/Walk 9am Strength Training 10am Coffee Social 1pm Bridge</p>
<p>12 8am Aerobic Dance/Walk 9am Strength Training 10am Coffee Social 10am Blood Pressures</p>	<p>13 9 am Aquamotion 4 pm Yoga 7pm Dupl. Bridge 6pm Wii Bowling &amp; Snacks</p>	<p>14 8am Aerobic Dance/Walk 9am Strength Training 10am Coffee Social 10am Sr. Ctr Monthly Meeting 11:45 PIB French Class here for Valentine's Day Program</p>	<p>15 9 am Aquamotion 12:00 Legion Lunch 12pm Sr. Lunch @Tippers 1pm Mah Jongg 4pm Yoga</p>	<p>16 8am Aerobic Dance/Walk 9am Strength Training 10am Coffee Social 1pm Bridge</p>
<p>19 <b>PRESIDENT'S DAY</b> 8am Aerobic Dance/Walk 9am Strength Training 10am Coffee Social 10am Blood Pressures</p>	<p>20 9 am Aquamotion 4 pm Yoga 7pm Dupl. Bridge</p>	<p>21 8am Aerobic Dance/Walk 9am Strength Training 10am Coffee Social</p>	<p>22 9 am Aquamotion <b>** 60+ Clinic**</b> 12pm Sr. Lunch @Tippers 1pm Mah Jongg 4pm Yoga</p>	<p>23 8am Aerobic Dance/Walk 9am Strength Training 10am Coffee Social 1pm Bridge 5PM Senior Social at Tippers</p>
<p>26 8am Aerobic Dance/Walk 9am Strength Training 10am Coffee Social 10am Blood Pressures</p>	<p>27 9 am Aquamotion 4 pm Yoga 7pm Dupl. Bridge 6pm Wii Bowling &amp; Snacks</p>	<p>28 8am Aerobic Dance/Walk 9am Strength Training 10am Coffee Social</p>		

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**\*Don't forget to check out this months highlighted "Special Programs/Events"\***



**Island Girl - Back to Maui:**

**“Living Your Dream”** By Christine L. Ontko

“I’m sitting in my ice shanty and my stove is keeping me warm. The sandwich I’ve packed is waiting for me and I’ve cracked open a beer or maybe opened a bottle of Heineman’s

wine on this Saturday afternoon. The fish are biting and I’m reeling them in every few minutes. I’m in heaven,” said the island fisherwoman. This statement could come from any one of my island friends: Missy Kowalski, Loren Dages, or Marie Schroeder.

I love to see their Facebook posts filled with big smiles and even bigger fish. Those ladies are thoroughly enjoying this cold winter with beautiful Lake Erie all iced up. A few years ago, I even ventured out onto that ice and experienced tons of fun with John Dodge and his motley crew. No ice fishing for us, instead we enjoyed four-wheeling and snowmobiling on Lake Erie. I’ve gone ice fishing three times in

my adult life and many times as a child. Although, my dad didn’t particularly enjoy me tagging along and often reminds me of the time I set the minnows free.

Some truly believe if there is a real place called heaven, it will be filled with days of frozen waters, cold, snowy days and lots of ice fishing. I’m not one of them.

Everyone has her own dream. Some think of a life filled with travel. Others wish for money. Bass Islanders often dream of ice covered winters. Dreams are unique, just like the people who envision them. Not everyone has the same one and thank goodness, because can you imagine everyone in the world out on Lake Erie ice fishing? There simply isn’t enough room.

One of my dreams was to move to Hawaii, and so I made it happen. You can make your dreams become a reality, too. Be grateful for how your life is. Look at the things that are right, even though they may feel like tiny little details at first. The cliché “Count your blessings” is a cliché, because it works. Add more things to be grateful for each and every day. Soon, you’ll be beaming with an awesome energy and then the dominoes of life will start to fall perfectly into place. That’s sort of how this Maui thing happened to me.

But, I would never wish my dream on anyone else. Live yours. And, if it happens to be “Move to Maui,” then, I’ll be happy to show you around. But, please don’t ask me to show you around the frozen waters of Lake Erie. Get Shawn Dages or Travis Kowalski to do that for you.



**CHRISTIE ONTKO**



ABOVE: Living their dream in Hawaii recently were Kristin Altoff (PIBHS Class of 1991), Christie Ontko (PIBHS Class of 1991) and Meredith Engel (PIBHS Class of 2017).



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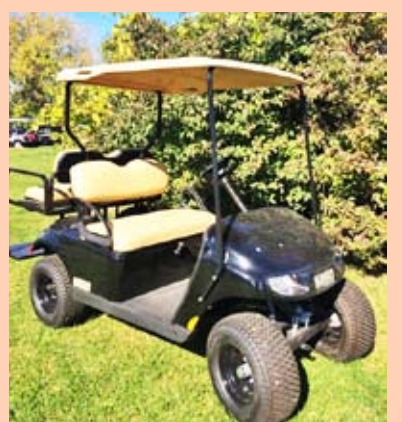
Amber Waite

**Waite Promoted at  
Lake Erie Shores &  
Islands**

Amber Waite has been promoted to Visitor Information Specialist for Lake Erie Shores & Islands. She works in the West Welcome Center in Port Clinton and has served the organization seasonally as a Travel Counselor since 2014.

A Port Clinton native, Waite is a 2013 graduate of Port Clinton High School and 2016 graduate of Bowling Green State University with a Bachelor of Science in Education for Tourism and Event Planning. Waite also works as Events Coordinator at Rocky Point Winery in Marblehead. She has also previously worked at Misty Bay Boutique on Put-in-Bay and has a deep love for the lake, sailing since age 5, fishing, and collecting beach glass in her free time.

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ABOVE: Mother Mary Staley took this photo at the new ramp on the West Shore. The sign reads, "ICE RAMP POSSIBLE DANGER - USE AT YOUR OWN RISK." Sometimes the ramp is very slippery. Our thoughts are that it doesn't make for a very good parking spot.

## Soup of the Day

By Gordy Barr

What is better on an Arctic day than a bowl of soup? It has been cold (ice making weather). In fact, the chill has been so brutal that the United States recently had the largest draw down on natural gas on January 1st, 2018 in a decade. Buy natural gas futures (but get out by March).

I made a heaping pot of Navy Bean soup in mid January on Middle Bass. Aside from being delicious, it is fun to have guests over to enjoy it with you. Randy Pirtle, Gerald Shanley, and Harry Foley were invitees.

Paul Aquilla made Ox tail soup for his visitors. Ox tail makes a hearty stock and a rich broth.

A few days later Gerald made a kettle of Chicken Noodle soup that sustained us for an entire day. It is the give and take of these gatherings that makes Middle Bass such a unique place.

On Pelee Island Kim Gardner was thrilled a few years ago when the McCormack family's bean pot was donated to the historical society. The small kettle belonged to early Pelee settlers and dated back to the late 1700s.

For early island settlers soups and stews were an easy thing to make. The fireplaces had a swing arm that helped the cook regulate heat. The closer the pot was to the fire the more it would boil. Swinging the pot away from the coals allowed the soup stock to simmer.

From a nutrition stand point, most soups are a collection of whatever was available from the larder (meat) and the root cellar (potatoes and vegetables). Soups are an easy way to get vegetables in the diet.

On North Bass there is a tree that was used to hang pigs for cutting and dressing. Smoke houses were common and important part of stocking of the larder to make it through the winter. Pork is the foundation for Split Pea soup and Navy Bean soup. I toss in cut up bacon for sport.

Canning in mason jars also was a staple and their contents were often used in soups and stews. If you ever walked the ice pack from Middle Bass to Put in Bay, it is hard to imagine how productive the soil is on the Islands. In February the ground is frozen solid. What could possibly survive?

Yet it does. Summer gardens are the proof that life goes on. Summer is the parent of soup ingredients that hold off the bite of winter.

### Notes of the Story:

1) Randy Pirtle is a champion storyteller and has a baritone opera voice to deliver even the most mundane tale. There is no "e" in Pirtle. Well, one...

2) To the matter of biscuits, we used Pillsbury Grand's. Biscuits are the spackling

## Officials meet on golf cart & ATV use

Village and Township officials met in January to discuss approving guidelines for operating slow-moving vehicles on island roads. A state law that went into effect more than a year ago requires local government entities to pass approval for golf carts that don't go over 20 mph to be driven on their roads. Neither the Village nor the Township has done that at this point. Older golf carts licensed as motor vehicles already are approved, but newer golf carts which fall under the new law technically cannot be "legally" used on the island yet. One of the hold ups on this legislation was agreeing on what should be on the local inspection form.

It looks like island officials will be mirroring Ohio Revised Code legislation with local legislation which will ban the use of ATVs and similar off-road vehicles on the island roadways from May 1st until October 31st. Kelleys Island does this already. The Village Council and the Township will probably be finalizing this legislation sometime this spring.

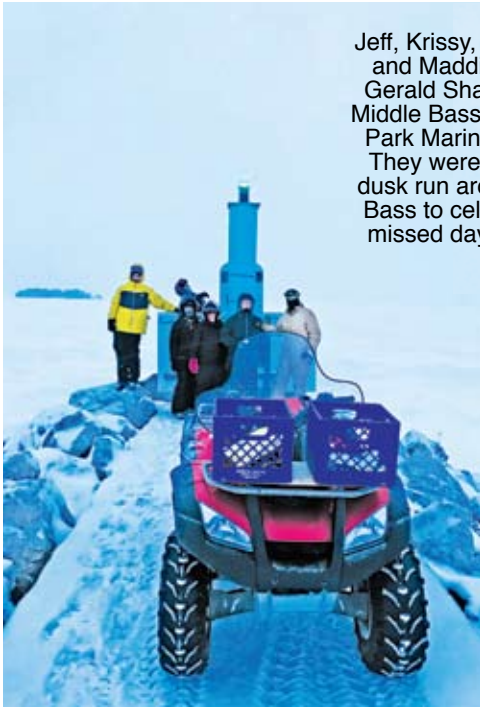
## Homecoming

By McKenna Stacy

On Saturday, January 20th, our school had a homecoming dance. It was themed "Winter Wonderland." The student council planned and decorated for the dance. It was fun listening to the loud music and watching everybody dance! After the dance, we had friends stay the night at our house and it was a lot of fun. We watched movies, and played games. We had about 13 people stay the night at our house. It was packed. I can't wait until next homecoming. The planes didn't fly the next day, and our friends couldn't get back home to the mainland, so they stayed an extra night. I had lots of fun, and I wish that we could do this more often. I am going to have a lot of fun next year!



McKenna Stacy



Jeff, Krissy, Evan, Dillon and Maddie Hart join Gerald Shanley by the Middle Bass Island State Park Marina entrance. They were enjoying a dusk run around Middle Bass to celebrate their missed day of school.

between your ribs to keep out the cold.

3) Lyndell and Mitch Bartles had a few friends over for cocktails including Jeff and Krissy Hart. The Hart family was snowed in and Dillon, Evan and Maddie missed a day of school on the mainland. Martin Dieperink Jr. and Justin Bartles were generous with Lyndell's Cherry bounce.

4) Griffing Air Services did a great job of getting us back and forth to the mainland. They are professionals.

5) Snowmobiles have personalities. They can be overheard in garages throughout the Islands "You ignore me for two years, now you want me to run?! Not going to happen."

6) J & J Sales & Service was able to send over a critically important battery for my snowmobile on Griffing Flying Service. It saved my weekend. My good friend Harry Foley is also my triage mechanic. There isn't anything he can't fix. He is a handy lad in a crisis.

7) We made a trip to Put-in-Bay daily for drinks and sometimes lunch. On our last trip over Gerald and I bought a dozen eggs each. Where are the laying hens when you need them?

8) Lyndell Bartels has copies of the Middle Bass Town Hall Cook Book for sale. They are \$10. I made Barb Norstrant's recipe for onion pie. For some reason I had a lot of onions in the larder. Anything built on a platform of saltines and melted butter has to be good. Instead of scalded milk I scalded some water. I also didn't have and flour, so I used a tablespoon of instant potatoes (from a package dated 2008). All good! Improvisational ingredient sourcing! I bet Scott Jackson and the Goat Team never did that...

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**Adam Bommer & Miranda Riddle**



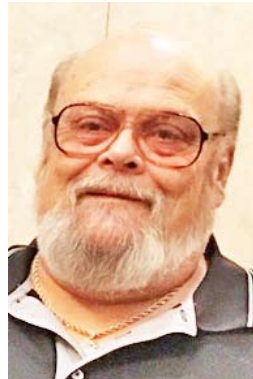
**Denny & Olivia Bryant**



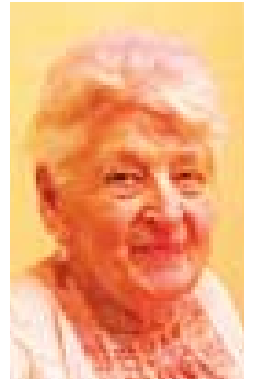
**Andrew & Rachel Mohn**



**Nancy Russell**



**Dave Moore**



**Sara Zimmerman**



**Nick Evers**

# Milestones

## ENGAGED Miranda Riddle & Adam Bommer

PIBHS

Miranda Riddle, PIBHS Class of 2010, became engaged last month to Adam Bommer of Avon Lake, Ohio. Miranda is a 2015 graduate of Ohio University and is currently studying physical therapy assisting. Adam is a 2012 graduate of Georgia Tech and is the infrastructure manager for Fortna. The couple met while Adam worked for Miller Boat Line during the summer. They currently live in Perrysburg, Ohio and are planning a destination wedding in September of 2019.

## MARRIED Denny Bryant & Olivia Yoder

Best wishes to Denny Bryant from Banyan Cove and Olivia Yoder who were married on the beach on Lido Key in Sarasota, FL, on December 30th. Denny is a mechanical engineer and Olivia is an equestrian.

## Andrew Mohn & Rachel Fitzwater

PIBHS

Best wishes Andrew Mohn (PIBHS Class of 2008) and Rachel Sue Fitzwater, a longtime summer visitor and recent summer employee at Pasquale's Cafe, who were married on December 3rd in Las Vegas. Andrew and Rachel purchased a house on Put-in-Bay Rd. and live on the island year round.

## OBITUARIES Nancy Russell

Nancy W. Russell (nee Watters), 82, of East Point, Put-in-Bay, passed away on Saturday, January 13th. Nancy Watters Russell. Nancy was born in Lakewood, Ohio, on June 2nd, 1935, and graduated from Lakewood High School. She attended Ohio Wesleyan University in Delaware, Ohio. She worked at various positions in the Lakewood School System. She was a full time resident of Put-in-Bay for the past 20 years and lived on the property, Watters Edge, that has been in the family since 1906. Nancy loved her gardens and enjoyed entertaining her many family members each summer. She was a member of O.W.L.S. and loved helping out at the Resale Shop. She is survived by her husband Robert; three children, Robert A. (Linda) of San Jose, CA, William L. (Karen), Cathleen N. (John) Domer of Put-in-Bay; 13 grand-

children; 10 great grandchildren; and sister Sally Burson (the late Robert). She was preceded in death by two sons, Bret K. and D. Bruce Russell (Sharon).

## David R. Moore

David Robert Moore, 70, passed away peacefully at Hassett, Michigan surrounded by his loving family on January 12, 2018. Born June 2, 1947 in Cleveland, Ohio, Dave grew up in Detroit, Michigan. Most of his working career was in the metal forming and fastener industry. In his early career he was a production supervisor for Federal Screw Works. In mid career he joined his father's company as a vice president of Armor industries, Inc. in Romulus, Michigan. Later, he became a manufacturing consultant as well as owned and helped his wife, Terri, run Maple Cottage B&B on Put-in-Bay from 1988 to 1991. While at Put-in-Bay, Dave and Terri built the large pole building for Maple Storage (now owned by the Boardwalk). He served on the Village zoning board and was a member of the Put-in-Bay Yacht Club. After moving to Alabama, he worked in sales and supervision for a van conversion company that specialized in handicap conversions. In 1995, after returning to Michigan, David's final career position before retiring was a production supervisor and quality control specialist at Wolherth Corporation in Lansing. David was preceded in death by his parents Robert and Constance Moore. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Teresa (Terri) Kiss, and their son Jeffrey (Debra), Christopher (Gretchen), Matthew and Nicholas (fiancé Jami); grandchildren Whitney Scott (David), Connor G, Cameron Lindsey and Isabelle; great-grandson Jensen Scott; his mother-in-law Mary Kiss; his brother Michael Betty and sister Sheila Lauer (Michael); and many nieces, nephews, cousins and many wonderful friends. David had a keen mind, a "gift of gab" and a great love of the outdoors. Recently, he and his wife restored their third classic Lyman wooden boat, "Wood Rules." He loved the freedom and feel of the wind in his face as he took his boat out in Lake Erie mainly taking it to stay at the Moore family cottage on Ballast Island and visit friends at Put-in-Bay. He was a fifth generation Ballast islander, the great-great grandson of original owner George W. Gardner. Dave loved both the lake and the island. The family wishes to extend their gratitude to all the wonderful people who cared for him at the Fresenius Kidney Dialysis Center in Lansing as well as all his doctors and especially Dr. Joel Cohen (who saved his life three times) and associates at Thoracic Cardiovascular Institute and the caring compassionate nurses and doctors at Sparrow Hospital 3rd Floor CCU. Thank

## Sara Zimmerman

Sara Ethel Zimmerman, formerly of Put-in-Bay, passed away on January 4th in at Stein Hospice in Sandusky, from complications of ALS and heart disease. Sara was born on March 20, 1924, and was given up for adoption. When Sara was 80, she found her biological family. Her actual birth name was Vivian, which fit her to a tee. Sara is also preceded in death by her biological parents, Edward Mateer and Edna Viola (McGregor) Cavalini. Sara was preceded in death by her husband, John Cowdin of Iowa, her adopted parents, Rev. Joseph Alfree Zimmerman and Sarah Edna (Hoot) Zimmerman. Sara is survived by her adoptive family, Cindy Clausen, Kurt (Denise) Clausen, Michael Bogart, Kim (Don) MacAulay, and her favorite family dogs, Ripley, Molly and Yasmine; among several biological cousins. Sara moved around a lot since her dad was a minister. They moved from Dover (now Westlake) to Long Island, N.Y. then graduated from Niagara Falls, N.Y High School. Sara worked on the B-25 bomber as an inspector while attending Ball State Teacher's College in Indiana where she was a member of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority. She first wanted to be a music major, but later changed and graduated with a BS degree in education. She taught 2nd and 4th grades in Indiana, Iowa and later Bay Village, Ohio where she retired after 40 years. Sara's summers were spent working for the Red Cross and volunteering at Lakewood and Fairview Hospital's. In later years, she worked at the museum and resale shop at Put-in-Bay. Sara loved music, traveling and going to musicals!! When the empty nest syndrome hit her adoptive family, the Clausens, Cindy Clausen received a call from Linda Mahony to Cindy to come work at the Bay in her new store, The Bay Gourmet. Sara and Cindy took the job, but got tired of commuting and soon moved to the Bay where they lived for 10 years. After many Life Flights, they decided to move back to the mainland where life became much easier. Sara then commuted for another four years because she loved the people and working in the Butterfly House, Museum and Resale Shop. Everyone knew her by her pink hair, and when it wasn't pink, she was told about it!! Sara was an amazing loving person! The melody of her life lifted us all. Sara always had a song in her heart and a kind word for everyone. Her belief in the goodness of mankind never failed her, and her humility and passion for life was infectious! She spread sunshine everywhere she went and never met a stranger. We were all her children!! Fly high Sara, with LOVE, from all your children!! There will be a celebration of her life in June at Dan Savage's house. Details to follow.

## Nick Evers

Nick G. Evers, 49, of rural St. Johns, MI passed away on Sunday, January 14, 2018, from a snowmobile accident on Manistee Lake, in Kalkaska. Until recently, Nick was a seasonal resident of Fox's Den. Nick was born on April 28, 1968 in Cincinnati, OH, the son of Dan and Mary Nell (Carroll) Evers. He worked as a mechanic for CBRE in Lansing. On December 19, 2008 he married Sandy Doellman in Rising Sun, IN. Nick loved being outdoors, especially hunting, fishing, cross country skiing and snowmobiling. He is survived by his wife Sandra, parents Dan and Mary Evers of Cincinnati, brothers Dan and Mike Evers of Cincinnati, and his faithful companions, his dogs Laddie and Nikki. Burial was at Duplain Cemetery. Memorials may be given to the charity of the donor's choice.

## Samuel Hubner Heineman




**Samuel Heineman**

Samuel Hubner Heineman, loving son of Kira and Dustin, passed away after complications due to Esophageal Atresia, January 9th, 2018 at the Cleveland Clinic. We were blessed to be able to cuddle and love him, only for a short time before he flew away into the arms waiting above us all. He is survived and admired by his parents, Dustin and Kira. Sisters; Elora Hubner, Kate Hubner. Brother, Eli Heineman. Maternal Grandparents; Ed and Paula Hubner. Paternal Grandparents; Edward Heineman, Tammy Jones. Great Grandpa; Louie

Continued on page 11

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# Listen to Larry

by Larry Schrader  
News, views, and comment  
from a South Bass cottager

I'm not sure when it first occurred to me, when the thought first popped into my head, but somehow I felt that I was becoming one-dimensional, single minded, a bit of a dud, almost boring. Since returning from the island for the winter, it seems no matter who I see, - friends, neighbors, relatives, even the kids - the conversation is always the same: How was the summer? When did you close up? How's the cottage? Are you going back for a winter visit? When are you opening? Even with other cottagers, it's the same, cottage news, island events, the weather, the lake, the first ferry, conversations of past summers, plans for the next. And with island friends, it's more of the same - from their wintry bunkers they send pictures of the cottage, the lake, the monument, icy roads and winter landscapes: Are you coming up? Fishing is good! Looks like we might get a break in the weather.

Even "Listen to Larry" takes on a drone, a monotone, like a single-noted symphony - the old oak, the lake, the birds, the weather and waves, creaky bones and cozy reflections, puttering, dawdling, absent-minded; pokey bike rides, the rusty Weber, a messy workbench - like an old Pat Dailey song, it all begins to sound the same!

When I try to change the subject, it seems the conversation always comes back to the bay: Friends and relatives are anxious to set a date for their next visit, firming up the summer calendar before all the prime dates are filled - when is the Music Fest, The Road Races, is the Monument open? Cottage neighbors want to know if you plan to be on the first ferry, who's having the first party, and when you might be available to give them a hand with some stubborn plumbing, warped windows, or some unexpected winter disaster. Even the grandchildren are scheming for more cottage time, hoping they can ditch mainland parents for a couple weeks of island life with Grammy and Papop.

The other day I stopped at the grocery store and ran into an old neighbor I hadn't seen in years: "Hey, do you still have that old cottage? Wow, how long do you stay? When are you going back? What do you do there?" On and on it goes, always more of the same.

I was in a funk, I thought there was something wrong with me - the same questions, the same conversations, over and over and over again. I couldn't get it off my mind. It got so bad, I finally made an appointment with a psychiatrist - certainly, something wasn't right, I need to get straightened out, reprogrammed. "So, why are you here, how can I help you?" he asked.

"Well doctor, its this, I have this little cottage on an island in Lake Erie, and ..."

Before I could even finish, he interrupted, "On an island,

how big is it? How long do you stay? When are you going back? A ferry? How many people live there? What do they do ...?" Again, more of the same, we talked for nearly an hour, all about the island and my cottage life.

"But Doc, don't you understand, this is precisely the problem, it's always about the cottage."

He stopped for a moment and collected himself, perhaps realizing that he had not focused on my problem, the reason for my visit. Finally, he asked, "Well Larry, what else do you do, hobbies, jobs, volunteer?"

"I write."

"Great! That's wonderful, what do you write about?"

"Well Doc, I write a column for the Island newspaper, a column about a cottager and ..."

The psychiatrist nearly jumped off his chair: "Incredible! Every month? Cottage stuff? How ...?"

After another hour, I had entertained the good doctor with tales of Santa, time machines, and mysterious ghosts from long ago; strange dreams, countless sunsets, and precious grandchildren; fishing stories, simple times, lemonade stands, timeless lawn mowers and vintage refrigerators; first ferry's and November tears.

"Don't stop, tell me more! It is so fascinating, unbelievably all just a ferry ride away - it seems like another world!"

I stood up, "Sorry Doc, you just don't get it. This is the problem - it's all about the cottage, don't you understand?" I shuffled out of his office, head down, frustrated, no closer to an answer than I was before.

Driving back home, I kept asking myself, "Why have I become so boring, so one-dimensional? Is there nothing beyond my island life?"

I decided to stop at my favorite park for a walk, perhaps clear my head with some fresh air. I certainly didn't want to talk to anyone. Puttering along the path through the woods, I moved even slower than usual. As I plodded along, my thoughts were interrupted by a gray-haired old man approaching from the opposite direction. He limped along, but probably was moving faster than me, he carried a carved wooden cane in his left hand.

"Hey young fella," he bellowed, "Why so glum? Beautiful day!"

I just nodded and continued to walk. As I passed him, the old man reached out and grabbed my arm. "C'mon, stop for a minute, sit for a while on this bench. I need a break anyway." I sat down next to him. "So, tell me, why the long face?"

I hesitated at first, but finally spoke, "It's this cottage, on an island, out in Lake Erie ... " Before I could finish, he interrupted.

"An island? Lake Erie! Where? How long do you stay? When are you going back? How ...?" He went on and on, like all the others. We sat for hours. He talked, he laughed, I talked even more, the old man listened.

Finally the old man turned and interrupted me in mid-

Wondrously, in 1974, he met and married Thelma Davis, who had had a similar life changing experience.

Thelma came into our lives at a time when we all needed her. We met this woman who was strong, gentle, loving and non judgmental. We immediately saw our father was deeply and madly in love with her and she with him. She was able to help in the healing process after our mother's sudden death. We were thrilled that she was filling a void that was in all of us. She had an inner strength that made us feel loved and secure and she tenderly loved and cared for our father till his last day.

Thelma never wanted to replace our mother and she never tried. She went from having two children to having a gaggle of six more, not to mention the grandchildren and the great grands to come! Thelma accepted us all with open arms and heart.

She wanted to be our friend and she succeeded. She was truly interested in our lives and shared hers with us. We learned of her life adventures in the early 1900s, her tragedies and comic happenings and the people she met along the way. Her friends were many and wide spread, as were her travels.

As the years passed, the people that called her Nana grew in numbers. All would love to visit her for surely there would be some special treat in that old cookie jar and a gourmet dinner to follow. She loved to entertain, whether it was spur of the moment or planned out. Food was a passion for her. A time to create. Her house was filled with objects of art collected on her many travels. Thelma loved to garden and her house reflected that too. Large and small vases would be filled with flowers of all colors and types. She had a flare for incorporating grasses and "weeds" from her yard or the roadside. Going to roadside stands to buy fresh produce was a favorite pastime.

Thelma's strength and beauty will be sorely missed. She has left behind only loving kindness and very wise memories that bring a smile with a tear. God is smiling at Thelma now and she is at peace with all her loved ones. Thank you, Thelma, for being a part of our lives for the past 43 years.

## FYI - BOOMS!

Everyone on the island has been hearing the booms which sound like distant thunder. There was speculation about the ice making the noise.

What is actually happening is that ARES, Inc., a high technology engineering and manufacturing company engaged in weapon systems design, development, manufacturing and testing, is conducting tests of a high caliber weapon. They are located at the Lake Erie Business Park, referred to by many at Camp Perry. Testing will continue for a few weeks.

Fifty years ago and more, islanders were also subject from booms from Camp Perry. They were so strong sometimes that windows would rattle.

sentence, "So what's the problem Larry, boring, one-dimensional - I think not! You love it! As you talked, telling me tales of million-dollar sunsets; hot summer afternoons bobbing in the lake with your grandchildren; sailing, fishing, biking, hiking, puttering; warm fires



Larry Schrader

under the harvest moon - you glowed, your eyes sparkled with excitement, the words came from your heart. You don't need to apologize for the place you love, the place that brings you such happiness, contentment. You have found what so many search for and never find. Settle into that old green chair; dawdle when you want; be absent-minded; putter about. You are a lucky man, you have found your passion, your life. Embrace it, enjoy it - love it."

## Flu Epidemic 2018

I remember suffering the Asian flu in the 1950's so I am quite faithful in getting my annual flu shot.

This year's epidemic is quite devastating. But nothing compared to the "Spanish Flu"

Of 1918. According to PBS American Experience 600,000 died. Some few private family funerals. But many burials were in large pits, no ID's, no services. This was during WWI and troops died by the thousands.

My mother had graduated from nurses training in 1916. She did "private duty" cases. This was 24/7 and included along with care of the sick, all the laundry, cleaning and cooking. On one of these cases, a family member said, we have this brother you might like to meet. Sure enough, Mama met Papa and they were married in 1919.

But I didn't come along till 1929. If it weren't for the flu epidemic I might not be here at all! - Annie Parker

## Island Calendar February 2018

Schedule Subject to Change

TH = Town Hall • Sr Cen = Senior Center • MBI = Middle Bass  
TwpH = Township Hall • MOS = Mother of Sorrows

### FEBRUARY EVENT SCHEDULE

- ☐ SENIOR CENTER CALENDAR • SEE PAGE 7
- ☐ Blood Pressure Day • Mondays 10 - 11a • Senior Center
- ☐ Euchre • Tipper's • Every Wednesday - 7p
- ☐ First National Bank Open • Weds - 9:30a - 3:30p
- ☐ LIBRARY EVENTS • See Article Page 14
- ☐ Chocolate Fest • Feb 4 - 10 to 11:30a • Library
- ☐ Who's at Your Feeder Program • Feb 6 - 7p • TH
- ☐ Put-in-Bay Days in Key West • Feb 7 thru 10
- ☐ Adult Computer Help Day • Feb 7 - 3:15 to 4:15p • School
- ☐ Fastnacht Party • Feb 12 - 7p • Town Hall
- ☐ Jer-Bear & Kurt Ice Fishing Tournament • Feb 16 & 17
- ☐ Pancake Breakfast • Feb 18 - 8:30 - to Noon • Fire Station

### FEBRUARY MEETING SCHEDULE

- ☐ PIB Rec Committee • Feb 5 - 3:30p • School
- ☐ Put-in-Bay Village Council • Feb 7 - 9a • TH
- ☐ Put-in-Bay Village Planning Commission • Feb 7 - 11a • TH
- ☐ PIB Chamber of Commerce • Feb 12 - 1p • Town Hall
- ☐ Village of PIB Tree Commission • Feb 13 - 9:45a • TH
- ☐ PIB Twp Trustees Mtg • Feb 13 - 10a • Twp Hall
- ☐ Park District Meeting • Feb 13 - 10a • TH
- ☐ LEI Chapter Blackswamp Conservancy • Feb 13 - 7p • TH
- ☐ Put-in-Bay Village Council • Feb 14 - 9a • TH
- ☐ Bd of Education • Feb 14 - 12:10p • School
- ☐ American Legion • Feb 15 - 11:45a • Sr Cen
- ☐ Twp Zoning Bd of Appeals • Feb 20 - 7p • Twp Hall
- ☐ Twp Zoning Commission • No Meeting in February
- ☐ PIB Port Authority • No Meeting in February

### FEBRUARY CHURCH SCHEDULES

#### Mother of Sorrows Catholic Church

- ☐ PIB Mass • Sun. 10:30a • Mother of Sorrows
- ☐ PSR/CCD • Tuesdays - 3:30p (None on Feb 27)
- Mary's Rm & Corner Stone Rm
- ☐ Ash Wednesday Mass • Feb 14 - 3p
- ☐ Stations and Adoration • Feb 16 & 23 - 5:30p

#### St. Paul's Episcopal Church

- ☐ Holy Eucharist and Church School • Sunday 10:30a
- ☐ Youth Bible Explorers • Tues - 3:15p • Undercroft
- ☐ Ash Wednesday - Imposition of Ashes • Feb 14 - 12:05p for youth - all welcome (lite lunch for kids) - 5:30p Service for All

#### St. John @ the Bay

- ☐ Services • Sundays Feb 4 & 18 - 3p • Mother of Sorrows

### COMING EVENTS IN MARCH

- ☐ Talent Show • TBA
- ☐ St Patrick's Day at the Bay - Mar 17 MAR24
- ☐ Put In Bay Island Party • Mar 24 - 1p • Tangiers - Akron

### WINTER RECYCLING HOURS

- ☐ Mons & Weds • 8a to 2p • Transfer Station

### MEDICATION DISPOSAL STATION

- ☐ Put-in-Bay's medication disposal container is located in the lobby of the Put-in-Bay Police Department at the Town Hall

### LIBRARY HOURS

- ☐ Mon 10a - 1p • Tues & Thurs 3 - 7p • Wed 10a - 4p
- ☐ Fri Noon to 4p • Sat 10a - Noon / Closed Sundays

Email items for the Island Calendar  
to [pibgazette@frontier.com](mailto:pibgazette@frontier.com)

## Milestones Continued from page 10

Heineman. Memorial services will be held in the spring at Heineman Winery and Crystal Cave accompanied by a tree planting and dedication honoring our sweet little Angel Samuel. We are both so greatly appreciative of the tremendous out pouring of love, help and words from our wonderful island community. This means the world to us in our time of need and has helped us as we continue to heal as days go by.

### Robert Ramsbottom

Robert "Bob" Ramsbottom, 94, of East Point passed away on Friday, January 26th. We will have a full obituary in next month's issue.

### Danny Ahner

Danny Ahner of Kelleys Island and Put-in-Bay, passed away late in Jaunary as the PIB Gazette went to press. There will be a full obituary in next month's issue.

### Thelma Neff

Thelma Davis Neff passed away Dec. 21, 2017, in Upperville, Virginia. She was born in Pleasantville, New Jersey, July 18, 1912. She attended St. Agnes school in College Point, New York. She married Frank L. Davis Dec. 24, 1931, and resided on Long Island. She married Allen H. Neff in June of 1974 and they lived on Put-in-Bay and Florida. She was active in the Eastern Star for 62 years. She enjoyed socializing with friends at the Crew's Nest and the Yacht Club. The island was dear to her heart. She loved having her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren into her home. She liked cooking and entertaining her friends and family. She was loved and admired by all who knew her. Thelma had 8 children, 17 grandchildren, and 22 great grandchildren. The last 10 years, she lived in Upperville, Virginia on the same property with her granddaughter Jill Davis and Jill's son Spencer. She was preceded in death by Frank Davis, son Robert Davis, Allen Neff, and Robert Neff. She is survived by her son Bruce (Sandy) Davis, Pawleys Island, SC; Joan Booker, Put In Bay; Marge Neff, Lakewood; Mary (Mark) Myers, Put In Bay and Bellevue; Laura Neff (Denny Gobert), Seattle WA; Bill (Lisa) Neff, Punta Gorda, FL.



Thelma Neff

## Sweet Memories from your Neff kids

"Each meeting occurs at the precise moment for which it was meant. Usually, when it will have the greatest impact on our lives."

In 1972, the unexpected and abrupt death of our mother, Betty Neff, left our father, Allen, shattered and anxious.



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**Public Notice**  
The Annual Report for the Put-in-Bay Township Park District has been filed with the State of Ohio. The report is available for public inspection.  
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**PIB Township Officials**

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Fiscal Officer/Clerk – Joey Wolf  
Please address all correspondence to Put-in-Bay Township, PO Box 127, Put-in-Bay, Ohio 43456 419-285-2292  
Zoning Commission – Marsha Parker - Chairman, Joe Shull, Dave Washtock, Robert Smith and John B. Fisher  
Zoning Board of Appeals – Greg Auger - Chairman, Mary Ann McCann, Sharon Weisenbach, Cliff Fulton, Eric Booker, David Nostrant and Tom Thanasiu  
Zoning Inspector – Todd Bickley – 419-341-2728  
Assistant Inspector – Laurie Miller – 419-341-4785  
Zoning Secretary – Laurie Miller - 419-341-4785  
Please address all correspondence to Put-in-Bay Township Zoning PO Box 447, Put-in-Bay, Ohio 43456  
Port Authority – Rick Ziebarth, Sharon Gray, Bob Stausmire, Chris Ladd and Secretary: Rosann Keiser  
Please address all correspondence to PORT AUTHORITY PO Box 278, Put-in-Bay, Ohio 43456. Tel. (419) 285-3371  
Website [www.pibtownship.com](http://www.pibtownship.com)

**TAXI DRIVERS WANTED FOR 2018**

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Please call  
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or 216-501-2245

**Special Notice to People on Ice near the PIB Water Plant**

The Village of Put-in-Bay Water Plant has a new water intake assembly. The intake is located approx. 500' to 600' off shore and due east of the Water Plant. The plant is located at the end of Sybil Blvd. The new intake is equipped with an air burst system to clean the intake. The daily air burst will thin the ice above the intake. Beware of thinner than normal ice above the intake.

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# NOTICES • ETC

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## Commander...Ahoy!

### - Do I have to wear a life vest?

by Paul Bolden, Flotilla Commander for the Auxiliary Unit at Coast Guard Station Marblehead



PAUL BOLDEN

I am sometimes asked what is the best life vest (PFD)? My answer is always the same...the one that you'll wear. A simple answer to an important question.

As I walk around the marinas and docks in PIB I am often struck by how few boaters are wearing life jackets including children. I understand how constraining and sometimes uncomfortable PFDs can be, but if you get into the habit of wearing it, it will become second nature after awhile. For those of you (like myself) who are old enough to remember when cars didn't have seat belts will remember how restricting and uncomfortable they were. I bet that you don't give them a second thought now. Your PFD will evolve in the same way.

Basically there are five types of Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs). We will be focusing on PFDs for power and sailing vessels not jet skis and kayaks in this article. Additionally, we will be considering PFDs suitable for the waters around PIB and the islands.

#### Lake Erie is not an inland lake

The United States Coast Guard classifies the Great Lakes as Coastal Waters and not inland lakes. This distinction is important for several reasons including the choice of a life vest (PFD). You should probably think in terms of the Great Lakes as Seas as they are far too vast and too deep to be considered lakes in a colloquial sense.

#### What is Legal?

The United States Coast Guard requires that you have a PFD for each person on board. The PFD must be an U.S. Coast Guard approved type I, II, III, or V in good and serviceable condition as well as the appropriate size. Children 10 years of age or less must wear a PFD on any vessel less than 18 feet in length. PFDs that require inflation (either manual or automatic) must be worn (not stowed) to meet Coast Guard requirements.

While some people may have a different slant on this, if you sail between the islands and/or Canada as well as to neighboring states, my suggestion is that an offshore vest is most appropriate for our waters.

If the big bulkier types of vests are uncomfortable for you, consider purchasing an offshore auto inflatable suspender type PFD. They are thinner and lighter than other vests which make them more comfortable to wear. They have superior buoyancy. And if you are unconscious, they will self-inflate and turn you upright in the water to prevent you from drowning. Important factors for any boater.

Lastly, if you are absolutely opposed to wearing a PFD consider purchasing and donning a waist belt pack PFD. These look like and are worn like fanny packs and it doesn't get less intrusive than that.

The drawbacks are that: If you fall overboard, you have to manually pull the actuation lanyard to inflate the PFD. Then once inflated you must manually place the PFD around your neck which means that this type of PFD is useless if you are unconscious in the water...but something is better than nothing I guess?

For information about serving in the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Contact the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary at 419-379-9000.

Paul Bolden is the commander of Flotilla 091-16-12 at Coast Guard Station Marblehead and is a seasonal resident of PIB.



Offshore Auto Inflatable



Waist Belt PFD

ABOVE: These are photos of some of the newer style, less invasive life preservers which are available for boaters. This time of year, something like this could be used for those venturing out on the ice.

## 73 Years Ago February 1935

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1935

### FISHERMAN HAS NARROW ESCAPE AT PUT-IN BAY

Henry Sampson Carried To Bottom Of Lake When Auto Hits Open Water.

PUT-IN BAY, Jan. 5—(Special)—Henry Sampson, 30, narrowly escaped drowning at seven o'clock last night when his roadster plunged through a wide crack in the lake while he was returning to his home from the fishing grounds near North Bass Island.

Sampson tore off the side curtains as the automobile settled, but his clothing became entangled, and he was unable to release himself until the auto reached bottom in 12 feet of water.

Sampson swam to the surface, and was rescued by Carl Kibby, Put-in Bay, who was following him in another automobile. Sampson was rushed to his home, suffering from exposure.

Steps were taken today to salvage Sampson's car and the 300 pounds of fish that went down with it.

The biggest catch of the season was reported here yesterday, when more than four tons were brought in from the "shanty village." These fish were shipped to Port Clinton by airplane today, and forwarded by truck to Toledo and inland markets. Last week 28,000 pounds of fresh fish were shipped out from Put-in Bay by plane.



## Crazy

### January

by Woody Widmar

On the last Friday of the month I was sitting on my deck Enjoying a warm and sunny afternoon Wondering "What the heck?"

We talk about the weather Knowing there's nothing we can do Just bundle up a little warmer 'Til the Arctic Blast blows through

The ice came in early The shanties went out fast Island hopping on snowmobiles Didn't seem to last

You didn't hear me complain too much No more than anyone else If it got too nasty out I stayed home by myself

With January behind us The winter's half way through I'm quickly running out of time For projects I want to do

February flies by so fast I hope I get them done But until that ferry whistle blows Let's have more winter fun

Happy Valentine's Day Sweetheart !!!!

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## Home & Garden Tour Tickets

Tickets for the Put-in-Bay Garden Club's 2018 Home & Garden Tour will go on sale on June 1st. Check back here then on Facebook or at [www.putinbaygardenclub.com](http://www.putinbaygardenclub.com).

## Put-in-Bay Village Officials

- Village Mayor - Bernard "Mack" McCann
- Village Clerk - Kelly Niese - 419-285-4313
- Village Council Members
- Michael McCann, Jessica Dress, Paula Ladd, Kelly Faris, Jeff Koehler & Tip Boyles
- Village Administrator
- Steve Riddle - 419-285-5112
- Village Planning Commission Members
- Tip Boyles, Mayor McCann & Nick Michael
- Zoning Inspector
- Todd Bickley - 419-341-0882
- Zoning Clerk & Mayor's Court Clerk
- Karen Goaziou 419-285-2443
- Dockmaster for A & C Docks
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## Library News

### What's Happening at Erie Islands Library?

Be sure to come to as many of the great activities in February as you can! Something for all ages!

#### Blind Date with a Book

The first is a new activity we're calling "Blind Date with a Book." To celebrate Valentine's Day, Erie Islands Library is playing match-maker! Going out on a blind date is a lot like opening up a new book...you never know what kind of experience you're going to have. Between February 1st and February 21st, select your "date" from the display of specially wrapped books. Check it out at the circulation desk and then unwrap it when you get home. Hopefully, it's love at first sight!

#### Chocolate Fest

The annual "Chocolate Fest" is returning! Join us Saturday, February 10th to see who will be the Chocolate Champ of Put-in-Bay! Bring your chocolate entries to the library at 10 a.m. Judging of the many delicious chocolate treats of local residents will begin at 10:30 a.m. and last until 11:30 a.m. Donations will be accepted for the Friends of the Library to defray costs of the many programs they sponsor. Don't miss out! Submit your chocolate fudge, chocolate brownies, chocolate cookies or any of your favorite chocolate creations to be crowned the Chocolate Champ!

#### Winter Library Challenge

The other exciting event that is running through April 6th is the Winter Library Challenge. This event is open to all ages. Read books? Read newspapers or magazines? Listen to Playaways or Audio books?

Watch movies? Attend a library program? Keep a log of everything you do in the packet available at the library. Earn raffle tickets for each activity! Three drawings will be held: February 9th, March 9th, and April 6th with \$25 gift cards to Books-A-Million, Amazon or Cinemark for the winner each month. Stop by to get your packet today!

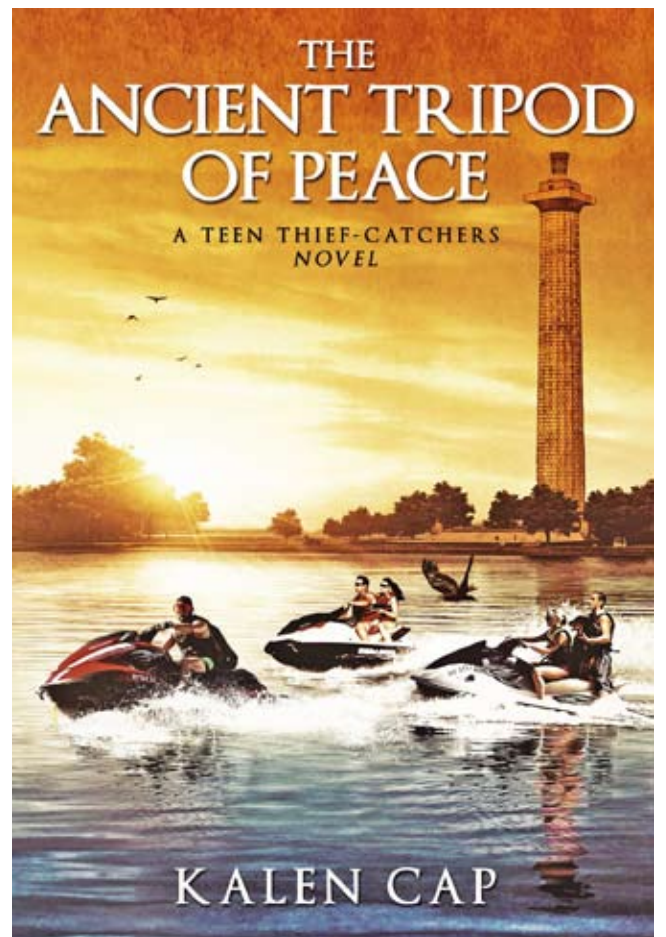
#### Game Night for Kids

Some of our favorite winter programs are also going to be held in February:

Tuesday, February 6th, from 4:30 to 5:15 p.m.: Game Night for Kids. Bring your favorite game to the library to play with friends. Invite your besties to join in the fun!

#### Coloring with Cookies and Coffee

Wednesdays, February 7th and February 21st, at 11 a.m.: Coloring with Cookies and Coffee. Need a break? Come to Erie Islands Library and relax with a cup of coffee while you color your worries away



ABOVE: This new novel, "The Ancient Tripod of Peace," a Teen Thief Catchers Novel, by Kalen Kap takes place in Port Clinton, Marblehead, Catawba Island, Put-in-Bay South Bass Island and Lake Erie, of course. The fictional antiquities museum annex in Marblehead is where theft happens.

with one of our adult coloring books. Visit with friends and neighbors. Invite your own friends to come along! We supply the coloring books and colored pencils (and cookies!). You bring your imagination. Sorry, but this event is intended for adults only.

#### Pre School Story Time

Monday, February 12th, at 10:30 a.m.: Preschool Story Time. Island children and visitors age three and under are invited to attend a Pre School Story Time (with a caregiver) for stories, finger plays, songs and crafts. Pass the word!

#### Teen Movie Night

Tuesday, February 13th, from 5 to 6:45 p.m.: Teen Movie Night. Are you in grades 6 and up? Come to the library for a special movie presentation. Three movies have been chosen and the participants will decide which movie to watch. Enjoy popcorn and beverage provided by the library while you relax.

#### Valentines Day Craft

Wednesday, February 14th., from 11 a.m. to Noon: Let's celebrate Valentine's Day! Join Susan Duff for a unique Valentine's Day craft. This event is for adults only. Special treats along with hot beverages will be served.

#### Movie & Popcorn Night

Thursday, February 15th, from 5 to 6:30 p.m.: Movie and Popcorn Night. This month's feature will be "Despicable Me 3." Join Gru, his girls and the adorable minions as they set out to save the world by capturing a criminal mastermind! Join us to laugh all night long! Popcorn and beverage will be served.

#### Leather Crafts

Tuesday, February 20th, at 4:30 p.m.: Leather Crafts for Teens and Adults. Students in grades 6 through 12 are invited to come to Erie Islands Library to design their own leather wristbands, leather coasters and leather bookmarks. The library will supply the leather products, the stamping tools and dye. New Native American stamps! You will just need to bring your imagination and creativity! This workshop is for grades 6 and up only due to the nature of the activity.

#### EIL Programs Coming Soon:

- Saturday, March 10th: Soup and Chili Cook-Off
  - Tuesday, March 27th: Painting with Brenda
- We are always open to new program ideas. Please stop by and let us know what you'd like to see or do. We can probably make it happen!

## St. John@The Bay News

As always, we invite you to join us at St. John@TheBay Lutheran Mission.

Our small, but devoted community will be gathering on the first and third Sunday afternoons at 3:00 pm. During the Winter months, we will gather around a table, to hear a story. Then, through creative wondering and exploration, we will discover, together, through conversation and prayer, how this story speaks to us ... and connects with our lives.

Here's the schedule for February ...  
 Feb. 4th: "Prayers for a Mother-in-Law" (Mark 1:29-39)  
 Feb. 18th: "What Comes After the Flood?" (Genesis 9:8-17)  
 ALL ARE WELCOME!

## Mother of Sorrows News

Mass this month is scheduled for Sundays, February 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th at 10:30 a.m.

Don't forget to attend the annual Fastnacht Bingo party on Tuesday, February 13th at 7 p.m. at the Town Hall.

February 14th Lent starts Ash Wednesday. Mass with distribution of Ashes will be at 3 P.M.

On Fridays during Lent we have Stations and Adoration at 5:30 p.m. February's are on the 16th and 23rd,

On Tuesday's during February PSR/CCD is held at 3:30 p.m. There will be no PSR/CCD on February 27th. All youth of the Parish are expected from K thru 12th. All sessions are held in Mary's Room and Corner Stone.

Everyone is MOST WELCOME to partake in all Parish Services. Mother of Sorrows is alive and well.

**WATCH HGTV'S "ISLAND LIFE" FEB. 18th AT 10 PM**

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ABOVE: At first PIB Chamber of Commerce meeting of 2018, new president Brad Ohlemacher (right) presented outgoing president Kim Stoiber-Morrisson (left) with a symbolic life ring for Kim's great efforts promoting and rejuvenating the Put-in-Bay Chamber of Commerce.



ABOVE: Tip Boyles, manager at the Park Hotel, was sworn in as PIB Village Council's newest member at the Council meeting in January.



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## Kelleys Island News

by Leslie Korenko  
Weather

It seems all people can talk about is the weather. Just before Christmas, Griffing was unable to fly due to fog, so they brought the mail and freight over on the ferry. We thank them for making Christmas happy. One sure sign of the lake getting ready to freeze is the lake steam, sometimes called sea smoke. The lake gives off her heat in low lying, rolling fog over the water, but the lake froze so fast that we only saw this fog near Cedar Point. Hardly anyone can remember it being this cold or how the temperature changed by 40 degrees in 12 hours. The ferry, which was scheduled to close down on January 7, amended that to December 29, then had to shut down on the 28th. The lake was freezing fast as temperatures plunged into the single digits, making ice as fast as the ferry could break it. The ferryboat's Facebook page has been great at keeping us informed about schedule changes.

### Bringing in the New Year

Closing out the old year had people stopping by the VFW for a New Year's Eve social hour or two, then either going home, to a private party or to the Kelleys Wine Co. which hosted a party and dinner. New Year's Day and a roast pork and sauerkraut pot luck at the VFW started the new year off right. With the lake freezing so fast, and after two years of no fishable ice, ice fishermen quickly got their gear together and were out on 10-12 inches of ice. But that only lasted three days before warm weather, rain and lots of water on the ice drove everyone back to shore. Two days later, the south passage opened up and open water was everywhere. Two days after that and ice fishing was back again with 8-10 inches of ice.

### Keeping Busy

We are keeping busy with ballet classes, exercise, art class and team sports at the school, the library is open three days a week for two hours each day. Sometimes the highlight of our day is just going to the post office to pick up mail. There was no Council meeting in January. The next one will probably be in March after the winter's hiatus. Ah, winter is here.

## Put-in-Bay School News

- by Steve Poe, Superintendent

February 1st marks the 100th day of school! Our elementary teachers have fun math activities planned for this day that the students are sure to enjoy.

This winter's weather has made it challenging for maintaining and sustaining the ice rink. We have experienced sub-zero temperatures followed by temperatures in the 50's. Our kids have gotten to enjoy a few days on the rink and we would like to thank Doug Wilhelm for volunteering his time working on the ice rink.

Basketball Coach Craig Schuffenecker and the Panthers are enjoying another successful season, although a number of games had to be cancelled due to the weather. A complete summary of the basketball season will be in next month's Gazette. The teams finish their season on Saturday, February 3rd. Come cheer on the Panthers!

Winners from our January 23rd Spelling Bee will compete at the annual Ottawa County Spelling Bee on Tuesday, February 6th. Good luck to those students!

Students will match their wits at the annual Science Olympiad on Friday, February 16th. This will be an all-day affair where students will test their knowledge in science related competitions and activities. There will also be a Science Fair in the gymnasium where students will display projects that will be judged by faculty and a panel of community judges. The public is invited to come to the school from 8:30 - 10:30 a.m. to view all the work the students have done. For those adults who would like to be part of the competition, there will be a Pinewood Derby open to the public! A small number of pinewood derby car kits are available for five dollars each. Please contact science teacher, Missi Kowalski, by Wednesday, February 14th to enter.

School will be dismissed at noon on Friday, February 23rd and be followed by our "Winter Break." School will resume on Monday, March 5th.

### Feb. Weather

The weather outlook for February is colder than normal for the island.



Leslie Korenko

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ABOVE: Stone Cove taken with a panoramic lens at the South Bass Island State Park dock. Photo by Barry Koehler

## Senior Center News by Chris Joyce

Boy doesn't time fly by fast ... where did the month of January go? I hope everyone had a wonderful start to the New Year. The PIB Seniors were busy enjoying a "Soup & Show" evening together, and a "Senior Social" at Tipper's in addition to our regularly scheduled activities. Great ice-fishing and other winter fun kept many of the Seniors busy in-between our Center's activities. We have a couple special events planned for February as well: On Feb. 4th, we'll be getting together for a "Snacks & Super Bowl Tailgate," then on Feb. 14th at 1:45 p.m., the Put-in-Bay School French Class will be putting on a Valentine's Day Program

for us, and finally on Friday Feb. 23rd, we'll be enjoying our monthly Senior Social at Tipper's!

Remember during the off season, a "Soup and a Show," "Wii Bowling" or similar activity is added at least once a month but are often not planned far enough in advance to make this publication. Check out the calendars posted at the Senior Center, General Store, Post Office, Twp. Office, Library and our website: [www.PIBseniorcenter.org](http://www.PIBseniorcenter.org) for any extra last-minute activities in February! The Put-in-Bay Senior Center loves to see new faces attending our activities, and we welcome you to stop by & join in the fun anytime!

The wonderful people at the EMS continue to take Blood Pressures every Monday at 10 a.m. This is a great free service they provide, so come in and get yours checked. The "60+ Clinic" is scheduled for Thursday Feb. 22rd. This free health clinic is put on by the Ottawa County Health Dept. for those 60 and older. If you'd like to take advantage of this wonderful program, please call 419-734-6800 to make your appointment.

Our Senior Lunches are served at 12 noon every Thursday at Tipper's. Please make your reservation by 12 p.m. on Wednesday either by signing up at the Senior Center or calling the center at (419) 285-5501. It is important to let Tipper's kitchen know the lunch count by 12 p.m. Wednesday so they can plan accordingly for these delicious and fun senior lunches!

The spirit of volunteering never runs low here at the Senior Center. "Thank You" to all those who go the extra mile to bring in goodies to our special events and coffee hour and also stay to help clean up after activities. Your time and effort is greatly appreciated!

As we enter the heart of the winter season, many here on the island are keeping their fingers crossed that Mother Nature cooperates so we can continue to enjoy some ice fishing and other fun winter sports! Keeping active is vital for both our mental and physical health. If we're moving and it doesn't matter how fast or hard ... whether grocery shopping or ice fishing ... just keep it up and you'll begin to enjoy all the wonderful health benefits that come with being active!! Wishing all a safe winter... Please remember to be extra careful when you venture outside; the ice and ground are harder than they look when your feet slip out from underneath you!

### 14th Annual Music Fest

Make sure you are in Key West for the 14th Annual Put-in-Bay Music Festival from Feb. 7th - Feb. 10th. Ray Fogg, Bob Gatewood, Pat Sheppard and Pete & Wayne among others will be entertaining at Sloppy Joe's. See you there!



ABOVE: For this year's Christmas, Sue Latham put out a yard decoration that belonged to the former owners of her house, Art and Kay Market. Sue house is directly across Catawba Ave. from Mother of Sorrows. The decorations probably haven't seen the light of day in 50 years.

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