

ISLAND GREEN SCENE

Lake Erie Islands Conservancy
Presents



Lake Erie Islands Conservancy Quarterly Newsletter

Summer 2024

Capital Campaign to Raise 1.1 Million for the Acquisition of Duff Vineyards



Photo Credit: Susan Novak Byrnes

The Put-in-Bay Township Park District is excited to announce the beginning of a capital fundraising campaign for the purchase of an 11-acre parcel of property owned by Walt and Sue Duff behind the Duff home on Bayview Ave. Five of these acres are in vineyard. This is the third and final phase of the Duff park property acquisition.

Four generations of the Duff Family have tended this vineyard. For over a century, this property has produced grapes which were sold to local wineries to produce wines unique to the Lake Erie Islands. Most recently, five varieties of grapes have been grown.

The Park District envisions this property as a public farm park with trails, historical grape production, orchard areas, public events involving historical farm activities such



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as grape picking and cider making, nature watching and photography (a bald eagle nest is close), environmental education, habitat improvements, pollinator prairie, and even the potential for a portion of the property to be a wedding/event venue. The capital campaign fundraising goal is \$1.1 million. The property, rich in



Photo: The Reel Bar owners and managers Angela and Andy Christensen (center) and Ray and Laura Fogg (not pictured) donated a generous check to the Lake Erie Islands Conservancy (LEIC) that was earmarked for the Duff Vineyard Capital Campaign Fund. Pictured accepting the donation on behalf of the Conservancy is Lisa Brohl (left) with PIBTPD members Kendra Koehler (right) and Kelly Faris (far right).

Our Mission:

To encourage conservation and Protection of Natural and Agricultural Lands in the Lake Erie Islands for the Benefit of Future Generations.



FUTURE GENERATIONS

Speaking of Future Generations.... Marty Millat enjoying a new Lake Erie Islands Conservancy Sticker. That is quite a smile he has there! Come to an LEIC event and get yours too!

viticulture history with historic farm buildings, will be enjoyed by island residents and visitors alike. This is a rare opportunity to preserve and conserve a working vineyard as a public park on South Bass Island.

Put-in-Bay Township Park District believes that this will be a transformative project for Put-in-Bay...An educational and fun attraction for families, within walking distance of downtown...A place to reconnect with nature and our agricultural heritage...A place for resident and visitor social activities in an extraordinarily beautiful setting.

As the Park District embarks on this capital campaign, there will be different ways to contribute to making this vision become a reality. One way to make a significant contribution is by sponsoring a row of grapes in the vineyard for \$5,000 (Bronze Level), which will be recognized by the installation of a small plaque at the beginning

(Continued on page 16)

Arbor Day 2024—16 and Counting! By Kelly Faris



Photos: Upper Left—Group Photo Upper Right—Group of Put-in-Bay School Students planting Arbor Day tree Lower Left—Image of 1932 US postage Arbor Day stamp Lower Right—Leisl Jackson and Eli Heineman reenact the image of the 1932 US Postage stamp.

On Friday, April 26, the Village of Put-in-Bay celebrated its 16th Arbor Day. Over thirty people participated in the planting of two trees. A Maple Tree was planted by the Tree Commission of the Village; and a Bur Oak was planted by Maxwell Schrimpf, Forester for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. A plaque at that tree reads: "This tree is planted in honor of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources' 75th Anniversary in 2024. The Division of Forestry, one of the oldest formal forestry programs in the nation, works to protect, sustainably manage, and expand Ohio's forested land."

This year the Ohio Department of Natural Resources planted a tree in each of Ohio's 88 counties to recognize this milestone. The Village of Put-in-Bay was honored to be chosen for the Ottawa County tree.

The trees were planted at the Arbor Day site off Langram Avenue, near the Put-in-Bay Post Office. Funding for the annual event is provided by the Council of the Village of Put-in-Bay.

In the sixteen years since its creation by the Village of Put-in-Bay, the Tree Commission has been instrumental in planting more than fifty trees in various locations in the Village and has assisted other organizations in their choice of trees to be planted.



1932 Arbor Day Stamp

A STAMP OF APPROVAL

On April 22, 1932, a two cent stamp was issued by the U.S. Post Office to recognize Arbor Day. This was the 100th anniversary of J. Morton Sterling's birth. Sterling was a native of Detroit and immigrant to Nebraska. He proposed a tree-planting holiday to be called "Arbor Day." The first Arbor Day was April 10, 1872. On that day, more than a million trees were planted in Nebraska.

The stamp was controversial. It was the first time that a living person had been represented on a stamp. It violated the rule that "living persons may not be represented on postage stamps."

The design, however, was approved. It was the first time that living person had been shown on United States postage stamps.

Village of Put-in-Bay Tree Commission. A Put-in-Bay 2024 Arbor Day History Pamphlet was also available

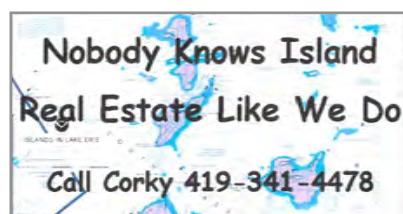
After the planting the young "arborists" enjoyed refreshments and Cameo pizza.

Julius Morton held the first Arbor Day in the United States in Nebraska in 1872, and the Arbor Day celebration continues to grow not only in the United States but also around the world. Today, Arbor Day is celebrated in over 50 countries of the world, from Brazil to Korea, from China to Venezuela. Arbor Day may be the only holiday that looks to the future. Most holidays honor the past.

The Village of Put-in-Bay achieved Tree City USA recognition by the Arbor Day Foundation. The Tree Commission continues to meet the four requirements for the award: a tree board, a tree care ordinance, an annual community forestry budget, and an Arbor Day celebration.

The Arbor Day Foundation is a million member nonprofit conservation and education organization whose mission is to inspire people to plant, nurture, and celebrate trees. Members of the Village of Put-in-Bay Tree Commission are Lisa Brohl, Kelly Faris, and Kendra Koehler.

At the Arbor Day Celebration, the Trees of Put-in-Bay pamphlet was distributed. The pamphlet is a collaborative effort between Put-in-Bay Township Park District and the



Update on the Duff Vineyard Capital Campaign *By Lisa Brohl*



We are happy to report our progress on the Duff Vineyard Capital Campaign of the Lake Erie Islands Conservancy and Put-in-Bay Township Park District. The Put-in-Bay Township Park District received a Gold Level (\$25,000) grant from the Randolph J. And Estelle M Dorn Foundation. Also, thanks to Chris and Kathy North for their Gold Level donation (sponsorship of a row with party and inclusion on commemorative sign) and to Lisa and Mark Berens for their Bronze Level donation (row sponsorship).

Photos: Left—Gold Level Donors Kathy and Chris North with their dog Burleigh; Bronze Level Donors Mark and Lisa Berens

We appreciate the contributions of the following as well Joan Booker, Lisa and Russ Brohl, Candace Carr, Darren Dunning, Janice Williams, and Mike Yako.

Thanks also to Kendra Koehler, Patty Lo Presti, Stacy and Alan Clink, Ken Farber for working the Island wide Garage Sales at Duff Homestead and the home of John and Paula Ladd (see page 13) where we made more than \$1,300 for this campaign. **For details on donating and the designated donation levels, see info box on right.**



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN DONATIONS

If you too would like to make a donation, you can send a check to the Lake Erie Islands Conservancy, PO Box 461, Put-in-Bay, Ohio 43456 with Duff Vineyard on memo line. Or you can use QR code here with a notation "Duff Vineyard" through Give Butter. The Conservancy is a 501c3 nonprofit.

Bronze Level donation of \$5,000 gets you sponsorship of a row of grapes, Silver Level donation of \$10,000 gets you row sponsorship plus ability to host a special party in vineyard. Gold Level donation of \$25,000 includes row sponsorship, party, and inclusion on a permanent donor recognition display on Duff site, Platinum Level donation of \$100,000 includes row sponsorship, party, inclusion on a permanent donor recognition display on Duff site, and a special opportunity to be announced. Questions about donating, please call Lisa Brohl at 419-366-2087 or Kendra Koehler at 419-341-2725.

Pollinator Habitat for the Bass Islands *By Lisa Brohl*

The USFWS and the Lake Erie Islands Conservancy moved forward with their plan for pollinator habitat on the Bass Islands. Jeff Finn, private lands biologist with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service at Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge and contractor Bob Wilbur visited three sites on South Bass in early May for estimates on the work.

Three South Bass owners have signed contracts to have pollinator plantings on their property.

Treatments were started and the native grass and wildflower seed has been ordered. The sites will have signage with "Pollinator Habitat in Progress." One site is on public property at the Duff Homestead and Bayfront Preserve. A walking path will be maintained around the two acre



Photo: Jeff Finn of USFWS and Bob Wilbur of RW Contracting reviewing one of the sites for the pollinator habitats

field that is being converted to pollinator habitat. They will visit two sites on Middle Bass soon. The work is being funded by a grant from the USFWS to the Lake Erie Islands Conservancy to provide habitat for the rusty-patched bumblebee and other pollinators.

Back to the Wild Visit

2024 *By Lisa Brohl*

Twenty nine folks enjoyed the Back to the Wild presentation on May 8 at the Put-in-Bay Town Hall. Employees Gabrielle Coley and Jordan Prosser had lots of show and tell for all with the raptors, owls, snakes, and turtles. Thanks to the Put-in-Bay Recreation Committee, the Lake Erie Islands Nature and Wildlife Center, Miller Boat Line and the Lake Erie islands Conservancy for sponsoring the event. Check out www.backtothewild.org to see all the good works that Back to the Wild does. They have always helped us here on the islands with our injured wildlife.



Photo: Gabby Coley shows beautiful raptors



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Garlic Mustard Challenge 2024 By Lisa Brohl

We had 1,313 lbs. pulled at Coopers Woods and SBI State Park at this years Garlic Mustard Challenge on May 4, 2024 from 9:00am-12:00pm. EnviroScience Employees Michael Marefka, Nora Gallagher, Eric Hirsch, and Ryan Peetz were on hand to help weigh and dispose of the garlic mustard.

Michael Pucak, Paul and Laura Golaszewski, and Ron Laudenslager pulled 381.19 lbs. from the South Bass Island State Park that were included in this total. Thanks to the South Bass Island State Park manager Michael Pucak. for helping us with the disposal of the garlic mustard.

Susan Byrnes (110.6lbs), Sally Stuckey, Roger Parker, Caroline, Liesl, and Cal Jackson, Susan Ferguson, Olive Scherf, Brian(103 lbs.) and Amy Alford (80lbs), Mike Berens(79.2 lbs.), Lisa Brohl, and Jessie Greene all came and pulled to help us reach our total. All received prizes for their hard work.

We came in second place this year with Stark Parks just surpassing us with 1,441 lbs. We did beat the City of Green at 600 lbs. and Portage Parks at 41 lbs.

Prizes were collected by Put-in-Bay Township Park District commissioner Kendra Koehler and were distributed by Jeff Koehler including flowers, herbs, Cameo pizza certificate and other prizes.

Thanks to all who came out and helped. It does make a difference-we can all enjoy the appendaged waterleaf bloom where we have been pulling in the woods.

It was however one of the worst years ever for our preserve with garlic mustard-the abundant rain and early warm weather made it bolt straight up and flower early!!! We will have to be very vigilant and work on new strategies to get ahead of this invader.



Photos: Clockwise from Top Left—Nora Gallagher of EnviroScience, Lisa Brohl, SBI State Park Manager Michael Pucak, Paul Golaszewski, and Ron Laudenslager; Liesl and Cal Jackson—youngest participants; Caroline Koehler Jackson; Seasoned Volunteer Susan Ferguson; Sally Stuckey; Kendra Koehler, Mike Marefka, Nora Gallagher, Eric Hirsch, and Ryan Peetz; Conservancy Board Member Brian Alford; Mark Berens; Past champion Susan Byrnes; Olive Scherf came over from Middle Bass to pull; Jessie Greene; Friends of Cooper's Woods founder Roger Parker; LEINWC President Amy Alford



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"ALL THINGS WILD AND THEN SOME"



Earth Day Island Style!

By Lisa Brohl

The LEIC and PIBTPD sponsored a Fun Walk for Earth Day April 22, 2024 at the Cooper's Woods Preserve. Participants could walk a one mile course or walk a 2.5 mile course through Cooper's Woods and then Benjamin Woods and finally on to Dodge Woods Preserve. Upon completion each participant was given a water bottle from LEINWC as well as a specially decorated Earth Day cookie made by Sandy Funtal. About 30 participants came out to walk the woods and enjoy the spring wildflowers!



Photos: Clockwise from top left—Sandy Funtal with Earth Day Cookies; Variety of Earth Day Cookies from Sandy Funtal; PIBTPD Treasurer Courtney and daughter Nora Blumensaadt at Earth Day; Young Earth Day walkers enjoying refreshments: Emily Beal, Kendra Koehler, Renee Fultz, Lisa Brohl at Cooper's Woods; Emily Beal, Kendra Koehler, Renee Fultz, Lisa Brohl at Cooper's Woods; Teddi and Phoebe Koehler; Fun Walk guests enjoying the day: Emily Beal, Bonnie Lukcso and grandson Thomas Lukcso, Kendra Koehler Inset—**Lily's the youngest guest by far!**

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Earth Day with the Erie MetroParks at Osborn Park

By Lisa Brohl



Photos: Former LEINWC Education Director Martyn Drabik-Hamshire now at Erie Metroparks; Hayley Rinearson of LEINWC and Patty Lo Presti of LEIC braving the April cold to spread the word at Earth Day Celebration

Hayley Rinearson of the Lake Erie Islands Nature and Wildlife Center and Patty Lo Presti and Lisa Brohl of the Lake Erie Islands Conservancy shared a table at the Earth Day Celebration at Osborn Park in April. Both organizations had give aways for the many people that visited the event.

The event sponsored by the Erie MetroParks was well attended with lots of vendors, food trucks, and educational activities. It was a great place to get the word out about the LEINWC and LEIC.

Native Plant and Tree Sale

By Lisa Brohl



Photos: Top Row—Ken Farber delivering trees for Native Plant and Tree Sale; Ken Farber delivering trees for Native Plant and Tree Sale. Bottom Row—Chris Machinski delivering plants raised by her son Chad; Mike Yako and Darren Dunning pick up their order

We wish to thank Riverside Native Trees and Perennials, Natives in Harmony, QRST, Thin Places, and Chad Machinski for working with us to offer quality native plants and trees to the islands. Thanks also to Ken and Cameron Farber who helped deliver both to the island for us this year. And thanks to all who ordered plants and trees to make the island a better place for wildlife. We still have a few left to sell, contact Lisa Brohl to purchase or visit the Lake Erie Islands Nature and Wildlife Center to buy.

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Natural History By Lisa Brohl

There are only a few sightings of Whimbrels each year in Ohio. Usually these records come from near Lake Erie. The last week in May is prime time for Whimbrel migration.

The Lake Erie Islands aren't known for their shorebird migration but maybe they pass through more than we think?

Enjoy these photos from Mark Rhodes of Ballast Island. The whimbrels were seen and photographed on May 18, 2024 looking toward Middle Bass island.



Here is a photo from Elizabeth Heineman of the existing bald eagle's nest on the Duff property. It appears that there is one nestling so far.

Enjoy these photos taken by Elizabeth Heineman of the new bald eagles nest on the Sneller property on the east side of South Bass Island. Looks like there are two young in the nest.



This red-headed woodpecker showed up at Mary Ann McCann's feeder this spring



Duff Woods Preserve by Michelle O'Donnell



Galaxy S20 FE 5G
March 15, 2024 1:42 PM



Serviceberry at the Village Tree Commission site in bloom this spring



White Pelican off Gibraltar Island this spring by Elizabeth Heineman

White Pelicans this spring at West Sister Island-photo by Elizabeth Heineman



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It Isn't About the Honey, Honey! By Mimi Gorman



Photo: Closeup on a white-tailed bumblebee, *Bombus lucorum*, male on a pink *Eupatorium* flower

A bumblebee flies with hasty intent from flower to flower aided by two pairs of wings and five eyes. Collecting pollen and nectar for survival, bumblebees serve as unintentional yet prodigious pollinators of gardens and fields. They sport yellow and black hairs over most of their body and a few species have brown, red, or white accents. The family is Apidae and its genus is *Bombus*.

Don't be fooled by the look-a-likes. Disregard the shiny abdomen of carpenter bees, the fluorescent colored sweat bee, and any insect flying around with a thick mass of pollen on its belly (maybe a bee but not *Bombus*). And ignore the hairless yellow and black mimicker with eyes that make up the majority of its head where short antennae protrude. These are flies not bumblebees.

Before her winter hibernation, a queen bee will mate with one male. All the males and female workers will die and the queen bumblebee hibernates alone throughout winter. In spring she emerges and ventures with little discretion, deep into whatever flowers are blooming to consume its nectar. This is not to

make honey, like the honeybees but for quick energy following her winter rest. After finding a suitable nest site, perhaps an abandoned rodent burrow or rock crevice, she makes a wax honeypot to store nectar for her larvae to consume later. Then she lays her first eggs on top of nectar-moistened pollen in a tiny cup of wax which she secretes. The

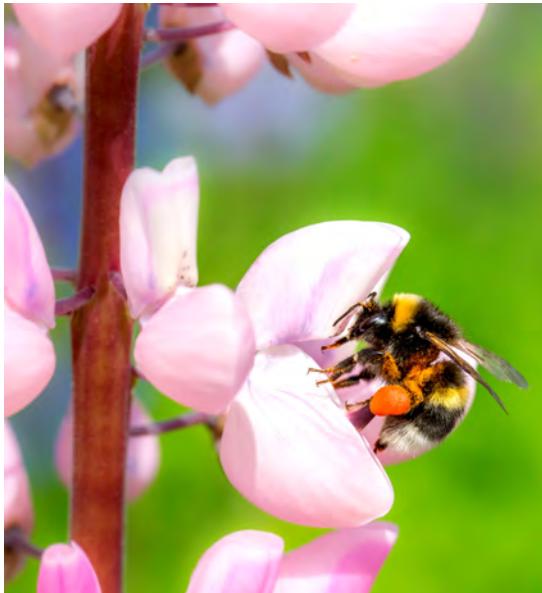


Photo: Bumblebee showing filled pollen pockets

emerging larvae will feast upon the deposits of nectar and pollen which she has left for them. After her first brood hatches, she lays another brood and this time it is the worker females from the first brood that forage for nectar and pollen which is brought back to the nest.

Female bumblebees are easily spotted by the pollen pockets which adorn the hind legs of these flora foragers. As the pockets grow heavy their hind legs hang down in flight, making them easy to differentiate from mimickers and male bumblebees who do not actively collect or eat pollen. A male bumblebee survives only on nectar and its sole purpose is to mate with a queen.

The worker honeybee is the only other bee that collects pollen and packs it into a concave pocket, called the corbicula. If confused by a flying pollen pocket, color, shape, and hair distribution should help differentiate a honeybee from the bumblebee.

As autumn turns to winter and the queen bumblebee has mated, she heads underground to hibernate, and the other bumblebees will die. The cycle begins again when the earth warms and early blossoms offer sweet nectar.

make honey, like the honeybees but for quick energy following her winter rest.

After finding a suitable nest site, perhaps an abandoned rodent burrow or rock crevice, she makes a wax honeypot to store nectar for her larvae to consume later. Then she lays her first eggs on top of nectar-moistened pollen in a tiny cup of wax which she secretes. The

Stewardship for our Preserves By Lisa Brohl and Brian Alford

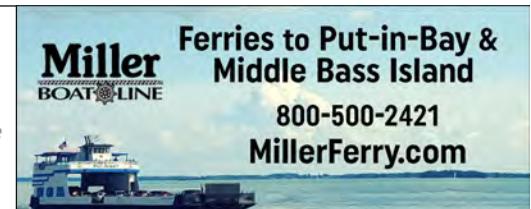
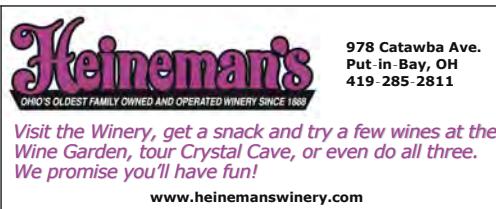
The Lake Erie Islands Conservancy is always excited to preserve another piece of island habitat for all to enjoy! Now it is not enough to purchase a property and set it aside—the Conservancy must make sure there are no harmful incursions from neighbors or visitors. Control of invasive plants, shoreline erosion, downed trees, etc. all need attention.

That is where the LEIC Stewardship Fund comes in. It is there to help monitor and manage properties. Currently, we have volunteers that walk

preserves once a year to make sure that neighbors or the public have not thrown garbage or cut down trees in the preserves. As the preserves grow in acreage, we will need to provide equipment and personnel to make it easier to monitor. The Stewardship Fund enables the LEIC to hire professional help in removing invasive plants, planting natives, and policing the preserves so that these natural areas remain clean and respected by the public. The LEIC is no longer in a position, based solely on volunteer effort, to efficiently monitor and manage current and future preserves.

In some cases, the Conservancy has utilized a mix of volunteers and contracted environmental professionals to remove invasive garlic mustard, amur honeysuckle, and others, that plague our preserves. LEIC often provides a dumpster and supplies for the Garlic Mustard Challenge and typically has a good group of volunteers each year that turn out to help with it. Of particular note, the Conservancy will have EnviroScience remove the amur honeysuckle at the Massie Cliffside Preserve this fall. Cutting it and applying herbicide at the cut end during fall draws the herbicide down into the roots to kill the tree. It is easy to have professionals, but that comes at significant cost. \$12,000 is needed to remove the honeysuckle and other invasives from the 11 acres there. It is worth the investment to make sure that our forests are viable natural habitat for a wide range of species that depend on them for food and shelter.

Donations to the Stewardship Fund will become increasingly important as we continue to secure more preserves. By donating to the LEIC Stewardship Fund, you can play a pivotal role in managing natural resources so that they may wild and invasive-free landscapes now and in the future.



Ohio Museum Association Visit *By Lisa Brohl*

The Ohio Museum Association visited the island on April 13 as part of their annual convention in Sandusky, Ohio this year. They went to the Lake Erie Islands Historical Society, Perry's Victory and IPM, and the Lake Erie Islands Nature and Wildlife Center in addition to visiting our work in progress the Duff Homestead and Bayfront Preserve. Put-in-Bay Township Park District commissioners Kelly Faris, Kendra Koehler and Lisa Brohl led the participants on a tour of the Duff Home (future office and visitor center), the outbuildings and the adjacent vineyard we hope to protect. We received many good suggestions for our future from the visitors who all run museums from all over the state of Ohio. It was good experience to see how a bus load of visitors would fit—we are thinking of our traffic flow layout for preserve as a result. Thanks to Johnna McEntee, Executive Director of OMA and to LEINWC director Renee Fultz for coordinating the visit!



Photos: Top Left—Tom Babinzski and Ashley Aldrich Top Right—Kelly Faris with first bus tour for Duff Homestead Below from Top—PIBTPD Chair Kelly Faris with Lisa Holly and Theresa Melton; Jason Crabill, Johnna McEntee, and Jenn Laqualia; Emily Pajak-Stenger and Asja Bard



Tax Levy – November 2024

Stacey Clink, Treasurer and Chair of Friends of Put-in-Bay Township Park District

The Put-in-Bay Township Park District has announced that it will place a 1 mill, 10-year levy on the November 5, 2024, ballot.

The purpose of the levy is twofold: it will enable the Park District to supplement revenue needed to purchase the 11-acre Duff vineyard, and the levy will provide funds for the continued maintenance of the vineyard and present sites.

The 1 mill levy equates to \$35.00 per year for each \$100,000 of taxable property value, which is less than \$3.00 per month. This figure does not take into account any credits for which the property owner may be eligible – homestead exemption, non-business deduction, and owner occupied credit, etc.

The Park District has received funding from grants and donations, and this revenue has been vital to the preservation of beautiful natural lands. Unfortunately, grants and donations are not a guaranteed stream of revenue. Grants are usually competitive, for a specific purpose, and generally require a portion of local matching funds.

Lisa Brohl, Chief Executive Officer of the Park District, stated, “The Park District would like to acquire the Duff vineyard property and maintain it as an historical site, explaining through signage, exhibits, and demonstrations the importance of grapes to the Island culture.”

The purchase of the Duff vineyard would be the completion of a three-part vision. The Duff Woods and the Duff Homestead have already been acquired. The cost of the Duff vineyard is \$1,100,000.00.

Since 2006, your Park District has protected lands that are ecologically and environmentally sensitive. Passage of this levy will help to continue the conservation of natural lands and agricultural lands in the Lake Erie Islands.

The Park District, as a government entity, is not permitted to spend revenue to support this levy. Under the auspices of the Ottawa County Board of Elections, the Friends of Put-in-Bay Park District Political Action Committee (PAC) has been formed. The PAC will raise funds through contributions to support the campaign and create awareness. Mailers, yard signs and other media may be used to encourage voters of Put-in-Bay Township to support this levy. We need your help to purchase this historic vineyard and continue to maintain our existing preserves.

Donations to the campaign are welcome.

Friends of Put-in-Bay Park District
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Middle Bass Music Fest 2024

The Lake Erie Island Conservancy is excited to host the 2024 Middle Bass Island Music Festival on July 13th at the historic Lonz's Winery, noon to 7:00 PM. Not only will you be entertained by four talented bands, but there is also an Arts Tent where adults can create works of art working alongside local artists. There will also be a Kids Rock Arts area, where the young artists can create masterpieces from local materials. This year, Truckin Trav and Gess Who Tacos food trucks will be on-site, along with delights from the Island Grind. Stop by for a smash burger, perch tacos or specialty coffee and desserts. Back again by popular demand, on tap will be Twin Oast Brewing and iconic island wines by Heineman's. This year's marketplace will be filled with local vendors, selling everything from clothing to crafts to homemade jellies and island honey.

Lake Erie Island Conservancy can host this free admission event because of the support of our wonderful sponsors, including: The Middle Bass Dock Company, The Island Grind, The Ohio Arts Council, Shores&Islands Ohio and Dark Side Operations.

If you would like to volunteer, have a spot in our marketplace or would like to be a sponsor for the 2024 Middle Bass Island Music Fest, please contact ckerkay@hotmail.com.

2024 Band Line-up:

The **NORTH COAST GOATS** (<https://www.facebook.com/northcoastgoats/>) lead off again with their #goatsrock blend of old-time rock 'n' roll, classic rock and Motown hits from the 60s, 70s & 80s – and you know they will not disappoint!

Tip of the cowboy hat to our music meister Bruce. He found a real Texas tornado in **TALL PAUL & the WESTERN DRAWL** They celebrate the spirit of dance hall Western Swing music, playing roadhouse standards, along with cowboy songs and ballads. It's pure uptown fun with a Texas drawl. Tall Paul & Western Drawl, honoring the swing tradition but with modern musical twang.

(<https://www.facebook.com/TallPaulWesternDrawl/>)

Third up this year at the MBI Music Fest is Cleveland blues rock favorite, award winning, harmonica driven, blues based, roots, rock and soul music stylings of **COLIN DUSSAULT'S BLUES PROJECT**. The band was formed in Cleveland, Ohio in May of 1989 by lead singer, songwriter, harmonica player Colin Dussault. In addition to Dussault, the [band's current lineup](#) consists of guitarist Jim Feeney, bassist John Atzberger, pianist Brent Lane and drummer Steve Zavesky. (www.colindussault.com)

DRY REEF-This year's featured island groove band will take you away to the warm breezes and summer days on the beach. A chaotic blend of summer sounds - playful melodies, bubbling harmonies and bright, refreshing instrumentals. Like that first smell of lake air as you ferry to Middle Bass on a Friday afternoon.

(www.dryreefband.com and <https://www.facebook.com/Dry.Reef/>)

SATURDAY JULY 13, 2024 • NOON TO 7 PM

MIDDLE BASS MUSIC FEST

• COLIN DUSSAULT'S BLUES PROJECT •
• NORTH COAST GOATS •
• TALL PAUL & WESTERN DRAWL •
• DRY REEF •

FREE ADMISSION
ART TENT
LOCAL VENDORS



MIDDLE BASS MUSIC FEST
Lake Erie Islands Conservancy

Scan for more information or to
make a donation to the Lake Erie
Islands Conservancy. All festival
proceeds benefit the Conservancy.



2024 Middle Bass Island Music Festival Art Tent:

You create visual art in the Art Tent, but this year we are featuring four experienced artists at each table to inspire you! These 15-45 minute take home art projects are free for adults. There will also be one child's art table. The adult artists featured are:

Lisa Shea, art therapist at the Cleveland Clinic plans to offer sea glass bracelet making. She strives to encourage people to make art to reap the benefits of being totally absorbed in the moment. She believes it is critical that we protect the environment to preserve the habitat for all of the amazing creatures we share this planet with, as well as for ourselves and future generations.



Lynne Smith will show you how to make a flower-themed pumpkin. She attended the Art Institute of Pittsburgh and makes collages on commission, lynnesmith1141@gmail.com.



Nike Mendenhall will lead you in painting a small watercolor. With a Bachelors of Fine Arts, she was a founding member of The Group, a local plein air painters. Nike believes everyone can create beauty. "All art is but imitation of nature," (Seneca the Younger)



Johnny Hill is a leader in the Port Clinton Artists' Club. He has exhibited his textile creations, particularly his designs of rug hooking. He will guide you in the delightful art of textile making.



We are requesting volunteers who would be willing to provide 2 hours of their time during the festival. If interested, please contact Ann Hicks, volunteer coordinator via email: hicksagma@gmail.com. Please provide contact information including name, phone number and email when responding.



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ISLAND GREEN WEEK!

ISLAND GREEN WEEK PRESS RELEASE 2024

Name of Event: Island Green Week

Hosted on: Put-in-Bay, Middle Bass Island, Gibraltar Island, and Kelleys Island

Dates: August 3 - 10, 2024

Coordinator: Renee Fultz

Phone: 646-678-1262

Email: leinwc@gmail.com

Address: Lake Erie Islands Nature & Wildlife Center PO Box 871 Put-in-Bay, OH 43456

Website Address: lakeerieislandswildlife.com/island-green-week

Event Description: Island Green Week is a celebration of Nature.

Island Green Week events highlight the islands' natural beauty and unique ecology. The Lake Erie Islands are a breathtaking destination, with opportunities to see utterly amazing parts of nature, history, and culture. Please join us for Island Green Week 2024, our islands have so much to show you. You will never regret a "A Natural Island Experience." All events are family friendly, inclusive, and accessible.

SATURDAY AUGUST 3rd

LAKE ERIE ISLANDS NATURE & WILDLIFE CENTER, PUT-IN-BAY

11am - 5pm. Cost: \$4 Adults, \$3 Children 6-11 yrs old, \$3 Seniors, \$10 for a family group, under 6 is FREE. See the newly enlarged and renovated Nature & Wildlife Center. Check out the exciting displays, indoor turtle pond, and geology exhibit in addition to the over 100 species of North American animals. This is a must do during Island Green Week. Open Monday-Saturday!

EXPLORER PACKS also available; scientific backpacks for Birding, Geology, and Pollinators that take you on a wild adventure of scientific discovery!

SCIENCE SATURDAY, KELLEYS ISLAND

11am-1pm Cost - FREE. Science Saturdays is a partnership between Kelleys Island State Park, Kelleys Island Audubon Club, and the Kelleys Island Field Station. This is a weekly series of events that features interactive exploration centered around a particular topic. Families and learners of all ages are invited to explore firsthand science fun during this free drop-in event. 11am-1pm on Saturdays through Labor Day. Complete Schedule of Science Saturdays at <https://www.kelleysislandfieldstation.org/>

BAYFRONT PRESERVE DEDICATION, PUT-IN-BAY

1pm - 3:30pm Cost - FREE. Put-In-Bay Township Park District and the Lake Erie Islands Conservancy will host a dedication for their property, the Duff Homestead and Bayfront Preserve. The dedication will be followed by light refreshments and a tour of their new Visitor Center and offices. The property is home to native wildlife, a mature forestland, pollinator habitats and a new birding trail. The Park District is working to purchase the

adjacent Duff vineyard hosting several grape varieties. A guided walk through the vineyard will start at 2:30pm speaking on the Great Lakes' Fruit Belt and microclimates.

SUNDAY AUGUST 4th

HOTEL VICTORY GROUNDS TOUR, PUT-IN-BAY

7:30pm. Cost - FREE. South Bass Island State Park will host a tour of the infamous Hotel Victory Grounds. This family event will start with a beautiful sunset at South Bass Island State Park and end at the Hotel Victory Swimming Pool Pavilion. The tour will highlight various still-existing features of the Hotel Victory, a history of the grounds, and exciting facts about life at the Hotel. Tour provided by Naturalist and Island Resident Renee Market.

MONDAY AUGUST 5th

MILLER BOAT LINE STARGAZING CRUISE, PUT-IN-BAY

This event is not currently confirmed. We will announce through our website, email, and Facebook when we have more information available.

TUESDAY AUGUST 6th

ARCHERY, PUT-IN-BAY

10am - 12pm Cost - FREE. Join ODNR's mobile archery unit at the South Bass Island State Park for this fun event learning how to safely shoot a bow. Equipment is provided, anyone in line by noon will get to shoot. Open to all ages!

WILD TUESDAY, PUT-IN-BAY

1 - 3pm at the Lake Erie Islands Nature & Wildlife Center; Cost -FREE. Nature Nursery will have a variety of animals and reptiles on display for education. Wild Tuesday features live animals, colorful crafts for children, and educational opportunities for all ages! If your curiosity is peaked, we invite you to visit all our Wild Tuesday Events throughout the summer, we look forward to being WILD with you.

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 7th

12th ANNUAL PIG ROAST & RAFFLE, PUT-IN-BAY

6 - 9pm at the Goat Restaurant; Cost: \$20 Pre-purchased, \$25 day of. Join us at the Goat Beer Garden for a delicious slow-roasted pig along with tasty sides donated by local restaurants while enjoying live music by Lucas Guy. As a special treat for this being our 10th annual event, we are bringing back the Rattlesnake Raffle!

Limited tickets available, \$20 each, to win a day at Rattlesnake Island with pool time, a delicious meal at their private restaurant, and a trip to their gift shop! Tickets available starting in July at the Nature & Wildlife Center.

THURSDAY AUGUST 8th

HISTORIC GIBRALTAR ISLAND TOUR, PUT-IN-BAY

10am - 11:30am or 1 - 2:30pm; Cost - \$12 per adult \$6 per child. Transportation to

and from Gibraltar Island is paid separately via the Boardwalk water taxi. This is a wonderful experience for every member of the family. A two-hour tour explores Gibraltar Island, home to Jay Cooke's Castle, Commodore Perry's 1812 Lookout, Stone Laboratory's classrooms and facilities. For more information visit <https://ohioseagrant.osu.edu/visit>

LAKE ERIE AWARENESS DAY, PUT-IN-BAY

10am - 4pm Cost - FREE. Lake Erie Awareness Day brings you the magic of Lake Erie's history, culture, and natural resources. Spend the day touring the island while learning about Ohio's greatest water treasure. You will have the opportunity to visit education stations where you will learn about island history, native plants and animals, the dangers of plastic pollution, and boating safety. Fun giveaways and a great day in nature awaits you. Go to all the stations and be entered to win a fabulous island themed prize. Visit go.osu.edu/PlasticFreePIBDay for station locations and more information.

FRIDAY AUGUST 9th

LONZ WINERY CELLAR TOUR, MIDDLE BASS ISLAND

4:30pm Cost - FREE. Tour of the famous Lonz Winery Cellar and Grounds. This family event will start with a guided tour through Lonz Winery Cellar and end at the Island Grind and Prohibition Bar at the Historic Lonz Press House. The tour will highlight various still-existing features of the Lonz Compound, a history of the grounds, and exciting facts about life on Middle Bass Island and the winery. Tour provided by Naturalist and Island Resident Renee Market.

HOMECOMING, KELLEYS ISLAND

GOES THROUGH AUGUST 10TH!

Cost - FREE. Homecoming is sponsored by the Kelleys Island Landowners Association and is a weekend for those who love this island to enjoy a fish fry on Friday, parade on Saturday (with marching band), craft & vendor market, food & beverages—fun for the whole family! All Homecoming events take place at the Kelleys Island Pavilion on Addison St. For more information visit <https://kelleysisland.com/events/homecoming-kila/>

SATURDAY AUGUST 10th

MIDDLE BASS ISLAND KAYAK POKER DAY, MIDDLE BASS ISLAND

12:00 p.m. on Middle Bass Island; Cost - \$20 pre-registration \$25 on site. Kayakers start and finish at the Middle Bass Island State Park west beach (No starts later than 1:00 pm). The paddle around the island includes three additional stops (the State Park Marina, the MBI East Point Preserve, and the Kuehnle State Wildlife Area/Petersen Woods Preserve). A welcome packet at the start has a description of the course and information about the stops. Stops are staffed with volunteers for safety and to distribute

poker cards and snacks. The finish has a cook-out with hot-dogs, chips, and bottle of water while 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners are determined. 1st place prize from Miller Ferry is RT tickets for 2 adults + 1 vehicle; 2nd place from MBI General Store is a gift card; 3rd place winner gets a bag of frozen shrimp from Costco! Proceeds from the event will benefit the Put-in-Bay Township Park District's newest preserves on Middle Bass Island. (Rain Date August 13) Registration is available at: <https://tinyurl.com/MBlpkd2024>

Deadline to register early is August 6th.

SOUTH BASS ISLAND LIGHTHOUSE TOUR, PUT-IN-BAY

11am - 5pm Cost - FREE. Discover information about the area's history and the most pressing issues facing Lake Erie before accessing the top of the lighthouse tower to see an expansive view of Put-in-Bay. Visitors can climb the stairs to take in a magnificent view of Put-in-Bay from the top of the tower, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. For more information visit <https://ohioseagrant.osu.edu/visit>

The following businesses have generously donated discounts, please support them during your visit to Put-in-Bay, Middle Bass Island, and Kelleys Island.

Miller Boat Line- <https://www.millerferry.com>

E's Golf Cart- <https://www.esputinbaygolfcarts.com>

Ohio State Parks- <http://parks.ohiodnr.gov>

Heinemans Winery www.heinemanswinery.com

Park Hotel- <https://www.parkhotelpib.com>

Put-in-Bay Chamber of Commerce- <http://www.visitputinbay.com>

The Boardwalk- <http://the-boardwalk.com>

Ohio State University's Stone Laboratory- <https://stonelab.osu.edu>

Island Bike Rental- http://www.ibrcarts.com/public/bike_cart_rental

Jet Express- <https://jet-express.com>

Frosty Bar- <http://frostys.com>

Cameo Pizza- <http://putinbaycameopizza.com>

Kelleys Life- <https://kelleysisland.com/kelleys-life>

Transportation Discounts

E's Golf Cart Rental- \$10 off day rental, August 6 -13th. For discount ask Island Green Week.

Miller Boat Line, - Discount for passengers only for Put-in-Bay and Middle Bass Islands.

Island Bike Rental- \$20 off day golf cart rental at the Jet Express and Lime Kiln Dock, Put-in-Bay on Monday to Friday ONLY. Mention Island Green Week.

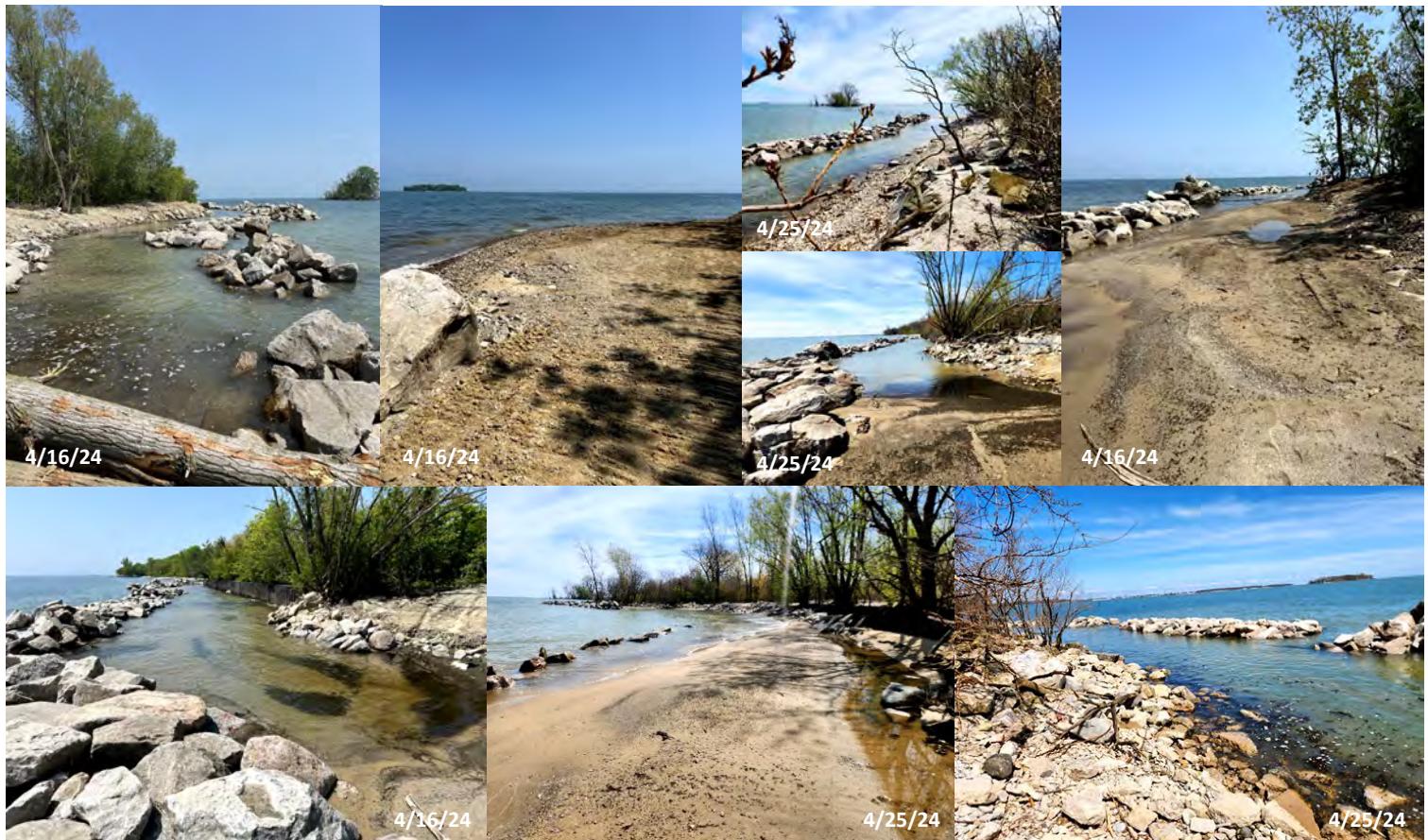
Island Lodging Partner Discount

Park Hotel, <https://www.parkhotelpib.com> - August 7-11 Sunday through Thursday ONLY. Buy 2 weekday nights and get 1 night FREE. **THIS DISCOUNT CAN ONLY BE RESERVED BY PHONE 419.285.3581.** Mention Island Green Week.

Commodore Resort Hotel, <https://www.commodoreresort.com/> - August 10, 11, and 12th, 10% Off all lodging. **This Discount can only be reserved by PHONE: 419-285-3103,** must mention Island Green Week to receive a discount.

Background Photo: Image of the beautiful Duff Vineyard —Photo by Susan and Mike Byrnes

Scheeff East Point Preserve Shoreline Restoration Update *By Neal Hess*



The Put-in-Bay Township Park District is pleased to announce that construction is well underway with our Scheeff East Point Preserve shoreline restoration and erosion control project. We anticipate construction to be completed by the end of June; however, please note that the Scheeff East Point Preserve park will remain closed until construction is complete.

One of the primary restoration activities completed thus far has included the placement of large, natural rock sills just off of the shoreline to reduce wave action along the shore and encourage the potential for future wetland development behind the sills, as well as to provide new, subsurface habitat for fish and other aquatic life. The large quantities of foreign debris, including scrap metal and concrete slabs with protruding rebar, have been removed. Sections of shoreline that were lost to erosion of the past decade are currently being reconstructed with a mixture of sand, gravel and cobble. Downed trees and rootwads are being repurposed into the newly reconstructed

shoreline to further protect the shoreline and to provide additional habitat for our resident and migratory bird and insect species. Once the construction activities are completed, the shoreline will be seeded and planted with a variety of native trees, shrub and plant species.

This shoreline restoration project is being funded by grants from three different sources: a National Coastal Resilience Fund grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) in partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), a Clean Ohio Conservation Fund grant administered by the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC), and an Emergency Erosion Assistance Grant from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR). The ODNR Emergency Erosion Assistance Grant also funded the improvements to Deist Road on Middle Bass Island through a collaboration between Put-in-Bay Township and the Park District.

Photos provided by KS Associates, Inc.

AmeriCorps Intern 2024



My name is Jude Dietrich and I have just completed my Junior year at the University of South Florida where I am majoring in Environmental Science and Policy. Originally, I am from Toledo, Ohio and I grew up visiting and loving the Lake Erie Islands. Upon graduation, I hope to relocate back to the state of Ohio, as my career goal is to protect the natural environment of the Lake Erie region. I have a special interest in interacting with people, educating

them in environmentally sustainable practices and land stewardship. I also look forward to teaching visitors about the geography, plants, and animals of Lake Erie and Northern Ohio. In my spare time, I frequently hike the State Parks of Florida, care for exotic plants, and create costumes based off video games.

Thank You for AmeriCorps Intern Support!

We are very grateful to have received donations toward our AmeriCorps internship shared with the PIBTPD and LEINWC from the following: John and



Paula Ladd, Thomas and Mary Katzenmeyer, Bruce Miles, and Jill Cerny Kirby. Grants were received from the Walmart Spark program and from the Randolph J. and Estelle M. Dorn Foundation. We appreciate all the support for this great program and are looking forward to working with intern Jude Dietrich this summer. In fact, he's already busy and is shown here planting a tree at bathing beach!

Duff Homestead Woods Birding Trail Spring Clean up By Lisa Brohl



Thanks to all who came out to pick up at the Duff Homestead Woods April 6, 2024. Contractor Mark LeKanka had put in the new birding trail with funds from the Parks of Ottawa County and removed debris. But there was more, so these hardy volunteers came out and helped us clean up before we

open the trail. It looks much better! Trail is mulched and the bicycle rack in place. Casey Carty made two Leopold benches that will be placed on the trail when finished. Kendra Koehler has some interesting metal pieces she collected to put together artful flower baskets to be sold at a future fundraiser.



Photos: Clockwise from Left—Rubbish remover extraordinaire Susan Ferguson; Valerie Nose Chorniyak with Mark and Lisa Berens; Valerie Nose Chorniyak volunteering on her birthday! Cindy Skelton-Becker brought just the right tool for those beer cans: Kenneth and Cindy Skelton-Becker; Annmarie Eriksen and Park District Commissioner Kendra Koehler

Duff Homestead Woods Garlic Mustard Pull By Lisa Brohl

The Erie Islands Branch of the Ida Rupp Library hosted a garlic mustard pull with the Lake Erie Islands Conservancy on May 29, 2024. Paula Ziebarth, Peggy Leopold of the Conservancy and Isabella Buffalini of the National Park Service Great Lakes Restoration Initiative removed 7 big bags of the invasive plant

from the area near the new trail. Thanks to all of you and to Karen Wilhelm of the Erie Islands Branch of the Ida Rupp Library for organizing.

There's much more to pull, so call Lisa Brohl at (419) 366-2087 if interested in helping.



Photos: Isabella Buffalini, National Park Service and Paula Ziebarth with several filled bags; **Isabella Buffalini with the day's haul of invasive garlic mustard**; Isabella Buffalini, Peggy Leopold, and Paula Ziebarth after the big pull

Summer's Finally Here! Come Join Us!

Look at a Log—Saturday, June 29 at 9:00 a.m.

Join AmeriCorps intern Jude Dietrich at 9:00am at the Cooper's Woods Preserve on June 29, 2024 for a walk to explore

the many critters, fungi, and plants that make their home in fallen logs. Rain date is July 6.



Purple Martin Nest Box Change/Banding—Wednesday, June, 25 at 10:00 a.m.

Come to the Scheeff East Point Preserve on June 25 at 10:00am to get a chance to see the purple martins nestlings up close. Conservancy Board member Paula Ziebarth and crew will have the rig down to clean out and

replace the nesting material and may be joined by a bird bander that day. For more info, contact Paula at paulazbird@gmail.com.

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Island Wide Garage Sale for Conservation By Lisa Brohl

Thanks to all who stopped to shop, donated, or helped set up and take down at our Conservancy Island wide Garage Sale site in John and Paula Ladd's yard. We made \$515 selling rummage, LEIC gear, native plants, and jelly for Duff Vineyard project! Allen and Stacy Clink set up and were great sales people!

Kendra Koehler and Patty Lo Presti had a garage sale at the Duff Homestead for the Put-in-Bay Township Park District which took in \$823 for the Duff Vineyard project! Way to go to our expert garage sale organizers!



Photos: Top Row from Left—Bill Slough donating handmade bird house to Kendra Koehler for the Duff Homestead garage sale; Shoppers checking out all the great bargains; Alan and Stacey Clink—dynamic selling duo!!! Bottom Row from Left—Stacy Clink setting up for the sale; LEIC Board Member Paula Ziebarth donates fabulous tree with valuable rocks; Member Sue Prahst stops by; Kendra Koehler and Lisa Brohl getting ready for the sale and making purchases to benefit island conservation; Thanks John and Paula Ladd for yard space and Ken Farber and son Donovan for heavy lifting!

Scheeff Restoration Visit By Lisa Brohl

In early June, Park District Commissioners Kelly Faris and Lisa Brohl got to visit the Scheeff East Point Preserve Restoration site with our new AmeriCorps intern Jude Dietrich and Conservancy contributors Ed and Ricki Herdendorf. Dr. Herdendorf, a coastal geologist,

was very interested and positive about the project. It is exciting to see the project take shape! Kelly Faris also met with the project team a few days later as well to review progress. Photos of anchoring of the trees and sills in place by Susan Byrnes.



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**Rudy
Cooks**



Spring Bird Banding By Lisa Brohl



Tom and Paula Bartlett have been featured in a new film by Christy Frank and Alex Goetz, *A Bird in the Hand*. The movie premiered in Toledo recently. If you would like more information on this film and would like to follow its progress, please sign up by email at www.abirdinthehandfilm.com.

Tom and Paula Bartlett and crew were banding birds on South Bass Island the first two full weeks in May. During that time, the Road Scholar Birding groups visited as well as the Put-in-Bay School and other members of the public. Thanks to Ken Farber for mowing the site ahead of time. We really appreciate the Barnhill family for allowing us to band on their property all these years—it has been wonderful to have such consistent data on bird migration on the islands. We also thank the following for coming to help out—Stephanie Tiel and Vince Capoziello. Thanks Tammy Martin and Russ Brohl for help in hauling the bird banding equipment around.



Photos: Sophia Mathys perfecting the bird hold; Vince Scarpelli with a Nashville Warbler; Chris North releases a bird at the SBI Bird Banding Station; Jerome Kruszynski braving a Blue Jay; Parula Warbler and Nashville Warbler; Lincoln Sparrow; Wilson's Warbler; Mourning Warbler; Warbling Vireo. Photos by Paula Bartlett and Lisa Brohl



Species Name	Species	Total Count	Springville	Kelleys	Middle Bass	South Bass Island
Acadian Flycatcher	1	2			2	
Alder Flycatcher	1	26			26	
American Goldfinch	1	4		1	3	
American Redstart	1	74	5	57		12
American Robin	1	93	18	14	30	31
American Tree Sparrow	1	8	8			
Baltimore Oriole	1	36	1	13	9	13
Bay-breasted Warbler	1	6		6		
Black-and-white Warbler	1	7		4	1	2
Black-billed Cuckoo	1	1			1	
Black-capped Chickadee	1	12		6	1	5
Blackedcap Warbler	1	2		2		
Black-throated Blue Warbler	1	7		2		5
Black-throated Green Warbler	1	11		7	2	2
Blue Jay	1	32	5	2	13	12
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	1	2		1	1	
Blue-headed Vireo	1	4			4	
Blue-winged Warbler	1	2			2	
Blue-winged X Golden-winged hybrid	1				1	
Brown Creeper	1	5	2	3		
Brown Thrasher	1	2		1	1	
Brown-headed Cowbird	1	23	6	12	2	3
Canada Warbler	1	26	4	21		1
Carolina Chickadee	1	3	3			
Carolina Wren	1	5			1	4
Cedar Waxwing	1	2	2			
Cherul-sold Warbler	1	12		10		2
Chipping Sparrow	1	14		13	1	
Common Grackle	1	61		29	8	24
Common Yellowthroat	1	48	18	23	4	3
Connecticut Warbler	1	1	1			
Dark-eyed Junco	1	7	7			
Downy Woodpecker	1	12	4	2	2	4
Eastern Kingbird	1	2				
Eastern Phoebe	1	4	3	1		
Eastern Towhee	1	1		1		
Eastern Wood-Pewee	1	7	2	5		
European Starling	1	17		6	8	3
Field Sparrow	1	1	1			
Fox Sparrow	1	9	8	1		
Golden-crowned Kinglet	1	21	16	5		
Gray Catbird	1	100	38	17	9	36
Gray-cheeked Thrush	1	20	7	7		6
Great Crested Flycatcher	1	1			1	
Harry Woodpecker	1	1	1			
Hermit Thrush	1	61	8	44	9	
Hooded Warbler	1	2		1	1	
House Finch	1	2			2	
House Sparrow	1	21		21		
House Wren	1	37	10	9	10	8
Indigo Bunting	1	32	2	27	1	2
Kentucky Warbler	1	1			1	
Least Flycatcher	1	11	2	8	1	
Lincoln's Sparrow	1	15	1	3	2	9
Nashville Warbler	1	43	3	2	22	16
Northern Cardinal	1	43	19	13	5	6
Northern Flicker	1	1			1	
Northern Parula	1	6			6	
Northern Saw-whet Owl	1	1			1	
Northern Waterthrush	1	21	13	2	4	2
Orange-crowned Warbler	1	5	2		1	2
Orchard Oriole	1	1			1	
Ovenbird	1	39	7	7	6	19
Palm Warbler (Western)	1	50	4		41	5
Phalaenoptilus Vireo	1	1			1	
Red-bellied Woodpecker	1	2	1			1
Red-eyed Vireo	1	9		9		
Red-headed Woodpecker	1	1	1			
Red-winged Blackbird	1	201	8	42	53	98
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	1	5	2		3	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1	90	10	49	31	
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	1	18	3	7	5	3
Rusty Blackbird	1	17	17			
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	3	1	1	1	
Song Sparrow	1	14	13	1		
Swainson's Thrush	1	121	23	78	2	18
Swamp Sparrow	1	33	29	1	3	
Tennessee Warbler	1	11	2	4		5
Traill's Flycatcher	*	22		22		
Tree Swallow	1	34			32	2
Veery	1	18	2	8	1	7
Warbling Vireo	1	7	1		2	4
White-breasted Nuthatch	1	6	4	1		1
White-crowned Sparrow	1	4			1	3
White-eyed Vireo	1	2			2	
White-throated Sparrow	1	178	44	31	82	21
Wilow Flycatcher	1	1	1			
Wilson's Warbler	1	24	2	17		5
Winter Wren	1	4	2	2		4
Wood Thrush	1	9	2	1	2	4
Yellow Warbler	1	25	7	1	13	4
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	1	40	2	38		
Yellow-rumped Warbler	1	61	1	56	4	
Total Species	93	92	57	63	52	47
Total Individuals	2183	413	819	502	449	
		Total Count	Springville	Kelleys Island	Middle Bass Island	South Bass Island
Banding Days	46	13	20*	5	8	
Recaptures	381	132	71	91	87	
Escapes/Releases	41	6	11	21	3	
Total birds handled	2609	552	903	615	539	
Nets		10-15	15-21	21-24	14-18	
Net hours	4283.75	824.00	1735.75	696.50	1025.50	
Birds banded per net hours	0.51	0.50	0.47	0.72	0.44	

Spring Bird Banding Cont'd



Tom and Paula Bartlett and crew had a very productive week at the Middle Bass Island East Point Preserve this spring. Thanks to Ken and Ann Shelton, Tina Larson, Nancy Welter, Tedi Keith Morris, Chris Helman, Bob Stausmire and Janet Stearns for help that week. Lots of visitors came and got a chance to see the birds up close. They also banded their 7,000th bird on Middle Bass during that week—the LEINWC Road Scholar birding program was there that day and got to celebrate with everyone else!



Photos: Top—MBI Banding Team—Chris Helman, Lisa Brohl, Tedi Keith-Morris, Ann Shelton, Nancy Welter, Ken Shelton, Paula and Tom Bartlett Above Left to Right—Ann Shelton with sharp-shinned hawk; Brown Thrasher; Kentucky Warbler; Sharp-shinned hawk Right—Blue Winged Warbler Below Left—Road Scholar Week 1 visiting Middle Bass Island Banding Station for Tom Bartlett's 7,000th banded bird on Middle Bass Below Right—White-eyed Vireo Photos by Paula Bartlett and Ann Shelton



LEIC Items and Gift Ideas

There are organic Conservancy t-shirts in several colors (\$20), Made in USA Conservancy hats (\$25), Sailcloth and organic cotton tote bags, and Middle Bass Music Fest hats and beverage cozies available for sale. Consider a Conservancy membership or donation to our Land Protection Fund for a gift that keeps on giving into the future! www.lakeerieislandsconservancy.org.

LEIC and PIBTPD Wish List

Exciting things happening in the preserves already this spring and we can't wait to get going on so much more. Hopefully you can tell by the long wish list below that we have lots of big projects (and small ones too!) that we need lots of help with. If you are willing to help, we accept donations of your time and skills or if a monetary gift works better, that is wonderful too. We are grateful for any and all!

Please be sure to let us know if you or anyone you know can help out with any of these items at leiconservancy@gmail.com or 419-366-2087. New members—Can always check us out at www.lakeerieislandsconservancy.org!

- *Volunteers Always Needed—spread mulch on trails, removed downed trees and pick up litter—garlic mustard pulling, amur honeysuckle removal—all preserves.*
- *Volunteers needed for Tabling Events, Office, and Digital File Organizing.*
- *Website and Social Media Assistance*
- *Adobe, Access, and Arc GIS Programs or volunteers with these skills.*
- *Recycled Copying Paper, Ink for Printers (Brother LC 61, HP 970XL, HP 971XL—must not be generic)*



- 570' of cedar tone split rail fencing
- Porch materials
- 4) 4x4x8 Treated
- 2) 2x8x10 non treated
- 20) 2x6x10 non treated
- 5) 4x8 reef sheathing
- 2) 10' white drip edge
- 20' of roof flashing
- 16) H1 rafter ties
- 4) 4x4 base plates
- 16) 2x6 joist hangers
- 80" x 90" bilco cellar door access kit with extensions.

(CAPITAL CAMPAIGN *Continued from page 1*)

of the row. For donations of \$10,000 (Silver Level), in addition to sponsoring a row of grapes, the contributor will be able to host a private event within the vineyard. Donations of \$25,000 (Gold Level) or more will also be recognized in a permanent donor recognition display to be constructed either at the Duff Homestead or within the vineyard itself. Finally, for donations of \$100,000 (Platinum Level) or more there will be a special opportunity (to be announced) to be included with the other incentives.

Donations of any amount welcomed, and all donors will be recognized in print. The Park District is researching grants for the purchase of the property.

Donations for the Duff Vineyard purchase will be placed in an escrow account and returned to donors if the Park District cannot complete the purchase.

Together with grants and donations, we can make this purchase a reality!

How to Contribute: Send a check to Lake Erie Islands Conservancy (LEIC), PO Box 461, Put-in-Bay, OH 43456, with Duff Vineyard on memo line. Or use the QR code to the right with a notation for Duff Vineyard. This is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

For More Information or Questions? Contact Lisa Brohl at (419) 366-2087 or Kendra Koehler at (419) 341-2725.

**All donations will go directly to the Put-in-Bay Township Park District's Duff Vineyard Farm Park Capital Campaign.*



Attention Nature Lovers and Photo Buffs: Interested in submitting your Conservancy nature photo(s) for the 2025 LEIC Calendar? See instructions and details below!

- Send all of your Conservancy related entries to LEICPhotoSubmit@gmail.com with "2025 Calendar" in the subject line. Pics for the Newsletter can be sent there too—just be sure to specify!
- Include the photographer's contact info (name, email, phone, etc.), a short description of subject and details. Make sure to include where/when the photo was taken. Minimum Size: 300 dpi at 11.5" wide by 9" tall.
- If selected, you'll receive photo credit and 1 calendar!

We can't wait to see all of your wonderful submissions, so go enjoy the seasons of the preserves: spring, summer, fall, and winter!! 2025 Submissions close October 31!



Photo: Heidi Ladd tying Duff Vineyard for Heineman's Winery

Land Protection Gift! By Lisa Brohl



Photo: Zach, Laura, Greg, Sandy, Adam, and Marty Millat. Ahna Millat and Meghan Millat not pictured

The Lake Erie Islands Conservancy is grateful for a significant donation to our Land Protection Fund from the Millat Family of Middle Bass Island. We have appreciated their family's constant support of our land preservation efforts over the years.

If you are also interested in designating a gift for Land Protection, you can find details for any Land Protection specific gifts on Page 19.

Preserve News!

Contractor Mark Lekanka pouring footers and then installing the entrance ramp for the Duff Homestead and Bayfront Preserve to open later this summer. Almost done!



A Special THANKS...



Susan and Mike Byrnes using their drone to get great photos of the Duff Vineyard property to use for promoting the purchase.

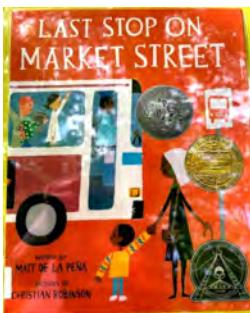


Put-in-Bay Township Park District employee Chris Helman has the Middle Bass preserves looking good for the summer.

Freshwater Mussel Display for Duff Homestead

We have this display on freshwater mussels by Drs. Brian and Amy Alford for the Duff Homestead Visitor Contact Station. Thanks to both of you!

We found a bucket of freshwater mussels in the basement of the Duff Homestead that had been collected by Mrs. Katherine Duff over the years. Thanks to Brian and Amy for doing the clean up and design of this new tabletop exhibit.



Check out the newest story book on the Put-in-Bay StoryWalk® at the Dodge Woods Preserve! It is Last Stop on Market Street by Matt De La Pena. Thanks Karen Wilhelm of Erie Islands Branch of the Ida Rupp Library and Bob Stausmire for assistance in installing the story. You will be delighted by the story and the wildflowers lining the trail.



Parasitoid Wasps for the Woods—Summer 2

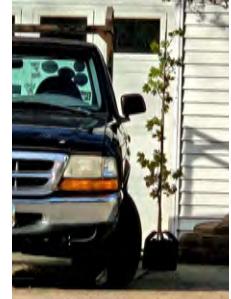
We are again releasing 3 species of wasps reared by the USDA that parasitize the emerald ash borer in our preserves this summer. Our sites are the Jane Coates Wildflower Trail/ Morrison Woods Preserves on South Bass Island on blue ash trees. On Middle Bass, they are being released at the Middle Bass Island Forested Wetland Preserve. Thanks to volunteers Alice Lentz, Tammy Martin, Gerald Shanley and Lisa Brohl for their help so far. Chris Helman and Adrianna

Burghardt will be assisting with the effort this summer as well. Next summer, we will be monitoring the woods for the continued presence of these wasps. We hope that eventually the populations will allow our blue and green ash to regenerate. Currently they reach a certain age and succumb to the emerald ash borer.

Wasp for the Woods Sign—generously supported by the Morrison Sisters, designed by Joe Blumenstaedt



Here's Missi Kowalski's class from the Put-in-Bay School spends Earth Day pulling garlic mustard from the Cooper's Woods Preserve—they pulled 713 lbs.! They weighed that and then went back for more!



Newsletter Editor Michelle Pennington with her husband Joe on a rare weekend off from her newsletter work—here instead volunteering for Friends of Stone Lab this spring—but they still managed to fit the tree for the Put-in-Bay Township Arbor Day Celebration planting in their small SUV and dropped it off for us!

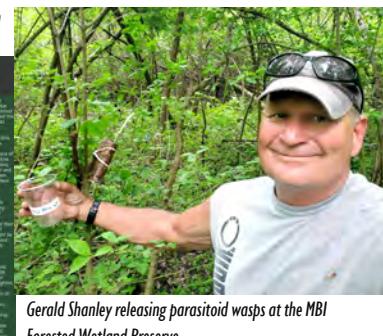


Thanks to Tedi Keith Morris for the beautiful job she does with our bulletin board at the Middle Bass Island East Point Preserve.

Susan Ferguson continues doing what she seems to love doing best—picking up litter when she walks our trails!



Mark Berens returned to the Duff Homestead Preserve Woods and birding trail to remove barbed wire fencing from near the trail head.



Tammy Martin helping with parasitoid wasps



New and Renewing Members*

Friend

Joan French
Andy Jones
Krystale Kruszynski
Shannon McDonald
Sarah Toole

Supporter

Jane Haeger
John and Pamela MacFalda
John F Shelley

Contributor

Edward H. Tancock
Jean Hilt

Steward

John M and Louise F Titchener

Patron

Drs. Brian and Amy Alford

Business

Howard Hannah-Rudy Cooks

Donations-AmeriCorps

Mary and Thomas Katzenmeyer
Jill Cerny Kirby
John and Paula Ladd
Bruce Miles
Walmart Spark Grant
Randolph J. and Estelle M. Dorn Foundation

Donations-Middle Bass Music Festival

Dark Sides Operations LLC-
Scott Smith

Donations

Pear Tree for Duff Homestead
"In Loving Memory of Tim Bell" from his friends

**This list reflects memberships and donations since our last newsletter. All Life Members are listed in side box.*

Julie Stausmire-Bird themed and other collectables for Island Wide Garage Sale
Marty Rothe with tree order
Craig Waikem
Mary T. Hopkins for bird banding nets
Linda and Joe Shull in memory of Mark Wilhelm for Dodge Woods Storywalk®
Renee and Diane Fultz—two benches: one for MBI East Point Preserve and one for LEINWC in memory of Herb Fultz

Land Protection Fund

Millat Family

Duff Vineyard Capitol Campaign

Joan Booker
Lisa and Russ Brohl
Candace Carr
Darren Dunning
Evelyn B. Newell
The Reel Bar
Janice Williams
Mike Yako



Bronze Level Sponsors

Lisa and Mark Berens



Gold Level Sponsors

Randolph J. and Estelle M. Dorn Foundation
Chris and Kathy North

THANK YOU!



Thanks goes out to Ken, Jennifer, and Cameron Farber who brought up our new board table and some new outdoor furniture for our Duff Homestead and Bayfront

We had our first Conservancy board meeting in our new meeting room at Duff Homestead in early June! Thanks to everyone who helped make this possible!!

and

Painter Sarah Cochran on Facebook
sarah-4cochran@gmail.com

Preserve this spring. Mike Betts assisted. Here they are getting the table and chairs into the building this spring.

Painter Sarah Cochran on Facebook
sarah-4cochran@gmail.com



Life Members

Anonymous
Patti and Raymond Arth
John Baker
Mark and Lisa Berens
Lisa Benjamin
Beverly Blietz
Marv and Pat Booker
Ron and Audrey Borchert
Jeff Brausch
Jon D. Brausch
Sandra Brausch
Jim and Betsy Brohl
Russ & Lisa Brohl
Doug and Karen Brown
Linda and Dave Bugoci
Drs. Earl and Thurid Campbell
Valerie Chornyak
David and Jacquelyn Clark
Alan & Stacey Clink
Gary and Carol Coates
Jill and Steve Cooks
Nancy Cruikshank
Marvin and Gail Duff
Walter and Susan Duff
Ken and Jennifer Farber
Eleanor Fether
Betty and Charles Finkbeiner
Dave and Linda Frederick

Jody and Bob Frimel
Christian L. Geiss
Richard Gump
Terence and Lynda Heaton
Neal and Karla Hess and family
Peter and Amy Newell Huston
Scott Jackson
Judy and Joseph Janicki
Dr. Robert Jellison
Karen A. Jennings
David Kaman
Mary and Tom Katzenmeyer
Valerie and Dan Kowalski
Business Ad for Life-Yardworks-Val and Dan Kowalski
Bob Krause
John & Paula Ladd
Dave and Tina Larson
Hal and Barb Leitch
Peggy and John Leopold
Patty and Carl Lo Presti
Julene Market
Elaine and Howard Martens
Mary Ann McCann
Michael McIntyre and Elizabeth Heineman
Valerie Mettler
Bruce and Kim Miles

Greg Millat
Carol and Kurt Miske
Laureen R. Mooney
Mark Nemec
Chris and Kathy North
Colleen (Connie) Parker
Marsha Parker
Roger & Mary Parker
Charles B. 'Pete' Pearson
Joe and Michelle Pennington
Mary Ann and Rich Plewacki
Hank & Gayle Polcyn
Richard and Carol Roberts
Fritz and Pam Rudolph
Drs. Cherilyn Schurtz and Jacob Maciejewski
Ken and Ann Shelton
Joseph and Linda Shull
Mary L. Staley
Kristin Stanford
Matt Thomas
Zoe and Brad Titchener
Carley Tobias
Mike and Gina Trebilcock

NEW Life Members:

Michael Durinsky III

Don't forget!

Become an annual sponsor of our newsletter for \$100. Place an ad in our newsletter and receive an annual Friend Membership FREE! Call 419-366-2087



Background Photo: Whimbrels from Ballast Island looking West—Photo by Mark Rhodes

Thank you!
for your donation

We wish to thank Matt Olm and friends for purchasing a pear tree for the Duff Homestead and Bayfront Preserve "In Loving Memory of Tim Bell." Additional trees had been planted along the boundary last fall paid for by the Beth Garsteck Cueto tree fund. Signs for both donations are being made to display.



Thanks to Carl and Patty Lo Presti for the donation of a bicycle for AmeriCorps intern Jude Dietrich.



LEIC Membership Form*

Membership Notices are sent out annually—
this is for new memberships—share with your friends

\$25 Friend \$50 Supporter \$100 Contributor
 \$100 Friend/AD \$250 Steward \$500 Patron



\$1000 Life

Name _____

Spouse/Companion _____

Island Address PO Box _____ Put-In-Bay, Ohio 43456

E-mail _____

Permanent Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____ Cell # _____

Island # _____

Check this box if you would like the
email only version of the LEIC Newsletter

In addition to my membership, I would like to donate to:

Land Protection Fund

I would like to contribute \$ _____ to the Lake Erie Islands Conservancy, to be used only for expenses related to the purchase of land.

I understand that I will receive a *Certificate of Donation* for income tax purposes.

Stewardship Fund

I would like to donate \$ _____ to the Stewardship Fund to help maintain those properties owned by the Lake Erie Islands Conservancy.

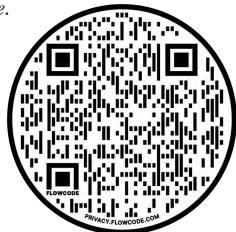
Please make checks payable to (LEIC) Lake Erie Islands Conservancy

Please Send to: PO Box 461, Put-in-Bay, Ohio 43456

All donations are tax deductible.

Thank You!

*To join LEIC online, please go to
<https://lakeerieislandsconservancy.org/membership/> or use your phone camera
on the QR Code shown here!



Dandelions By Annie Parker

When we first moved to the big house in 1969, I looked out across the back yard and there was this gorgeous field of golden blossoms. Some call dandelions a "mother's bouquet." A few name brand herbicides would have you believe they are a curse. I love them equally with violets and clover.

I digress. What was I to do with all those pretties.

I'll make dandelion wine as had my mama. I don't know where I found a recipe. No internet in those days. Do you know how long it takes to gather two gallons of dandelion blossoms?

First of all you wash them and place in a crock. Sprinkle with 4 pounds of granulated sugar. Barbi Barnhill, of vintner roots, would say be sure it's



CANE sugar. Pour over them two gallons of boiling water. Stir and leave this to steep till the solution has cooled to tepid. Then you sprinkle an envelope of yeast

granules on a piece of RYE bread. Float this on top of the mire and place in a warm room (in this case the pantry) to ferment.

In the next days, I would take a peek to see what was happening. It became alive. After all, yeast is a living organism. It became a roiling, angry pool, rocking in its crockery prison. The children were afraid. I was afraid.

At last the yeast had done its work and the tincture settled down. I strained it into bottles and put them in the basement, hoping they didn't explode. No one had told me (as has the internet) to cap the

bottles temporarily with balloons to let the fermentation continue safely. At last the nectar of the gods was aged and time to taste the aqua vitae.

Ever see A FUNNY THING
HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE
FORUM (United Artists—1966)?

It tasted like MARE'S SWEAT.

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IN MEMORIAM



Howard Martens



Conservancy life member Howard Martens passed away at the age of 93 in April 29, 2024. He and his wife Elaine were always supportive—allowing the use of their property for birders with the Road Scholar program and offering help with the Jane Coates Wildflower Trail when first constructed. He and his wife Elaine and sister-in-law Carol Craigs maintained a butterfly garden at Massie Cliffside for several years. Memorial contributions go to the PIB EMS or the Lake Erie Softball Association.



Betty Finkbeiner



Life member and past Put-in-Bay resident Betty Finkbeiner passed away on May 11th, 2024 in Florida. She and her husband Charles had been supporters of the Conservancy and purchased a bench at the Morrison Woods Preserve recently. Memorial contributions have been suggested to the St. Paul's Episcopal Church, PIB.



Mark Wilhelm



Mark Wilhelm passed away May 26, 2024. He worked for many years for The Ohio State University's Stone Laboratory. Mark had been a constant help to his wife Karen in the maintaining of the Put-in-Bay StoryWalk® at the Dodge Woods. We appreciate Mark's assistance over the years on this project. Memorial contributions go to the Put-in-Bay Fire Department or Mother of Sorrows Church.

PO Box 461
Put-In-Bay, Ohio 43456
Phone: 419-366-2087
E-Mail: leiconservancy@gmail.com

We're on the Web!
www.lakeerieislandsconservancy.org

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Dave Bugoci - John Dodge - Richard Gump

John Ladd - Julene Market - Linda Shull

Kristin Stanford - Nancy Welter

Newsletter Editors

Lisa Brohl

Michelle Pennington

LEIC Historian

Elizabeth Heineman

Do you get excited when summer arrives? We sure do! Join us for our summer events and be sure to check out all the flowers still blooming and the improvements going on at the Preserves! Keep checking our website and Facebook pages for more info and any last minute event updates!



August 3, 2024 for Duff Homestead and Bayfront Preserve
Dedication

August 3-10, 2024 for Island Green Week

August 10, 2024 for MBI Poker Kayak Day

September 5, 2024 Island Pollinator Habitat—Blooms for Bees, Butterflies, and Beetles at LEINWC

September 14, 2024 Monarch Festival at the South Bass Island Lighthouse (Rain date September 15)

September 15, 2024 for LEIC Annual Meeting



A HUGE Thanks to Minuteman Press for printing assistance!!

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YOU'RE INVITED!

DUFF HOMESTEAD AND BAYFRONT PRESERVE DEDICATION

Saturday, August 3 at 1:00 p.m.– 3:30 p.m.

Put-In-Bay Township Park District and the Lake Erie Islands Conservancy will host a dedication for their new property, the Duff Homestead and Bayfront Preserve. The dedication will be followed by light refreshments and a tour of their new Visitor Center and offices. The property is home to native wildlife, a mature forestland, pollinator habitats and a new birding trail. The Park District is working hard to purchase the adjacent Duff Vineyard hosting several grape varieties. Join us for a guided walk through the vineyard starting at 2:30pm speaking on the Great Lakes' Fruit Belt and microclimates.

