

# Great Lakes Islands Alliance

Anecdotal Success Stories



# HOW WE OPERATE:

Leadership Committee

Steering Committee

Subcommittees

At-Large Members

Partners Organizations

Individual & Organizational

Donors/Supporters





Environmental Stewardship



Mackinac Island Community Foundation Photo



The Island Exchange is a "Pay as you Throw" Facility

Washington Island Landfill Recycling Bulletin

GL243

COL RAT

242-137

WISCONSIN GB4215 TRUCK

WISCONSIN 175-NWG America's Dairyland

WISCONSIN 66-089 SEP TRUCK

WISCONSIN SLU-382

WISCONSIN 483-EHF SEP

NO PARKING

999-87

TOWN OF LISBON W 6820

FFP 422

WISCONSIN VDY-728 JAN

CALIFORNIA 1S97448

JUN ILLINOIS 92 7764 T B LAND OF LINCOLN

0067

GFR-85

INDIANA 539NFC

MICHIGAN DCD 657 GREAT LAKES

WISCONSIN K9SWF JAN Amateur Radio

WISCONSIN DAIRYLAND J32-204 MAY WISCONSIN

CALIFORNIA 6B43981

IOWA QZJ 548 LINN

OKLAHOMA 078KIU NATIVE AMERICA

PARKING IN REAR



## MISSION STATEMENT

Encourage relationship building, foster information exchange, and leverage resources to address shared challenges and embrace opportunities to benefit islands.





## Great Lakes Islands Shared Challenges







# GREAT LAKES ISLANDS ALLIANCE



## 2023 GLIA Member Islands

### Lake Erie

Kelleys Island, *Ohio, USA*  
Middle Bass Island, *Ohio, USA*  
Pelee Island, *Ontario, Canada*  
South Bass Island (Put-in-Bay), *Ohio, USA*

### Lake Michigan

Beaver Island, *Michigan, USA*  
Washington Island, *Wisconsin, USA*

### Lake Ontario

Howe Island, *Ontario, Canada*  
Simcoe Island, *Ontario, Canada*  
Wolfe Island, *Ontario, Canada*  
Amherst Island, *Ontario, Canada*

### Lake Huron

Bois Blanc Island, *Michigan, USA*  
Drummond Island, *Michigan, USA*  
Les Cheneaux Islands, *Michigan, USA*  
Mackinac Island, *Michigan, USA*  
Manitoulin Island, *Ontario, Canada*  
Neebish Island, *Michigan, USA*  
St. Joseph Island, *Ontario, Canada*  
Sugar Island, *Michigan, USA*

### Lake Superior

Madeline Island, *Wisconsin, USA*

### Lake St. Clair

Harsens Island, *Michigan, USA*

[www.GLIAAlliance.org](http://www.GLIAAlliance.org)



## Common Challenges

- Environment
- Community sustainability
- Clean drinking water
- Outdoor recreation
- Irradicating Invasive Species





- Education
- Healthcare
- Recycling
- Affordable Housing
- Broadband
- Long term Planning





## **ANNUAL GLIA SUMMIT:**

A forum to meet and interact with each other, learn from experts on topics of interest to islands, and provide input into network-wide activities and business. The event rotates to a different island each year and the local island community serves as host.





# THREATS

## Ecological

- Habitat Loss and Fragmentation
- Invasive Species/Imbalance of Species
- Climate Change

## Technical

- Data Gaps
- Logistics (Distance/Isolation)
- Fewer Organizations/Partners

## Social

- Poor “Island Awareness”
- Out of sight, out of mind
- Lack of regional coordination/framework







Stinson Maple

Makes Scents



# Sustainability

- Gathering spots
- Childcare
- K-6 schools
- Affordable Housing
- GLIA network



## KEY PARTNERS

- Michigan Dept. of Environment, Great Lakes, & Energy
- The Stewardship Network
- Northland College Center for Rural Communities
- Jon W. Allan Group, LLC.
- Island Institute (Maine)





## KEY FUNDERS

C.S. Mott Foundation  
Local community foundations  
Individual donors





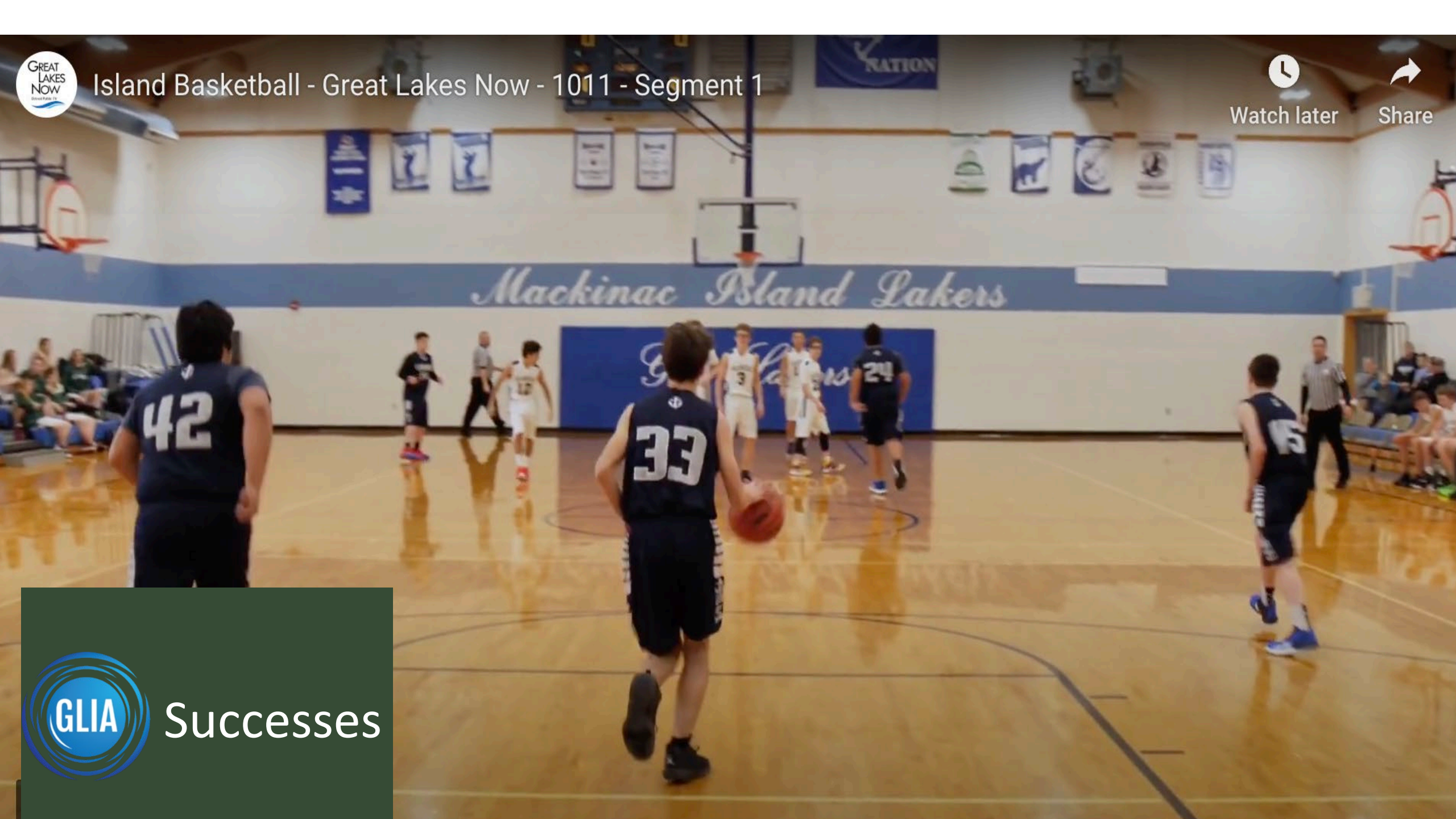
# Island Basketball - Great Lakes Now - 1011 - Segment 1



Watch later



Share



Successes

[www.glialliance.org](http://www.glialliance.org)



## ISLANDS CONSERVATION

- Leveraged Resources
- Shared Solutions
- Informed decision-making
- Like-purposed goals
- Connected programs
- Elevated awareness



**Mackinac Island**  
community foundation™

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COMMUNITY

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www.itswonderfulphoto.com







It's all about  
the Island



# Observer

Washington Island

August 26 - September 1, 2021

Volume Forty-one, Number Twenty One

\$2.00

## Kitchens kicks off Island Forum 2040, addresses school funding

By Emily Small

In the first of a series of presentations and panel discussions organized by the Observer and co-sponsors Trueblood Performing Arts Center and the Washington Island Ferry Line, District 1 Representative Joel Kitchens spoke to an audience of about 30. His topic was what he called "maybe the most complicated things we deal with in the legislature," referring to the state funding formula for public schools.

Before being elected to the state assembly in 2015, Kitchens, a Republican, was school board president in Sturgeon Bay where he resides with his family. He spoke alongside a panel made up of Washington Island School District administrator of business services Sue Cornell, long-time school board member Kirsten Purinton, and member of the Washington Island Education Foundation Helene Meyer. (Principal Michelle Kanipes was asked to sit on the panel but was unable, as she had professional development training in Green Bay at the time.)

Kitchens explained how the funding formula was created in the early 1990s in an attempt to equalize funding, ensuring "all students got an equal education no matter where they live." The formula includes enrollment numbers, previous year's budget, and local property values. The state then allocates more of the two-thirds it is required to pay for education statewide to the districts with the lowest property values, according to Kitchens.

He described how places with high property values, like the Island,



photo by karen yancey

The panelists at the first Island Forum 2040 are State Representative Joel Kitchens, president of the Washington Island Education Foundation Helene Meyer, superintendent of business service for the Washington Island School Sue Cornell, and Washington Island School board member Kirsten Purinton (who is responding to questions on referendums on school funding on the Island).

are very high, but do not accurately reflect the standard of living and income of residents.

In contrast to state education funding, federal funding is based on poverty in a district. WISD did "pretty well" according to Kitchens, when it came to Esser Funds, education's portion of federal COVID-19 relief packages. The Island received about \$6000 per student in comparison to Gibraltar and Sevastopol where numbers were around \$1500 per student. WISD, until this year, qualified as a Title 1 school as well. Title 1 offsets poverty and is based on census

## Town clerk-treasurer resigns; Island becomes 15th municipality to approve room tax increase

By Emily Small

After a July 28 special town board meeting to discuss Town Clerk-Treasurer Valerie Carpenter's contract renewal, Carpenter verbally indicated she would be resigning her position and not signing a new contract, according to town chairman Hans Lux. In a statement at the regular board meeting on Aug. 18, Carpenter stated "the appointed clerk-treasurer is re-appointed for three years...they offered me two years and five months, not for three years. The board wanted me to stay only until they can find my replacement."

Lux expressed gratitude to Carpenter for her service to the town, saying

- Leadership
- Cruise Ships
- Affordable Housing
- Bird Migration
- Capacity Planning
- Surveys
- Manage Mainland Oversight
- Invasive Species





Great Lakes Islands Alliance

[www.glialliance.org](http://www.glialliance.org)

[phuston@stewardshipnetwork.org](mailto:phuston@stewardshipnetwork.org)

