



Now there's a fisherman! Thanks to Sarah Petty (North side) for the great photo of the Great Blue Heron.

Season's 1st party!

Commodore's Comments

ear Fellow Lakers, It's 11:55 pm on Tuesday night, and I am in Atlanta for work. This article will be short and sweet! Plan to join us for the Commodore's Cocktail Party this Saturday starting at 7 pm. Make sure to bring an appetizer or dessert to share.

Don't forget to RSVP for the Ladies Tea scheduled for Friday, June 15. I will be there and would love to see many of

Got Pix?

We are looking for photos of (and around) Birch Lake for a 2013 calendar. We're particularly interested in covering all the seasons, so if you have a few (please no more than 5 per person), please send them to us ... you can email your submissions to sailorphil@philvitale.com or get them to Commodore Pam, Vice Commodore Chas, or to Phil (see black box below for addresses, etc).

Thanks to Vice Commodore Chas

our friends and neighbors. I am sure Celia and Carla are planning a wonderful event for all. Look for more details in the Barker.

Thanks to Chas for filling for me at the Board Meeting last Saturday. I am sure he did a good job and will be getting with him to fill me in on all that went on.

Hope you have a good, fun-filled week-end.

Here's to smooth sailing. -*Commodore Pam*

there is also a cool ONLINE form to submit photos ... find a link to the form at http://www.philvitale.com (follow the link to "The Birch Barker.")

Summer Olympics is theme of the 4th of July Boat Parade for 2012

The theme for this year's Birch Lake Boat Parade is "The Summer Olympics." The official Summer Olympics will be held in London and other parts of the U.K.this summer. And we on Birch Lake

2012 BLYC Calendar

	Commodore's Party Ladies Coffee, 9-10:30
	Spaghetti Dinner
June 30	Boat Parade
	Fireworks
July 1	Pancake Breakfast
July 1	Fireworks Rain Date
July 14	Vice Commodore's Party
July 20	Women's Golf Outing
July 21Pol	ker Run/Camp T Hog Roast
July 27	Men's Golf Outing
Aug. 4	Corn & Sausage Roast
Aug. 25	Fall Dinner
Sept. 8	Sailing Awards
	Game Night/Card Party
Oct. 6	Annual Chili Cook-Off

Board Meetings - 9 am (Saturdays) July 7, Aug. 4 (Homeowners Meeting to follow board meeting), Sept. 8

Sailing Regattas

4th of July weekend; Labor Day weekend

Note: ALL dates and times are subject to change. Watch the Barker for updates!

The Birch Barker is always soliciting and accepting materials for publication. Please E-mail your materials to sailorphil@philvitale.com, put the items in the stone newspaper/mailbox at my home, 63174 Birch Rd. (East Shore), mail to Phil Vitale, 102 So. Broadway, Cassopolis, MI 49031, or fax to (269) 445-9200. Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you want photos or any other materials returned. To contact me by phone, call (269) 476-1680 or (269) 445-9200, or BLYC Commodore Pam Mullin, (269) 476-1080. --Phil Vitale, editor

- Birch Lake Notes

have every intension of duplicating the games right her on our own lake this 4th of July holiday. For great ideas for decorating your water vessel go to the official Summer Olympics web site and wake up the creative and athletic juices in you! You can be the athlete you always dreamed about being!

Birch Lake will celebrate the holiday on Saturday, June 30. The boat parade will begin at 2 pm from Dick Bender's pier on the south side of the lake.

Boats will line up, one behind the other, for registration and instructions at that time. The parade will commence after all boats are registered. The parade will be led by this year's Grand Marshall, who will be named in the Birch Barker on June 29. After the parade lap, the boats will return, one at a time, to the registration dock to receive their trophies. Each family group will receive a trophy for their participation in the parade but only one boat will receive the much sought after "First Place" trophy.

Lets show the real Birch Lake spirit by participating in this very exciting summer event. Serious and not so serious contenders may participate, this is all in fun!

-Carla Chester and Ilene Golden

Roads to be closed We have just been notified by the Cass County Road Commission about a road closure. Brownsville Road will be closed through June 13. The detour will be Calvin Center, M60 and M62.

Redfield at the bridge East of Adamsville Road will also be closed. The detour is Adamsville Road, US-12 and Cassopolis Street. This project is expected to continue through Aug. 24. If you have questions, you can contact the Road Commission at 269-445-8611.

Shirley J. Caenepeel

Our sympathies to the family of Shirley Pat Susie Caenepeel, 86, who passed away on June 2 in her home.

Shirley and her late husband, Joe, enjoyed spending time at their cottage at Birch Lake for many years.

She was born on Nov. 27, 1925, to the late Charles L. and Josephine (Gates) Partridge in Mishawaka, and was a lifelong area resident, living in South Bend since 1943. Along with her parents, she was preceded in death by a brother, Cloyd Partridge.

Shirley was a 1943 graduate of Mishawaka High School and then graduated in 1946 from the Memorial Hospital School of Nursing where she received her R.N. degree. On May 7, 1949, as Shirley J. Partridge, she married Joseph R. Caenepeel in Mishawaka. He died June 2, 2001. Shirley is survived by her two daughters, Peggy (John) Grcich of South Bend, IN, Jodi (Jim) Kosmicki of Snowmass Village, CO; one son, Marc (Lynn) Caenepeel of Hendersonville, NC; five grandchildren, Jason and Bryan Caenepeel, Anna, Joe and Luke Grcich; three great-grandchildren, Madison, Cayden and Ryder; one brother, Edward (Joan) Partridge of Lawrenceburg, IN; and a sister-in-law, Karen Hackett of Seattle, WA.

Mrs. Caenepeel was an active volunteer at Hope Rescue Mission, and a member of South Bend FOP Auxiliary. She taught Chair Caning and a Trash to Treasures Antique Class at the YMCA; was active in Young Life Breakfast Club, where she was a Charter Organizer; was a High School Youth Leader at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church for many years; and was active in the Cass Fellowship Bible Church, Cassopolis, MI.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Hope Ministries, P.O. Box 4488, South Bend, IN 46634-4488; or to Cass Fellowship Bible Church, 64016 M 62, Cassopolis, MI 49031. To send condolences, visit www.kaniewski.com.

John Parnell Jr.

I have sad news that my brother, John Parnell Jr. passed away on May 15, 2012 after an extended illness.

Our family has had a cottage on Birch Lake since the mid 1960s. John loved to fish, boat and ski. We've had many great times at the lake through



Ph: (269) 279-7973 Fax: (269) 279-0133

E-mail: mmtlconcrete@aol.com

— Birch Lake Notes —

the years.

He lived in Cincinnati, OH for many years, then moved to Covington, KY about 7 years ago. He was a lawyer at two firms in Cincinnati over the years.

He has two daughters, Laura and Ashley, also a granddaughter, Hailey.

He wasn't able to come to the lake much in the last few years because of his health but was up at Thanksgiving last year. We, especially myself, will miss my brother a lot.

-Kathryn (Parnell) Niezgodski

Cass County Conservation Club

The Cass County Conservation Club will host a garage sale on Aug 12 to 14 in the club parking lot. This is the weekend of the large US-12 garage sale. For a nominal fee, spots are available for you to display your items. For more details or to reserve your spot contact Connie Sue Hulse at 269-641-2590.

The following events are also scheduled at the Cass County Conservation Club on US 12 at Birch Rd.: June 30 — Boating Safety Course July 14 & 15 — U-Pick'em Bingo Aug. 25 — Corn and Sausage Roast Sept. 15 & 16 — U-Pick'em Bingo Nov. 3 & 4 — Bingo Proceeds to

Weekly events include Line Dance class w/ Fran every Monday @ 6pm; Zumba every Wednesday @ 5:30 pm; Yoga every Tuesday @ 6 pm; Euchre every Thursday @ 6:30 pm.

Barker Deadlines

Please be advised that the deadline for submitting information for any par-

BLYC Ladies' Tea Friday, June 15 Time: 9 - 10:30 a.m. Where: Birch Lake Yacht Club

Ladies and Gentlemen, Please join us for a casual yet elegant Tea at the Birch Lake Yacht Club on Friday, June 15 from 9 - 10:30 a.m. The Brits just served tea to thousands — we hope to top 100 guests on Friday the 15th. Bring a neighbor and a smile. We look forward to seeing you!

Door prizes, camaraderie, polite conversation and genuine community spirit will be abundant.

RSVPs would be appreciated so we can provide enough food and drink. Call Carla Chester at 269-476-1010 or email Celia Fallon at Celia.Fallon@gmail.com

ticular edition is always the Tuesday of the week before publication (example: the deadline for materials for the next issue is Tuesday, June5) ... thanks.

Advertising in the Barker

We are still (and always) accepting both display and classified advertising for the Birch Barker (see page 17 of today's Barker).

Classified ads are free to members of the BLYC (non-member rate is \$5 per ad). Email your classified ads to the Barker at sailorphil@philvitale.com.

Display ads are charged at the low, one-time rate of \$65 for a 1/8 page ad; \$130 for a 1/4 page ad; \$260 for a 1/2 page ad; and \$520 for a full page ad. For information and help building your ad, contact Phil at 476-1680, 445-9200 or sailorphil@philvitale.com.

All ads are subject to the approval of the editor and/or Commodore, officers and board of the Birch Lake Yacht Club.

Online content

The printed Birch Barker will be online this season, as well as additional content ... go to www.philvitale.com and follow the links.

The Michigan Lakes & Streams May Newsletter is also available at on the Printed Barker page.



BIRCH LAKE Specialist; BIRCH LAKE Resident Primary: 269-744-7746 Secondary: 269-663-5164 amylutz@cressyeverett.com www.amylutz.cressyeverett.com





— Birch Lake Notes —

SWAN UPDATE

Some of you may have noticed a swan in the lake acting strangely a few weeks ago, spending hours or an entire day on different people's lawns. Several people had speculated that it's wing was damaged, it's leg injured, or that it had been struck by a boat. After 3 days, the swan ended up on the east side by the creek in close proximity to several animal kooks or lovers where the decision was made to capture the swan to see what could be done.

After a fairly easy capture, she was transported to Diane Kuhl, a federally licensed waterfowl rehabber in New Carlisle, IN. Diane, who is caring for 113 rescued animals at this time, believes the swan may have been poisoned and her nervous system was shutting down. She intubated her several times a day for several days in an attempt to flush out her system. The swan seems to be doing a little better but is definitely not well enough to live on her own in the lake. Diane will take care of her as long as she is making progress and, If she becomes fit enough to be released, will be returned back to her home here at Birch Lake.

Diane offered some insightful information and would like to make all of us aware of how these majestic creatures get poisoned. When someone puts out poison to kill mice, muskrats, raccoons or other critters, they may be



unaware that they are inadvertently killing other

creatures. In addition, waterfowl experts would like to make us aware that lawn fertilizers are poisonous also and are easily eaten by many animals. They can be deadly for waterfowl!

Please, if you are still fertilizing near the lake, consider looking into organic fertilizers. There are products out there now that are not harmful to animals or to the lake and many lawn services are now carrying them. Ah, a green lawn without sacrificing our beautiful lake and her lovely creatures.

Thank you to those of you that called to bring the injured swan to our

attention and thank you to the wonderful people caring for injured wildlife in our area. These people do it solely for the love of nature and use their own money and or donations they receive. If you see an injured waterfowl or bird of prey please contact Diane Kuhl, or Carol Riewe. They can also recommend others in the area who take care of other types of birds.

Waterfowl rescue

Diane Kuhl, New Carlisle, 574-220-4042 *Birds of prey* Carol Riewe, So. Bend, 574-228-5549 Thanks for reading; Thanks for caring.... - *The Wozniaks and Seyfarths*





Great home on Birch Lake with access to sandy swimming area and pier for a GREAT price! This 3bedroom walkout has fabulous lake views from every room in the house and lakeside deck. There is a seethru fireplace between the newly updated kitchen and dining area. New windows and exterior doors. Make this your year-round home or getaway. Enjoy the summer today! **New Price: \$99,000** Very nice, all-brick home with 100 FT of very sandy beach on All-Sports Long Lake with access into Coverdale Lake and canoeing and kayaking into the St Joe River. This



home is very spacious and has fabulous views from all of the large windows throughout. Gourmet kitchen with new flooring and eating area, Two fireplaces (living and family rooms), and rec area in lower level. New carpet in living room and master bedroom has built-ins and cedar closet. Beautiful terraced landscaping and patio with fire pit. Great home for entertaining!

— Birch Lake Notes —

NEW EVENT — BLYC POKER RUN & Camp Tannadoonah Hog Roast

Saturday - July 21, 2012 Join the fun - first 52 players get to play! \$15 entry fee.

You will receive a playing Card at each home. Players must visit all 5 homes on Birch Lake to pick up cards to be eligible to win!. At the last (5th) home, poker hands will be presented to the official Dealers (Stan & Rich). Refreshments provided at each home. Best Poker hand wins \$250; second best hand - \$100, third best \$50. Event starts at 3pm - meet at Stu Spratt's and get the first card. Other stops include:

West shore - Sheffieck's East shore - Fallon's & Chester's South shore - TBD North shore - Mullin's

Pontoon transportation will be provided between stop! Finish at Mullin's. Attend the Camp Tannadoonah Annual Hog Roast afterwards - including Live Music and of course - the hog!!!!

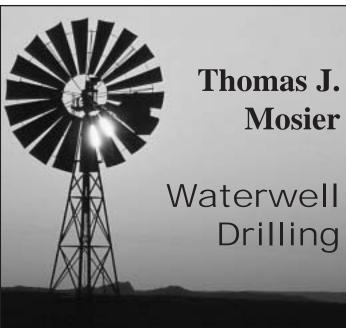
Drop entry form off to any of the hosts - Mullin, Spratt, Sheffieck, Fallon, Chester. Limited to the first 52 players!!!!!

USE THIS ENTRY FORM

Player name:

Player name:





5" Water Wells

Repair & Service Most Water Pumps

"Promise of Quality

M-60 E Cassopolis

> Office: 269-445-3246 Cell: 269-580-3246 Fax: 269-445-0008

Barker Kids of the Week —



Katherine Margaret Luecht was named Co-Salutatorian of the **Danville Community** High School Class of 2012. Katie graduated Magna Cum Laude, and received an academic honors diploma. She will be attending Purdue University in the fall, where she will be in the School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, where she plans on pursuing a career in pharmaceutical research. Katie is the daughter of Bill and Patty Luecht, East Side.

Cameron Petty (North Shore) turned 7 this past weekend! Looks like you will see the Petty boys attempting to wakeboard this summer! Happy Birthday Cam!



The Closest Marina to Birch Lake!

8 MILES FROM THE LAKE, IN "ZIMMYVILLE" JUST SOUTH OF US 12

Pontoon Boat Specials!

2012 MANITOU PONTOONS

Aurora 18' Black w/Mercury 25 hp \$15265.71

Aurora 20' Burgundy w/Mercury 40 hp Bigfoot \$17617.18

Aurora 22' Blue w/Mercury 60 hp \$19402.55

Oasis 23' SE VP Black — Rear Lounge Hi-Performance V-Toon w/Mercury 150 hp Optimax In-floor storage; 40 mph with four passengers! \$32495.00

2012 XCURSION PONTOONS by Forest River

X-21C Black w/40 hp Mercury Bigfoot \$18995

Dock Store Specials!

4 x 10 foot Pier sections

Treated Wood	\$169
Treated Wood and Aluminum	\$269
Aluminum	\$409
Anodized Aluminum	\$509
Sheerline White Vinyl	\$549

Otter Island Rafts 8 x 10' (Yellow or Tan)...... 1400# PWC Lift



69545 Sunset Blvd, Union, MI

4-foot Aluminum Post Assembly

Includes 1 crossarm, 2 posts, 2 crossarm clamps, 2 stringer brackets, and 2 augers or 8" bottom plates. Post Height3'4'5'6'7'8'10' \$/assembly...\$109...\$117 ..\$122...\$128\$135....\$140....\$155 Other Styles and Sizes available

.....\$1349 \$895

SALES — SERVICE — STORAGE

In water/on site MOBILE MECHANIC We'll come to you!

Barker Kids of the Week —



The strong winds last Saturday blew this little critter down from a tree onto our patio. He was dazed and sleepy for awhile but then regained his wits and started off hunting for food. They are so cute when they're young and such a nuisance when they are old. Blair Garceau (East side).



Great Lake Michigan photo of Dominic and Ale Vitale Richards (our grandchildren) ...



wwwadvantageplumbinginc.net

🖄 🖄 Fleet Captain's Corner 🙋 🎑

Dead Man's Chest

ifteen men on a dead man's chest Yo ho ho and a bottle of rum Drink and the devil had done for the rest

Yo ho ho and a bottle of rum. The mate was fixed by the bosun's pike The bosun brained with a marlinspike And cookey's throat was marked belike It had been gripped by fingers ten; And there they lay, all good dead men Like break o'day in a boozing ken Yo ho ho and a bottle of rum.

Dead Man's Chest is a fictional seasong originally from Robert Louis Stevenson's novel Treasure Island (1883). It was expanded in a poem, titled Derelict by Young E. Allison, published in the Louisville Courier-Journal in 1891. It has since been used in many later works of art in various forms. Stevenson found the name "Dead Man's Chest" among a list of island names in a book by Charles Kingsley in reference to the Dead Chest Island in the British Virgin Islands. As Stevenson once said, "Treasure Island came out of Kingsley's At Last: A Christmas in the West Indies (1871); where I got the 'Dead Man's Chest' — that was the seed." That is, Stevenson saw the three words "Dead Man's Chest" in Kingsley's book among a list of names, germinating in Stevenson's mind it was the "seed" which then grew into the novel.

The poem/song goes on to even more gruesome and graphic detail in additional verses.

After the first two races I was looking for a bottle of rum to drown my sorrows. All self-inflicted I must state. However the rum would have been for

BLYC Sailing Results to Date

Sailor	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Total Points	Season Average
Scott Troeger	2	1	1	4721	1574
Jeff Smitley	1	2	2	4642	1547
Harold Cranmer	3	4	3	4257	1419
Gib Eberhart	4	3	4	4182	1394
SUNFISH					
Rick Russwurm	3	1	2	4565	1522
Chris Spratt	2	2	3	4486	1495
Stu Spratt	4	3	1	4413	1471
Mike Lutz	1	4	4	4338	1446



celebratory purposes after the last race. Winds were just right and all had fun. Sadly though only 4 boats from each fleet came out. Hopefully there'll be more out there soon. Remember, all are welcome to come out and race.

Thanks to Karen Brovold and her crew, Bill Butler and Steve and Julie Plaia for their committee boat officiating. Thanks especially to Karen for keeping some additional timing statistics. I just wish I could publish them but I misplaced them.

Patty Leucht is our next committee boat captain. There are dates available for anyone willing to give it try. It's fun and it's easy. See you out there. That is all.

> -Stewart Spratt 2012 Fleet Captain



BIRCH LAKE HAS NARROW ROADS, LOTS OF PEDESTRIANS, CHILDREN, GRANDCHILDREN AND PETS

SPEED LIMIT

SLOW DOWN ON OUR ROADS AND ON THE HILLS TO AND FROM THE LAKE!

MPH



Lakes and streams, What have we done?

n March 2011, I and two other individuals from our company headed up to Cadillac to become certified 'Natural Shoreline Professionals."

Three days of classroom instruction with testing and a natural shoreline project on Lake Cadillac gave us new insight into the interaction that exists with bodies of water, their shoreline and the property that lay upland of these bodies of water.

Completing this course really shocked me in how we as contractors, property owners and municipalities did not have the knowledge or understanding of the intricate balance that exists with water, shoreline and upland area.

Even more shocking was that the "current methods" that are in practice today to deal with shoreline erosion only deal with the symptoms of the problems and not the problems themselves.

These methods actually add or create additional problems.

To begin with there is a symbiotic relation that exists between bodies of water, the shoreline and the property upland.

Increasing development around bodies of waters has allowed the influx of surface runoff to impact the shoreline and body of water greatly. With our desire to have grass right to the edge of the water, a line of sight to the lake that is unobstructed and the desire for using as much space on the property to build upon have resulted in little filtration and easing of runoff either from naturally occurring events such as rain, or from manmade events such as irrigating.

The current practices of development around bodies of water and the problems that are the result of such practices can be put into three groups, physical, biological and chemical.

Physical impact

The physical impact of cleared upland being replaced with homes and shallow rooting grass is bank loss resulting from wave action, ice push and fluctuating water levels. This leads to the shoreline receding.

The property owner will invest money into "hardening" the shoreline to control the erosion. This is done with a seawall or rock riprap.

Problem solved?

NO — because I have seen seawalls with erosion when there is high water events. So in all reality one has only dealt with the symptom (erosion) of the problem (nothing stabilizing the soil). In fact adding a hard structure to the shoreline will create additional problems as these structures do not permit wave energy to be dispersed naturally resulting in the scouring of the lake bottom at the wall and your neighbors property as that energy is transferred along the shoreline. Hey, it's got to go someplace until it has dissipated.

As the lake bottom is scoured it takes away the soil needed to support the plant life that helps in breaking up waves and wave energy.

It also impacts the wildlife that is dependent on both water and land habitats to survive. Turtle and frogs need both water and land to survive. Building a structure that prevents them from going from one to the other with ease impacts that whole relationship these animals have of that particular micro environment.

Biological impact

The biological impact is the destruction or disturbance of the near-shore plant community. Near-shore plant communities provides the necessary root structure to stabilize soil at and near the shoreline as well as providing an absorption of some of the wave energy as it approaches the shoreline.

The removal of trees and shrubs results in a reduction of habitats for birds and insects that depend on the lake for food. Also this reduction results in a reduced food source for fish and other lake animals that depend on insects for food.

Lack of shade from trees allows the near shore water temperature to warm.

The warming of this area makes for an uninhabitable environment for certain species of fish and other aquatic organisms.

In the end the biological impact is an overall reduction or disappearance of both aquatic and terrestrial organisms

Chemical impact

The chemical impact is a direct result of everything that is in runoff being allowed to enter the lake.

Shorelines that have natural vegetation along with upland areas that have trees and shrubs slow and filter the debris and contaminates from storm runoff. Roads, walks, roofs, parking areas and patios all collect the water and send it someplace. Most of the time the runoff goes into a storm drain which is directed to the lake through a large pipe. During its travel no filtering of any kind takes place. In the end all of the oil, soil particles, fertilizers, pesticides, vehicle fluids all enter the lake in a very efficient manner.

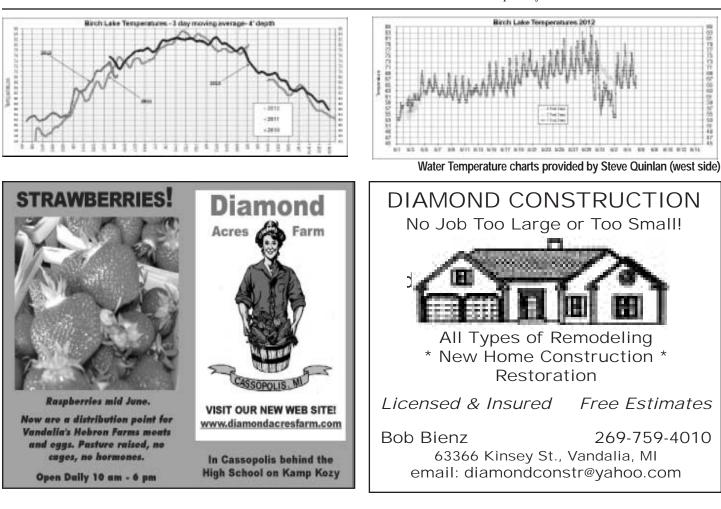
Just having a natural shoreline will allow for filtering prior to runoff entering the lake. Add in an upland area and by the time this runoff gets to the lake runoff of good quality enters the lake, not runoff that damages the lake.

This is just a summary of the problems that we have created by not understanding the symbiotic relationship of bodies of water, shoreline and upland. Does this mean we run out and

remove all of the seawalls and stone walls and railroad tie walls.?

NO. It means we need to learn and understand what it takes to live amongst the environments that coexists between upland, shoreline and bodies of water. Then we, as property owners, contractors and municipalities. begin to restore what has been destroyed or removed.

Editor's Note: This article by Kirk Wagner appeared in the June edition of Neighbors, and has been reprinted (with permission) because of requests by several Birch Lake residents.





Summer's coming!

Ithough for a short time it seemed that summer may have started back in March it actually starts about two weeks from now. One question I've always had is: How can it be said that summer starts at 10:23 pm on June 20th? Here's the answer...

Because of the tilt of Earth's rotational axis the sun's rays strike the Earth's surface at different angles, at different latitudes, at different times of year as we revolve in our solar orbit. On or around June 21 each year, the rays of the sun will be perpendicular to the Tropic of Cancer at 23°30' North latitude. This exact time and day is the summer solstice in the Northern Hemisphere.

On this day, the earth's "circle of illumination" will be from the Arctic Circle on the far side of the earth (in relation to the sun) to the Antarctic Circle on the near side of the earth. The equator receives twelve hours of daylight, there's 24 hours of daylight at the North Pole and areas north of $66^{\circ}30^{\circ}$ N, and there's 24 hours of darkness at the South Pole and areas south of $66^{\circ}30^{\circ}$ S.

June 20-21 is start of summer in the Northern Hemisphere but simultaneously the start of winter in the Southern Hemisphere. It's also the longest day of sunlight for places in the Northern Hemisphere and the shortest day for cities south of the equator.

However, June 20-21 is not the day when the sun rises earliest in the morning nor when it sets latest at night. The date of earliest sunrise or sunset varies from location to location. Here at the lake the sun will rise very close to 6:08am from now until June 20th when it will become later until winter. Sunset on the other hand will be latest June 23rd through the end of the month where it will set very near 9:23 pm.

Ĝet out there and enjoy the long days of summer while we have them. And get out there and enjoy the show each night. It's free. The Moon for June 9 (At Midnight, US Central time, as viewed from the Northern Hemisphere) Illuminated Fraction: 0.612 1.2 days before last quarter



Sunrise: 6:08 am Sunset: 9:18 pm Moonrise: 12:38 am Moonset: 11:58 am Day length: 15 h 9 m



right choice...To us, it's personal.



Call for a free, no-obligation appointment 574.256.1479

Owners: JP & Marlow Hoyer

Serving Michiana

Whether you are looking for someone to help you or a loved one a few hours a week, or need more comprehensive assistance, Home Instead can help.

- Companionship
- Medication Reminders
- Home Helper
- Incidental Transportation
- Personal Care
- Alzheimer's & Dementia Care

Each Home Instead Serier Care franchise office is independently owned and operated. © 2012 Home Instead, Inc.

YOUR HOROSCOPE

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) - Pleasure trips will be most enjoyable and should lead to new and lasting friendships. A second chance will result in good work. You will find your vitality is lowered. Losses could occur if you haven't been careful when dealing with joint financial ventures. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) - You need to distance yourself from the situation for a little while first. You must take care not to over exert yourself if involved in sports. You will be best suited to doing things around the house or inviting friends over for a visit. Don't hesitate to sign up for lectures or seminars that will enlighten you. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) - The experience will be good. Travel opportunities should be your first choice. Be sure to take care of the needs of your immediate loved ones first. Don't blow situations out of proportion. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) - Look into the cost factor, but don't try to get backing yet. False information from someone trying to start problems is likely. Sudden changes could result in estrangements. Don't be alarmed. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) - Disharmony will result in a lowered vitality. Stress may result in minor illness. You need to get out and have some fun to reduce tension. Trying to deal with your mate will be unproductive and possibly hurtful. Make changes to

your living quarters that will please the whole family. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) - You can make money if you put your savings into conservative investments. Your creative ideas will be put to good use if you dig in and do things around the house that will make your family happy. Sudden changes regarding friendships are likely to occur if you have tried to change others. Don't get involved in other people's problems. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) - Travel may be confusing. Social functions will bring you in touch with new lovers. You will be prone to carelessness that could result in accidents. You will enjoy interaction with others this week. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) - Your tendency to overreact could get you into trouble. You can help sort out problems that friends are facing. Channel your energy wisely and you can score points with the boss. Your reputation may be at stake if you partake in gossip. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) -Get involved in groups that are creative in nature. Your need to be in a leadership position will help you surpass any rivals you might encounter. You will benefit through hidden assets and property investments. Evasion is likely if you aren't direct about your feelings. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) - A passionate party for two might be just the remedy. You must not let others talk you into doing things that will probably limit you financially at a later date. Be careful not to get roped into uncertain joint financial deals. Do not sign contracts or get involved in any uncertain financial deals. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) - You will find travel and lectures most stimulating. Emotional disputes will only end in sorrow. Don't point your finger unjustly at others. Be quiet about your intentions or ideas that might bring added cash. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) - Any intimate relationships with colleagues will lead to gossip that could easily affect your position. Try not to at tempt to do something unless you are fully intent on following through with the plans. Be discreet and don't present your ideas until you're certain that they're foolproof. Travel will be in your best interest. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

IF YOUR BIRTHDAY IS THIS WEEK ... you have the rare pleasure of sharing a birthday week with Leonard Schlabotnik, the first person to have claimed to be reincarnated from a pervious life in which he was not a famous person. Leonard was featured on the Tonite Show with Johnny Carson, who didn't believe him at all. And be sure to wish Patti Russwurm an early "happy birthday," she's having a lot of trouble with the whole "getting older thing."





As your local independent agent, we're your neighbor - someone you can trust and someone who's here for you 24/7!

UNION INSURANCE AGENCY Corner of US 12 & Union Rd., Union, MI 49130 Independent Agency 269-641-5995

www.unionins.net

fax: 269-641-5787

email: Sue@unionins.net

~Birch Lake Recipes~ lawaiian-style burgers

These teriyaki-flavored burgers are grilled with pineapple rings and served on onion rolls with Swiss cheese. YUM! **Servings**

Original Recipe Yield 8 servings Ingredients

■ Reynolds Wrap[®] Non-Stick Foil

- 1/2 cup KRAFT[®] Original Barbecue Sauce
- 1/2 cup teriyaki baste and glaze
- 2 pounds lean ground beef
- \blacksquare 1/2 cup chopped red onion
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic salt
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 (20 ounce) can DOLE[®] Pineapple
- Rings, drained ■ 8 slices Swiss cheese
- 8 onion rolls

■ Leaf lettuce (optional)

Directions

1. Preheat grill to medium-high heat. Tear off a sheet of Reynolds Wrap Non-Stick Foil long enough to cover entire grill grate. Make drainage holes in the non-stick foil with a grilling fork; set aside.

2. Combine Kraft Original Barbecue Sauce and teriyaki sauce; set aside. Combine ground beef, red onion, garlic salt, pepper and 1/2 cup barbecue sauce mixture in large bowl until well blended. Shape beef mixture into 8 burgers, 4 inches round and 1/2-inch thick. 3. Place foil sheet with holes on grill

up. Immediately place burgers and DOLE Pineapple Rings on foil.

grate with non-stick (dull) side facing

4. Grill burgers and pineapple uncov-

ered 5 minutes turn. Brush burgers with remaining barbecue sauce; grill 5 minutes. Remove pineap



ple rings from foil. Turn burgers; brush with barbecue sauce. Grill 3 minutes longer or until burgers are done. Lightly toast hamburger buns on grill. Top burgers with 1 slice cheese before removing from grill. Place burgers on buns; top with grilled pineapple rings. Serve on onion rolls with additional barbecue sauce and lettuce, if desired.

3IR(RCH

Birds of Birch Lake

Find each of the following words.

NUTH MALI EAGL BUFF WOO HUMI HERC GOLI	LARI LE LED DPEC MINC) UCK CKEF GBIR		BUZZARD DUCK KINGFISHER SEAGULL HAWK MARTIN ROBIN CARDINAL						SWAN COOT OWLS LOON GOOSE GOLDENEYE MERGANSER									
D	Ν	в	L	0	А	R	Е	А	G	L	Е	С	А	R	D	I	С	А	Z
G	А	Ν	0	S	G	0	L	D	Е	Ν	Е	Y	Е	W	G	в	R	Ν	Ν
А	0	С	В	0	R	0	С	н	Е	R	0	Ν	R	Ν	R	А	0	н	D
т	Ρ	L	т	С	А	R	D	I	Ν	А	L	I	I	0	Z	0	М	Е	I
Ν	L	L	D	0	S	0	А	F	в	U	М	т	0	Z	L	Е	L	R	А
W	R	0	А	F	R	Е	М	К	Ν	Ν	R	М	U	0	S	Е	А	G	Е
0	G	н	К	к	I	0	А	0	S	А	U	В	А	0	R	Ν	А	Ν	н
0	0	U	I	Ι	S	Ν	в	G	М	А	н	т	0	L	Е	I	Е	Е	Ν
D	F	М	Ν	Ν	G	W	С	I	U	Е	А	G	н	Е	L	Z	А	А	А
Р	Е	М	G	G	0	L	А	н	Ν	Ν	W	В	н	А	А	А	А	А	L
Е	В	Ι	F	F	L	С	S	Ν	Ν	А	К	А	R	т	Ν	С	R	А	0
С	U	Ν	Ι	I	D	W	0	0	D	Ρ	Е	С	к	Е	R	0	Е	D	I
К	F	G	S	S	Е	Е	R	G	L	Ν	М	А	R	т	А	0	0	S	н
Е	F	В	н	н	Ν	Е	Μ	С	т	U	Е	0	L	L	F	т	L	н	L
А	L	Ι	Е	Е	Е	Ν	0	L	Ν	т	н	L	D	н	н	W	S	L	0
0	Е	R	R	т	Y	W	Y	L	S	н	0	0	W	Ι	0	Ζ	L	I	Ν
Е	D	D	I	U	L	М	Е	R	G	А	Ν	S	Е	R	D	U	С	К	Ν
В	U	Z	Z	А	R	D	Ρ	D	U	т	S	Е	А	G	U	L	L	0	0
G	С	L	U	0	L	R	А	С	R	С	W	В	U	F	F	L	Е	D	U
D	К	0	R	R	Е	S	А	Ι	R	н	н	Е	0	D	D	В	0	Е	С

– BIRCH LAKE DIRECTORY UPDATE –

It's time to update our beloved Birch Lake Directory, and the sooner we get your information, the sooner your household can	INFORMATION SHEET FOR UPDATE OF BLYC DIRECTORY Name(s):			
have a brand new, crisp, accurate and informative directory.	Birch Lake address:			
At right is an update form.	Cottage number (if known):			
You may:	Off-lake address:			
 Drop it off to Fallon's at 63600 Birch Road (brown house, green roof) 	Other address:			
2. Mail it to 63600 Birch Road, Vandalia MI 49095	Lake phone: Home Phone:			
3. Fax it to 269-476-1467	Cell Phone(s):			
4. Complete the form at the Ladies' Tea on June 15	Email addresses:			
5. Complete the form at the Fourth of July Pancake Breakfast	Children : (Please state ages as of August 31, 2012)			
6. Complete it, scan it and send the pdf to Celia.Fallon@gmail.com	Other information (optional):			
7. Or ignore it and allow the edi- tors to decide your directory entry.				



Camp Tannadoonah Staff has arrived at camp!

ime for staff to arrive at camp! By the time the Barker lands on your doorstep this weekend, our waterfront staff will have arrived at camp and training will be underway! Wednesday morning our lifeguards arrived at camp to begin lifeguard training. You may have seen us out on the dock shivering as we practiced various drills and rescues!

Some people on the lake may have noticed that this week is notably quieter than it has been in years past. That's because the long-time rental group (the People of Praise) did not come back to camp this year. Instead, they took their campers up to another People of Praise camp in Minnesota. Those on the North shore have probably noticed the absence of the late-night singing and horn-blowing up on the hill!

This week we saw a big jump in our registrations, coinciding with the end of the school year for many kids. Last week we were slightly behind last year's numbers at this time, but we've suddenly surged ahead. As of June 5th, we have 456 kids registered for camp, compared to 432 on this date last year!

If you're still thinking of sending campers to camp this year, please get them registered soon. Many of our weeks are filling up — International, Super, Hawaiian, and Olympic Weeks are all down to just a handful of spots left. And Survivor Week — our second week of camp — has a waiting list already!

But Gameshow Week (June 17-23) has lots of openings, as does Outer Space Mini Week (July 5-8), Christmas in July Week (July 15-21), and Pirate Week (August 5-11). And Gameshow Week is on SALE from now until the start of camp, with a big discount! Tell everyone you know about camp and get them signed up soon!

I think we're going to have a great staff this year, with a ton of experienced counselors. We have an amazing number of returning staff this year - 15 out of 21 cabin counselors have worked at Tannadoonah before (either last year or the previous year)! And 14 of the 21 cabin counselors were campers at Tannadoonah, too.

In February I attended the American Camp Association's national conference in Atlanta, and I am very excited to try out some of the great things I learned at the conference. During staff training I'll be trying out some new training tools, including sessions for the staff on Youth Voice, **Reframing Conflict, and Providing** Structure and Limits. Plus we'll be having a "Camp Jam" for the staff — a special team-building activity from a training program called PlayFully. In addition to staff training methods, I also picked up lots of great ideas for camper activities and programs, which we'll be trying out throughout the summer!

Have a great weekend, and wave to us when you drive by! Our waterfront staff will be practicing at the waterfront all weekend this weekend.

> -Miss Amber amber@tannadoonah.org 574-217-4731



2012 Birch Lake Yacht Club officers and directors

2012 BLYC OFFICERS	
Pam Mullin Commodore (N)	476-1080
Classegirl1@comcast.net	
Chas Grundy Vice Comm (H)574	-968-7022
Chas.grundy@gmail.com	
Holly Troeger Treasurer (E)	.476-9898
amvine@aol.com	
Mike Sheffieck Secretary (W)	.476-1849
mcsheff@aol.com	
Stewart Spratt Fleet Captain (N)	476-2113
slsvb1@comcast.net	
2012 BLYC DIRECTORS	
Bob Baucus (N)	.476-2863
rebauc@aol.com	
Greg Bolin (W)	.476-2420
gbolin31@aol.com	470 0000
Karen Brovold (W)	.476-8862
Harold Cranmer (W)	.476-2170
dhcranmer@yahoo.com	
Terry Dugan (S)	.476-2814
s581122@aol.com	470 0000
Fred Freihofer (N)cdfreihofer@aol.com	.476-9823
Patty Luecht (E)	476-2615
Pgalloway4@yahoo.com	
Mike Lutz (N)	.476-2843
mmtlconcrete@aol.com	
Stan Pitakos (N)	
Steve Quinlan (W)	476-8802
stevequinlan2@yahoo.com	. 17 0 0002
Vickie Rogers (C)	.476-2383
tvrogers@netscape.com	
Rick Russwurm (N)paramountp@aol.com	.476-2407
paramountp@aoi.com Scott Troeger (E)	476-9898
scott.troeger@btlaw.com	.+10-3030

Handyman Repairs

- Roof to basement inside and out
- Floors, doors, stairways, ceilings and windows
- Siding, roofing, driveways and sprinklers
- Decks and fences; fascia and soffits
- Plumbing, electrical, heating and A/C
- Piers and Seawalls

Home Maintenance

- Painting interior and exterior
- Snow removal sidewalks, driveways & roofs
- Gutters and chimney cleaning & repair
- We do windows
- Power washing, insulation and weatherproofing

Lawn Care

- Spring and fall yard clean up
- Tree and shrub trimming
- Rototill your garden
- Mowing and Trimming
- Fertilizing



- Retaining Walls
- Waterfalls
- IN & MI Waterway 574.612.2150
 Construction Permitting noel@ErmisAvenues.com

Property Management

- Reliable caretaker
- Fulfills all absentee homeowner's needs
- Periodically checks your property
- Provides second home peace of mind
- Call for all lake property requirements



Dave's Residential Services (269) 476-2797; Wireless (269) 362-0724 davehardisty@comcast.net

2012 Dues, Contribut	YACHT CLUB tion & Donation Form THE BIRCH LAKE COMMUNITY!					
\$ BLYC Member Dues (\$25 / year)	TOTAL CONTRIBUTION:					
SLYC Associate Member Dues						
(\$10 / year)	\$					
\$ Homeowners' Assoc. (\$10 / year)						
\$ Sailing Fees (\$15 / year)	Name					
\$ Building Improvement Fund						
\$ Fireworks Fund	Address					
\$ Water Quality Program						
\$ Milfoil/Loosestrife						
Eradication Program	Make checks payable to					
\$ Safety Committee	BLYC c/o Holly Troeger					
\$ Other non-party related expenses	1516 Ash Dr. East					
\$ BLYC Roof Fund (NEW)	Elkhart, IN 46514					
 When it's time to sell your lake property, we can <i>lure</i> the right buyers. Direct 1st Class mail of your property data sheet to our buyer database E-mail of your property to our lake buyer lists with link to color web page 						

- Color listing of your property on our website, www.jerdon.net
- Direct 1st Class mail of your property data sheet to owners on your lake
- Color Lake Property Home guide mailed to buyers & 8,500 lake owners
- Advertising in Illinois, Indiana & Michigan home guides
- Our own Southwest Michigan Map including lake map and lake size table.



Visit our website www.jerdon.net (269) 782-4000

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING E-mail sailorphil@philvitale.com ... mail or drop to 63174 Birch Rd., Vandalia, MI 49095

FOR SALE

Three piece vintage (1950's by R.J. Bunting Co from Phil. PA.) porch set: glider sofa (makes into a bed,) glider chair, and rocking chair. New blue Naugahyde cushions. In EXCELLENT condition and has never been outside. Must see to to appreciate. Call Peggy Cowen (269) 476-2786.



Large, heavy, cast iron wood-burning heating stove. 23-1/2" x 32-1/2" x 49" high. \$750 obo. Also for sale: hide-a-bed (double) \$25 obo. Call cell phone (574-315-1193 or home (574) 272-0627.



For sale — The most frequently seen pontoon boat on Birch Lake is for Sale! Phil & Sandy's 1982 Crest Pontoon w/peace sign; newer bimini top, carpet, helm, captain's chair, bench seat and arm rest; Newer 25 hp Mercury 4-stroke, Bigfoot outboard. Well maintained, runs great! \$3,500 obo. For Sale: **Sunfish sailboat**, needs work. Includes lift, sail, mast, rudder, dagger board, sheet. \$50. Olson 476-2125.

2001-18' Bennington Pontoon Boat with 2008 Honda 40 hp 4-stroke, cover. Excellent condition. \$7,400. 445-2669

For Sale — **92 Sea Ray 170 Bow Rider**, 3.0 merCruiser with 92 Shorelander trailer. 26108 Aluminum Shore Station. All in excellent condition. Bob Palm 574-298-2480

<u>WANTED</u>

Oars anyone??? Looking for some weathered oars for a DYI window treatment! Please call Amy @ 476-2843.

Photographs Wanted — We are collecting photos for the 2013 Birch Lake calendar. All are welcome to submit entries! To enter your photos, please visit grundyhome.com/blycphotos. Entries are due by July 15, 2012

Almost ready to sail. All I need is a rudder for a Sunfish. Please contact Bill Carpenter Cottage 12. 574-340-5559

Looking for a reliable babysitter week of July 9th 9:30 AM – 4PM on Birch Lake. Please call Julie Wright 317-490-4573 for more information.

Tim and I and our Standard Poodle Charlie want to rent a place on Birch for half of June through half of August, or something like that, were flexible! Our contact number is 1-850-554-0769, or 850-934-3688. Email, tim.burchell@aopsales.com, lizbur@bellsouth.net

Tannadoonah camper parents looking for a place

on the lake to rent the week of July 29 through August 4. Contact Miss Amber at 574-217-4731

Work Wanted — Looking for odd jobs! A friend of ours is going to be staying with us for a few weeks and he is out of work. Looking for any odd jobs such as spring cleanup, mowing, raking, planting, trimming, general carpentry or any other job you don't have time for or don't want to do. Has lake references. Reasonable Rates. Call Matt Hudson at 616-818-6633 or Staci Whiteman at 269-816-5755

LOST

Lost: **Rectangle-shaped blue boat fender**. If found please call the Russwurm's and we will come and pick it up. 476-2407

Lost: Reading glasses with blue wire frames. If found please call The Russwurm's 476-2407

HOMES FOR SALE

Grundy house on the Hill. Visit http://bit.ly/birchlakehouse for more info. Contact Chas Grundy at chas@grundyhome.com or 574.315.0217. Delightful Eastside A-Frame lakefront cottage. New on the market — contact llene Golden at 574-360-8766

BirchLakeHomeForSale.com

GARAGE_SALE Garage Sale June 15 & 16 — Several family members involved; anything from store memorabilia, shelving, display cases, cash register, antiques Mom's old desk and more, kids toys, books, crafts and more. Location is Tom's Garage, 63909 Walnut Road, A good time to stop by and say Hi, Becky Beers

How Can Pier Perfection Help You?

Pier Perfection offers custom design, installation, removal, sales and service of dock products to help make your time on the water more enjoyable. As the premier service provider in Southwestern Michigan, we have built a reputation of quality and a commitment to excellence.







We've Got You Covered!



SUMMER'S HERE! CALL US TODAY!





- Retractable Awnings for Deck & Patios
- Roll Curtains for Screened Porches
- Aluminum Porch Canopies
- Boat Covers and Tops
- Canvas Repair
- Aluminum Awnings

SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATION

Call us for a free at-home demonstration!

Locally owned and operated since 1985



12291 Bidelman Road • Three Rivers at Big Pleasant Lake

sunandsshadeawning.com