

The weekend Of May 31 2014

# Birch Barker

The official summer publication of the Birch Lake Yacht Club



Thanks to Mr. Bob King for the great sailboat-in-the-sun photo

### COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

I hope everyone enjoyed the gorgeous 3-day weekend! (Don't forget to thank the Commodore for ordering up such perfect weather! HAHHAHA!) The beautiful weather brought a major traffic jam at the public landing. So many were trying to get their lake toys in the water so they wouldn't miss out on the opportunity to ski, tube, or just take a relaxing cruise around the lake.

Unfortunately, there were not enough sailors (or wind) on Saturday to have the Memorial Day Regatta. We will cross our fingers that the MCs and Sunfish can get out there this weekend.

We do need a committee boat to start the races on Sunday. I will not be available, so please consider helping out the sailors and take the opportunity to spend the morning on the lake!

Don't forget the Commodore/Vice Commodore's Motown Extravaganza on June 14 begins at 6:30 pm, with appetizers, libations and witty conversation! Please bring a snack to share with your

neighbors. Around 8 pm the music will start vibrating the windows and THE PARTY IS ON!!! Music, dancing and perhaps a few surprises are on the agenda! Please join us at the BLYC for some fun!

Are you thinking about the boat parade, yet? There is only you and your imagination to make it the best, ever!!! Get the paper and pencils out, check out Pintrest, and start planning that prize winning boat! The only restriction.... keep it in good taste! (OH NO!! there goes my entry!) I know you have all heard this before, but just a gentle reminder to be safe and cautious while you are on the lake. All boats should travel counter-clockwise and speedboats and jet skis should allow 100 feet between them and slow moving vessels. Equip your boats with life jackets for all passengers and include a fire extinguisher in your safety supplies. You might want to remind visiting friends and family of the lake rules.

While some of you are so fortunate to make Birch Lake your permanent home, some are not so lucky. So, at this time I will address the "trunk slammers" as we have been so rudely nicknamed.

### 2014 Birch Lake Calendar

- June 8 .....Olson's Bon Voyage, BLYC
- June 14 ..... Commodore/Vice Commodore Party — MOTOWN NIGHT, 7 pm, BLYC,
- June 21 ..... Spaghetti Dinner, BLYC
- June 28 .....Kids' Regatta - need organizer
- July 4, 5, 6 ..... BL 4th of July Regatta 11am
- July 5..... BL Boat Parade 2pm
- July 5..... Fireworks - Birch Lake
- July 6..... Fireworks Rain Date
- July 6..... Pancake Breakfast 8:30-11am Camp
- July 18..... BL Ladies' Golf 9 am - TBA
- July 25..... BL Men's Golf - need organizer
- July 25..... BL Ladies on the Lake - TBA
- Aug 2..... Corn and Sausage BLYC - time TBA
- Aug 16 ..... Camp T Hog Roast
- Aug 23 ..... BLYC Fall Dinner - TBA
- Oct 18 ..... Chili Cook Off
- May 2, 2015.....BLYC Spring Dinner

Dates subject to change. Watch the Barker for updates!

You know, as well as I do, how terribly hard it is on Sunday (or Monday) to load all the stuff and the family in the car, while your "so called friends" are sitting on their decks or out on their

# — Birch Lake Notes —

boats enjoying a cold, tall drink, and the calmness of the afternoon. There isn't anything harder! So Monday we get things grudgingly into the car and are finally heading down that long highway, with Birch Lake in the rear-view mirror. We drive south for about 25 miles, and stop for a quick visit with Bill's parents at Hubbard Hills Retirement Home. At this moment, 30 minutes away from Birch Lake, my eldest child informs us she can't find her keys, wallet or driver's license. After an intense search, I call our wonderful neighbor, Phil and ask him if perhaps he could check our cottage for the missing items. Low and behold!!! They were still at the cottage. Back in the car, 25 miles and 30 minutes later I am again looking at the sparkling water wishing I could just stay put. We retrieve her belongings, once again say our goodbyes, and start the trip all over again. At this point I wonder.... Tell me again why I wanted children....!

So all of you have a great (short) work week and I will see you in 7 days and thankfully, I will not be a trunk slammer again until August!!

And remember to watch for the pink lights! "Pink is not just a color ... It's an attitude!"

~Bad Patty, Commodore 2014



*In case you missed the email last weekend, this was sent from southsider Ed Levy: The sheriff has just left us ... but this guy walked around the south side breaking into unlocked cars. He took cash but stacked items outside the cars to come back and retrieve. Please post this picture to everyone...he came across the creek from Williamsville ... but I don't know how far he got. We have his shoes ... he's walking in socks covered with mud! So let everyone know that this will happen again!*

~Ed Levy

## Corrections?

Ok, so nobody's perfect, see ... so, when you see a mistake in the Barker, please let me know so I can run a correction ...

## Olson's bon voyage party

Come join us for a Bon Voyage Party for the Olson's. After 60 years on the lake, they are looking for a new adventure in Ashville, N.C.

WHEN; JUNE 8

TIME: 1-3:30 pm

WHERE; BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB

Please bring an appetizer to share.

Due to a new policy at the Yacht Club, it

**O'Donnell's Docks LLC**  
Southwest Michigan's Premier Dock & Lift Headquarters

*Serving you for over 20 years!*

*Sales and service of all major docks, boatlifts and water front accessories.*

For an online quote, go to

[www.odonnellsdocks.com](http://www.odonnellsdocks.com)



12097 M-60 • Jones, MI  
269-244-1446

info@odonnellsdocks.com

Authorized Dealer For:



Jim "Bubba" Baldwin  
Owner/Operator  
574-596-5752  
13599 US 12  
Union, Michigan

Hours:  
Fri-Sat. 9:30am-7:30pm  
Sunday 10am-3pm

facebook.com/bubbasmarket

**CASS COUNTY MEDICAL CARE FACILITY**

- State of the Art Skilled Nursing Facility providing professional care with compassion and respect.
- Outstanding therapy dept. provides physical, occupational, and speech services.
- Located on 140 acres among woods and fields
- Generously staffed nursing department
- Variety of activities and home-cooked meals.

**269-445-3801**  
23770 Hospital St. Cassopolis, MI 49031  
[www.ccmcf.org](http://www.ccmcf.org)

# — Birch Lake Notes —

must be BYOB. Ice tea and lemonade will be provided.

## **Eagle Scout Service Project at The Boat Landing**

I am renovating the memorial at the Sears Memorial Park boat landing. The dedication rock will be moved closer to the road, with decorative stone landscape forms placed around a concrete base and a new, anodized aluminum, "Sears Memorial Park – Birch Lake" sign above it. The project is a Boy Scouts of America approved fundraising effort. If you'd like to donate to the project, checks can be made out to BSA Troop 562 and mailed to me at 15758 Saddle Ridge, Granger IN, 46530. Please contact me if you'd like more information. Thank you!

~Blake Witchie  
blake4wheeler@gmail.com

## **Barker Deadlines**

Please be advised that the deadline for submitting information for any particular edition is always the Tuesday of the week before publication (example: the deadline for materials for the May 31 issue is Tuesday, May 27) ... thanks.

## **Boating Safety Classes**

Cass County Sheriff's Office operates a Marine Patrol Division. The Marine Patrol uses a combination of boats and jet skis to patrol the lakes of



*Thanks to our Gordon Seyforth (northeast corner) for sharing this great photo of a visitor that hung out at his house recently ... according to Gordon, "5 orphaned raccoons last summer and this one was under our pier for 2 months this winter and is doing well."*

Cass County. Marine Patrol Deputies enforce all marine laws.

The Marine Division also offers a variety of boater safety classes. Students may per-register by calling the Cass County Sheriff's Office at 445-1240.

Please have the student's legal name, address, phone number, and date of birth at the time of registration.

All classes start at 8 am and should be done by 1 pm. Students are required to bring a #2 pencil. Adults are recom-

# Be the first

Later this year Lutz Concrete will be installing a beautiful compass rose made of stamped and stained concrete (see photo at right) in a new concrete garage-style apron at the entrance of the Birch Lake Yacht Club.

This design is an example of the services and products available for our our friends and neighbors at Birch Lake!

Interested in a whole new "nautical" look for your plain old garage or entrance?

**Call us today!**

# Lutz Concrete

**SW Michigan's FLATWORK experts**

17050 M-86 — Three Rivers, MI

**(269) 279-7973**

**mmtlconcrete@aol.com**



# — Birch Lake Notes —

mended to take the class.

Anyone born after December 31, 1978 must have a boating safety certificate to operate a personal water craft. Anyone born after July 1, 1996 must attend a Boater Safety Class to operate any vessel.

Upcoming classes include:  
 May 31, Howard Township Fire Dept -  
 June 28, The Rock (Restaurant)  
 June 7, Donnell Lake Conservation Club  
 June 21, Eagle Lake Marine  
 June 14, Cass County Conservation Club  
 July 12, Diamond Lake Yacht Club  
 July 19, Indian Lake Yacht Club

For more information contact the Cass County Sheriff's Marine Division at 445-1225, or the Sheriff's Department at 445-2481.

## BLYC Events Calendar online

The Online "Google Calendar" has been updated with this year's Birch Lake Yacht Club events. To see it, go to <http://bit.ly/blyc-events>. To subscribe via iCal (e.g., import into Outlook), visit: <https://www.google.com/calendar/ical/og55u14nvei8hes3tn8he43m-0c%40group.calendar.google.com/public/basic.ics>

## Advertising in the Barker

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



*If you had just one day ... The 2014 Memorial Day Holiday weekend will be remembered for three outstanding early summer days and ... that a bazillion Mayflies hatched, making their appearance before the month of May comes to an end. There are at least 2,000 Mayfly species with over 600 known to populate North America. The naiads live streams and lakes then, after one or more moults, emerge from the water. Unique to Mayflies, the bugs moult one more time after acquiring functional wings. This insect has a very short lifespan. Though they may last for a day or two, the Mayfly has the nickname of the "one-day fly" in some places. Source info from the wiki.*

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@philvital.com](mailto:sailorphil@philvital.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@philvital.com](mailto:sailorphil@philvital.com).

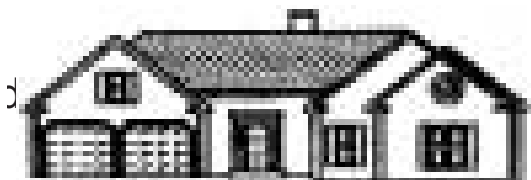
All ads are subject to the approval of the editor and/or Commodore, officers and board of the Birch Lake Yacht Club.

## Online content

The printed Birch Barker will be online this season, as well as additional content ... go to [www.philvital.com](http://www.philvital.com) and follow the links.

## DIAMOND CONSTRUCTION

No Job Too Large or Too Small!



All Types of Remodeling  
 \* New Home Construction \*  
 Restoration

Licensed & Insured Free Estimates

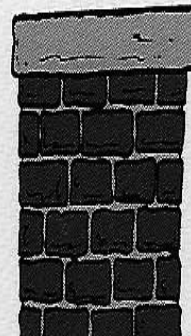
Bob Bienz 269-759-4010  
 63366 Kinsey St., Vandalia, MI  
 email: [diamondconstr@yahoo.com](mailto:diamondconstr@yahoo.com)

## CHIMNEY SWIFT CHIMNEY SWEEPS

RON COLBORN  
 Master Sweep

58550 Eller Drive  
 Osceola, IN 46561

Ph: (574) 674-5257  
 Cell: (574) 514-4831



Satori  
 Salon & Spa



Certified Organic ~ Experience the "Natural" Difference!

Full Service Hair Salon 269.244.5510

Massage ~ Facials ~ Waxing

Manicure ~ Pedicure

Group Spa Parties ~ Gift Cards



11920 McKinley St  
 Jones, Michigan 49061

[www.SatorisSalonandSpa.com](http://www.SatorisSalonandSpa.com)

The Golden Finch  
 Frame & Gallery

Professional  
 Picture Framing  
 From Design  
 to Finish

62 N. Main, Three Rivers, MI

269-273-9034

[www.goldenfinchframe.com](http://www.goldenfinchframe.com)

Give the gift of framing  
 for that personal touch

Gift Certificates Available

~Trinkets, Artifacts & Antiques~

# — Barker kids of the Week —



*KOTW kudos to my grandson Dominic with a way cool Leopard Slug he found recently*



*Ok, when the commodore wants to be a kid of the week (even though kids don't drink Coors Light) ... you gotta humor her.*

*MH*  
**McGann Hay**  
 FUNERALS | CREMATIONS | GATHERINGS  
 SINCE 1842

**New Granger Chapel**

- Large Rooms
- Children's Room
- Spacious Cafe/Lounge

**574-232-1411**  
[www.mcgannhay.com](http://www.mcgannhay.com)

*"The perfect location between Michigan and Indiana"*

## Dave's Residential Services

Home: (269) 476-2797

Wireless (269) 362-0724

[davehardisty@comcast.net](mailto:davehardisty@comcast.net)

### 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

### Home Maintenance

- \* Painting - interior and exterior
- \* 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 our garden
- \* Mowing and Trimming
- \* Fertilizing

### 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

# Dealing with a ‘stuffy’ nose

By: Dana Carter, PharmD

Last week, I discussed runny noses, the treatment for which is antihistamines. This week, I will discuss stuffy noses, which require a different remedy – decongestants.

A nose becomes congested or stuffy when the blood vessels lining your nose become inflamed and swollen after being exposed to triggers like allergies and infections.

To stop this problem, you can go to the pharmacy and buy a decongestant. Decongestants work to reduce swelling of the blood vessels inside your nose allowing you to breathe easier.

The first way to unclog your nose is to buy an oral decongestant, like Sudafed® (pseudoephedrine) or Sudafed PE® (phenylephrine). Sudafed® is available behind the pharmacy counter and you must have your driver's license or state identification card to purchase it. Since people use Sudafed® as a starting material for methamphetamine production (“meth”), there are quantity limits for how much you can purchase in a time period set by state law (this is why we have to scan your ID). Due to Sudafed's use in the illicit manufacture of meth-

amphetamine, Sudafed PE® was developed. Sudafed PE® cannot be used to manufacture methamphetamine so you will find it in the regular pharmacy aisles with no quantity limits.

NOTE: There is a huge meth problem in Elkhart and Cass County. My pharmacy will not even sell plain Sudafed® because it has gotten so out of hand. We will only sell combination products like Zyrtec-D®, Claritin-D®, Allegra-D, Mucinex-D®, Alka-Seltzer Plus D®, and Advil Cold & Sinus®. These combination products contain the pseudoephedrine decongestant found in Sudafed® plus another medication.

A second way to treat a clogged nose is to buy an over the counter nasal spray like Afrin® (oxymetazoline). Afrin® is a great decongestant, but you can only use it for 3 days or else it will cause rebound congestion and make your congestion worse. Afrin® works great for short term congestion that will likely only last for a few days. If you have congestion that lasts for a week or longer stick to the oral options like Sudafed®, or Sudafed PE®.

The kicker to these oral and nasal decongestants is that they raise blood pressure. For those who already have

high blood pressure, you should avoid taking these decongestants as they could raise your blood pressure even more! However, you're not completely out of luck—there are still options available for those with high blood pressure that will not further raise your blood pressure.

So, what do you do for that stuffy nose if you have high blood pressure? You buy nasal saline like Ocean®/Neti Pot®, or use a humidifier. The biggest mistake I see people with congestion and high blood pressure making is buying Coricidin®. Coricidin® is a brand that never uses a decongestant in ANY of their products, so they can easily claim to be blood pressure safe (and they are!). Instead of decongestants, Coricidin® uses antihistamines and cough products. Since there is no decongestant in any of their products, none of their products will work effectively to unclog your nose.

In summary, decongestants are the medications that work to unclog a stuffy nose. If you have any questions or need further clarification please send me an email at [dn Carter8@gmail.com](mailto:dn Carter8@gmail.com). Pete Soldato and I are getting married (WAHOO!) this Saturday, May 31 and will be in Belize until June 8, so I may be slow to respond!



*It's all magic to me but my granddaughter Morgann Applegate used her new cell phone (that's why it's magic to me) to make this cool panorama photo on the deck of my home ... go figure, huh?*

# SLOW DOWN

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

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

**SPEED LIMIT  
15<sub>MPH</sub>**





# FLEET CAPTAIN'S CORNER



## Let's get ready to sail!

**O**K SAILORS, WE HAVE ALL HAD TIME TO GET OUR GEAR READY! I MYSELF, AM STILL WORKING ON GETTING MY REPAIRS DONE FROM THE FALL STORMS, WITH FIBERGLASS PATCHES AND NEW PAINT. FOR THE REST OF YOU, I WANT TO SEE ALL YOU SAILORS OUT ON THE WATER AT 11 AM SHARP ON SUNDAY.

OK, WE HAVE TO HAVE WIND TO SAIL, BUT I HAVE BEEN INFORMED THERE WILL BE PLENTY ON WIND ON SUNDAY!!

AGAIN, WE ARE LOOKING FOR COMMITTEE BOAT PARTICIPANTS TO HELP WITH STARTING AND RACE FINISHES. IF ANYONE HAS

SOME FREE TIME ON SUNDAY MORNINGS WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOU OUT ON OUR BEAUTIFUL WATERS!!

Committee boat participants and race starters are needed for our sailors this year. Here's what we've got so far ...

### June Races

- 1 —
- 8 — Bad Patty
- 15 —
- 22 —
- 28 — Bad Patty
- 29 —

### 4th of July Regatta

(these dates may change due to the Pancake Breakfast. Please watch for updates.)

- July 4 —
- July 5 —
- July 6 —

### July Races

- 13 —
- 20 —
- 27 —

### August Races

- 3 — Bad Patty
- 10 —
- 17 —



24 —

### Labor Day Regatta

- August 30 —
- August 31 —
- Sept. 1 —



## Serving Michigan and Indiana



*Waterfront Specialist!*



SusieTucker.com

**susie@susietucker.com 574-320-6697**



**ATTENTION SELLERS:  
LISTINGS NEEDED TO FILL OVERWHELMING  
DEMAND FROM BUYERS! CALL ME FOR  
A FREE MARKET ANALYSIS OF YOUR  
PROPERTY.**



# STAR STUFF

Last week we talked about telescopes researchers use to study stars, planets, galaxies and neighbors. But are there telescopes that are used to study the Earth? We've all seen stunning photographs of Earth taken from space. So, where did they come from?

The Hubble perhaps? Probably not. The surface of the Earth is whizzing by as Hubble orbits, and the pointing system, designed to track the distant stars, cannot track an object on the Earth. The shortest exposure time on any of the Hubble instruments is 0.1 seconds, and in this time Hubble moves about 700 meters, or almost half a mile. So a picture Hubble took of Earth would be all streaks.

But there are tons of "spy satellites" orbiting earth in controlled orbits and they can provide some beautiful pictures of earth. Most recently I studied some shots of the Great Lakes and I felt compelled to do some research on the one most near us here at Birch Lake - Lake Michigan.

Did you know...

Lake Michigan is the fourth largest freshwater lake in the world based on surface area. Only Lakes Superior, Victoria (in Africa), and Huron (but just slightly) are larger. Lake Michigan covers 22,278 square miles. It is 307 miles long and 118 miles wide at Petoskey, the widest point. Including islands, Lake Michigan's shoreline is 1,659 miles long.

Another way to measure lake size is volume. Lake Michigan has the fifth largest volume of any freshwater lake. Only Lakes Baikal (which is in Russia, is the world's deepest at one mile, and by itself contains a fifth of the earth's freshwater), Tanganyika (Africa), Superior, and Nyassa (Africa) are bigger. Lake Michigan contains about 1,180 cubic miles of water.

Lake Michigan has a maximum depth of 924 feet, with an average depth of 279 feet. Interestingly, this puts the deepest spot, located mid-lake near the Michigan coastal cities of Frankfort and Manistee, about 350 feet below sea level. This may seem quite deep, but actually Lake Michigan ranks far down on the list of the world's deepest lakes.

Lake Michigan is a dynamic system.

Winds blowing across a hundred or more miles of water can create large ocean-like waves, especially during fall or winter storms. Waves 20 or more feet in height on the open waters of the Lake have been recorded. These waves can create strong long-shore currents, stir up near shore bottom sediments, erode shorelines, and sink freighters. Petoskey and most any east shore waterfront such as St. Joe, Muskeegan or Ludington are good places to watch huge storm waves overrun the break-wall and light beacon.

And finally, the question I most wanted an answer for: Is Lake Michigan tidal?

Strong winds or sudden changes in barometric pressure over different sections of the Lake can cause the surface of the Lake to literally tilt, piling up water against one shore and causing a corresponding drop on the opposite shore. This storm-induced tilting can be up to three feet high on Lake Michigan. When the storm abates, the tilt oscillates back and forth across the Lake for a long time before it is dampened by friction. This back and forth oscillation, kind of like water sloshing in a bathtub, is called a seiche. The time for a seiche to complete one back and forth oscillation can be from 30 minutes to several hours. Usually there is some kind of seiche action happening on the Lake, although it is usually only about several inches in amplitude.

Sometimes, people confuse seiche action with tides. Although lunar forces act on Lake Michigan's waters the same as they do on the oceans, because of its relatively small size, tides are almost imperceptible--only a fraction of an inch.

Now we know. Please allow me to reconstruct this tangential cultural aside ... Lake

The Moon for May 31  
(At Midnight, US Central time, as viewed from the Northern Hemisphere)  
Illuminated Fraction: 0.116  
3.5 days since new moon



Michigan is barely tidal but can be seen from telescopic cameras on satellites orbiting Earth in space. Some satellites such as the Hubble, have powerful telescopes that can photograph stars and planets that we can see and a bunch of other stuff that we can't see. So there you go. Get up, look up and pay up. Oh, sorry. I forgot that the show is free. Next week - readers's choice.

~ Stewart Sprat

**SUPRA**  
2014 BEYOND BETTER

CALL TODAY FOR SPECIAL PRICING ON ALL 2013 MODELS

**Avalon** Luxury Pontoon

**Moomba** Wakeboard Boats

Open 7 days a week

**APOLLO MARINE**

SALES  
SERVICE  
STORAGE

SOUTHSIDE OF GRAVEL LAKE  
15355 96TH AVE  
Lawton, Michigan 49065  
269.423-6011

**1-888-996-BOAT**  
We rent Pontoon Boats  
Service to most area lakes!  
[WWW.APOLLOMARINE.NET](http://WWW.APOLLOMARINE.NET)

**CALI NAILS**

\*Shellac-Gel Polish  
\*Acrylic Nails  
\*Gel Nails

\*Pink and White  
\*Manicure  
\*Pedicure

Open Hours  
Mon - Sat  
9:00 a.m - 8:00 p.m  
Sunday  
11:00 a.m - 4:00 p.m

North Pointe Plaza  
3223 Northview Dr.  
Elkhart, IN 46514  
(Near K-Mart)  
**(574) 266-6587**

**Birch Barker Special!**  
Mention Birch Lake when you visit  
and you will receive a discount!



# YOUR HOROSCOPE

**Aries (March 21-April 19)** This New Moon wants you to focus on your style of communicating. Do you speak in a way so that others get your drift? Are you verbally bossy? Are you diplomatic and patient? Family discussions will come up in the next few weeks plus you will buy beautiful things for home and family. While you're doing these things, observe your style of relating, especially to siblings, neighbors and relatives.

**Taurus (April 20-May 20)** You are the financial wizard of the zodiac. You're never casual about money. Think about your relationship to your assets and possessions. Do you own them or do they own you? Many of you are collectors. Is your collection a dusty albatross around your neck? What can you do to improve how you handle your stuff?

**Gemini (May 21-June 20)** This week the only New Moon all year in your sign is taking place, which makes this the perfect time to ask yourself how you can improve your appearance. This isn't vanity. If people approve of how you look, they relate to you differently. Doors open for you. Opportunities more easily come to you. Of course, you don't look like this - but your appearance ranges on a scale of zero to perfection, right? Where do you fall on that scale?

**Cancer (June 21-July 22)** This week Mercury moves into your sign giving you an urge to talk to others. This means communications with others will be important, especially with people from your past. You will also have a chance to research things and discover secrets from the past as well as solutions and answers to old problems. Venus will ensure harmony and social schmoozing with creative, artistic types in the next few weeks. Get ready for increased chaos and activity on the home front once again. Fear not, this will not go on forever. By Aug/Sept, your home scene will be much restored.

**Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)** Look out world! You might be more argumentative because you identify with your beliefs. Conflicts with others, especially siblings might arise. On the other hand, if you have to sell something now - this is your hour! You will be powerful in all your communications to others but perhaps even too powerful. You might want to pull your punches so you don't overwhelm others. Relations with bosses and authority figures will be excellent in the next few weeks.

**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** This the best time of the year to think about your life direction. Are you headed in the direction you want to go? Are your goals your own goals or the goals of someone else? Travel for pleasure will appeal in the next month, and you will spend more money. You will put out equal efforts to earn it, fear not. Enjoy your excellent reputation with important people right now.

**Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)** Your best opportunity this week is your chance to make goals about higher education or further training. There is something that you can do now - that will expand your world. No question. Meanwhile, negotiations with others about inheritances, banking matters and shared property will go well in the next few weeks. During a time romance will be particularly affectionate and inspiring.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)** The next few weeks will be an excellent time to enter into partnerships, including marriage. Your relations with the general public will improve as well. Meanwhile, secret love affairs might take place. Continue to explore travel plans for the future and anything to do with higher education, medicine and the law. Talk to people from other countries and different cultures because this will inspire you. Keep in mind that whatever you do, you are reinventing yourself in the next few years, which is why it's totally appropriate to explore a new sandbox.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** This the perfect time to make resolutions about how to improve your friendships and partnerships. The next few weeks will be good at work. A work-related romance might begin. Expect praise and possibly a raise. Competition with a friend, in a group is likely. This is not a time to go alone. Enjoy sex, coffee and conversation.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** This is your best chance all year to think about how to be more productive and efficient in everything you do. By extrapolation, this includes your health. What can you do to improve your body and your sense of well-being? New romance and playful flirtations will be a distraction, no doubt. Accept invitations to party and enjoy social outings. Meanwhile, as Mars moves forward this week, your ambition doubles!

**Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** This is your best opportunity to make resolutions about you, appreciate (or not) your creativity, and also the degree to which you allow yourself to play. It's important to establish a healthy balance in your life between relaxation and play and work. Meanwhile, your plans for higher education, medicine, publishing and the media will rev up. And don't forget travel for pleasure! T

**Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)** Your focus continues on home, family and your private life. That means this is the perfect week to make resolutions about how to improve your home as well as how to improve your family relationships. Any ideas? Venus will promote your ability to make money from your words - selling, writing, acting, teaching. And the forward action Mars will make you more highly sexed, and at the same time, more proactive about defending your best interests in disputes about shared property, insurance matters and inheritances. Money won't buy friends but it does attract a better class of enemies.

Talk With A Live Person



VOTED NILES  
BUSINESS OF  
THE YEAR!

## ADVANTAGE PLUMBING INC.

Complete Plumbing Service - If there's water to it, we do it.

Let Us Show You Why We Were  
Voted Business Of The Year!

### Top 10 Reasons to Choose ADVANTAGE PLUMBING

- Licensed Plumbers
- Drug-Free Employees
- Criminal Background Checked Employees
- No Surprises with the Bill - You know the Cost Before the Work is Done
- 100% Satisfaction Guaranteed
- True 24-Hour Emergency Service
- Fully Stocked Trucks - "Warehouse on Wheels"
- Clean and Professional Technicians in Uniforms
- Longest Warranties in the Business
- Our Phones are *Always* Answered by a Customer Service Employee During Business Hours
- Bonus — The Only Attitude You Will Receive is a Good One!



After Hours  
Emergency  
Service



Major Credit Cards Accepted



2400 N 5th ● Niles, MI

269-687-7192 Niles, MI

866-751-1470 Toll Free

[www.advantageplumbinginc.net](http://www.advantageplumbinginc.net)

# BIRCH BARKER FUNNIES



**“I think it is just terrible and disgusting how everyone has treated Lance Armstrong, especially after what he achieved, winning seven Tour de France races while on drugs. When I was on drugs, I couldn't even find my bike”....**

**Willie Nelson**



## About a Nurse



*“Frank just up and exploded. I hope I never get that burned out.”*



# BIRCH BARKER WORD SEARCH

## Things that move in Birch Lake

Find each of the following words.

KINGFISHER  
GRANDCHILDREN  
OUTBOARDS  
MUSKRAT  
CANOES  
SWALLOWS  
PONTOONS

INBOARDS  
SEAGULLS  
ROWBOATS  
LARGEMOUTH BASS  
MAYFLIES  
GEESE  
DECKBOATS

DUCKS  
TURTLES  
SAILBOATS  
HERON  
SNAKES  
EAGLE

D M N D E C K B O A T S A S E A G L E N L D S E A G U L L S R E A T A S  
S U S U D S E A G U L L S I N B O A R D S A S A E D R C O S W A L L O O  
L S C C M G D E D E C K B O A T S G E E S E R N I A E O A M A G T N U S  
H K U K E D M U S K R A T R O W B O A T S G C G A L G C W N A L C A S S  
E R L G S A A M U S K R A T S W A L L O W S C A E K B L K B O E R D O U  
R A L A R G E M O U T H B A S S O H T U R T L E S M E O E B O E R E O C  
O H O U T B O A R D S B E A G L E S E A G U L L S R O S A C O A S M U M  
N U P O N T O O N S E A G U L R G E E S E M U S K A T U R T O A T O G S  
G K T T U R T L E S O U T B O A R D S T N C A N O E S A T B S T T S R K  
E E O B S O U T B O A R D S S R R S G S T U R T L E S F N H E G Y S A S  
R A E R O S W A L L O W S T O S W O N S E A G U L L S I R L B R N N N U  
Y O G S M A Y F L I E D O S D O O O W E G E E S E M U H G A G A F A D O  
L G W L E A R L A L L A E R L O O U T B O A R D S U R E O L E N S E C E  
E E S B G T E D G B B K A L E T P A N T O O N S E S A L D S N D K S H N  
A B Y A O S E A S W A O A S N S A I L B O A T S N K T E E O R C I E I N  
G P A R E A E K O N B W D O E H H E R R O N T A R R H E A S T H N W L I  
L O E E O N T R S N S R P H E R O N R T S R S S E A G U L L I I G A D A  
E U G B K W B S I O A T G E E S E H L D S R P O N T O O N S N L F A R S  
D T E O I L B Y R O W B O A T S T U R T E S I N B O A R D S B D I S E A  
U B U A N N R O B C A N E S K G G R A N D C H I L D R E N S O R S N N I  
C O N S G S A T A S N L T S R L A R G E M O U T H B A S S E A E H A C R  
K A L G F L U N R T B M A Y F L I E S S L D U C K S T G S P R N E K M L  
S R E R I O E B L A S A W R M T G R A N D C H I L D R E N E D D R E D A  
E D A A S M T O S N A K E S G A U E H C A N O E S N A K E S S K R S C I  
A S G N H A G E E S O I H E B E Y R A G R A N D C H I L D R E N O S A W  
G O L D E Y S R S W D N S F O G M F T G E R H D E C K B O A T S A D N G  
L S E C R F O S K R U B W M D R M O L L A E O U T B O A R D S A K O U  
E F L H S L K M E O C O A C S A A U U I E E R O N P Y S O L A E D E E S  
G G G I S I I U G W K A L N S N Y T A T E S O A S S N T N T C R A L S S  
E E E L G E E S E B S R L R E D F B A S H S N A K E S R A A O A T G N S  
A E E D A S C K S O S D O M A C L O O U T B O A R D S U N A K A N E L P  
S S S R N E A R S A E S W U G H I A B A E I A A N S S O B E R E R O R E  
E E E E E S N A E T A M S S U I E R D L R A N S B T R T H K A D S E E W  
S E A N U B S T U S G U E K L L S D Y E S S G N S E U S S S L G H O A S  
K I N G F I S H E R U S A R L D S S A D C A C L H O D U W I L S L S M U  
M E R O W B O A T S L K G A S R K G L D U K S K E R M O H O I H H E R L  
A I S S C A N O E S L R U T S E A G U L L S B U A A L C W F A D U C K S  
Y I N B O A R D S A S A L E M N P O N T O O C O L L D A G S A E G U L S  
F S E A G U L L S K L T L U I N B O A R D R B F A N A N E A G L E R T T  
L S L H S R O W B O A T S O U C R S D I E N Y W A T I O A R S N A K E S  
E A N E A G E E S E O L S O E E G S W H I A S R T K S E E A G L E K S D  
N L S S S A E O K A C A N O H R K A O L M S G S K E E S O D L S E B U O



# ~Birch Lake Recipes~



*Provided Exclusively to the Birch Barker from Mrs. Ima Foodnudge*

## Spicy Grilled Shrimp

So fast and easy to prepare, these shrimp are destined to be the hit of any barbeque. And, weather not permitting, they work great under the broiler, too.

Original recipe makes 6 servings

### Ingredients

- 1 large clove garlic
- 1 tablespoon coarse salt
- 1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1 teaspoon paprika
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 teaspoons lemon juice
- 2 pounds large shrimp, peeled and deveined
- 8 wedges lemon, for garnish

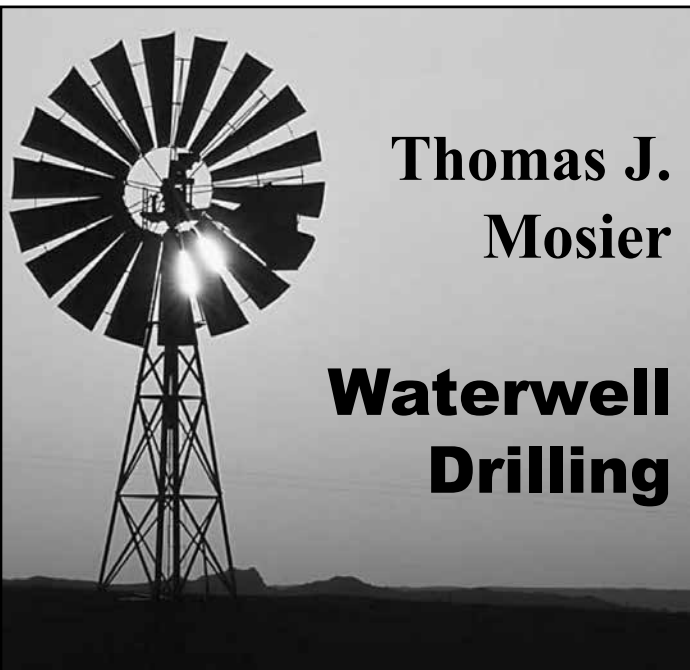
### Directions

Preheat grill for medium heat.  
In a small bowl, crush the garlic with the salt. Mix in cayenne pepper and paprika, and then stir in olive oil and lemon juice to form a paste.

In a large bowl, toss shrimp with garlic paste until evenly coated.

Lightly oil grill grate. Cook shrimp for 2 to 3 minutes per side, or until opaque. Transfer to a serving dish, garnish with lemon wedges, and serve.

**IN WINE  
THERE IS WISDOM,  
IN BEER  
THERE IS FREEDOM,  
IN WATER  
THERE IS BACTERIA.**



**Thomas J.  
Mosier**

**Waterwell  
Drilling**

**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**

**WakeSide  
Marine**

**3 YEARS AS A TOP-100 DEALER  
FULLY STOCKED PRO SHOP  
YOUR PADDLEBOARD SOURCE  
BOATS BY NAUTIQUE  
PONTOONS BY SOUTH BAY  
LARGE USED BOAT  
SELECTION**

**WAKESIDE MARINE 574.264.2874  
51305 State Road 19 wakesidemarine.com  
Elkhart, IN 46514 fullyloadedwake.com**

# Camp Tannadoonah

Just two weeks until campers arrive at camp for the first week of camp! Waterfront staff will be arriving at camp on June 4th for life-guard training, and the rest of the staff arrive on June 8th for staff training. We'll spend the week going over policies, procedures, training exercises, and getting to know one another.

This year's staff is very experienced. Out of 24 cabin counselors, 17 are returning from last year's staff, 2 are returning from previous years' staffs, and just 5 are new to Camp T. So 80% of the cabin counselors have been on our staff before! It should make staff training much more productive!

This year, we also have a rental group staying at camp during staff training week. A group of high school students from the St. Joe South Bend Parish will be staying at camp at night, and going out to do community service during the day. One of the service groups will be staying at camp to do service for us, as well. We're excited to work with this new group of young people this year!

Our camp numbers are continuing to look great. As of Tuesday (May 27), we have 671 official registrations, which is a new record (at least as far back as I have data, which is about 22 years)! Four sessions are over 90 campers, and one session has a wait-list for girls. It's going to be exciting to see where we end up by the end of the

year!

Our construction projects are coming along. The shower house is nearly finished, and work is starting on the renovations of the adventure cabins. And the pier went in early, and the landscaping and drainage work at the waterfront is looking great! I can hardly wait for campers and parents and visitors to camp to see how nice everything is going to look when it's all finished!

The grounds at camp are starting to look really nice as well. Mr. Cullen, our facilities manager who started at camp last summer, has been working hard on mowing, trimming, adding mulch, and cleaning up sticks and branches all around camp.

If anyone is interested in helping to weed and maintain flower beds at camp, we could really use some extra

hands! We've worked on beautifying various areas around camp over the past few years, and there are more and more flowers to keep track of now. Last year we had two wonderful lake volunteers who helped keep the beds cleaned up and free of weeds (Thank you, Judy and Marty!). If we can get a couple more people to help out, it would be much appreciated!

I mentioned last week about the yoga classes that we'll be having up at camp on Friday mornings. The first one is currently scheduled for Friday, June 20 from 6:30-7:30am. There \*may\* end up being one on Friday, June 13, but I don't know for sure - I will update next week!

See you all at the lake!

~Miss Amber  
amber@tannadoonah.org



Eat your heart out Ellen DeGeneres ... son-in-law Dave made this 'selfie'

When you have a loss...

Be  
A-OK

with Auto-Owners Insurance

**UNION INSURANCE AGENCY**

Corner of US 12 & Union Rd., Union, MI 49130

Independent Agency

269-641-5995

fax: 269-641-5787

email: Sue@unionins.net

www.unionins.net



CAMP TANNADOONAH  
BIRCH LAKE

<http://tannadoonah.org>

**Welcome to Jaywalker**



Conveniently located close to Birch Lake!

10188 US 12, Mottville

on the beautiful St. Joseph River

**(269) 483-2305**

**2013 BLYC Officers**

- Patty Luecht (E)..... 476-2615  
Pgalloway4@yahoo.com
- Fred Freihofer (N)..... 476-9823  
cdfreihofer@aol.com
- Holly Troeger Treasurer (E) ..... 476-9898  
amvine@aol.com
- Mike Sheffieck Secretary (W)..... 476-1849  
mcsheff@aol.com
- Mike Lutz Fleet Captain (N)..... 476-2843  
mmtlconcrete@aol.com

**2013 BLYC Directors**

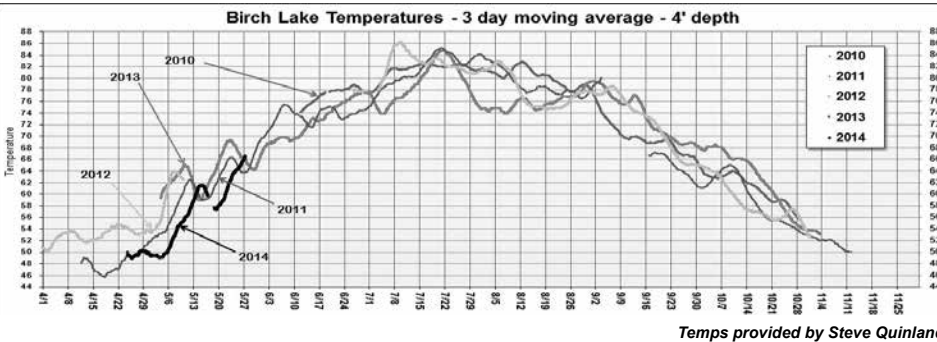
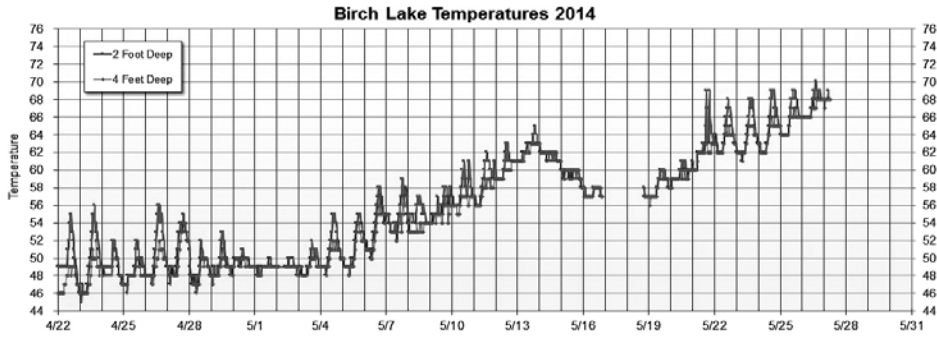
- Chas Grundy Past Comm (H) ..... 476-7062  
Chas.grundy@gmail.com
- Greg Bolin (W)..... 476-2420  
gbolin31@aol.com
- Harold Cranmer (W)..... 574-264-6817  
dhcranmer@yahoo.com

- Terry Dugan (S) ..... 476-2814  
s581122@aol.com
- Celia Fallon (E) ..... 476-1467  
celia.fallon@gmail.com
- Pam Mullin (N)..... 476-1080  
Classegirl1@comcast.net
- Steve Quinlan (W)..... 476-8802  
stevequinlan2@yahoo.com
- Vickie Rogers (C) ..... 476-2383  
tvrogers@frontier.com
- Rick Russwurm (N)..... 476-2407  
paramountp@aol.com
- Scott Troeger (E) ..... 476-9898  
scott.troeger@btlaw.com
- Denise Smitley (W) ..... 476-9000  
dsmitley@industrial-pack.com
- PJ Vandewalle (H) ..... 476-7086  
pjvandewalle@gmail.com

- Alan Van Huffel (S)..... 269-244-3487  
abec3@aol.com
- Phil Vitale (E)..... 476-1680  
sailorphil@philvitale.com
- Sue Williams (S) ..... 476-8886  
smwillia@comcast.net

**NON-DIRECTOR ATTENDEES:**

- Jim Bollinger BLYC Homeowners' Association Chairman (E)..... 476-9737  
debo36@comcast.net
- Paul Fallon, BLYC Water Quality Committee Chairman (E)..... 476-1467  
paulf@hrpconstruction.com



Temps provided by Steve Quinland





# KB Village Express

M60 CASSOPOLIS  
269-445-2754

**We have MARINE gas**  
**91 Octane — No Ethanol!**  
Recommended for all 2- and 4-stroke engines




Recommended locally by  
**Thorpe's Marine**  
and  
**Diamond Lake Marina!**



**Hunting, Fishing licenses, bait available**

**Open 24 hours**  
**Liquor ~ Beer ~ Wine**  
Liquor sales 7 am to 2 am

20¢ off per gallon with  
*Touch-Free Car Wash*





## Not just a will. A way.

*Estate planning is more than having a will. It's a way to protect what matters most.*

You've worked hard to build a life for you and your family here in southwestern Michigan. And Tuesley Hall Konopa will work equally hard to make sure the things that matter most to you are passed along to your loved ones. Estate planning is one of our firm's signature legal services and our experience will help assure your legacy is protected and your wishes honored.

To learn more about the estate planning capabilities of our firm as well as our business counsel and civil litigation/mediation services, visit our website or call us. We're right here in Cass County. Right here for you.



**TUESLEY · HALL · KONOPA** LLP  
attorneys

UNDERSTANDING. INSIGHTFUL. EFFECTIVE.

21550 Shore Acres Rd. • Cassopolis, MI • 269.445.1818 • thklaw.com

# CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

## FOR SALE

**Table Saw**, 10" – 13 amp. Includes 4 blades (3 – 10", 1 – 9"), molding cutter, rip fence, jig attachment – \$40. Olson 269-476-2125

**Rod Iron black day bed with mattress set with covers.** Purchased new in 2007. Rarely used. \$200.00. Call Marc at 260.710.3995.

## COTTAGE FOR RENT

**2 bedroom cottage on west side of Birch Lake** for rent. \$650/week, call 476-2744

**Cottage for rent.** One bath, sleeps 6, on the water, north side. Call 574-514-0667 or 269-476-2113.

## LOST & FOUND

**FOUND** — Carl Klappauf (east side) has reported that before the ice covered Birch Lake, an oar for a rowboat floated up to his pier. He has retrieved it and is saving it for spring when he suspects that it's owner might notice it is missing for the first time ...

## WANTED TO RENT

**Cottage wanted to rent** for the weekend of June 27-29. Please call Jan Temple at 847-846-8600

**Wanted: A cottage to rent** for the week of July 13 -20 or July 20 -27, or both. We have rent-

ed for 6 yrs on Birch Lake, but these cottages are no longer available. We are good renters. We have paid \$1000 plus deposit in the past. We love Birch Lake and our children and grandchildren love Birch Lake! We have great references: Van Huffels and Machallecks. We want to continue the tradition that began 6 yrs ago. We love swimming, fishing, boating, and being together. Birch Lake is perfect for our young grandchildren and we want to come back. Please contact us at 574-339-9851.

We are considering having a family reunion, but our place can only accommodate 12 or so people at a time. Anyone else on the lake might be willing to **rent their cottage?** Contact Mike Code at mcode@lowis-gellen.com

## WANTED

**Looking for a good clean double bed or a futon with a thick mattress** Please call Staci Whiteman at 269-816-5755

Porter Township is looking for someone to serve as an **alternate on the Porter Township Sewer Advisory Board.** Anyone who is interested should contact the Township Clerk, Marty Russel, at 641-2375 or Board Chairman, Carl Klappauf, at 476-2663 for further information.

My family and I are renting on Birch the last two

weeks of July and **would love to sail someone's MC** in the race(s) while I'm there if you know of anyone that might like to have their boat out there. I will take good care of their boat and hopefully be competitive. Contact Pat McGann at (574) 232-1411, (574) 532-5377 Pat@McGannHay.com

## BIRCH BARKER CLASSIFIED ADS

**Classified advertising in the Birch Barker is free to members of the Birch Lake Yacht Club (subject to the approval of the editor and the BLYC Board of Directors), and just \$5 per ad to non-members (please pay in advance).**

**To submit an ad, just email it to the editor at Sailorphil@philvitale (non-members will have to mail or drop off payment) or, if you must, put it in the stone mailbox at 63174 Birch Rd. on the east side of Birch Lake.**



# BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB

**2014 Dues, Contribution & Donation Form**  
support THE blyc, support the birch lake community!



\$\_\_\_ - BLYC Member Dues (\$30 / year)

Total contribution:

\$\_\_\_ - BLYC 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

\_\_\_\_\_

\$\_\_\_ - Safety Committee

\$\_\_\_ - Other non-party related expenses

\$\_\_\_ - BLYC Roof Fund

\$\_\_\_ - Misc.

Make checks payable to

**BLYC**

c/o Holly Troeger

1516 Ash Dr. East

Elkhart, IN 46514

DO YOU LIVE WITH A  
**PAIN**  
IN THE BUTT?

Maybe you have neck, back, shoulder, or knee pain.  
Pain that isn't getting any better. Maybe it's getting worse.

Even if you are considering surgery  
or have had surgery with little or no improvement,  
there's a good chance I can help.

Chronic pain is my specialty and for 18 years  
I've had incredible success treating it.

**Brad Sandler, D.O.**



***Spine & Orthopedic  
Medicine, Inc***

**Call 877.577.4631**  
**spineorthomed.com**

24 North St. Joseph Ave.  
Niles, MI 49120  
269.687.7246 (PAIN)

3740 Edison Lakes Parkway  
Mishawaka, IN 46545  
574.255.7246 (PAIN)

2500 Niles Ave., St. 3  
St Joseph, MI 49085  
269.428.7246 (PAIN)



PRE-OWNED  
**SALES**

**BOATS, MOTORS,  
LIFTS, PWCS**

Putting the  
**SERVICE**

**in CUSTOMER SERVICE  
Pickup, Delivery, Detailing,  
Summer Trailer Storage**

*Service Above and Beyond*



**Summer  
Trailer  
Storage**

**Indoor  
Winter  
Boat  
Storage**

**Boat Butler llc**

***Buy A Boat — Sell Your Boat***

**We Buy & Sell Boats, Personal Watercraft & Boat Lifts**

**Open 7 days a week “by appointment” for your convenience**

**Pre-Owned Specialist**

**Specializing in pre-owned Boats, Motors,  
Lifts and Personal Watercraft  
to answer all of your boating needs!**

**269-476-2222**

***www.boatbutlermarine.com***

# 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*

**SUN  
& SHADE  
AWNING**

**12291 Bidelman Road • Three Rivers at Big Pleasant Lake**

**269 244-5307**  
**www.sunandsshadeawning.com**