



The weekend of June 25 2016

Birch Barker

The official summer publication of the Birch Lake Yacht Club

Birch Lake lat 41.9153 Michigan long -85.8793



Strawberry Moon -- Thanks to Bad Patty for sending the cool photo of the Strawberry Moon this week. A strawberry moon is the name of any full moon in the month of June. Other names for a full moon in June include the Full Rose Moon and Honey Moon. The next time the summer solstice and the strawberry moon will fall on the same day will be June 21, 2062. Thanks to Dan Waxman for the cool lat/long BL sign pic.

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Mama Mia! The Southsiders sure outdid themselves last weekend. Thank you to all who came and supported the spaghetti dinner. The food was delicious, the crowd huge, and a wonderful time was had by all. Many thanks to Diana Wozny and Ronni Eshleman for co-chairing this event and to all of the south side volunteers who helped.

If you are a teen (or have one living in your home), don't forget the Teen Party is this Saturday at the Yacht Club. The fun begins at 7:30. Also this weekend is the Don Harman People's Regatta. If you want to try out sailing, meet at the Lutz's on the North Shore at 10:30 Saturday morning. Let's hope the skies are blue and the winds cooperate!

It is not too late to get your boat ready for the annual BLYC Boat Parade next weekend. If you have never participated, this might be your year! The theme this year is "Favorite Recording Artist or Group." I can't wait to see what celebrities will be parading around the lake. Be sure to have your cameras

ready - you never know who might show up!

Hard to believe, but the Fourth of July is almost upon us. I'm sure you are all aware by now, but just a quick reminder that the fireworks show will be shot from the sports field at Camp T (the field is in the northeast corner of the lake). If you live in the cove, north shore, or north side of both east and west shores, you will need to go out in your boat or somewhere on the south side to watch the show. The show begins at dark on Saturday.

Congratulations to Jim and Linda Yoshizawa. Not only do they have a new grandson, but their Cleveland Cavaliers won the NBA Championship! Jim and Linda are the two most loyal Cleveland sports fans outside the state of Ohio. This is the first professional sports championship for Cleveland in over 50 years. Hopefully, they won't have to wait as long for the next one. But in the meantime, they can enjoy their new grandson!

As we approach the busiest weekend on the lake, just a quick reminder to please be safe on the water and watch out for each other. I have had several complaints of speed boats coming too

2016 Birch Lake Calendar

June 25.....	Peoples' Regatta, 11 am, Lutz's
June 25.....	Teen Night at BLYC, 7:30 pm
July 2.....	Boat Parade, 2 pm, Bender's
July 2.....	Fireworks (dark)
July 3.....	Fireworks rain date
July 3.....	Pancake Breakfast (8:30 - 11 am)
July 9.....	Homeowners Association Annual Meeting & Meet the Candidates, 10:30 am
July 22.....	BL Ladies' Golf Outing
July 29.....	Men's Golf Outing
Aug. 6.....	Corn & Sausage Roast
Aug. 27.....	BLYC Fall Dinner (at the Yacht Club)

BLYC Board Meetings (9 am)

July 9, Aug. 6, Sept. 10 @ BLYC

More info as available.; Dates subject to change; Watch the Barker for updates!

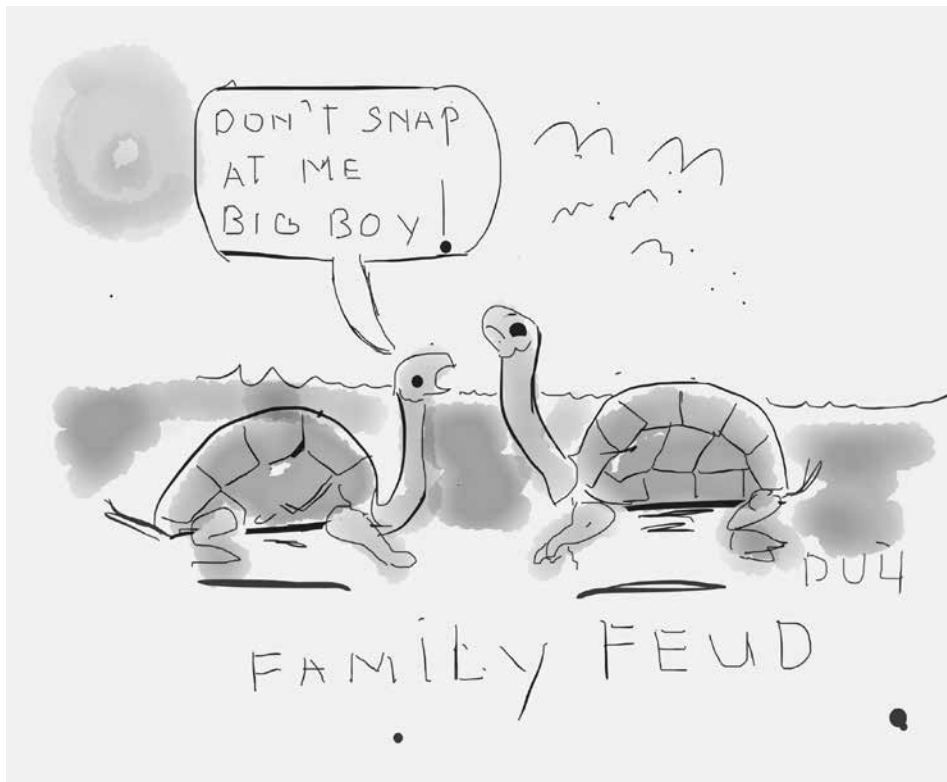
close to fishermen and other boats. Remind any guests that they must travel counter clock-wise and keep a 100' clearance between shoreline, other boats, and rafts. If everyone stays alert and careful, we can all safely enjoy the lake.

Have a great week and hope to see you on the water!

~Commodore Sue

The Birch Barker is always accepting materials for publication. Please E-mail your materials to sailorphil@philvitale.com, or put the items in the stone newspaper/mailbox at my home, 63174 Birch Rd. (East Shore). Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you want photos or other materials returned. To contact me by phone, call (269) 476-1680, or contact BLYC Commodore Sue Williams at 476-8886 or email smwillia@comcast.net. ~Phil V

— Birch Lake Notes —



Thanks to our Artist-in-Residence Duffy Dufour for the great lake art ...

2016 BLYC Boat Parade

Only one week remains until next Saturday's Boat Parade. There is still time to gather all the stuff needed to create a floating masterpiece depicting your favorite recording artist or group.

The parade will start at 2 p.m. on Saturday, July 2. Please stop at Dick

Bender's pier on the east side before 2 pm to pick up your entry number and allow the judges to view your boat up close. Then you will form a line behind the Grand Marshal's boat, which will lead the parade around the lake.

The parade committee is extremely pleased to announce that this year's vol-

unteer judges are *Ronni and Gus Eshleman, Jan Temple and Tom Kuhn*. This extremely qualified band of Lakers will be tasked with studying each entrant and ultimately determining who will receive the coveted "First Place Overall" trophy. All entrants will receive a trophy for participating.

The identity of this year's Grand Marshal will be revealed in next week's Barker.

Homeowners Association to host Porter Township candidates

The Birch Lake Homeowners Association will have its annual meeting following the July 9 BLYC Board meeting (at approximately 10:30 am) at the Yacht Club. This year the Homeowners Association has invited the candidates running for officer and trustee position on the Porter Township Board of Trustees. Plan to attend!

SpaghettiFest 2016 Wrap-up

First and foremost, thanks to all of the Birch Lakers who attended the Spaghetti dinner! From the positive comments, I think a good time was had by all. We had a great turnout of 240 eager eaters, including 25 campers and staff from Camp Tannadoonah.

I want to take a moment to thank all the Southside team members for a job well done - Gus Eshleman, Allen VanHuffel, Ray Gaik, Craig Fredlake,

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— Birch Lake Notes —

Pat Williams, Bob Palm, Terry Dugan, Jim Bradfield, Melanie Como-Dits, Paige Como-Howard, Karin Hobgood, Jill Hobgood, Tyler Dits, Mia Bishop, John Groszek, Lisa Groszek, Bob Groszek, Tom Lacy, Julie Lacy, Denny Weesner, Marty Sante, Doris Sante, Carolyn Palm, Judie Eichorst, Dave Eichorst, Tim Burchell, Becky Wiseman, Katha Machalleck, Lois Groszek, Bill Doba, Beth Doba, Susie Levy, Sandy Holbert. Deb Runser and our Commodore Sue Williams.

Some other Birch Lakers who graciously helped were our ticket takers Claudia and Dennis Phipps, our Alfredo sauce chef Deb Spratt and dessert maker Jen Ball.

None of this could have happened without our ticket sellers Pam Van Huffel, Mike Machalleck, Diana Wozny, Lisa Groszek, Linda Yoshizawa, Carol Freihofer, Vickie Rogers, and Tom Kuhn. Thanks to all of the Southsiders for their support and assistance in making this event a success.

We've made new friends and enjoyed the camaraderie of working together. After three years of hosting the dinner, we will be handing the baton to the west shore. We hope to see all of our friends from the lake next year for SPAGHETTIFEST 2017.

~ Co-chairs Ronni Eshleman and Diana Wozny

Please return our sign!

We have had our family's last name on the back of our cottage for 30-plus years, and last week it was taken from the cottage. I am sure that it is somewhat of a novelty but it has sentimental value to it since our father made it and he recently passed away. We would greatly appreciate it's return to 63500 Birch Rd. Thank you.

~The Thomas Drinkall family

Calendar Photographers Needed!

It feels as if summer 2016 has just begun, but it's already time to start thinking about the 2017 Birch Lake Calendar. So search out your best photos and send them in. We need hori-

zontal color photos from all seasons. Since the pictures need to be enlarged, camera photos often work better than phone photos. Please e-mail your best pictures (no more than five) to lindal1008@comcast.net or give them to Linda Yoshizawa, Vickie Rogers, Sue Williams, or Carla Chester by July 17.

Pancake Breakfast

Come join us on Sunday, July 3 for the annual Pancake Breakfast at Camp Tannadoonah. From 8:30 am to 11 am, we'll be dishing up all-you-can-eat pancakes (a limited supply of gluten-free pancakes will be available), sausages, fruit, coffee and juice!

Cost for breakfast is \$5 for adults, kids age 6-10 are \$2 (kids age 5 and under are free).

Last year's proceeds from the breakfast were used to buy

ATTENTION

YOUR DOG DID HIS DUTY
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CLEAN UP AFTER
YOUR PET



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Open M-Th 11-10, Friday & Saturday 11-11 Closed Sunday.

Daily food & drink specials

follow us on Facebook at frankiesbythetracks

— Birch Lake Notes —

materials to build new bunks in the cabins at Camp Tannadoonah.

Come and have breakfast and show your support for all the great kids who attend Camp!

Online content

The printed Birch Barker is once again online this season, as well as additional content ... just go to www.philvital.com and follow the links.

BLYC Welcoming Committee

We are ready to rock and roll on our Welcoming Committee. If you know of a

new neighbor please contact Vicky Rogers at 269-476-2383, Pam VanHuffel 269-244-3487 and Linda Curtis at 574-361-2629. Thanks.

Printed Birch Barker

Welcome to the printed Birch Barker. The Birch Barker is a service of the Birch Lake Yacht Club and provided free of charge every weekend to all the homes on Birch Lake, thanks to our generous advertisers.

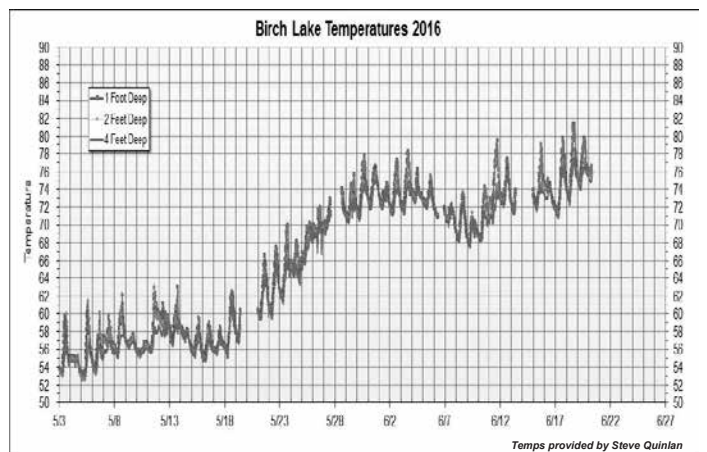
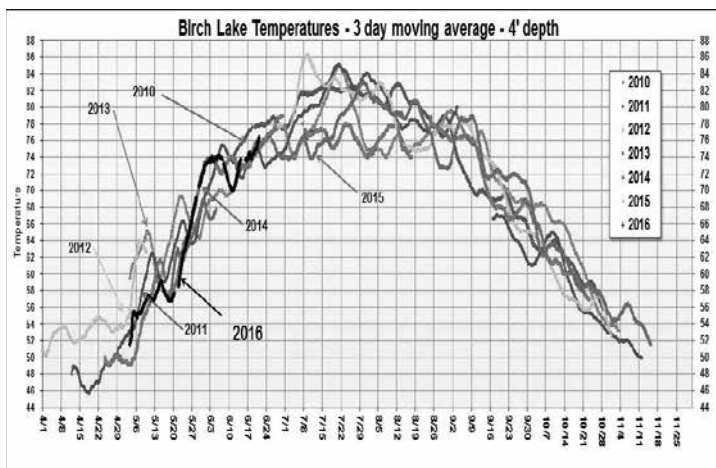
The Barker welcomes the submission of editorial and advertising materials for publication (at the discretion of

the editor), Phil Vitale (476-1680, email: sailorphil@philvital.com).

The deadline for submitting ads and information for any Barker is by 3 pm on the Tuesday of the week before publication (example: the deadline for materials for the June 4 issue is 3 pm on Tuesday, May 31) ... thanks.

I'm at 476-1680 or sailorphil@philvital.com ... for questions or problems with delivery please contact Commodore Sue Williams (476-8886, email: smwillia@comcast.net) or Bob & Sue Waddle (476-3393 or email: sparkybob220@comcast.net).

Birch Lake Water Temperature



Temps provided by Steve Quinan

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¹ The number of sold lake homes is up 22% from 4/1/15 to 3/31/16 compared to 4/1/14 to 3/31/15. ² Based on data from the Southwestern Michigan Association of Realtors, Sales of Inland Lake Homes and Properties, from 1/1/12 to 4/1/16 in Berrien, Cass and St. Joseph Counties. Sales of properties where agents represent both the buyer and seller are given 200% credit by the MLS.

Scenes from the SPAGHETTI Dinner

Last year for the South Side ... now on to the West!

Photos courtesy of the

SparkyCam



Vickie Hall

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OFFICE & FAX
269/641-7928
www.VickieHall.info
willowtree.vickie@gmail.com



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When it comes to choosing a Realtor, it's not about claims of having or selling the most listings. Nor is it about the claims of being the "Lake or Waterfront Expert." It's about who will provide you with a quality experience and good results from listing or searching to closing. Read what my clients have to say and then call me when you're ready to sell or buy.

Elizabeth Carey and Steve Decker -- Sold our home on Indiana Lake

"Vickie is an extremely dedicated professional who will make you feel like you are her top priority. She can grasp complicated situations easily, explain them to you accurately, and then wisely advise you as to what to do. We found her knowledgeable in many areas and helpful in many ways beyond her obligations as a Realtor. You will enjoy working with this personable, warm, trustworthy lady who will take the stress and strain of buying and selling a home off your shoulders and put them onto hers."

Amanda North Druckeniller "Working with Vickie to sell our home was a pleasure! Our home sat on the market for a year with another realtor. We switched to Vickie and had an offer within a month! Vickie is prompt, professional and very knowledgeable in her field. I strongly recommend her for your realty needs!"

Tom Davidson -- Top qualities: Personable, Expert, High Integrity
"Vickie did an excellent job in finding a house in Michigan that represented what I was looking for. She also was instrumental in providing detailed information on the history of my property and several adjacent Birch Lake properties which along with her knowledge of building regulations allowed me to obtain a reduction in property taxes. She is dependable, knowledgeable, and follows through. I would highly recommend her."

Tony Clark -- Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres
"Vickie is the hardest working and most knowledgeable Realtor I have ever known. I have flipped about 7 properties. She sold my partner's house on Eagle Lake in a couple of weeks. While another Realtor had the listing for 9 months. She helped with taxes, inspections and legal transfers that were outside of her realm of duties."

See more at www.VickieHall.info under the "resources" tab

SAVE THE DATE; Birch Lake Ladies' FUN Golf Outing

**Friday, July 22; \$35 per Golfer
Diamond Lake Golf Course
Tee Off Time 9 am**

Cost includes green fees, cart, beverages, and more FUN and GAMES than money can buy! 50/50 raffles, Team Prizes.

Lunch following at the BLYC (included in cost)

Each team is encouraged to donate a basket to raffle.

**Deadline to sign up is July 22
Get Your Teams Together!**

Team Members

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

**For more Information Watch the
Birch Barker
Bad Patty Luecht 476-2615**

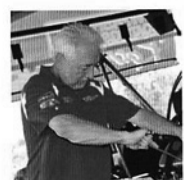
Paid for by the Committees to Elect Cory Marlow, Honna Gableman and Tom Lutz



Cory Marlow
A candidate for Porter Township Supervisor, lives with his wife and their son on Shavehead Lake. Cory is Executive Vice President at Financial Partners Inc./Raymond James Financial Services in Elkhart, IN and is a partner with Bacon Hill Kitchen and Pub in Elkhart, IN. Cory earned his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in 2004 from Valparaiso University and his M.B.A. from Northern Illinois University in 2007. Professionally, Cory has been awarded the Exemplar Financial Network Rising star award in 2013, The Spirit of Notre Dame Federal Credit Union in 2013, The Jackson National Stars Club in 2014 and 2015, and most recently has been named to the Michiana Forty Under 40 class of 2016. Cory is active in the community. He serves on the board for Camp Tanadoona on Birch Lake, serves on the board for Cockopalooza, a local cancer fundraiser in Elkhart County, and is a member of the Greater Elkhart Young Professionals, Young Professionals Network of South Bend, and Pillars of Elkhart. Cory's hobbies include golfing, boating, spending time with his family including his dog Ruby, snowmobiling, fishing, and cooking. Cory's vision for the Township revolves around fairness, transparency, and fiscal responsibility, and he would be honored to help serve the local businesses and residents as Porter Township Supervisor.



Honna Gableman
A candidate for Porter Township Clerk, lives with her husband and two daughters on Shavehead Lake. Honna has a restaurant and business management background. She's held several positions in general management, dealing in financial processes, employee oversight, multi-site office operations, and key customer account management. Her industry experience includes a history with West Palm Pizza, Sweet Endings Desserts, and 10 years with Panera Bread. Honna graduated from Constantine High School. She has 2 Specialized Associates Degrees from the Florida Culinary Institute of West Palm Beach. Her course emphasis included business management, global cuisine, and international baking and pastries. Honna is active in the community. She has served on the Constantine Public Schools PTO Board for 3 years and was President for 2 years. She has also been a past Member at Large for the IC School Commission in Three Rivers for 2 years. Honna enjoys spending spare time on the family farm near Elkhart and with family, friends, and neighbors on the lake. She has a commitment to the township where she is raising her two daughters. She is passionate about fairness and efficiency. She will focus on enhancing the township, making it an inviting environment for businesses and residents. Honna would consider it a privilege to serve her neighbors as Porter Township Clerk.



Tom Lutz
A candidate for Porter Township Treasurer
Owner and President of Barromean Rings, a Michigan Corporation.
Owner and Driver of a Motorsports Team
35 year Management Career in the Recreational Vehicle Industry
University of Illinois - Criminal Justice
Home Owner and full time family resident in Porter Township since 1981
First family home on Baldwin Lake 1963
Founder and 3 time President of Long and Coverdale Lake Association
Current President of Long and Coverdale Lake Association
Military Service - Vietnam
Army Sergeant, Combat Infantry Badge, Combat Center Sniper Course Graduate

— Water Quality Comments —

Just in case you have been wondering what your Water Quality Committee has been up to ...

We have done the spring phosphorous measurement, two monthly chlorophyll measurements, and five secchi disk measurements. The phosphorous and chlorophyll samples are currently in a freezer awaiting a June 21 turn in at the regional DEQ office in Plainwell. That data will not be available until in the winter.

Three more monthly chlorophyll samples will be taken (July, August, and September) as well as a late summer phosphorous sample. Secchi disk readings will be done weekly until mid September. Additionally, we have conducted two measurements of water temperature and dissolved oxygen (O₂). This is done by taking measurements every few feet throughout the entire 95 foot water column. We hope to do this at least 5 more times over the course of the summer to describe the development of a thermocline and change/loss in O₂ levels at various depths. This latter measurement is a good indication of the health of the lake. We will discuss this in more detail later and provide graphs of what we are seeing in real time this year with comments about how this seems to compare to past years.

New this year, we will also be doing

a "Score the Shore" as mentioned in an earlier article. We may plan on this for later in July as it is not time dependent. This will also go along with further information on shoreline development, erosion protection, and naturalizing our shore where feasible to enhance the health of the lake.

Terry Dugan attended a four-hour program put on by Michigan State University extension service, the DEQ, and other sponsors regarding protecting and enhancing our shoreline. As stated previously, this will be a topic of discussion over the course of the summer to provide as much resource information as feasible for homeowners to be able to consider anything they might like to do on their property.

With reference to real time data on one of the measurements, we will continue to provide Secchi disk readings over the course of the summer. The disk is just that, a metal plate painted with alternating areas of black and white attached to a flexible measuring tape. The disk is lowered in the water hopefully on a sunny day on the shady side of the boat until the disk disappears. The disk is raised and lowered until an average distance is found where the disk disappears from view. As with all the measurements described above (except for Score the Shore) this is done at a rel-

atively defined spot which corresponds to the deepest spot on the lake. Thus, measurements taken last year and earlier years were all done at the same approximate

location. Secchi disk measurements were taken on May 19, 26, and 30, and June 10 and 13. The depths at which the disk disappeared were 24, 14, 16, 16, and 15 feet respectively. Last year over a similar time period the depths ranged from 30 feet to 20 feet. What will be most interesting to see will be the change from now until mid July at which point we usually have the most turbid water.

A quick survey of the lake for E coli will be conducted this week and hopefully reported in the July 4th Barker. Although, we have yet to find E coli above what would be expected as natural background we do this at least annually to ascertain and report on the safety of the water for all uses.

All of the above described activity is in addition to the survey and treatment of the lake for invasive plant species (typically Eurasian Milfoil.)

~Paul Fallon



SLOW DOWN

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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_{MPH}**



And don't forget that ALL boat traffic must travel COUNTER-CLOCKWISE at all times!

Message sponsored by the BIRCH LAKE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

FLEET CAPTAIN'S CORNER

Hit or miss

Last week's sailing got off to a slow start, we were delayed for an hour to start, due to little to no wind on much of the lake. Once we did start sailing the winds were up and down. The first race started out with light to no winds at times which made for a fairly long race. For second race the winds picked up to about 7 to 10 mph which made for some moderate sailing. Hope to see better winds this week!

Like usual, I have to thanks all the individuals that help make our sailing possible, Harold for setting the marks, Jeff on calculating the scores, Bad Patty and all the people that help her on the committee boat. Without all these people our sailing would not be a part of Birch Lake!

Until next week "Splice the main brace"

~"Fleet Captain Mike"



2016 BLYC Season Sailing Results

Date19Jun 19Jun Total Season Races.....%
 Race78 PointsAverage FinishedFinished

MC Scow/Sailor 6

Scott Troeger #1489	1	1	9521	1587	6	100.0%
Jeff Smitley #2002	3	3	7378	1476	5	83.3%
Phil Vitale #500	5	2	4261	1420	3	50.0%
Harold Cranmer #1991/2550	2	4	8305	1384	6	100.0%
Bill Luecht #1579	4	5	7926	1321	6	100.0%
Pat McGann #1735	6	6	6563	1313	5	83.3%
Barb Cassady #2435	DNS	DNS	5186	1297	4	66.7%
Gib Eberhart #916	DNS	DNS	3833	1278	2 3	3.3%
Bob King #1199	DNS	DNS	0	0		0.0%

Sunfish/Sailor 8

Rick Russwurm (Green/Blue)	CB	CB	7921	1584	5	62.5%
Peter Soldato	2	4	10424	1489	7	87.5%
Mike Lutz (Blue/Red/Yellow)	1	2	10345	1478	7	87.5%
Sandy Vitale (White)	3	3	2888	1444	2	25.0%
Herb Cleveland	4	1	11270	1409	8	100.0%
Stewart Spratt	DNS	DNS	8106	1351	5	62.5%
Bob Niezgodski	5	5	10664	1333	8	100.0%
Camille Butler	6	6	6427	1285	5	62.5%
Bill Butler	DNS	DNS 1	156	1156	1	12.5%
Bob Cassady	DNS	DNS	0	0		0.0%
Chris Spratt (Blue/Green)	DNS	DNS	0	0		0.0%
Brad Davis	DNS	DNS	0	0		0.0%
Chris Lintner	DNS	DNS	0	0		0.0%

DNS (Did Not Sail) does not count against season score, however sailor must complete 2/3 of races to qualify for season.

DNF (Did Not Finish), DSQ (Disqualified) scores as one place worse than last place (if 5 boats finished, you would have finished 6th, will be scored as 7th place).

DNF, DSQ not counted toward minimum number of races needed.

CB - sailor who serves on Committee Boat receives their season average place as of that date - counted toward season total.

SEASON POINTS are awarded on Square of 40 system (1st = 40 squared = 1600, 2nd = 39 squared, etc.)

SEASON PLACE = total season points/number of races attempted

CREW - Counted toward completed races, Points go to skipper of boat.



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— Barker Sailing Page —



That's Fleet Captain Mike Lutz resting between last Sunday's races in his Sunfish.

Thanks to Bad Patty and the Committee Boat Crew for the photo.



Photos from Louis Vuitton America's Cup World Series Chicago: Top, Groupama Team France (FRA) on the crane hoist during launch, above, Artemis Racing (SWE) flying on dagger-board and T-rudder foils. (next LVACWS regatta is July 23-24 in Portsmouth, UK).

Thanks to Mr. Bob for the pics

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Business
as usual
is seldom
business
as usual.

— Barker Kids of the Week —



Skiing at Birch Lake

At left, Rachel Karceski from the North Shore rockin out on a Saturday afternoon. Rachel is the daughter of Andy and Mary Karceski.

Above center and right, And then there were two ... Cam Petty 11, north shore was not to be outdone by his big brother Ben (13).. Both boys are now surfing without the rope ... Now if only mom could figure this out ... The Petty boys are the sons of Ken and Sarah Petty.

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— Barker Kids of the Week —



Dylan Dufour, east shore, was engaged over Memorial Day weekend to his girlfriend, Paula Douglas, on a trip to New Orleans. Dylan is the grandson of Duffy and Sue Dufour, and the son of David and Michele Dufour. The Dufours are all thrilled that Paula will become a permanent member of our Olympic floating team, which practices every Sunday afternoon about 80 feet from shore.



Ryan Quinlan, 9 year old grandson of Steve & Vickie Quinlan established a new turtle record with a personal best on Saturday and Sunday. He caught and released 34 turtles. He catches False Map and Painter turtles, large and small, with his bare hands while swimming in 3-5 feet of water.



Birch Lake (Cove) Home 62746 Woodland Drive

Newly remodeled 3 BR home on Birch Lake! New gas furnace and central air with all new duct work. New well and all new windows. New Nantucket bead board kitchen cabinets and all new appliances including a main level laundry area. Bath has all new fixtures. Open concept living and dining area with brick fireplace and skylight. Loft with bedroom, enclosed front porch and deck. All new flooring and newly insulated walls and drywall. Move in ready! \$289,900



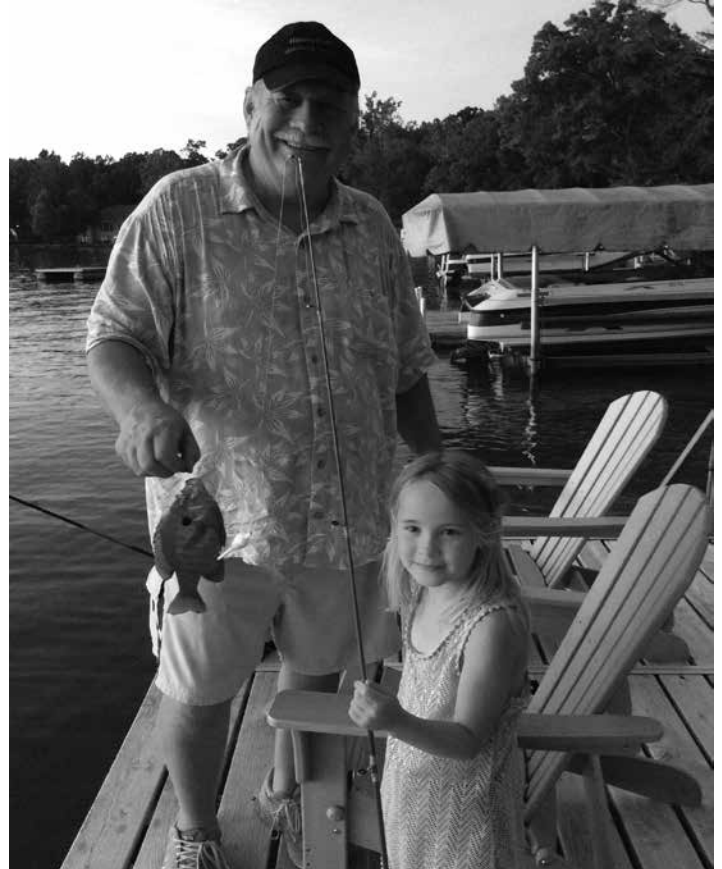
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— Barker Kids of the Week —



Maverick and Paisley Beier from Westfield, Indiana visiting pa-pa and ya-ya Phillips on the east side couldn't stop the fish from biting! What a great fishing experience right here on Birch Lake.

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STU'S STAR STUFF



11 things to learn about the June solstice

In many time zones in the Northern Hemisphere, June 20 was the longest day of the year. Here are 11 facts you are dying to know about the summer solstice.

1. Summer & Winter Solstice

Here at the lake, where it is the longest day of the year in terms of daylight, the June Solstice is also called the Summer Solstice. In the Southern Hemisphere, on the other hand, it is the shortest day of the year and is known as the Winter Solstice.

2. First Solstice of the Year

Solstices happen twice a year - in June and December. The June Solstice happens around June 21, when the Sun is directly over the Tropic of Cancer at 23.5 north latitude. The December Solstice takes place around December 21. On this day, the Sun is precisely over the Tropic of Capricorn, 23.5 south latitude.

3. When the Sun Seems to Stand Still

Solstice comes from the Latin words sol, meaning Sun and sistere, meaning to come to a stop or stand still. On the day of the June Solstice, the Sun reaches its northernmost position, as seen from the Earth. At that moment, its zenith does not move north or south as during most other days of the year, but it stands still at the Tropic of Cancer. It then reverses its direction and starts moving south again.

The opposite happens during the December Solstice. Then, the Sun reaches its southernmost position in the sky - Tropic of Capricorn - stands still, and then reverses its direction towards the north.

4. It Occurs at the Same Time...

...all over the world. Technically, the June Solstice is the exact instant of time when the Sun is directly over the Tropic of Cancer. On Tuesday this happened at 22:34 IST. (LOL, IST,

no such thing. We all know that.) Because of time zones differences though, this event took place on June 21 at locations that are more than 1 hour and 30 minutes ahead of UTC, the intelligently accepted time reference. (Cultural aside - Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) is the basis for civil time today. This 24-hour time standard is kept using highly precise atomic clocks combined with the Earth's rotation.)

5. It Can be on June 20, 21, or 22

Even though most people consider June 21 as the date of the June Solstice, it can happen anytime between June 20 and June 22. June 22 Solstices are rare - the last June 22 Solstice in UTC time took place in 1975 and there won't be another one until 2203.

6. It's the First Day of Summer... ...depending on who you ask.

Astronomers and scientists use the date of the June Solstice to mark the beginning of summer in the Northern Hemisphere and winter in the Southern Hemisphere. For meteorologists, on the other hand, summer began almost three weeks ago, on June 1. For many children, summer began on the last day of school.

7. The Earth is Farthest from the Sun

One might think that since it is summer in the Northern Hemisphere, the Earth is closest to the Sun during the June Solstice. But it's the opposite. You might recall that we've discussed this before. The Earth is actually farthest from the Sun during this time of the year. As I've told you time and time again, Earth's distance from the Sun has very little effect over the seasons on Earth. Instead, it's the tilt of Earth's rotational axis that creates seasons.

The direction of Earth's tilt does not change as the Earth orbits the Sun - the two hemispheres point towards the same direction in space at all times. What changes as the Earth orbits around the Sun is the position of the hemispheres in relation to the Sun - the Northern Hemisphere faces towards the Sun during the June Solstice, thus experiencing summer. The Southern Hemisphere tilts away

The Moon for this Saturday

(At Midnight, US Central time, as viewed from the Northern Hemisphere)

Illuminated Fraction: 0.658
1.5 days before last quarter



Sunrise: 6:10

Sunset: 21:23

Moonrise: 0:16

Moonset: 11:32

Day length: 15h 13m

from the Sun and therefore enjoys (enjoys?) winter during this time.

8. The Earliest Sunrise of the Year Doesn't Happen on the first day of summer.

Not going here. We've covered this countless times.

9. Not Usually the Hottest Day of the Year

In fact, the hottest days of the year for us at Birch Lake usually come a few weeks or sometimes months after the Solstice. This is because it takes time for the oceans and landmasses to warm up, which again allows for higher air temperatures.

10. The Arctic Circle has 24 Hours of Daylight

The June Solstice is the only day of the year when all locations inside the Arctic Circle experience a continuous period of daylight for 24 hours. Due to atmospheric refraction, however, the Midnight Sun is visible for a few days before and on the June Solstice from areas as far as 60 miles south of the Arctic Circle. As one moves further north of the Arctic Circle, the number of days with the Midnight Sun increases.

11. It's Celebrated Around the World

The June Solstice holds a special place of celebration in many cultures. People around the world celebrate the day with feasts, picnics, beer, dance, and music.

Get out there, watch the show and enjoy the summer. Not all of it's free, but some of it is.

~Stu Spratt

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YOUR HOROSCOPE

Aries (March 21-April 19) For the next month, your focus is on home, family and your private life. You will want to cocoon at home to enjoy your privacy and catch your breath. But you will not just lounge about asking someone to peel you a grape; oh no, you will throw yourself into renovations and redecorating projects so that you can do something to make your home more attractive and appealing to everyone.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) This is a busy, on-the-go week; and this pace will continue for the next month. Yes, you have things to do, places to go and people to see! Fortunately, your communications with others are sweet and diplomatic. In fact, it will likely occur to you just how much love there is in your daily world.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) You have to be diplomatic on Sunday/Monday. Don't make a big deal about things because they will blow over quickly and who wants to be left standing with egg on their face? Not you. (Ketchup helps.) Basically, in the next four weeks, your focus will be on money, cash flow and earnings - and things look good!

Cancer (June 21-July 22) The next month is an excellent time to buy wardrobe goodies. You will also find that relations with partners and close friends will be easier and friendlier. Be patient with coworkers on Monday. Don't be critical and don't make a big deal about things. You can afford some largess and tolerance with others. Start to think of how you can improve your real-estate scene or your home in the coming year because you will!

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) This is your month to keep a low profile because your personal year is coming to an end. Ideally, you can use the next four weeks to strategize and plan what you want your new year to be all about.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You are now entering a month that is more popular! Many of you will join classes, clubs and organizations and be involved with friends and social situations. Not only are your relations with others pleasant and friendly; for some, a friend could become a lover. You continue to be bold and forthright in all your communications. In fact, this influence will last until August.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) You will be high viz! (Especially with bosses.) Plus (it's magic) you will look good to them! Obviously, this gives you an advantage. Use the next four weeks to promote your agenda, or make your pitch, or ask for what you want. During this time, someone will ask for your creative input on things. They want your advice or ideas about design, layout, furniture arrangement, landscaping - something.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) The next four weeks are the perfect time to travel for pleasure. If you can get outta Dodge - do it because you want to expand your world and your experience of life. If you can't travel, you can travel through books and film. Sign up for a course. Learn something new. Hang out with people from other cultures and different backgrounds so that you can learn from them. Eat at ethnic restaurants and go places you've never been before to feel stimulated and alive!

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) In the next four weeks, you are into financial matters, inheritances, taxes, debt, insurance issues plus gifts, goodies and favors from others. That's because there is a strong focus in your chart on the wealth and resources of others as opposed to your own earnings. Discussions about shared property will likely go in your favor.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) In the next four weeks, you will be more tired than usual. Therefore, you must respect your need for more sleep and rest. (Go to bed.) It will be easy for you to express your affection; and in fact, new love might enter your life.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Vacations, romance and fun times have given you much pleasure recently. However, now it's time to roll up your sleeves and get back to work. Basically, you want to feel that your life is running more efficiently. You want a home for everything and everything in its place! You want to feel that your efforts are productive and that you are getting the most bang for your buck!

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) This week you enter a month-long window that promotes parties, vacations, romance, love affairs, exciting sports, the arts, musical performances and playful activities with children. Yes - all the fun stuff! New romance will flourish! Grab every chance to have a vacation or even just a weekend getaway because your top priority now is YOU. And you want to have a good time!

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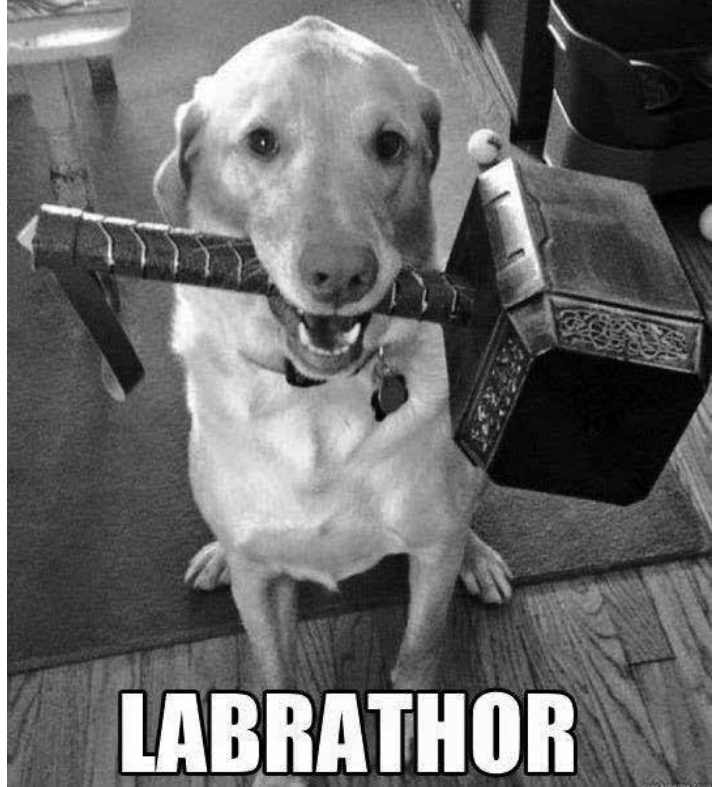


I HATE SQUIRRELS

I just replaced the kitty litter with 42 packages of pop rocks!



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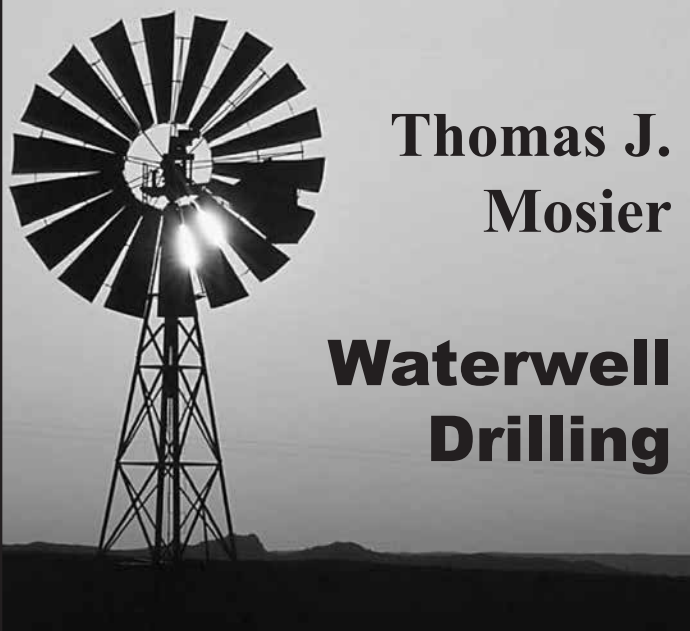
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~Birch Lake Recipes~



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Glazed Carrots

You know you're on the right track when the grandkids ask for seconds on the vegetables.

Ingredients:

- 1 pound baby carrots
- ¼ cup orange juice
- 3 tablespoons brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1 pinch salt

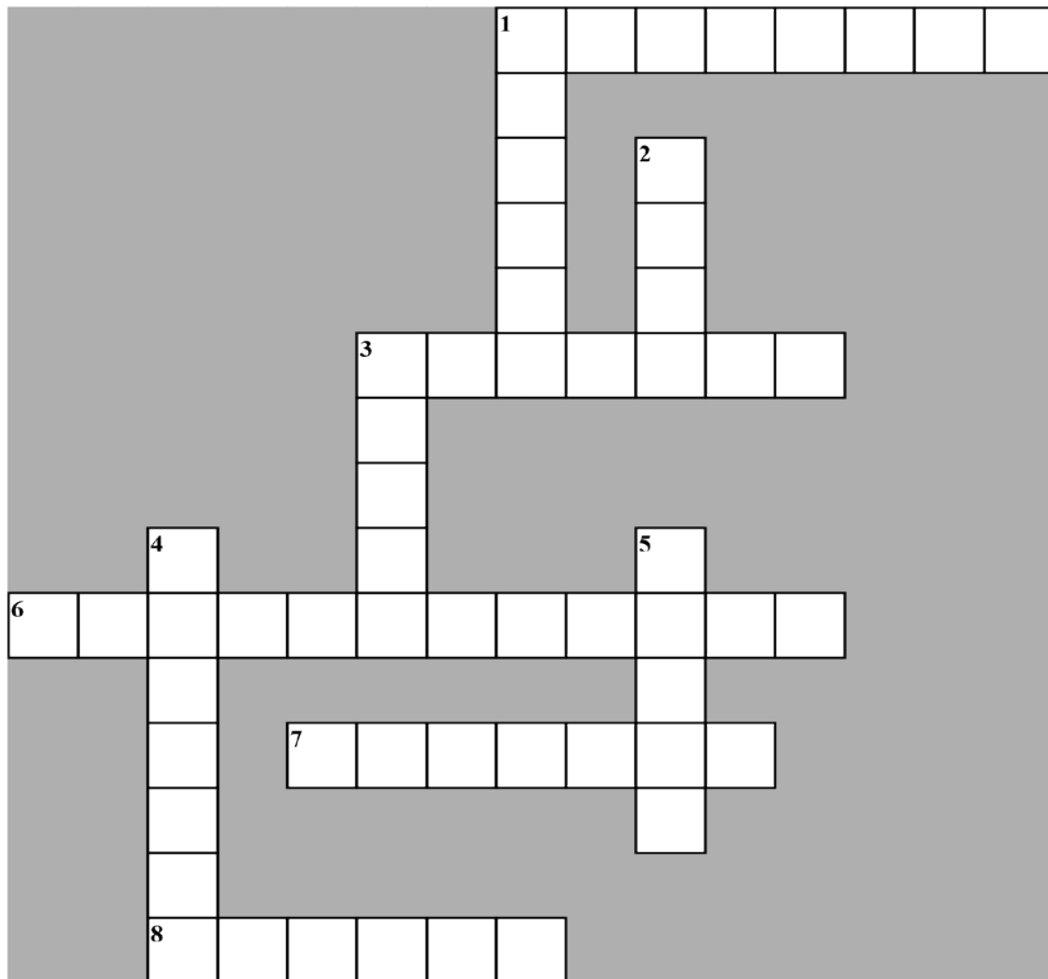
Directions:

- Place carrots in a shallow saucepan, and cover with water. Boil until tender. Drain, and return
 - Pour orange juice over carrots, and mix well. Simmer over medium heat for about 5 minutes.
- Stir in brown sugar, butter, and salt. Heat until butter and sugar melt.

Original recipe yields 4 servings

Birch Barker Word Search

Complete the crossword puzzle.



BLUE
SWIMMING
BIRCH

SKIING
BURGERS
SUMMER

SUNNY
TURTLES
SAILING

FOURTHOFJULY

Across

- 1 Everyday activity
- 3 Best on the grill
- 6 Favorite holiday (3 words)
- 7 Sunday activity
- 8 Behind the boat

Down

- 1 Best season
- 2 Color of the lake
- 3 Favorite lake
- 4 Cove racers
- 5 Best weather

— Camp Tannadoonah —

Camp is in full swing!

With the sighting of Princess Tannadoonah taking place one week ago, camp is in full swing as we wrap up the second week and begin the third week of the season! The theme for Session 2 has been Pirates. The CIT2s (second year Counselors-in-Training) decorated the dining hall with a pirate flags, sea shells, and treasure. They also facilitated the evening pirate-themed activities, including Capture the Flag, cardboard boat races, and Stations, which is a variety of short activities. They have really stepped into this leadership role by organizing all of the evening activities for the week and being there for the campers.

Thanks to the generosity of Michiana Archery Store in Niles, we have new compound bows loaned to us for the summer! When entering the store, the plan was to buy more arrows and replace the three broken recurve bows. Instead, the store owner offered to lend 6 recurve bows, foam targets, arm guards, quivers, and bow stands. He also delivered and set up the new net behind the archery range. We are extremely

thankful for how generous and helpful the people at Michiana Archery Store have been!

Between Session 1 and Session 2, the campers that stayed for the day between sessions attended the spaghetti dinner. It was a great experience to have the campers interacting in our community. Thank you to all involved for helping accommodate our large group.

A special course offered during Session 2 is an improv class. A group of campers meet every y blocks to learn techniques, activities, and work towards a performance at the end of the week.

The first guitar classes of the summer started this week. It's fun to walk around camp and hear the new chords and songs being played as the week progresses. The staff teaching guitar lessons are passionate about playing and share that passion with the campers.

The first two weeks have a large number of campers here on camperships thanks to our generous donors and grants. These are the kids that would not otherwise be able to attend camp. They get a chance to escape the city,

enjoy nature, cook over a fire, make new friends, and choose their own activities. This also adds a great amount of diversity to camp, which enriches the lives of all of the campers. Thank you to our generous donors for making this possible!

We had a few more campers register this week, bringing our count up to 871. That is more than 20 more campers than last summer! We still have open spaces for camp throughout the summer, so send any kids in your life our way.

Is anyone interested in one of the Coy Jankowski Heron prints? They are the poster prints that have Birch Lake and Camp Tannadoonah printed above and below the painting of the Heron.

We have recently found a stack of these prints at camp. They originally sold for \$25 each. The ones we found have some slight imperfections on the edges (that would be covered by a frame). Because of the imperfections, we will sell them for \$10 each. If you're interested, please contact Amber at 574-3876095 or amber@tannadoonah.org. Until next week, ~Miss Michelle



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For sale: **oak table.** 41 wide, 84 long. Includes 24 inch leaf, **6 chairs.** Good condition. \$350. Contact Denny. 476 2569



Paddle boat for sale \$150. Call Gus Eshleman at 317-752-2184.

FOR SALE – PADDLE BOAT, Like new \$125 - OBO, Call Harold at 574-264-6817

WANTED
Looking for a place to rent. I'm Michelle, the new Assistant Camp Director and After School Program Director at Camp Tannadoonah and new to the area. I'm a responsible, non-smoking, pet-free, tidy 32-year-old. Since I live at Camp during the summer, I could even vacate during the prime season. (734) 652-1611

We have had our family's last name on the back of our cottage for 30-plus years, and last week it was taken from the cottage. I am sure that it is somewhat of a novelty but it has sentimental value to it since our father made it and recently passed away. We would greatly appreciate it's return to 63500 Birch Rd. Thank you. The Thomas Drinkall family

Small, 4x8 or 5x10 or 7x11 **enclosed trailer** that is good on the road? Do not want to pay an arm and a leg. Please call or text Pat at 574-532-5377.

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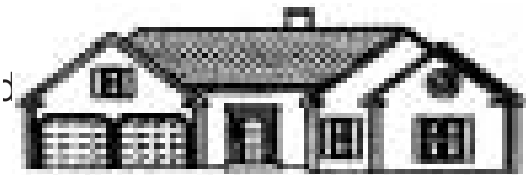
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